



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

14th February 2025

We have reached the end of another successful and positive half term. Thank you to all of our parents and carers who attended our parent consultations meeting this week. We really do appreciate and value the relationship between home and school.

Year 4 Acacia class had a great time Bird Watching at Mitcham Common this morning. They enjoyed taking part in the RSPB's 'Big Garden Bird Watch'. The RSPB use the data gathered across the Big Garden Birdwatch event to create a vital snapshot of our garden birds throughout the country.

Parent Survey

We value your input and believe that your voice is essential in helping us create the best possible learning environment for our pupils. We currently have a live parent survey that provides a valuable opportunity for you to share your thoughts and feedback on your child's experience at West Thornton. Your honest opinions will help us understand what we're doing well and identify areas where we can improve. We encourage you to take a few minutes to complete the survey and share your perspective.

Your feedback is incredibly important to us. It helps us make informed decisions about school programs, resources, and initiatives that directly impact your children's education. We want to hear from you – your voice truly matters!

You can access the survey through the following link: [Survey link](#)

Alternatively, you can scan the QR code below with your smartphone or device:



Have a lovely half term holiday and we look forward to seeing you at 8.40am on Monday February 24th.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Attendance

Well done to the following classes with 97% and above,

CR - Y6 Holly Class

RR - Y4 Acacia Class

RR - Y3 Larch Class

RR - Y3 Cedar Class

RR - Y5 Cypress Class

RR - Y2 Spruce 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

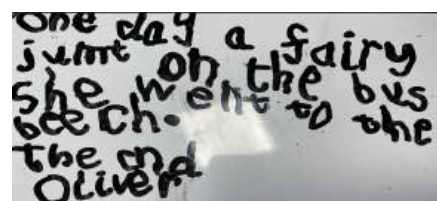
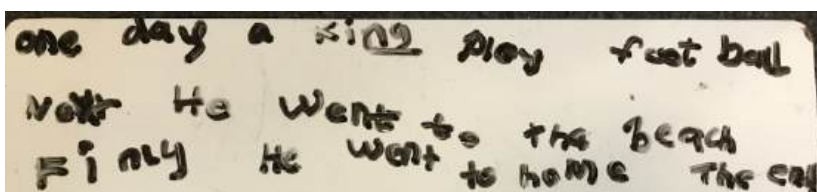
15 minutes late a day = 10 days lost per year

30 minutes late a day = 19 days lost per year

Curriculum Focus

Reception

In Literacy, the children have been exploring how to innovate a story by incorporating their own ideas into a text and modifying parts of the story. They have enjoyed using actions to reinforce key concepts and enhance their writing. Additionally, they have had further opportunities to write their own stories.



In Maths, the children have been learning about time. They explored the concept of a second and took on challenges to complete as many activities as possible within a set time. For example,

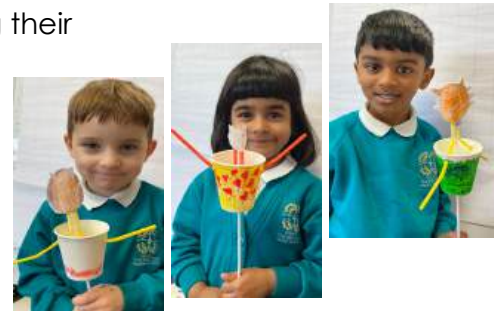


WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

they managed 10 star jumps in 10 seconds and 25 in 20 seconds! This led to a discussion about why they could complete more in a longer time frame. They also learned about the days of the week, arranging them in the correct order, and used time openers to describe their daily routines.

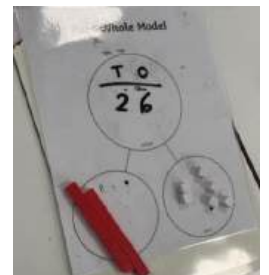
As part of the topic, the children have been engaged in a DT project, where they learned how to create a pop-up puppet. They began by designing their puppet through detailed drawings before bringing their ideas to life. After making their pop-up puppets, they worked in groups to put on a performance for the class.



Year One

An amazing end to the first half term of the year in Year 1! In English, they have been working hard on writing a recount of their trip to the Horniman museum and the writing outcomes have been amazing! They have blown us away with their detail and descriptions of the trip. The children have also been developing their editing skills and taking time to read through their work to make improvements.

In maths, the children have been continuing on working on numbers to 50 and looking at how to group objects into tens. They have also been partitioning numbers to identify the correct number of tens and ones in a number.



In science, the children have learned about why it gets darker in the season of Winter and looked at the changes in daylight. In history the children look at the events of King Charles' life and order these.

Year Two

What a fantastic week it's been in Year 2! The children have been busy writing their own versions of the school newsletter using exciting and interesting language to engage the reader. They have really enjoyed informing parents about the variety of lessons they take part in. The next time parents have an opportunity to visit the school, keep an eye out for their newsletters! In Maths the children have been learning about money. They have been identifying different coins and notes as well as calculating amounts. They have really impressed their teachers by making links to their 2, 5 and 10 times tables!





WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

In the wider curriculum, the children have produced beautiful artwork based on Sally Morgan's work. They used their knowledge of primary colours and secondary colours and applied these to their outcomes! In Science the children learnt about animals and their offspring. They were surprised to learn that humans are mammals so are included in the same group as dolphins and sheep. With all the learning the children have engaged in, we hope the children have a well earned rest over the half term break!



Year Three

Year 3 have worked incredibly hard this term, and we are so proud of their dedication and enthusiasm for learning. We hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved half-term break, ready to return for another exciting term of discovery and growth!

In maths, the children have been learning how to find the perimeter of 2d shapes. They have used their knowledge of units of measurement to draw a range of shapes and calculate the perimeter. They drew upon their knowledge of number bonds and multiplication to find the perimeter.

In geography, the children have been consolidating their learning about the **Amazon Rainforest** by answering our key assessment question: *What is happening to the Amazon Rainforest?* Drawing on their knowledge from both English and geography lessons, they created informative leaflets on **deforestation and its impact on our planet**. Their work demonstrated a deep understanding of the causes of deforestation, its effects on wildlife, climate, and indigenous communities, and the importance of protecting our world's rainforests.

In **DT** this week, the children have completed their fantastic **moving mechanisms**! They have brought their drawings to life by designing their own animals to sit on top of the cams, carefully considering how the movement would work. Throughout the process, they have had lots of fun thinking about all the components they wanted to include, from the shape of their animals to the way they move. We are so amazed at how wonderful their creations have turned out—well done, Year 3!

Year Four

Year 4 have been finishing off their Greek style pots by painting them with their own personalities! They are looking forward to taking them home in one piece (or maybe a few!) The children have also been completing their creative Greek myths, with battles and descriptions galore!



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

In maths, the children have been working out the perimeter of rectilinear shapes and then facing the challenge of finding missing sides – it's not as easy as you might think! Next term, we will be moving onto fractions, so you might want to make a start at home.

Year 4 at Canterbury Road have been celebrating their Ancient Greek topic with a themed showcase, while Acacia Class will be heading out on Friday to complete their Big Schools' Birdwatch – hope the weather stays dry! Shockingly, our science work on Electricity has come to an end, but there will be a cacophony of noise as we move to our next exciting topic, including a trip to the Science Museum on March 11th.

Times tables are hotting up, so please keep practising at home to get the speed to under 6 seconds! They should be learning the trickier 6,7,8,9 and 12 times tables to consolidate before the MTC in June.

Have a great half term!

See you soon, The Year 4 Team.

Year Five

Sculpture Mania - Year 5 have designed and made sculptures. These sculptures were inspired by our English themed topic; The Windrush Child. (Photos to be inserted later). Children designed their own sculptures and this week started the task of making said sculptures using aluminium foil, newspaper, glue and finally spray them gold.

In Maths we have completed fractions of an amount and multiplying fractions. Children have had the opportunity to practice their fluency skills and problem solving in this topic.

In English, children have been learning about semicolons and using this punctuation in their writing. Children have also been learning the skills of persuasive writing and how this is used successfully in the wider world.

In Science, children have been learning about how the rotation of the Earth affects day and night and the seasons. In addition, they have been planning a science investigation to show the effect of shadows throughout the day. Using the hypothetical-deductive reasoning to present their findings,

Year Six

Year 6 have demonstrated incredible dedication and perseverance this term as they've focused on consolidating their learning in preparation for the upcoming SATs. Their hard work across all subjects has been truly impressive.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

In Maths, students have been strengthening their understanding of percentages, tackling complex calculations and applying their knowledge to real-world problems. This essential skill will not only be crucial for the tests but also for their future mathematical journeys.

English lessons have seen a deep dive into grammatical structures, equipping students with the tools they need to craft clear and concise instruction texts. From understanding imperative verbs to mastering sequencing connectives, they've honed their writing skills to effectively guide and inform.

Creative expression flourished in Art this term as students put the finishing touches on their poignant clay poppies. These beautiful and moving creations serve as a powerful reminder of remembrance and reflection.

Religious Education has broadened horizons with an exploration of Croydon's rich diversity. Students have learned how this vibrant mix of cultures and faiths contributes to community cohesion, fostering understanding and respect among individuals from all walks of life.

The entire Year 6 team is immensely proud of the students' efforts this term. Their commitment and positive attitude will undoubtedly serve them well in the challenges ahead. Keep up the fantastic work!

Phrases of the Week

¡Buenas vacaciones a todos! - Have a good half term everyone!



Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
Khadija	Winnie	Whole Class	Kulture
Mason	Ahana		Zach
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Arianna	Patricia	Aadhith	Ava



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Aaiza	Branavi	Alesha	Athitheeran	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Yaseen	Fatima	Whole Class	Kaliyah	
Mahir	Sarvika		Vinojan	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Sierra	Haroon	Srishalini	Whole Class	Eisa
Dev	Izabele	Sophie		Meryam
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Ian	Helna	Whole	Bogdan	Emmanuel
Nesh	Elias	Class	Zanneyah	Dhanvi
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Melissa	Dominykas	Whole Class	Taha	Areha
Satvic	Neda		Maja	Binh
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Mamourou	Rohaam	Keshia	Archie	Whole Class
Sanvi	Faith	Blake	Abraham	
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE	KS1 Music	KS1 Music
Years 3,4,5 and 6 CR		Kylie-Shae	Tahiratou - Rowan	Keira - Spruce