



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

11th October 2024

It's been another fun-filled week at West Thornton. The main event next week is Parent's Evening on Wednesday 16th October. Check the letter that was sent out and please book your slot if you haven't already.

Reception classes have been out on local area walks this week, just about managing to avoid the wet weather, and our Year 6's are going out today.

A reminder about snacks for students in Key Stage 2. Please only send in healthy items such as fruit or carrot sticks.

Parent reading mornings have resumed. Sessions run from 8.40 - 9.00am on Thursdays for Reception and KS1 at Rosecourt Road and at the same time for KS2 on Fridays. Canterbury Road sessions take place at 8.40 - 9.00am for the whole school on Fridays.

Attendance

Well done to those classes with 97% attendance and above

RR Reception Oak Class	CR Sycamore	CR Aspen
RR Year 3 Larch Class	CR Hawthorn	
RR Year 3 Cedar Class	CR Hornbeam	
RR Year 3 Walnut Class	CR Willow	
RR Year 4 Beech Class	CR Lime	
RR Year 5 Silver Birch Class	CR Ash	
RR Year 5 Cypress Class	CR Holly	

Reminder - 5 minutes late a day = 3 days lost per year
10 minutes late a day = 6 days lost per year
15 minutes late a day = 10 days lost per year



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30 minutes late a day = 19 days lost per year

Curriculum Focus

Reception

As we conclude our exploration of the core text "It's Okay to be Different," the children have been sharing stories about their families. They discussed their family members, shared photographs, celebrated their unique traditions and identified the countries their families come from on maps. This activity has fostered a wonderful understanding of both the unique aspects of each family and the similarities they share.

In maths this week, the children focused on the size and weight of various objects. They learned to use terms like smaller, bigger, lighter, and heavier. By using a balancing scale, they compared the weights of different items, discovering that a larger size doesn't always mean an object is heavier.



Additionally, we had a lovely local walk where the children engaged their senses to explore the environment. They noticed numbers on doors and cars, listened to the sounds of birds, rustling leaves, and aeroplanes flying overhead. They enjoyed the delicious smell of dinner wafting from our kitchen. The children also explored various materials, identifying them, understanding their properties and describing the differences between each one!



Year One

What a fantastic start to Year 1 we've had! It's been a busy and exciting term, full of learning and creativity. Here's a look at what we've been working on across the subjects.



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This term, we've been sequencing the story of The Lonely Beast. The children have been learning how to use time adverbials like first, next, then, and finally to help structure their writing. We've also been sharpening our descriptive writing skills by using adjectives to describe what the Beast looks like and verbs to describe what the Beast enjoys doing. The class has really enjoyed bringing this mysterious character to life with their creative ideas.

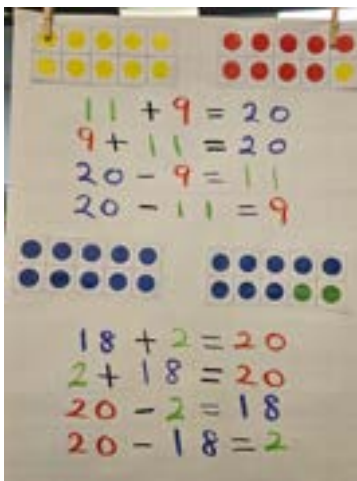
In Maths, we've focused on addition by using the part-part-whole model. The children have been using cubes to help them visualise and understand how to add. From there, they've practiced writing number sentences to show their understanding. It's been wonderful to see their growing confidence as they build these important skills.

Our budding artists have been designing and printing their own tiles inspired by the work of Rafael Lopez. The children have really enjoyed experimenting with patterns and colours to create their own unique prints. We're so proud of the creativity and effort they've put into their work!

In Science, we've been investigating materials and their properties. The children tested different materials to see which ones were waterproof and could float. This experiment will help us prepare for our next exciting project – building boats! Stay tuned as we put our scientific discoveries to the test next week.

Year Two

This week, Year 2 children have continued with their diary writing as Izzy Gizmo. They learnt what an adverb was and how to use these. The children also included time openers and emotive language. Later on, the children worked on their editing skills to correct their spelling and punctuation of their writing.



In maths, the children have been investigating number bonds to 10. They used these to understand more about fact families and apply them to show their understanding of number bonds to 20. The children then learnt about related facts using their knowledge of number bonds to 10.

In the wider curriculum subjects, the children were so excited to start their final outcome in art. They used air dry clay to make a tile - they used scoring, slipping and blending to make moulds. Later on they made some

imprints using screws, bolts and nuts.





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In science, the children had fun testing out which type of fork was the best for Izzy (the main character from our core text 'Izzy Gizmo') to use for her spag sonic machine to eat spaghetti.

In RE, the children learnt what Jews believed about their God. They learnt that in all religions people respected each other and they found out who and how they show respect. The children also wrote a promise.

In geography the children compared the physical features of Crovie and Croydon. This is linked to their learning from last week on comparing the human features. They already knew that Crovie is a rural area and Croydon is an urban area.



Year Three

This week in English the children have been learning about biographies. They started by reading a biography about Katherine Johnson's life and identifying features of a biography such as personal facts, written in chronological order, key achievements and dates. They then choose a teacher from West Thornton Primary school to write their own biography about. Focusing on asking open ended questions to gather information and formatting their biographies correctly.

In maths the children have been looking at adding and subtracting ones, tens and hundreds in 3 digit numbers. Making sure we are adding or subtracting to the correct place value spot. We have also been practising our 6 times tables.

In science we conducted an experiment to see how shadows change. We set up a pencil and measured the length and position of the shadow throughout the day. The children observed the shadow move over the day and get shorter as the sun got further away.

In art this week the children completed their final art piece, using all the techniques they have learnt about Corey Barksdale. They created some amazing and unique pieces of art and showcased their creativity.





Year Four

English:

This week, Year 4 has been honing their persuasive writing skills as they prepare to create their manifestos. We've focused on using various techniques, including facts, opinions, rhetorical questions, and emotive language to persuade our readers. We've also explored how figurative language from poetry can be used to make our writing more impactful. As we continue to work on our manifestos, we're applying these skills to create persuasive and engaging pieces.

Maths:

This week, Year 4 has been practising subtraction using the column method. We started with simpler problems involving no exchange and gradually progressed to more complex ones with more than one exchange. To help us visualise and understand these problems, we used bar models as a helpful visual tool. By starting with a pictorial representation, we were better able to grasp the abstract concepts of subtraction.

Art:

This week in art, Year 4 has been delving into the world of light and shade. We've been experimenting with different techniques to add depth and dimension to our drawings and paintings. Inspired by the captivating work of Jill Pelto, who seamlessly blends art and science, we've created unique artworks using line graphs and vibrant watercolours.

Year Five

English:

Our focus this week was on rewriting Chapter 6 of *The Boy and the Globe*. Students were given word banks that had fronted adverbials, metaphors and a mock write up of what was expected of them. Students have done a great job of retelling and writing the chapter and have been able to create some great pieces of writing.

Mathematics:

In Maths, we are building our skills on addition and subtraction and solving multi-step equations. The children used the column method they learnt last week to solve worded equations and were able to then bring this knowledge into solving worded problems. The children also learnt about fact families and how changing the position of the multi-digit numbers can change the outcome of the equation.

Science:

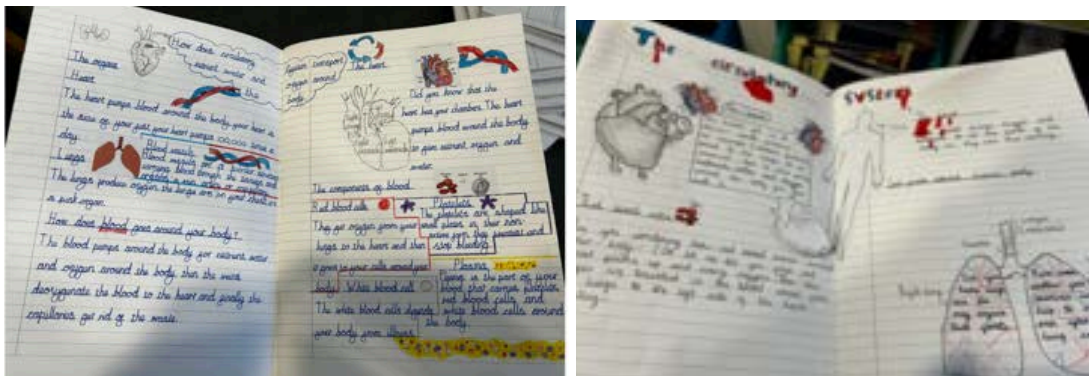


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In Science this week, the children were building on their prior knowledge of life cycles, in particular looking at birds and amphibians. The children were also comparing and contrasting the physical characteristics of these species and how their habitats influence their lifestyles. Students also learnt that some amphibians can lose and regrow different body parts e.g. tails and legs, to get away from predators.

Year Six

This week year 6 have been analysing features of a persuasive letter; they have planned their own persuasive letter which they will write next week to a company testing products on animals: sharing interesting facts and opinions to persuade them against this. In Maths, children have continued working on division and using factors to divide a 4 digit number by a 2 digit number as well as using the written formal method. In addition to this children then have used such knowledge to solve problems involving long division. In Science children have showcased their learning of the circulatory system on a double page spread where they have written in great detail the key functions/ organs of the circulatory system.



Reading

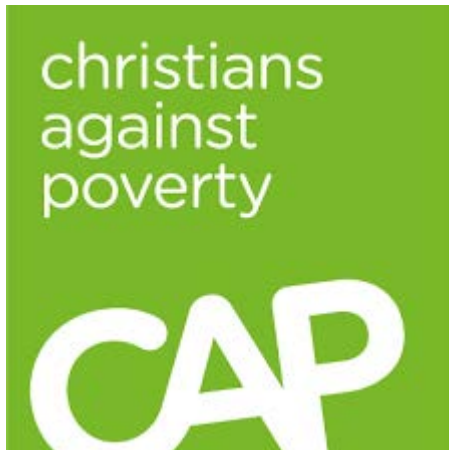
Please remember to record your reading in your Reading Records at home - it would be amazing to see some of the comments you are making being based on the strategies you are focusing on in school.



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Community



Free and confidential debt advice

Christians Against Poverty has been providing free professional debt help through local churches across the UK since 1996. This service is open to anyone in need of financial support/guidance.

They can provide support with the following; Debt Relief Order (DRO), Debt Management Plan, Individual Voluntary Arrangements (IVA), Administration Order, money coaching, job clubs, life skills training and so much more. For more information visit: <https://capuk.org/get-help>

Discretionary housing payments

You can apply to the discretionary support fund if you live in Croydon and are in financial hardship and need emergency support.

Discretionary housing payments are made towards housing costs where a person receives Housing Benefit or the housing element of Universal Credit and they need help with:

A shortfall in rent, an advance in rent or a deposit, rent arrears (extreme cases only), Removal costs only

For more information please visit:

<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/benefits/financial-hardship/discretionary-housing-payments>

Drop off on Canterbury Road

We appreciate that parking is difficult for parents and carers who drive their children to school, especially at busy times. However, keeping our children and each other safe is everyone's responsibility. Mr Owen would like to kindly remind parents and carers not to park illegally on pavements or on the yellow lines and road markings which are there to ensure the safety of all in our community. Unfortunately, too many parents are ignoring these rules and creating an unsafe environment. We ask that you are considerate to our neighbours and the wider community - and of course, recommend that you walk or scoot to school, or take public transport wherever possible. Thank you.



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Scooters

Linked to the information above, can parents and carers make sure that any children on scooters, stay near to them and are mindful of other children and parents. Unfortunately, there was a recent incident on the way to school where a member of our community was hurt and we ask for everyone to be vigilant and safe. Children must get off their scooters in advance of the gates and we will be reminding children in assembly of how to be safe on their scooters. Thank you.

Phrases of the Week



¿Cuántos años tienes? - How old are you?

Tengo ... años. - I am ... years old.

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Tiana	Sariyah	Ziyaan	Caterina	
Noah	Amelia	Abdullah	Trinity	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Evelin	Liuyunnuo	Lianne	Aaliyah	
Mateo	Halima	Favour	Ryan	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Sajid	Jason	Luxshin	Ayan	
Reuben	Jordanna	Henrique	Vaidehy	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Mia	Praisejah	Srishalini	Elena	Eisa
Cherish	Jensi	Keyaan	Shaina	Srisa



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Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Hasan	Whole	Layla	Bogdan	Brianna
Laanika	Class	Aasiyah	Joel	Elikyah
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Harini	Fiza	Aarush	Sajoori	Hosna
Massita	Maalik	Levi	Narayan	Kiven
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Rebeca.C	Kayden	Zahra	Archie	Confidence
Malachi	Faith	Affan	Niha	Mohamed
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Years 4,5,6 Canterbury Road				