



WEST THORNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

3rd October 2025

This week, we welcomed Reception parents to our Parents' Evening sessions at our Canterbury Road site. The rest of the school on both sites will have their Parents' Evening next week. This is a great opportunity for you to talk with your child's class teacher about their start to the school year and progress they have begun to make. Please remember to book an appointment if you haven't already done so. You can contact the office if you need support.



We are starting to give tours for parents who are considering our school as a place for their child to attend when they start Reception in September 2026. If you know of any families in our local community thinking of choosing our school then please share the dates of our upcoming tours with them or direct them to our school office or website.

Tuesday 14th October - 3:30pm

Monday 10th November - 5pm

Tuesday 25th November - 10:15am

The children enjoyed having a non-uniform day at school yesterday and tucking into pizza for our 'Create your own pizza' themed lunch that was on offer. We are looking forward to holding many more events this year. Please try to ensure that your child attends school as much as possible to take part in these experiences and not miss out.



Have a lovely weekend everyone. We look forward to welcoming you all back next week.



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Attendance

Well done to all these classes with attendance over 97% RR

RR Reception Oak Class

RR Year 1 Fir Class

RR Year 2 Rowan Class

RR Year 2 Spruce Class

RR Year 3 Larch Class

RR Year 4 Yew Class

RR Year 5 Cypress Class

RR Year 6 Eucalyptus Class

RR Year 6 Juniper Class

CR Reception Ash Class

CR Year 3 Cherry Class

CR Year 4 Hornbeam Class

CR Year 6 Holly Class

Curriculum Focus

Reception

We have had another fun and busy week in Reception. In Literacy we have been looking at our baby photos and talking about how we have changed. We are continuing to talk about how everyone is different and celebrating our differences.

In Maths we have been learning how to subitise, know what a number is without counting. Like when you look at a dice and know it is a 6 from the pattern of the dots or knowing when all the fingers are out on one hand it is 5.

In Topic we have been continuing our learning about self portraits using different mediums. We have been focusing on including different details such as how a face looks when it shows different emotions like happiness and tiredness.

Year One

The children in Year 1 have been super busy writing their final poems! They have been working hard to remember all the skills we have been learning over the last few weeks to make sure their poems showcase their use of adjectives, verbs and nouns. Thank you to all the parents that came to listen to their children's poems, we are excited to turn these into our own class book of poems.





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In maths this week, the children have been using correct mathematical vocabulary and symbols to compare groups of objects and numbers. We have also been excited to start our new arithmetic lessons using the Rekenreks to help subitise numbers.



In the wider curriculum, the children have continued their learning about 'What are we thankful for?' in RE and learnt about Harvest festivals around the world. The children focused on the Jewish festival of Sukkot and made their own Sukkah.

Year Two

This week in English, the children have been exploring diary writing. They started by identifying the key features of a diary entry before writing about their own day. They then stepped into the role of Izzy Gizmo, considering how her emotions changed throughout the story. To finish the week, they wrote a diary entry as Izzy Gizmo, using features such as past tense verbs, first-person perspective, emotive language, and adverbs.



Complete the sentences.



81 is greater than 18



52 is less than 54

This week in Maths, the children have been building on their understanding of numbers. They began by estimating numbers on a number line, before moving on to comparing objects and numbers using mathematical language such as *greater than*, *fewer than*, and *equal to*, as well as the symbols $<$, $>$ and $=$. The week ended with practising counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s, and beginning to learn how to count in 3s.

In their foundation learning, the children carried out a science investigation to find the best material for a spoon. They tested wooden, plastic, and metal forks to discover which one worked best for picking up spaghetti.



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Year Three



This week in English, the children have been exploring our new core text 'Our rights!'. The children began the week exploring their Human Rights and identifying which ones are important to them. They have also begun their journey into the world of poetry. The children enjoyed looking at rhyming and free-verse poems before rehearsing and performing in front of the class.

In maths, the children have been adding and subtracting ones, tens and hundreds from 3-digit numbers. They have used their knowledge of number bonds and understanding of place value to solve missing number problems.



In science, the children have continued their learning about light. Using torches they investigated a range of different classroom objects and classified them according to whether they were transparent, translucent or opaque.

In art, the children have begun to plan their piece of art work inspired by Corey Barksdale. We look forward to seeing their final outcomes in the next few weeks.

Year Four

This week, Year 4 has been busy exploring a range of exciting topics! **In English**, we learned how to use sentences and rhetorical questions to make our writing more persuasive, creating thought-provoking examples like "What are we doing to help save the planet?". The children also worked on their presentations and took an active part in class discussions.

In Maths, we sharpened our mental skills by adding and subtracting 1s, 10s, 100s and 1,000s, and even tackled two 4-digit numbers without exchanging. **In Science**, we learned about animal classification and how to classify different species, and discovered that if we do not look after our environment, some species could disappear forever. **This linked perfectly with Geography**, where we explored how the UK's physical features affect people's lives and the habitats of plants and animals.

In Art, Year 4 have been working towards creating their own pieces inspired by the style of Jill Pelto. Pelto is an artist who studies the Antarctic Ice Sheet and uses her love of nature to



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communicate environmental issues through her work. She sees nature as a work of art, and her creativity is inspired by experiences like skiing, camping, running, and spending time with friends and family. The children have been exploring tints, shades, and highlights to bring their own nature-inspired artworks to life.

Year Five

This week in English, Year 5 have been learning about the features and purpose of recounts. They explored how recounts are structured, the language typically used, and why authors write in this style. By studying examples, the children are beginning to see how events can be ordered clearly and how descriptive language makes a recount more engaging. This will help them prepare to write their own detailed recounts in the coming weeks.

In Maths, Year 5 have been consolidating their understanding of place value and practising formal written methods for addition and subtraction. Once secure in these, they applied their skills to solve a range of word problems, encouraging them to practise accurate calculations and use mathematical reasoning in real-life contexts.

In Science, the children continued their work on plant and animal reproduction, focusing on the life cycles of insects and birds. They examined the stages of development, compared similarities and differences, and gained a deeper understanding of how living things grow, change, and reproduce.





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Year Six

It has been a busy and highly productive week in Year 6, with the children applying themselves diligently across all subjects.

In Mathematics, pupils expertly used their knowledge of factors and multiples of 10 to solve multiplication and division problems. They showed impressive skills when tackling word problems, successfully identifying the key information required to find the solution.

For Writing, the children have started their learning for a new writing outcome—a letter to a cosmetics company aimed at persuading them to stop testing their products on animals. Researching existing cosmetic companies and their practices shocked the pupils, motivating them to formulate strong arguments against animal testing. They identified the key features of a persuasive letter and practiced using cohesive devices to ensure clarity and flow, along with effective persuasive language techniques for their final drafts next week.

In Science, children started creating their double-page spreads, which will be a comprehensive showcase of all their learning on the circulatory system this half-term. We look forward to seeing the final outcomes next week!

Phrases of the Week



¿Cuántos años tienes? - How old are you?

Tengo ____ **años.** - I am ____ years old.



Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Cairo	Keanu	Alea	Kamayah	
Sara	Zayd	Bianca	Lilian	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Cody	Abdullah	Kavani	Isaac	
Jasser	Eugitha	Thiyanna	Veeya	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Derrick	Leanne	Nesma	Dominic	
Eloise	Aysha	Hanfa	Ammarah	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Chestnut	
Harley	Yusuf	Fatima	Sarvika	
Krishiv	Basil	Ohm	Jayden	
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Georgina	Kaseon	Praise	Evan	Nizar
Aadheesh	Christabel	Mareya	Kayalvily	Nishany
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Zahra	Scarlet	Daniel	Neveah	Fiza
Maitrey	Hilmi	Ruusa	Anaya	Khairunnisa
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Sofia	Kavya	Nithusan	Samuel-Victor	Cheri
Anaaya	Luke	Satvic	Esha	Hasveka



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Community



We are introducing an adult lending library at school. Feel free to borrow a book and leave one that you have already read and no longer want. We would love some books in other languages too if anyone has any they no longer want.

My Child Has A **SPEECH DELAY** CIC

SLIDE CROYDON www.croydon.gov.uk

Please Join Us For A
FANCY DRESS PARTY

Dancing

Disuit Decorating

Put on your most fancy costume and join us at our party bash!

● PRIZE for BEST dressed! ●

Saturday 25th October
1pm - 5pm

93-97 Canterbury Road, CR0 3HH
07566 259 657 - 07510 953 884
info@mchard.co.uk

Bouncy Castle

Messy Play

SENDsational Fancy Dress Party
Canterbury Centre, Croydon, CR0 3HH
Saturday 25th October 2025
1:00PM - 5:00PM

We're thrilled to invite you to our SENDsational Fancy Dress Party on Saturday 25th October!

Come dressed in your favourite costume and enjoy a fun-filled day with:

- Bouncy castle
- Arts & crafts
- Messy Play
- Biscuit Decorating
- Role play toys



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Tickets can be purchased on an individual basis at £3.50 for a child and free carer, additional tickets at £3.50 per person.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/select/lvzaorxypnx>



Supporting parents, building brighter futures

Barnardo's Virtual Family Space is proud to be working in partnership with Croydon Council to offer free, parenting workshops for local families.

These short, practical sessions are designed to give parents and carers tips, tools, and confidence to support their children's development and wellbeing.

Whether it's managing routines, building positive relationships, or navigating tricky moments, our workshops provide trusted advice in a supportive space - helping you and your family feel safer, happier, healthier, and more hopeful. <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/vfsworkshops-croydon>

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. More information about this initiative will be coming soon.



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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