



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

## West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

**2nd May 2025**

What a glorious week it's been here at school! The sun has been shining, making our playtime extra joyful and our classrooms lovely and bright. It's been wonderful seeing so many smiling faces enjoying the warmth and making the most of the beautiful weather during outdoor lessons and activities. With this warmer weather, please remember to send your child in with a water bottle and sunhat.

A letter has been sent home with all the details about the exciting clubs on offer at West Thornton. Please remember you can sign your child up for these through Arbor.

We hope you all have a wonderful and restful bank holiday weekend!

### Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance of 97% and over this week

CR - Year 1 Lime Class

CR - Year 2 Palm Class

CR - Year 3 Chestnut Class

CR - Year 4 Olive Class

CR - Year 5 Hawthorn Class

CR - Year 6 Holly Class

RR - Year 3 Larch Class

RR - Year 4 Yew Class

RR - Year 5 Silver Birch Class

RR - Year 5 Cypress Class

RR - Year 6 Blackthorn Class

RR - Year 6 Juniper Class

### Curriculum Focus

**Reception**



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

This week in Reception, the children wrote about the Arctic, recalling what it is like and why certain animals live there. We also introduced a new text, 'Welcome' by Barroux. Using the pictures from the book, the children shared what they could see and were introduced to the concept of climate change and its impact. They looked at images of animals affected by melting ice and wrote sentences beginning with "The Arctic has ..." and "It has ...."

In maths, the children have continued to develop their understanding of teen numbers. Through a range of practical activities and hands-on experiences, they have been learning to recognise that teen numbers are made up of a group of ten and additional ones. Using resources such as ten frames, numicons and counters, the children explored how numbers like 13, 16, and 18 are composed of one full set of ten and several ones.

During our Topic lessons this week, the children have been developing their observational skills through detailed drawings of animals and flowers. They closely studied photographs and real-life examples, carefully noticing the shapes, patterns and colours before them. Using pencils, they worked with great care and attention to capture the fine details and unique features of their chosen objects. Their creativity resulted in a great collection of artwork that demonstrates both their developing artistic talents and their appreciation for the natural world.



### Year One

Year one have had another busy week! On Monday morning the children were surprised to see a photo of a gorilla that was seen outside their classrooms. They then agreed that they should write to Greenpeace to get some advice on how to best take care of the gorilla. They have written a number of letters to Greenpeace and have enjoyed receiving responses to their letters. Within their letters they have included the features of letters including an opening and closing as well as questions.





# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

In maths they wrapped up their unit on multiplication and division and dove into their new topics on fractions. This week they have focused on finding and recognising half of objects and shapes. Then they ended the week finding half of a number.

In wider curriculum they have continued to learn about different types of fabric in DT and learnt about the difference between synthetic and natural materials. Then they identified what types of fabrics they will use to create a blanket for the gorilla. They have also been reviewing their prior learning about geographical features. They have then applied their learning earlier this year about human and physical features to looking at rural and urban areas.

### Year Two

It's been another amazing week of learning in Year 2! In Writing the children have been taking on the role of Floella in our core text 'Coming to England'. They have been considering what her experiences of leaving behind her country for the colder climate of England would have been like and writing a diary to reflect this. The children have been making connections to their Geography learning and DT learning where they have been comparing Trinidad to the UK in the former and investigating carnival headdress in the latter. In Maths the children have been building on their understanding of fractions of shape and number. They have been finding  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$  and learning how to recognise them too. Some children are beginning to see the relationship between division and multiplication through their understanding of fractions! In Science, the conditions in which plants will grow and survive is being investigated with Year 2 carrying out 2 experiments to see plant growth in action. No shoots or roots so far but we have our fingers crossed for some change soon.



### Year Three

This week in year three the children have started an exciting journey into the world of playscripts and directing their own plays! They have explored their core text 'Oliver Twist' and used the different settings to create scenes and think about the behaviours of characters' within that scene. They learnt the skills and applied this knowledge to write a scene for the well known story 'The Three Little Pigs'.

In maths the children have continued their learning of fractions by discovering the differences between unit and non-unit fractions. It hasn't stopped there! The children have used their multiplication and division skills to crack some tricky reasoning problems involving these fractions.



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

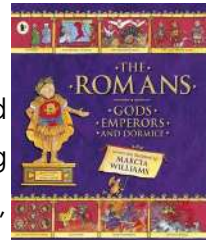
In the wider curriculum, children were hands on with activities in both DT and history. In DT, the children experimented with a range of basic stitches to support them in future weeks with their money purse project. In history, the children collaborated to make roundhouses using sticks, clay and shredded paper. The children are very excited about their trip to Butser Farm next week and this was a great lesson to get them in the zone!



### Year Four

This week has been very exciting as Year 4 delved into the world of decimals in maths and learned how to compare, order, round decimals to the nearest whole number and worked hard to convert fractions, especially halves and quarters into decimals.

Reading has been focused around our text 'The Romans, Gods, Emperors and Dormice' by Marcia Williams which children found amusing whilst they were learning facts about that time in history. They continued to use their skills of prediction, inference, clarifying and summarising during reading to answer comprehension questions and to improve their understanding.



In writing, children have been preparing to write their own narrative by learning to use contractions to show the difference between formal and informal writing as well as remembering to add correctly punctuated dialogue from their previous learning, reporting clauses, show not tell and prepositions. They have focused on learning the four sentence types: statements, commands/exclamations and questions to understand how effective correct punctuation can be.



In science, Year 4 has been learning about our digestive system. They learned about the organs responsible for digestion and their specific functions through class discussion and a messy and fun experiment where they used tights to perform the function of the large intestine. Children used a zip-lock bag to show their stomach and put in a banana, biscuit, water to act as saliva and orange squash as pepsin, the stomach



# WEST THORNTON











## PRIMARY SCHOOL

acid... it left every child in a fit of giggle when they were told to squeeze the waste out through a cut in the tights in the end!

### Year Five

It has been another great week in year 5, children have been working across all subjects!

In maths, we have been learning about properties of shapes. We have learnt all about regular and irregular polygons. Did you know? A circle does not have any sides! The children have used their previous knowledge from year 4 to consolidate their understanding of shapes.

Regular polygons	Irregular polygons
 	 
 	 
	



In English, we have started writing our biographies about David Attenborough. The children have researched all about David's life and learnt the skills needed to write a fascinating biography. We will then use this knowledge to write another biography about another famous naturalist. We look forward to reading their biographies!

In DT, we have learnt about Wind Turbines. The children labelled the different parts of a Wind Turbine and learnt about their purpose and how they benefit. The children will be using this information to make their own wind turbine at the end of the term.



### Year Six

We've had a fantastic start to the summer term in Year 6! The children have shown great determination and focus as we prepare for SATs, and we are incredibly proud of their hard work and positive attitude. Their commitment during revision sessions has been excellent, and they are showing real maturity as they rise to the challenge.

Looking ahead, we have lots to look forward to, including upcoming trips, sports day, and transition activities to help prepare for secondary school. Please keep an eye on ParentMail for important dates and reminders. Thank you, as always, for your continued support – we can't wait to celebrate all of Year 6's achievements with you over the coming weeks!



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Reading

### Phrases of the Week



**El valor del mes de West Thornton es la COLABORACIÓN.** - West Thornton's termly value is COLLABORATION.

### Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Khyla	Arjun	Abdullah	Viron	
Arayah	Maya	Rosie	Zion	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Evelin	Cassius	Aadhith	Amani-Rae	
Ahana	Immanuel	Lilith	Dominic	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Ava O	Aalayah	Fatima	Asrithan	
Ava M	Mustafa	Seth	Jakepaul	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Christabel	Kaiden	Joy	Michael	Isabella
Avisa	Evan	Riaab	Hoorain	Mustafa
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Arthur	Elias	Nandini	Rely	Priansh



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

Daniel	Maitrey	Mercedes	Hilmi	Chinmay
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Nithusan	Skylar	Haya	Amir	Melat
Taksh	Dylan	Yasmine	Nistha	Sharon
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Parth	Kayden	Divine	Mikaaail - Ibrahim	Sianna
Mimi	Dion	Layad	Isabelly	Keisy Anne
Spanish	KS1 PE	KS2 PE		
Cassidy Chestnut	CR - Alicia	CR - Skye		



# WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Community

## Eco Living Fest!

A bi-monthly event  
run for the community  
by the community

SAT 17TH MAY  
1-4PM

HOLY INNOCENTS  
CHURCH HALL  
SOUTH NORWOOD  
192A SELHURST ROAD  
SE25 6XX

free entry

**ELECTRICAL REPAIR** ◦ **KIDS ZONE**  
**LEARN CLOTHES MENDING** ◦ **BICYCLE REPAIR**  
**SWEET & SAVOURY VEGAN FOOD & DRINKS**  
**ENERGY ADVICE** ◦ **ETHICAL FINANCIAL**  
**SERVICES RANKINGS** ◦ **CLOTHES SWAP**  
**CLEANING & BODY CARE REFILLS** ◦ **FOOD**  
**GROWING INFO & ADVICE** ◦ **PLANT-BASED**  
**DIET INFO & ADVICE** ◦ **DROP OFF UNWANTED**  
**IT DEVICES** ◦ **DROP OFF TERRACYCLE ITEMS**



**PICK UP A  
PLANT!**  
TOMATOES & MORE  
ON SALE BY  
HOLMESDALE ROAD  
COMMUNITY GARDEN

**FREE WORKSHOP**  
**TEA-MAKING &**  
**TEA BATH BAGS BY**  
**CREATIVITEAS!**

learn more about our events and how  
to get involved at [sustainth.org](http://sustainth.org)  
or email  
[sustainablethorntonheath@gmail.com](mailto:sustainablethorntonheath@gmail.com)



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

# KG Doodles

CHILDCARE

## BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL

### Club



WEST THORNTON  
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](http://www.kgdoodles.co.uk)  
0117-3322-811

\*T & C's apply for emergency sessions.