



West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

25th April 2025

There was a real carnival atmosphere at West Thornton today, as Year 5 children, staff, parents and carers had fun at our Cultural Day. Children

dressed in clothes to reflect their own heritage, whilst continuing to learn about The Windrush Generation. The food, music and sense of community was something really special. Thanks to everyone who helped to organise and those who attended. A special thanks to the amazing Cornfield Bakery who donated some delicious food to the



feast!



Leaders at Canterbury Road are thrilled to announce the launch of our new library, generously funded by Amazon! The children are bursting with anticipation to explore the shelves and discover the new books. We are grateful to all the staff who gave up their time to work on this over the Easter holiday, especially Miss Rogers, our Phonics and Early Reading lead.



We'd also like to take the opportunity to say how incredibly proud we are of our Year 6 students and the incredible effort they are putting in as they prepare for SATs. Lot's of positive progress was



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clear in the mock tests, and most impressive of all was each and every child's sensible approach to the tests. To continue their successes, please encourage your children to access the work that is set for them, including that on Century; just 20 minutes or so a day can make a huge difference. Please ask class teachers about any areas that your child may need a little extra work on.

Finally, just a reminder to let us know if your child will be absent from school by calling the office and letting us know the reason for the absence. Thank you - have a super weekend.

Curriculum Focus

Reception



It has been an exciting start to the Summer term this week! The children returned back to school so excited and eager to learn about our new topic all about animals and their habitats! The topic started off with a visit from Ranger Stu, who came with lots of different exotic animals. The children got to see a tarantula, a snake and even an armadillo! Some children were brave enough to volunteer to stroke and hold the animals.



In literacy this week, the children looked at their first habitat - the Rainforest. The children looked at the rainforest and the animals that live there and wrote sentences about what they could see in pictures. They were introduced to their new core text 'Where's the Elephant?' which introduced the theme of deforestation and how animals were losing their homes due to human impact.

In maths, the children learnt about teen numbers. They spent time making the numbers using cubes and numicon and really understood the concept that there is a ten and ones to make the numbers.

In topic, the children recapped the seasons and how they change throughout the year. They described photos of different trees in the seasons and were able to recall what happens in these times.





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Year One

Year One have returned to the new term ready to learn. They have been working really hard in phonics and in their reading. Their knowledge of their sounds has led to great reading and they are now reading with so much speed, accuracy and expression. In English they began the week learning about Greenpeace and the ways that the organization helps the environment. With this knowledge they have then been exploring their new core text *Dear Greenpeace*. The book is full of letters so they have looked at the features of a letter in preparation to write their own. Finally they learnt about the importance of using capital letters for proper nouns.



In maths they had a quick review of doubling and then moved onto making equal groups using grouping and sharing which will give them all of the skills to support them with division as they head into year 2.

In the wider curriculum they have begun a number of new exciting topics. In science they looked and labelled the different parts of a plant. Then in RE they began to think about their big question for the half term of 'Why do people celebrate?' by identifying different celebrations that they celebrate. They loved telling their friends about what their families celebrate and explaining how they celebrate them.

Year Two

Year Two children have been really excited this week as the week started off with the children experiencing some Trinidadian food. They tried some yummy spiced buns, plantain chips and coconut water. This immersion lesson inspired the children to sequence the story of 'Coming to England'. The children have begun to look at features of a diary entry, and they started their diary on Friday.



In maths, the children started the week by learning how to read temperature using a thermometer. They then found out what equal and unequal parts were as they will be learning about fractions next week.



Last term's postponed Victorian workshop took place this week. An external company came to deliver the workshop, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. In geography this week, the children recapped their understanding of the 5 oceans and 7 continents of the world. They also learnt where the north and south poles



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are. The children also found out the location of the United Kingdom and Trinidad and Tobago. In RE, the children learnt about the qualities of a person - they then wrote who has inspired them.

Year Three



Year Three have returned for the summer term with their learning hats on and have dived right into their learning! In English they have begun to think about their writing outcome, a playscript! At the start of the week the teachers acted out a playscript for the children before they took to the stage in their Kagan groups to follow the playscripts of some well known fairy tales. In English, the children have been reading our new core text, Oliver Twist. The children explored different versions of the story including narrative, playscript and graphic novel in order to identify the traits of our focus characters, Oliver Twist and The Artful Dodger.

In maths, children returned to addition and subtraction, this time using fractions. They were able to apply their knowledge of numerators and denominators to support their problem solving and work out how to partition fractions to make a whole.

In DT children carried out research into money containers. They looked at the history of the wallet and how this design has evolved throughout the years. In history, children began their new topic of the Bronze Age. In the lesson they explored which material was easier to make a spearhead, flint or bronze (tin foil). This enabled them to see how the production of tools evolved from the Stone Age into the Bronze Age.



Year Four

Year four children have been very excited to be back! We have started our swimming trips to the leisure centre with Yew class, and we know the other classes can't wait for their turn!

In English, we have kick started our new topic with an immersive session - whose bag was left in our classroom? What was inside? What would we fill our bags with if we had to run and escape? We have begun to explore these questions, and discuss who becomes a refugee and what



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hardships they go through. Focussing on our new topic book, we have also discussed feelings of fear and alienation when you arrive in a new country, and realise that other children can't understand what you're saying.

In maths, we have consolidated our decimal knowledge and focussed on dividing a one and two digit number by 10 and 100.



In Science, we have learned about the different types of teeth we have and the functions of each type and in DT we have found out what catapults are and how they work - next week we will be researching different types of catapults which have been used by different countries over different periods of time!

Year Five

It's been a fantastic first week back after the Easter break for Year 5!

In English, the children have begun exploring biographical writing through the inspiring life of Sir David Attenborough. They've enjoyed watching clips from *Planet Earth* and *Blue Planet*, and have been reading *David Attenborough – Little People, Big Dreams*, identifying key features of biographies such as the use of past tense, third person, and chronological order.

In Science, we've dived into the topic of water resistance. Pupils have been investigating how different shapes and materials affect movement through water. They experimented by creating boats from various materials, testing which designs floated best and stayed afloat the longest. They also explored how streamlined shapes can reduce resistance and help objects move faster through water — all sparked by the question: *Would Usain Bolt run faster on land or in water?*

In Geography, we introduced the water cycle, discussing how Earth's water is constantly recycled. Pupils learned some fascinating facts, including that only 3% of the Earth's water is freshwater — most of which is locked in glaciers and ice.

On Friday, we celebrated Cultural Day with a vibrant and joyful event. The children had the opportunity to taste a variety of delicious foods from the Caribbean and Jamaican islands, experiencing new flavours and traditions. They proudly wore clothes representing their own cultures, showcasing the rich diversity within our school community. It was a wonderful day filled with learning, celebration, and a deeper appreciation of different heritages.



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It's been a week full of curiosity, discovery, and hands-on learning — well done, Year 5!

Year Six

Year 6, have worked tremendously hard on revising and preparing themselves for our upcoming SATS. They have worked relentlessly reviewing key concepts and ensuring accuracy when completing their work.

Phrases of the Week



¡Bienvenidos a todos! - Welcome back everyone!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Zainab	Whole Class	Whole Class	Deevithyan	
Chaneline			Jasper	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Carter	Halima	Vihaan	Havishh	
Kaiden	Musa	Aysha	Maya	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Shayan	Viyanna	Tahiratou	Thishaan	
Tracey	Hamza	Aryan	Chloe	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut



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Vihaan	Whole Class	Krish	Shylah	Mariama
Cherish		Nishany	Leo	Reign
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Salome	Aarohan	Ibrahim	Sophia	Manal
Aliza	Aiden	Johan	Kanish	Brianna
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Whole Class	Whole Class	Levi	Michelle	Samuel Victor
		Kacy-Rose	Shravan	Charlie
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Whole Class	Whole Class	Whole class	Whole Class	Whole Class
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE		
Years 4 & 5 CR	Lacey CR	Romero CR		

Community

A Safe Space to Heal, Grow, and Rebuild – Join Our Free Wellbeing Programme for Women

Every3Seconds (e3s) is offering a free, 6-week wellbeing and personal growth programme designed for women who have experienced difficult or controlling relationships and are ready to take a powerful step forward in their healing journey.

Starting FRIDAY 30th May, from 10:00am–12:00pm, each session offers a safe, supportive space to reconnect with yourself, build confidence, and explore practical ways to care for your mind, body, and emotions — all while connecting with other women who truly get it!

Drinks, and snacks provided.



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If you, or someone you support, is looking for a gentle, empowering path to recovery and self-discovery — this could be it.

e3s
Every3seconds
From Trauma to Triumph



“IT'S TIME TO PUT **YOU FIRST**”

Have you been through a difficult or unhealthy relationship?
You deserve a safe space to heal, grow, and reconnect

HEALTH AND WELLBEING PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN

6 WEEKS —

What to Expect —

- Mind & Body Wellness Practices
- Self-Care & Confidence Building
- Tools for Emotional Healing
- Connection with Supportive Women

Spaces are limited – Reserve yours today!

— STARTING —
30th MAY

From 10.00am - 12.00pm

DRINKS AND SNACKS
PROVIDED

PROGRAMME IS
FREE

EVERY FRIDAY
FOR 6 WEEKS

SONIA
07395 048 008

freedom@every3seconds.com





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KG-Doodles

CHILDCARE

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL

Club



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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

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Use our webchat or WhatsApp to talk to a local parenting coach
about anything that's worrying you.

We're here for you when you need us. No topic is too big,
small, or embarrassing.

Get support with:

- mental health
- school and education
- child development
- additional needs
- family relationships
- behaviour

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