



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

6th December 2024

December is upon us ! If you have not already done so, we encourage Rosecourt Road parents to see the office staff for Christmas performance tickets...they are going fast! Letters detailing all of our Christmas events have been sent out - this includes performance dates, Christmas parties, our festive jumper day and the Winter Fair.

If you are interested in supporting the PTA and getting involved in preparations for the fair, or working on the day please contact the school office. This magical event needs as much support as possible to ensure the children have a fantastic time.

Rucksacks

We are seeing an alarming increase in the number of large rucksacks being brought into school. These are unnecessary as the children are not required to bring in equipment from home or PE kits. They are causing a health and safety risk as they are often too large to fit into lockers (especially alongside thick winter coats) and as a result are often found hanging out of lockers or strewn across corridors. Please refrain from sending your child to school with a rucksack - lunch bags/boxes and reading folders are of course acceptable.

Early Closure on Friday 20th December

On Friday 20th December school will finish at **1.45pm** - we ask that children are collected at 1.45pm promptly from the school playground.

Attendance

Well done to the following classes with 97% and above, **an extra well done to Cherry Class and RR Year 4 Beech Class with 100%**

CR Cherry
CR Chestnut

RR Year 3 Cedar Class
RR Year 4 Beech Class
RR Year 4 Acacia Class
RR Year 4 Yew Class



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

RR Year 5 Cypress Class

RR Year 6 Eucalyptus Class

REMINDER

Every minute counts

The playground gates open at **8.40am**. Children are collected and taken upstairs to their classrooms at **8.45am**. As lessons start promptly once the children are in school, it is important they are not late.

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

30 minutes late a day = 19 days lost per year

Curriculum Focus

Reception

In literacy this week, the children continued exploring the book *The Squirrels Who Squabbled*. They focused on the squirrels and how, by the end of the story, they show kindness to one another by sharing and organising a big feast for all the animals to enjoy. The children discussed the importance of building good friendships and why kindness is essential in maintaining positive relationships with others.

In maths the children continued their learning of shapes by looking at the properties of squares and rectangles. They identified that both shapes have 4 sides and 4 corners but a rectangle has 2 long sides and 2 short sides while a square has 4 equal sides. The children really enjoyed finding the different shapes in the environment. To finish the week off, they explored the concept of time by looking at day and night.

This week in topic, the children have been learning about how to manage themselves. They have learnt what it means to be healthy, the importance of being healthy and understand the importance of clean teeth and demonstrating how to properly brush teeth.





WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year One

This week in English, the children have been busy learning about the features of a diary. In preparation for writing their diaries in the role of Little Red Riding Hood, the children have been learning how to use a suffix to change verbs into the past tense.

In maths, the children have been sorting shapes based on their properties and creating repeated patterns using different 2d and 3d shapes. They have also been ordering numbers to 20 and using dienes to create part, part models to make the number 10.

In Science this week, the children have been learning about how animals and humans change in the Autumn time and what activities they do. In PSHE the children have been learning about the importance of washing their hands.



Year Two

This week in English, the Year 2's wrote a poem about the dark. In the poem they included what they can see, hear and how they feel. They then watched the famous laureate Michael Rosen perform a poem. After this, the children performed their poem by changing facial expression, varying the pitch of their voice and using gestures. Later on in the week, the children chronologically sequenced events from our core text 'The Dark'.

In maths, the children consolidated their learning on adding and subtracting numbers using the formal written method. They then used their knowledge of adding and subtracting to compare numbers using greater than, less than and equal to. They then applied their knowledge of adding and subtracting to find missing numbers. It was really useful for the children to use the inverse operation to work out the missing number.



In the history the children, recalled the key historical figures they have learned this term; Wright Brother and Amy Johnson. They then further found out how famous Amy Johnson became after her solo flight to Australia. In DT the children started making their aeroplanes - the children focused on making the body of the plane. In science, the children reviewed their learning from when they did the runway experiment. They linked their learning to their knowledge of properties of materials.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year Three

Our Year 3s have been busy little journalists this week! They've been delving into the world of news and writing, inspired by real-life newspapers. The children have been honing their writing skills, focusing on using formal language to make their reports sound professional. They've been analysing news articles to understand how journalists use language to inform and engage their readers. To make their news articles even more eye-catching, our young journalists have been experimenting with creative headline writing. They've been crafting catchy phrases using alliteration and rhyme.

Our Year 3s have been busy little mathematicians this week, tackling the tricky 3 times table with enthusiasm and determination. Through the use of number lines, arrays, and repeated addition, our pupils have been visualizing the concept of multiplication and division and using these to learn the 3 times tables.

Our Year 3s have been hard at work in DT, transforming their imaginative designs into photo frames. This week, they've been assembling their frames, drawing on the skills they've honed in previous lessons. From precise measurements to careful cutting and gluing, our young designers have been showcasing their creativity and attention to detail. We're excited to see the final results and celebrate their artistic achievements!

Year Four

Year four have been working hard in all subjects, and are getting very excited for christmas activities to start!

In English, we have been drafting our narrative about our protagonist Chaya stealing jewels and helping her friend Neel escape from prison. We're using our knowledge of story mountains to help us decide what our next paragraphs should be about, and are making sure we're creating a paragraph burger!

In Maths we have continued to look at one and two step reasoning questions, and are making sure we're learning our timestables, and practicing on TTRS. We have loved challenging each other on the weekend!

Across the curriculum subjects, year four are bringing their projects to a close. We are exploring parts of the water cycle, transferring our DT designs onto cloth, and researching endangered species to share information with others.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

We hope to see you at our christmas concert or our science fair, and hope you enjoy reading christmas stories with your children throughout the week.

Year Five

The children of Year 5 have begun to put their designs of their colour monsters into production, some classes have produced a template and others have begun to decorate the front of their colour monsters with eyes, ears or any facial features. Next week we will begin to practice our sewing skills and have a few completed colour monsters for our display.

In science we have explored reversible and irreversible changes - the experiments have enabled us to make our own investigation, predict the outcome of the investigation, fair testing and reliability of our results. The children have enjoyed bringing in various ingredients (flour, pasta etc) from home and testing them out.

In maths the children have started to subtract fractions, using the same method used in adding fractions. Many children have explored answering subtraction problems which require two or three possible steps.

In English, the children have been learning the skills needed to put together a newspaper article. This week we have focused on reported speech and direct speech (also reported clauses) as from next week we will have the first draft of our newspaper article in our books.

Year Six

We are excited to share what Year 6 has been learning and achieving this week. It's been a busy and engaging time filled with creativity, critical thinking, and meaningful discussions!

Year 6 has continued delving into the novel *Stella by Starlight*. This week, the focus has been on using the story to enhance dialogue and characterisation in writing. They have explored how to "show, not tell" emotions and create realistic conversations that reflect the characters' personalities and relationships. Their creativity and insight have been brilliant to see!

In maths, we have been tackling fractions with enthusiasm! The children have been solving challenging multi step problems that require adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions. They are becoming increasingly confident in applying their knowledge to real-world scenarios and reasoning about their answers.

This week, Year 6 learned about the Race Relations Act and its historical significance. The discussions included how events like the Notting Hill riots shaped societal attitudes and led to



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

positive changes in laws promoting equality. The children demonstrated thoughtful reflection and maturity when discussing these important historical events and their impact on modern society.

In DT, the children continued their exploration of pneumatic systems. This week, they began planning the stages of building their very own pneumatic hearts. They explored how air pressure can create movement and have started sketching designs and identifying the materials they will use for this exciting project.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and enthusiasm Year 6 has shown across all subjects. Thank you for your ongoing support—please continue encouraging your children to share their learning at home!

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.

Phrases of the Week



¿Tienes una mascota? - Do you have a pet?

Tengo un perro. - I have a dog.

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
Hephzibah	Kevin	Mia	Melvin
Lua	Vighan	Blake	Zeyne
Y1 Elm	Y1Fir	Y1Lime	Y1 Maple



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Denis	Whole Class	Whole Class	Jessica	
Elektra			Sophie	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Elijah	Whole Class	Whole	Hareem	
Whole Class		Class	Asrithan	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Sierra	Haroon	Lucas	Michael	Aaminah
Yathusha	Evan	Nishany	Channel	Campion
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Ian / Adrian	Reily	Savio	Liana	Srishanth
Salome	Emily	Khairunnisa	Hilmi	Khaleesi
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Asiya	Whole	Alex A	Josiah	Geovannie
Alyan	Class	Ziana	Izza	Aayan
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Parth	Patrick	Kishiwaleh	Isabelly	Josiah Lydia Yanis
Daisy	Mathooshana	Zahra	Amelie	
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS2 Music
Lucas Larch	Sophie Maple			



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Community

Funded by the Department for Education, the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme provides free holiday club spaces for children in receipt of benefits-related free school meals during the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays.

With the increased costs of food and childcare, school holidays can be a challenging time for some families. The aim of the programme is to ensure children have access to a safe space in the holidays, where they can participate in exciting activities as well as have access to a nutritious free meal. For more information please see the link below.

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/f3bb6ebd-ca18-4829-8765-9ac4b1163289>

ATTENTION

Are you a working parent?
Juggling school holidays and
childcare?
With the worry of the cost of living..

Let us help!

If your child is **NOT** entitled to benefit related
free school meals and does **not** receive
Holiday Activity vouchers (HAF) we can
support.

Please contact Miss Williams (Rosecourt Road)
or Miss Liburd (Canterbury Road) to access
FREE childcare vouchers for this halfterm.



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WINTER FAIR

THURSDAY 12 TH DECEMBER
CANTERBURY ROAD
3.30 - 5PM

Santa's Grotto
Karaoke
Crafts
Food & Drink
& More



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PRIMARY SCHOOL

KG-Doodles

CHILDCARE

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL

Club



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PRIMARY SCHOOL



COME ON IN NOW!

Are you entitled to Zero or Discounted Fees

- On Full Benefits and going back to Work or College - upto 100% fees paid
- Universal Credit claimants - upto 80% fees paid
- University student - Childcare Grant Payment upto 80% fees paid
- Working - Childcare choices & Voucher scheme Tax relief



Open Hours:

Monday - Friday
Breakfast 07:30 am - 09:00 am
Afterschool 15:15 pm - 18:30 pm

Breakfast £5.50 / Afterschool £10.50 per session*

Registered & Approved



www.kgdoodles.co.uk
0117-3322-811

*T & Cs apply for emergency sessions.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Library Service Outreach Broad Green Local

Croydon
Libraries

Tuesday 10 December
2pm-4.30pm

Join us for a coffee
and to find out more
about library services



Drop in to discover the library digital offer, return and reserve books and chat about what you like to read.

Join in with festive crafts for all and stories for children and families after school

Croydon libraries are co-hosting this event
with Broad Green Local

www.croydon.gov.uk/libraries



The Hub Broad Green
38 Keeley Road
Croydon, CRO 1TF

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