



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

5th September 2025

Welcome back!

We hope you have all had a lovely It has been lovely having all of the children and staff back this week. What a fantastic, positive start to the year West Thornton has had! The children have come back ready to learn, and have shown great enthusiasm for their new year groups and learning. We look forward to sharing our amazing learning, and school updates in future newsletters.

Meet the Teacher Meetings

Over the course of the next few weeks, we will be holding our 'Meet the Teacher' meetings. These meetings provide an opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and hear key messages from the year group.

The date for each year group can be found below:

Meet the Teacher Year 1	Monday 8th September	3.30pm-4.00pm	Year 1 Classes
Meet the Teacher Year 5	Tuesday 9th September	3.30pm-4.00pm	Year 5 Classes
Meet the Teacher Year 6	Thursday 11th September	3.30pm-4.00pm	Year 6 Classes
Meet the Teacher Year 2	Monday 15th September	3.30pm-4.00pm	Year 2 Classes
Meet the Teacher Year 4	Tuesday 16th September	3.30pm-4.00pm	Year 4 Classes
Meet the Teacher Year 3	Thursday 18th September	3.30pm-4.00pm	Year 3 Classes
Meet the Teacher Reception	Monday 22nd September	3.30pm-4.00pm	Reception Classes

A reminder that the gates close at **8.50am promptly** every morning. Families arriving after this time will have to enter each school site through the main office as gates will not be re-opened after this time.

It has been fantastic to see so many children return wearing the correct uniform. We have seen a small number of children return wearing white or coloured footwear - shoes/trainers are to be BLACK with no colour. Please see below for a reminder of our expectations for school shoes.



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If you need any assistance with uniform please speak to our Family Support Workers: Ms Liburd (Canterbury Road) and Miss Williams (Rosecourt Road).



New Members of the West Thornton Family

We are pleased and excited to have a number of new members of staff joining our already fantastic team this year. We would like to introduce them to you:

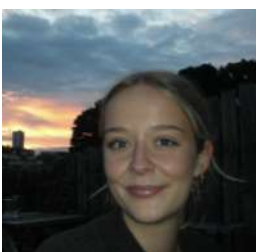
Mrs Scott



Hi, I am Mrs Scott. I have been a teacher for 26 years and I have worked in a number of primary schools including West Thornton for ten years previously. I am very excited about returning to work with the West Thornton team and community. I enjoy all subjects but particularly enjoy maths and building children's confidence in this area. I also love reading to children and story time is my favourite part of the day.

When I am not at school I love spending time with my husband, 7 year old son and 4 year old Labrador. We love going on long walks and days out together. I also enjoy reading for pleasure and help run a book club for mums in my local area. I also have a creative side and enjoy making pictures using cross stitch but am currently trying to teach myself how to crochet! I am very much looking forward to the year and teaching the Year Two children.

Miss Lomas



Hi! I am Miss Lomas. I am really looking forward to starting at West Thornton Primary this September. I am currently working towards my QTS and have taught English abroad, mainly in Thailand. My favourite subjects are Maths, History and Art. Outside of school I love to be outdoors - hiking or surfing



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mainly. I love spending time with my friends and I am super excited to explore London as I am moving from my home town - Manchester. I love to paint and read and I am currently in the process of trying to learn how to sew! I cannot wait to be part of the team and get to know Spruce Class!

Miss Omar



Hi, my name is Miss Omar and I am really excited to be joining West Thornton this September as a Year 4 teacher. My favourite subjects are Maths and Science, and I love seeing children develop their skills and curiosity in these areas.

Outside of school, I enjoy travelling, going to the theatre, and reading fictional books. An interesting fact about me is that I helped plan an Eid gala with my friends for over 200 people, which was a wonderful community event.

I am looking forward to meeting everyone soon.

Miss McLean



Hi I am Miss McLean. I have always loved working with children and have been working within primary education for the past three years. I recently received my PGCE in primary education. My favourite subjects are English and History. I'm an avid reader and enjoy cooking different meals by researching and creating different recipes. Outside of work I love doing fun and active activities with my friends and family. I am so excited to join the team at West Thornton and cannot wait to teach and connect with the children. Looking

forward to meeting you all over the new term!

Miss Sylvester



Hello, my name is Miss Sylvester. Over the past year, I have been working in education, gaining valuable experience in SEMH and SEN schools. My favourite subject is maths, as I enjoy problem-solving.

Outside of school, I enjoy watching a wide range of films and keeping up to date with the latest releases. I have recently developed an interest in fitness and love going for long walks. I also have a passion for travelling, exploring new places, and experiencing different cultures.

I am really looking forward to joining the West Thornton team and contributing to the school community.



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Miss Turner



Hi families! I am Miss Turner and I am so excited to officially be joining the West Thornton team!

I have been in the education setting for over 15 years in both the UK and Australia. I have taught across all age groups, including Nursery and managed an Early Years Centre in Australia which I loved.

I am extremely passionate about the emotional wellbeing of children; helping them to challenge themselves, build confidence and watching them become proud of who they are is something that I particularly love about working with

children.

When I'm not at school, I love to travel and explore new places. I love camping and long road trips, especially off roading! To wind down, I enjoy sound baths and practicing breathwork sessions. I am also a big Crystal Palace fan, so excited to see what the next season brings! I am really looking forward to seeing you in September!

Attendance

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

RR Year 2 Spruce

CR Year 6 Acer

RR Year 6 Blackthorn

Curriculum Focus

Reception



It has been lovely welcoming some of the new reception children to West Thornton this week. They have loved exploring the environment and have settled in really well. The children have been practising to write their names, writing numbers as well as practising their counting skills. They have been making new friends in their class and learning how to share. We cannot wait to continue welcoming the new reception children in and are looking



forward to a fun year ahead!



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Year One

We have had an amazing start to Year 1 this week and we couldn't be prouder of them. The children have transitioned really well to their new routines into their classes. To start this week they have been learning about our school values and character skills that they use on a daily basis at school. They have also worked together in their classes to create a class charter and write a promise for themselves.

In maths this week, the children have been working on their number recognition to 10 and counting the correct number of objects to numerals. They have also been drawing the correct number of objects for each numeral.

In the wider curriculum, during PSHE this week, the children have been thinking about their friends and how they are similar and different. In RE the children have been learning about gratitude and thinking about what they are thankful for.



Year Two

We've had a wonderful start to the new school year and have loved welcoming our Year 2 children back to school. They've settled beautifully into their new classrooms and routines.

This week, the children have been thinking about why rules are important and worked together to create a Class Charter with shared expectations for their learning and behaviour. They also explored the West Thornton Characteristics of Wonder, Mindset, Relationships, Leadership and Integrity and thought about how they can show these qualities in their everyday learning.

The children have also been practising how to present their work neatly in their books and have created a Zones of Regulation plan to help them manage their emotions and learning in class.

In Maths, they have started learning about the properties of numbers. Using practical resources, they've been partitioning two-digit numbers into tens and ones, helping them recognise and record numbers accurately.

As part of the wider curriculum, the children have started exploring different materials and their properties in Science. They loved taking part in a hands-on activity where they investigated everyday items such as wood, fabric, plastic, paper, and card. They then used scientific vocabulary to describe the properties of each material.



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Year Three

Year 3 has started the new academic year by setting a high standard of presentation across the curriculum. They were excited to explore their new classroom and be introduced to new topics and teachers as well as learning new routines.

In English, the children have begun to explore our new core text 'Hidden Figures' which explores the lives of inspirational women and how they have impacted space travel. This links to our global theme for the term 'Human Rights'. This week they have looked at the features of a biography and how they portray the significant events in a person's life. They enjoyed following instructions to make straw rockets with their partners.



In maths, the children have started to recap their knowledge on place value and number lines. The children have a secure understanding of tens and ones using a variety of representations. They can partition numbers using digits and base ten.

In history, the children will be learning about the Ancient Egyptian civilisation. This week they looked at a time line of the era and ordered key events in chronological order on a time line.

In science the children have been learning about light. By the end of the term the children will be able to answer the question 'What are the different ways and sources of light we use in our daily lives?' This week they talked about the different sources of light and if they were a natural or artificial source. They were also surprised to find out that the moon is not a source of light.

Year Four

It's been a great week in Year 4! This week, the Year 4 children have settled into their new classes wonderfully and have already had a very fruitful start to the term. In maths, they have been exploring the fascinating world of numbers up to 10,000, developing their skills with place value and counting.

Our English lessons sparked a great discussion about the importance of choosing the right words, as the students explored the difference between informal and formal language. Beyond the core subjects, the children have been reflecting on their own well-being by learning about the Zones of Regulation and discussing our school values. They have also worked together brilliantly to collaborate on their own class rules, demonstrating a fantastic start to the new school year.



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Year Five

We have had a fantastic start to the school year for Year 5! The children have done an amazing job settling into their new classrooms and are already diving into some exciting new topics.

This term, we're exploring our global theme of Social Justice and Equity. The children are connecting this important idea to our class book, "The Boy and the Globe," and our fascinating History topic all about the Tudors.

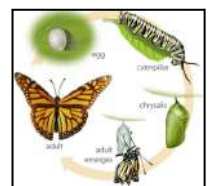
In Maths, we've been tackling some big numbers, learning all about place value and how to show numbers up to 1,000,000! The children have been using what they already know to solve tricky puzzles and have been explaining their answers.



Our English lessons have been a real adventure. To kick things off, we recreated a theatre in the classrooms to get a feel for what life was like for rich and poor people during the Tudor times. We've started reading our new book and are really enjoying it! The children have been working hard to understand the main characters, including using a fun "hot-seating" activity to explore the character of Moll Cut-Purse.

In Science, we've been learning all about the lifecycles of plants and animals. The children have been busy writing step-by-step explanations of their chosen lifecycle.

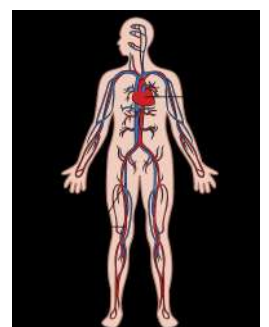
It has been a wonderful first week back, and all the teachers and children are super excited for a fun and engaging year ahead!



Year Six

It's great to be back in school for the start of the most exciting, and challenging, year - Year 6! The children have been settling in well to routines and expectations, ready to move forward with their learning for the year.

We have started understanding more about our Global Theme, 'Human Rights', through our core text, 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman. The children have immersed themselves in different styles of journal and diary to understand the purpose of this personal style of writing. They have imagined how they might feel as the main character, having to live with a terrifying heart condition and the prospect of getting a pig heart through surgery!





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Our maths journey has begun with reinforcing the children's knowledge of numbers up to 1,000,000. They have been partitioning large numbers, visualising them on a place value chart and then writing them in words - remembering to use commas in the right place!

In Geography, we were able to use this knowledge of large numbers to explore population statistics for Croydon and other London boroughs. The children showed excellent knowledge from Year 4 and 5 to explain why sometimes the populations dropped over time or why they increased after the Second World War due to immigration. We will continue to delve into the local demographics of Croydon and the impact on the local area.

For Science, the children have expanded their knowledge of the inside workings of the human body, by recapping on internal organs and researching the key parts of the human circulatory system - fascinating!

As a strong Year 6 team, we are all eager to support your children towards their secondary adventure and the challenge starts now!

See you next week at Meet the Teacher!

Phrases of the Week



¡Bienvenidos a todos! - Welcome back everyone!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow
The Whole Class	The Whole Class	The Whole Class	The Whole Class
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple
Hazel	Khamari	Lua	Blake
Sianna	Prethvi	Mason	Mia
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce
Aisha	Kehlani	Jesse	whole class



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Kaiden	Abinaya	Halima		
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Chestnut	
Whole	Ishaan	Whole	Eesa	
Class	Loreran	Class	Skyler	
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Whole Class	Whole Class	Whole Class	Kavinu	Whole Class
			Meryama	
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Joshua	Faaiz	Aarav	Whole class	Amina
Melania Liana	Idrees	Persis		Lathixan
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Chu	Rianna	Tanuj	Charlie	Dylan
Sajoori	Aarush	Elijah B	Denephia	Isabel

Community

The Checkout Croydon Card is your digital pass to exclusive discounts on food, drinks, shopping, leisure and more across Croydon town centre. It takes seconds to sign up, and your card goes straight to your phone. Just show it at participating businesses to start saving.

Leading Parent Partnership Award

As part of our drive to strengthen our relationships within the school community and help children in our school to reach their full potential, we will be going for a 'Leading Parent Partnership Award' over the next 12 to 15 months. We will follow a framework that will help us to celebrate what we are currently doing well and what we can do to improve. Look out for more information about the project over the next few weeks.



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KG-Doodles

CHILDCARE

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL Club

WEST THORNTON PRIMARY SCH. C.L.



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- 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** **CGPS** **VISA** **MasterCard**

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