



## West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

14th March 2025

It has been a busy start to the second half of the spring term and this week was no exception. Our assessment fortnight has come to an end. We're incredibly proud of all our pupils for their hard work and dedication during recent assessments across the school. You've all shown fantastic resilience and a real desire to do your best! A huge thank you also to our amazing teachers and support staff for their support and guidance.

You can continue to support your child's learning at home in lots of ways:

- **Reading Records:** Make sure to write comments in your child's reading record to encourage them and let us know how they're progressing.
- **Reading Together:** Spend time reading with your child, or come along to our reading mornings!
- **Online Platforms:** Encourage your child to use their logins for Purple Mash, Century, and TT Rockstars. These are great resources for reinforcing learning. Speak to your class teacher if you need support with this.
- **Targets:** Remember the targets shared at Parents' Evening? Work with your child to help them achieve these.
- **Need Support?** Please don't hesitate to speak to your child's teacher if you need any additional support or advice.

Lastly, thank you to everyone who made World Book Day so special! And a huge thank you to all who supported our book fair in the run up to it. Your generous contributions have helped us raise funds to purchase even more exciting books for our classroom libraries and reading lessons, as well as encouraging your child to read more outside of school. Let's keep the love of reading alive!

Have a lovely weekend



### Curriculum Focus

#### Reception

This week in literacy Reception have continued their learning about space by exploring the sun and moon. They looked at facts about the sun and moon and used their sentence knowledge to write the facts in 'It is/It has' sentences. They continued their learning by exploring the connection of the sun, moon, and Earth by learning about how gravity pulls them all together and the Earth rotates, giving us night and day.

In Maths this week, Reception have been looking at number bonds to 5 and 10 and using their composing skills to identify the number bonds. They used numicon and cubes with a part-part-whole to see how the different numbers fit into each other. They then wrote the additional sentence to describe the number bond they created.



This week's topic was a messy one! Using their knowledge of the planets, the children used newspaper, glue, and water to paper mache the planets. They then identified the colours of each planet and painted them accordingly. Their hard work paid off as their creations are out of this world!



#### Year One

This week, one have been continuing to write about Beegu in the zoo. They have been using different animals in the zoo to rewrite their own amazing versions.

In maths we have been looking at height and weight. They have been comparing different objects in the classroom and calculating the mass of the object.





# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

In our DT lessons we explored a new mechanism, the wheel mechanism. The wheel helped bring their designs alive, some children made funny faces, some children made a fridge with healthy foods in it, some children made some creative pictures relating to our core text in English. They really enjoyed it!



In science they used their senses of taste, touch and smell to eat a variety of foods. Some were sweet, some were salty and some were sour. They had so much fun tasting all of them and seeing how their friends might have different taste buds.

Continuing the tasting streak, in geography, we looked at traditional Welsh customs and even had the chance to try some delicious Welsh cakes. The children enjoyed learning about different traditions and discussing their experiences about Wales.

### Year Two

This week in English, the children have been retelling the story of 'Frog Belly Rat Bone' by Timothy Basil Ering. In lessons children explored using features such as adverbial starters speech and simile. The children had a creative end to the week by innovating the character that guards the riches ready to write their own version of the story next week.



In maths the children completed their learning on money and have begun their learning on measurement. This began with a fun hands on activity where the children measured the lengths and height of objects in the classroom using non standard and standard units.



The children have had a wild time in science this week researching animal habitats. The children learned about the Ocean, Desert, Rainforest, Woodland and Polar habitats. They learned that some animals are more suited to these environments because of adaptations.

### Year Three

The children have worked really hard this week in Year 3, bringing together all of their learning to complete assessments in Reading, Maths and Punctuation, Spelling and Grammar. In English our



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

young writers used their skills and knowledge of persuasive writing to craft compelling letters to persuade Mrs Callaghan and Mr Owen to make some exciting changes to our playground.

In maths, the children have continued looking at fractions. This week they have learnt how to place fractions on a number line and have begun to show an understanding of equivalent fractions.

In history, the children have stepped back in time and delved into the Stone Age, where students have discovered how the 'technology' of our ancestors, from flint tools, domesticated animals to early fire-starting methods. The children were able to recognise and talk about the transition from hammer stone to arrow head.

In history the children looked at how tools changed throughout the Stone Age periods. They were able to recognise and talk about the transition from hammer stone to arrow head.



### Year Four

Our Year 4 learners have had a fantastic and productive week, building on their knowledge and developing key skills across different subjects.

In **Maths**, the children have continued their work on fractions, focusing on adding mixed number fractions together. They tackled this challenge with great determination, applying their learning to solve problems with increasing confidence.

A major highlight of the week was **English**, where the children wrote and performed their own poems. This was a particularly exciting part of our learning, as they not only crafted creative and expressive pieces but also had the opportunity to share them with their peers. They received feedback and thoroughly enjoyed bringing their words to life through performance.

In **Geography**, the children explored the differences and similarities between human and physical features in Greece and England. They compared landscapes, landmarks, and climate, gaining a deeper understanding of how geography shapes different parts of the world.

It has been a busy and rewarding week, and we are so proud of the hard work and enthusiasm our students have shown!



# WEST THORNTON

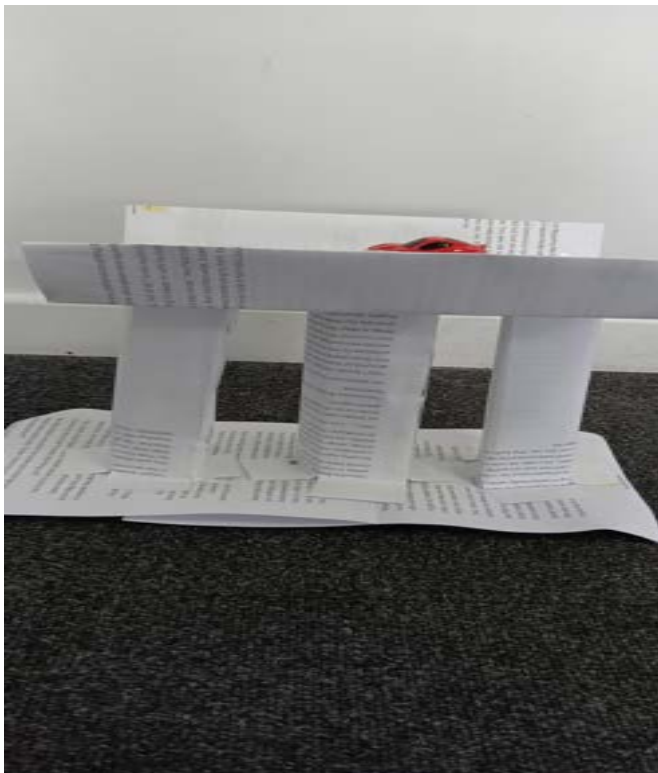
## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Year Five

In English, the children have enjoyed writing their monologues inspired by the book "A kind of spark." They have used literally language and powerful emotive language. In addition, children have read their monologues to their peers conveying both expression and emotion.

In Science, the children have been learning about gravity. This week children have been learning about setting up a fair-test (repeatable and validity), also variables. In addition, the children have attempted to understand the concept of making a scientific prediction, specific to their research question. If you have any empty yogurt pots could please send them to Year 5 teachers please.

In DT, the children have been making bridges using either paper and cardboard. Making a structure which is solid and can take the weight of a car, is quite difficult!



### Year Six

It has been a fantastic week in Year 6! Children from Canterbury Road had the opportunity to take part in a World War 2 experience day which they thoroughly enjoyed. Back at school, in their learning, the children have been showing great resilience and excellence this week with their learning. In maths, the children have been using protractors to measure angles accurately,



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

calculating angles in triangles and applying their knowledge of right angles, straight lines and angles around a point.

In English, children are learning the skills they need to write a suspense narrative. They have been practising using a variety of sentence structures, subordinate and relative clauses and have continued to build their vocabulary. The children are excited to write a narrative and showcase their skills as writers - we are just as excited to read them!

Reading lessons have been a chance for children to refine specific reading comprehension skills. They have enjoyed reading a text called 'Nightfall on the Somme' and focussing on strategies to answer inference and vocabulary questions.

In science, the children have been exploring how light travels in straight lines. They have drawn accurate scientific diagrams and are able to explain using clear scientific vocabulary what they have observed.

There has been lots of grammar revision; children have been hard at work practising different clauses, phrases, word classes, punctuation and spellings. We are so proud of all their hard work and we're really looking forward to seeing their continued hard work and progress.

### 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.

### Attendance

Well done to the following classes with 97% and above

RR - Y1 Maple Class

RR - Y3 Larch Class

RR - Y3 Cedar Class

RR - Y4 Acacia Class

RR - Y4 Yew Class

RR - Silver Birch Class

RR - Y5 Cypress Class

RR - Y6 Eucalyptus Class

CR - Lime Class



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### **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

If your child has a dentist, optician, or doctor appointment, please ensure it is scheduled after school or during the school holidays whenever possible. By booking in advance, you can arrange appointments during the holidays to avoid disruptions to their learning.

### Phrases of the Week



**Tengo el pelo castaño y rizado.** - I have brown, curly hair.

**Tengo los ojos marrones.** - I have brown eyes.

### Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
Chaneline	Afsan	Asa	Sianna
Sara	Doresha	Ezekiel	Kamsi
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Elektra	Musa	Ayda	Andino
Denis	Alesia	Mark	Aaliyah



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Whole class	Mustafa	Whole class	Mirable	
	Daisy		Jansi	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Yathusha	Leo	Whole Class	Michael	Akosua
Jaanush	Florjan		Chanelle	Praise
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Persis	Aiden	Ashylah	Baba	Anaya
Sanuthi	Mehwish	Amina & Fiza	Bogdan	Aateesh
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Romaire	Najla	Pusti	Josiah	Parthan
Josiyah	Diaa	Aneeyah	Amir	Esha
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Cush	Tharunyan	Rhonique	Mubashir	Triston
Hamna	Mia-Rose	Layad	Ibrahim	Rowan
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE		
Aliza Acacia	CR- Caterina	CR - Sianna RR- Almelio		



# WEST THORNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Community

Well done to Maya in Year 1 who participated at the Naaddiyaanjali 2025 Dance festival performing a Bharatanatyam dance.



£1 tickets to Windsor Castle, the Palace of Holyroodhouse and The King's Galleries



# WEST THORNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

<https://www.rct.uk/one-pound-tickets>

Royal Museums Greenwich are introducing new £2 tickets to the famous tea clipper Cutty Sark

<https://www.rmg.co.uk/plan-your-visit/tickets-prices/universal-credit-tickets-cutty-sark>

Kew Gardens, Richmond TW9 3AB

<https://www.kew.org/kew-gardens/visit-kew-gardens/tickets>

**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

UC Universal Credit • Childcare Vouchers\* • Childcare Choices • EGPS • VISA • Mastercard

**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**  
Ofsted CRB

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