



West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

19th September 2025

It's been a wonderfully warm and sunny end to another lovely week at West Thornton! Children are now fully in the swing of their new year group, class, topics and learning journeys and it is excellent to see them so engaged within their classrooms.

This week, we've continued to hold our Meet the Teacher meetings; thank you again to all the parents and carers who have attended these. It has been great to have the opportunity to share our expectations for the year ahead and to give you an insight into what your children will be learning in their new year groups. We will get the slides for these sessions uploaded to our school website for those parents to view who were unable to attend.

On Tuesday this week, trials were held for the West Thornton football team. Well done to everyone who attended - we are looking forward to celebrating your successes this year!

Our JLT had a very responsible job to complete this week! They took on the role as food critics and completed a food tasting session with Chartwells, our catering company. It was wonderful to see the children giving their opinions about potential dishes that could be added to the menu. Thank you to Chartwells and everyone who was involved with the event. We look forward to seeing what will be on the menu next.





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Looking ahead, we are expecting more rain which may mean wet break and lunchtimes. Please remember to send your child in with a coat just in case!

We are also still seeing lots of children wearing shoes that are not black. Shoes/trainers are to be BLACK with no colour. Please see below for a reminder of our expectations for school shoes. If you need any assistance with uniform please speak to our Family Support Workers: Ms Liburd (Canterbury Road) and Miss Williams (Rosecourt Road).



Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance over 97%

CR - Reception Ash Class

CR - Year 3 Cherry Class

CR - Year 3 Chestnut Class

CR - Year 5 Hawthorn Class

CR - Year 5 Sycamore Class

RR Reception Pine Class

RR Year 2 Spruce Class



Curriculum Focus

Reception

It has been a wonderful first few weeks getting to know your children and helping them settle into their new routines. We have been so impressed with how well they are all doing at familiarizing themselves with their new classroom and the school environment. It's been absolutely lovely to see so many new friendships blossoming, and we've been helping them with ways to be kind and respectful to one another.

This week, we officially kicked off our phonics journey! The children have been fantastic at listening for the initial sounds in words and have even started to practice blending sounds together to hear words. It's an important step in their reading and writing development.



This week, your child has learned four new sounds. To help them practice at home, please keep an eye out for a practice sheet that will be coming home with them this Friday.



In our topic lessons, we've introduced the children to the Zones of Regulation. This is a great tool that helps them understand and talk about their feelings. We've been exploring how different feelings can make us act in certain ways and the different ways we can manage them. This is a brilliant way to encourage their emotional intelligence and give them the language to express themselves.

Thank you so much for your continued support as we help your children on this exciting new adventure! We look forward to sharing more of their learning with you.

Year One

This week in Year 1 the children have been learning a variety of new word classes. They have learnt about nouns, verbs and adjectives and used these to write sentences about the character in our core text 'My shadow is pink'. They have been making sure that they have used their writing toolkits to make sure that their sentences include capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.



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In maths this week, the children have been continuing to count forwards and backward to 10 and learning how to find one more than a number. They have also been practising on how to write numbers in words.

In the wider curriculum, during Science, the children went on a hunt to find objects in the learning environment made of different materials. They discussed their suitability and which materials would not be suitable for its purpose. In RSHE, the children learnt how to read people's different emotions and what they can do to support their friends.

Year Two

The children have continued to enjoy exploring our core text '*The Three Billy Goats' Stuff*' by Bob Hartman and using it as a stimulus for their writing. They have been learning how to write to entertain by including adjectives to describe the troll and headteacher from our story. Next week they will be writing an alternative ending to the story so have begun to plan out their own ideas using their imagination.

In Maths this week, the children have been continuing to build upon their knowledge of how to partition two digit numbers in different ways using dienes, place value charts and part-whole models to support their learning. At the end of the week they moved onto labelling 10's on numberlines with different start and end points. They have enjoyed doing lots of counting in tens. See if they can tell you what ten comes after 50, what ten comes before 90?

In Geography the children have been learning about the five oceans in the world. They considered what makes an ocean by looking at pictures of water from the local environment and London before coming up with a definition. They loved learning a song to identify the names of the five oceans and also labelled these on a world map.

In Science this week the children have been investigating the suitability of different materials and considered the best way to use them. They were introduced to new vocabulary (elastic, flexible and rigid) and investigated whether different everyday materials and objects could be bent, squashed or twisted to make them useful in our everyday lives.

Year Three

This week has been all about discovery and creativity! In **English**, we've been completing our biographies on the incredible mathematician, **Katherine Johnson**. They've worked so hard on their writing, making sure to include key facts and organise their paragraphs to tell her life story. The



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finished pieces are truly out of this world! The children have also been looking at staff members across the school and their biographies, then we transferred their skills they have learnt previously to point out key information.

In **Maths**, we've been exploring big numbers by **partitioning numbers to 1000**. The children have been fantastic at breaking down numbers into hundreds, tens, and ones. We've also been looking at the *flexibility* of partitioning—understanding that 345 can be $300 + 40 + 5$, but also $200 + 140 + 5$. This has really helped them with their mental maths skills!

In **History**, we have been on a fascinating journey to ancient Egypt, focusing on the discovery of **Tutankhamun's tomb**. The children were captivated by the story of Howard Carter and the incredible treasures found inside. We've been looking at photographs of the artefacts and discussing what they tell us about the beliefs and lives of the ancient Egyptians.

Our **Science** lessons have been a real highlight as we've continued our topic on **light and reflection**. The children have been experimenting with different reflective surfaces and even used mirrors to bounce light around the classroom. We've learned about how light travels in straight lines and how we see objects because light reflects into our eyes.

Year Four

This week in Year 4, we have been busy with lots of exciting learning. In Maths, we have been focusing on **place value**. We have practised finding 1, 10, 100 and even 1,000 more or less than numbers, and we have been working with number lines up to 10,000. We are also learning how to compare and order numbers using the symbols **<**, **>** and **=**, as well as words like *ascending* and *descending*.

In Geography, we have been exploring the human features of **Sri Lanka**, and in Science we thought carefully about how humans can have both positive and negative effects on animal habitats. We looked at examples such as litter, roads and deforestation, but also at nature reserves and gardens that help animals. Together, we shared ideas about how we could protect our own local environment, including building bug hotels and bird houses.

Year 4 has shown fantastic teamwork and creativity, and we are looking forward to putting some of our ideas into action!



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Year Five

This week in Year 5, the children have been working hard across a variety of subjects. In Maths, we have been learning how to round numbers to the nearest 100,000, building on our place value knowledge and applying these skills to problem-solving activities. The children have shown great confidence when tackling larger numbers and have enjoyed using their rounding skills in practical contexts.

In English, we have begun planning and writing our own versions of the narrative '*The Boy and the Globe*'. The children are beginning to experiment with different cohesive devices to make their writing flow, and have impressed us with their creative use of hyperbole and similes to bring their stories to life. In History, we have continued our topic on the Tudors, exploring how key decisions made during this period have influenced aspects of modern life. Our Science learning has focussed on life cycles, with a focus this week on frogs. The children explored the transformation from tadpole to adult frog and enjoyed comparing this to other animal life cycles.

Year Six

It's been another great week in year 6! In maths, we have been using our times tables knowledge to find common multiples and understand the rules of divisibility. Towards the end of the week, we continued to use our times tables knowledge to multiply numbers together which are multiples of 10..

In English, we have continued with our core text '*Pig Heart Boy*'. The children generated figurative language to use to describe Cameron's experience being in hospital. Towards the end of the week, the children learnt about cohesive devices and varied sentence structure which they will be using in their setting description.



In Geography, we continued to analyse and identify different maps. We compared a rural map (Duns, Scotland) and an urban area (Croydon). We identified the human and physical features, and compared how they vary between Croydon and



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Scotland. We also looked at the impact of population increase and how it impacts physical features in different areas.

Reading

Please ensure your children are spending time every day enjoying some reading. Even better if they can be reading aloud to a sibling or adult at home. Remember to encourage them to record what they have read in their Reading Records to share with adults in school.



Phrases of the Week



El valor del mes de West Thornton es LA BONDAD - West Thornton's termly value is KINDNESS.

Stars of the Week

| | | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|
| YR Ash | YR Oak | YR Pine | YR Willow |
| Keziah | E'Marni | Kairon | Uzayr |
| Isa | Riya | Aliyah | Lily |
| Y1 Elm | Y1 Fir | Y1 Lime | Y1 Maple |
| Sulueiman | Lemario | Dillon | Ben |
| Anu | Olivia | Arayah | Devarshi |
| Y2 Aspen | Y2 Palm | Y2 Rowan | Y2 Spruce |
| Javarie | Alesha | Kymirah | Avah |



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| | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Ahana | Naila | Mehrab | Athitheeran | |
| Y3 Cedar | Y3 Cherry | Y3 Larch | Y3 Chestnut | |
| Jahnai | Cheyavan | Raphael | Fatima | |
| Thishaan | Jaafina | Amelia | Jaxon | |
| Y4 Acacia | Y4 Beech | Y4 Hornbeam | Y4 Olive | Y4 Yew |
| AJ | Younus | Rebecca | Praisejah | Keevah |
| Adil | Yathusha | Reign | Iyaaz | Keeyan |
| Y5 Cypress | Y5 Hawthorn | Y5 Magnolia | Y5 Silver Birch | Y5 Sycamore |
| Helna | Oresti | Adrian | Yathusha | Jahmeil |
| Hassan | Bogdan | Rutmi | Alysia | Adon |
| Y6 Blackthorn | Y6 Eucalyptus | Y6 Juniper | Y6 Holly | Y6 Acer |
| Zaina | Yaroslav | Aneeqa | Zayaan | Loredana |
| Aashiny | Reggie-Jay | Caitlin | Hosna | Ekhlas |

Community



This October, The Royal Parks are hosting a Halloween Nature Roadshow in Hyde Park and The Regent's Park, offering free, drop-in family activities like spooky-themed nature trails, bug hunts, and storytelling sessions. Hyde Park's "Hair-Raising Halloween" at the Learning Centre includes a "Witches' Den" with "feely boxes" and a focus on local bats. The Regent's Park event will feature a detective trail, wild crafts, and

interactive games to connect families with nature during the spooky season. For more information



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and to register click the link below:

<https://www.royalparks.org.uk/whats-on/discovery-days-hair-raising-halloween-2025>



LOCATION
West Thornton Primary School
Rosecourt Road, Croydon CR0 2BS

TIME
Every Thursday at 7:00pm

DATES
Start Date: Thursday 1st September 25
Finish Date: Thursday 11th December 25
(Please arrive 10 minutes early on your first session)

**BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW!
LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE**

- Call/Text: 07535 438 348
- Email: b.hutton-wood@incpa.org.uk
- Website: www.incpa.org.uk

Free to attend.
Open to all men aged 16+.
No experience needed.
This is a safe, non-judgemental space for men to connect, reflect and grow.
Free parking available.

Strength Through Vulnerability

Are you feeling emotionally stuck? Looking for a safe space to share your story? Finding it difficult to express yourself in a healthy way? We invite you to join our **FREE** 12-week course, 'Strength Through Vulnerability.'

This is a judgment-free zone where you can share your experience, practice mindfulness, and engage in self-reflection. Designed specifically for men, our sessions focus on building relationships and enhancing self-esteem and confidence. We welcome you to take this journey with us.

For more information on how to book email:
b.hutton-wood@incpa.org.uk





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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. We look forward to working with you all to help to provide the best for our children and the community.



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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
0117-3322-811

* £10.50 for emergency sessions