



# WEST THORNTON

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

9th May 2025

We are absolutely thrilled to announce that last week, we were awarded the '**Silver Attachment and Trauma Sensitive Schools Award**'. The assessors were so impressed by the dedication and care shown by our staff in creating a nurturing and supportive environment for our children. They specifically highlighted our great understanding and use of de-escalation skills to help support our children when they are feeling overwhelmed. Our playtime provision also received high praise, with the assessors noting how it strengthens our positive interactions, creativity and well-being for our pupils. This is a fantastic recognition of our hard work and commitment to our school community.



A lot has happened this week. Our After-School Clubs started on both sites. It's wonderful to see so many children sign up to a range of different activities we have on offer this term. Year 3 embarked on a fascinating journey back in time learning about the Stone Age with their visit to Butser farm. Year 4 explored the wonders of the Roman Empire with an engaging workshop in our school. Other year groups have continued to work on their new learning journeys for this half term.

Our year 6 pupils have continued to actively prepare for their SATs next week. We are extremely proud of their focus, determination and positive attitudes. Year 6, remember to rest this weekend and come to school feeling refreshed and ready to show what you know! Top tips are listed further below in this newsletter. Look out for information shared about the assessments as well as our Year 6 Breakfast Club running next week.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday.



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### Attendance

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

RR Reception Hazel Class

RR Year 4 Beech Class

RR Year 4 Yew Class

RR Year 5 Magnolia Class

RR Year 5 Cypress Class

RR Year 6 Blackthorn Class

RR Year 6 Eucalyptus Class

RR Year 6 Juniper Class

CR - Year 5 Hawthorn Class

CR - Year 6 Holly Class

CR - Year 3 Cherry Class

CR - Year 2 Aspen Class

CR - Year 5 Sycamore Class

CR - Year 4 Olive Class

CR - Reception Willow Class

Just a reminder to all parents that school opens at 8.40am everyday. Please make sure your child is in school on time.

### Curriculum Focus

#### Reception

This week in Reception, the children wrote about the ocean, recalling what it is like and what animals live there. They were introduced to a new text, 'Where's the Starfish' by Barroux and using the pictures from the book were able to share and describe what they could see. The children were introduced to the concept of pollution and its impact. They looked at images of ocean animals affected by pollution and wrote sentences beginning with "The ocean has..." and "It has..."

In maths, the focus has been on addition and subtraction. The children used number stories and the terms first, next and now to help them write their number sentences. They learnt that when you add two numbers together the total is greater than the number you started with and when you subtract, the total is smaller than the number you started with.

During our topic this week, the children have learnt about life stages. They have been able to identify the needs of a baby, the milestones of a toddler, the abilities of a young child and the responsibilities of an adult. We were very lucky to have some extra special visitors in reception to support our learning, the children were keen to welcome and ask our visitors questions.



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### Year One

This week, Year 1 has been working hard on planning and writing a letter to their friend about the gorilla that we found in the playground. They have been using the letter features we have been learning about and writing sentences about everything they have found out from Greenpeace about gorillas.



In maths, the children have been working on finding a quarter of an object and shape and then on an amount. They have been using a variety of methods to help work this out by sharing. They have also been using their knowledge to solve worded problems about finding a quarter.



In the wider curriculum this week, the children have been learning about the life cycle of plants and closely monitoring their seeds that they planted last week and discussing their progress. They have learnt all about why Humanists celebrate Darwin day in RE and tested a variety of different ways to weave materials.

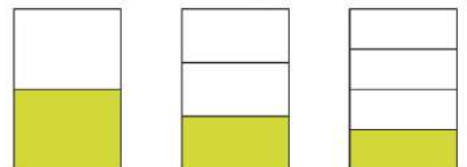
### Year Two



This week in English the children have been learning about instructional writing. The children enjoyed a tasty start to their learning journey by working with a partner to make a jam sandwich. Then they used time

adverbials, imperative verbs, noun phrases, brackets, a heading and subheadings to write a set of instructions.

What fraction of each shape is shaded?



In maths, the children have continued their learning on fractions with the children learning to find  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a quantity, find the whole from a fraction and finally understanding the concept of unit and non unit fractions.



The children have been learning about the act of worship in the Islamic faith for RE this week. They learnt about the Five Pillars of islam, what they mean and how muslim's carry this out. We were very excited to have many experts in our classes to share their knowledge and experiences.



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### Year Three

This week in English, the children have been practising turning setting descriptions into playscripts in preparation for innovating a scene of our core text 'Oliver Twist'.

In maths this week, the children have been learning how to convert pounds and pence when working with money. They looked at adding and subtracting using money and applying this to different scenarios. They learnt how to exchange 100p for £1 and estimate if they have enough money to work out costs quickly.

It was exciting in science this week as the children looked at how water is transported through flowering plants. They conducted an experiment to show that if a plant is placed in a liquid the plant will absorb the liquid and if it is a coloured liquid this will change the colour of the petals!



Our week ended on high with our long awaited trip to Butser Farm where we were transported back in time to the Stone Age and the Bronze Age. Our trip started with a visit to a Bronze Age home where the children's learning about settlements was brought to life. The children then went on to explore the archaeological site looking at a variety of artefacts from across the Stone Age and the Bronze Age. Later, the children had the opportunity to experience lighting a fire using methods from the Stone Age, which proved rather difficult! We can now see why they never let a fire go out! The trip was an amazing experience for all the children that brought our learning to life.



### Year Four

This week in Year 4, we have been very lucky. We had our fantastic Roman day on Thursday when we dressed up, cracked some codes using Roman numerals and continued our designs for our catapults!

We were also privileged to be visited by the amazing SPLAT Theatre Company. We heard the gripping, harrowing and sometimes very funny story of Perseus and the Gorgon, Medusa. We also learnt how





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to convey emotion without any words and just using freeze-frame actions. We had so much fun!



In English, we have been identifying the features of a biography and beginning to investigate how and why they are written, and the sort of language and relevant information that is required.

We have been exploring money in maths which has involved knowing the value of each coin, being able to use the exact coins to create different amounts and thinking about why being able to look after money is a skill we all definitely need for life! A great week all round.



### Year Five

Fantastic week in Year 5! In English, the children have been researching their own biography using both Google and books. Children have been focused on writing in chronological order, third person and past tense. In SPAG, children have been focused on parenthesis and how to use it effectively.

In maths, children have been solving problems using coordinates and translation - they have enjoyed the challenges of finding the coordinates of a compound shape.

In science this week, the children have been observing how pulleys help lift loads, they have drawn and labelled a fixed pulley system. Children have been challenged to make a two pulley system and observe how it lifts objects easily.

In DT, children have been experimenting with making a strong shape (to house their turbines) and using various adhesive materials to join their joints.

### Year Six

We can hardly believe it — SATs week is nearly here! We are so proud of how hard the children have worked this year, and we want to keep you informed about the week ahead and how you can support your child at home.



SATs Week Schedule: Monday 12th May – Thursday 15th May



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Please ensure your child arrives on time each day — we will provide a calm, relaxed start with breakfast or a snack to settle everyone in

### 💡 Top Tips for the Weekend Before

- ✓ Make sure your child gets plenty of rest and sleep.
- ✓ Keep revision light — short bursts or fun practice games can help.
- ✓ Encourage relaxation and fun to help ease nerves.
- ✓ Double-check that your child has a water bottle and any equipment they may need.
- ✓ Remind them how proud you are of their effort — SATs are just one part of their amazing journey!

### 💬 A Final Message to Our Year 6s

We want every child to know that they are so much more than a test result. These tests help show what they've learned, but they don't measure their kindness, creativity, sense of humour, or all the wonderful things that make them unique. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

### Phrases of the Week



**¡Buena suerte a todos los niños en el año 6 para los SATS! -**

Good luck to year 6 children for your SATS!

### Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
Jeriah	Constantin	Areena	Ehsanullah
Aiza	Oliver	Khamari	Aaron
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple



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Abilene	Alesia	Alesha	Athwin	
Aaira	Haad	Reece	Dwisha	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Ishaan	Muhammad	Mustafa	Szymon	
Yaseen	Chris	Henrique	Sufiyaan	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Walnut	Y3 Chestnut
Whole	Kayalvily	Whole	Jessica	Whole
Class	Abdul	Class	Adil	Class
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Whole Class	Keshav	Ashylah	Whole class	Khaleesi
	kavel	Eagan		Ravani
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
David	Zayne	Arianna	Isabella	Yassine
Tanisha	Diaa	Aneeyah	Ayaan	Caleb
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Prince-Isaac	Whole	Amelia	Whole	Whole class
Sahra	Class	Kishiwaleh	Class	
Spanish				
Melat Sycamore				



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Community



# Parent Talk



### **Free and confidential online parenting support in Croydon**

Find answers to parenting questions in our advice articles.  
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

We can support you in the language you prefer.

**[parent-talk.org.uk/croydon](https://parent-talk.org.uk/croydon)**





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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



#### 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

\* F & Cs apply for emergency sessions.