



West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

10th October 2025

This week we welcomed parents in for our Autumn parent/teacher meetings. The meetings were really well attended and it's a great chance to find out how your child has settled into their new year group. If you couldn't attend please contact the office to arrange to see your teacher another time.

Only one more week until our first 2-week half term holiday, which also means it's nearly time for the Halloween Disco at Rosecourt Road Thursday (16th Oct) for Years 1 and 2, Friday (17th Oct) for years 3-6. Tickets are selling fast. Do come to the office at any time after 9:30 to purchase them.

Attendance

Well done to these classes with attendance over 97%

CR - Reception - Ash Class

CR - Year 2 - Palm Class

CR - Year 2 - Aspen Class

CR - Year 3 - Cherry Class

CR - Year 3 - Chestnut Class

CR - Year 4 - Olive Class

CR - Year 4 - Hornbeam Class

CR - Year 5 - Sycamore Class

RR - Year 2 Spruce Class

RR - Year 3 Larch Class

RR - Year 5 Silver Birch Class

RR - Year 5 Magnolia Class

RR - Year 5 Cypress Class

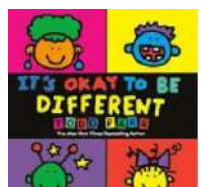
RR - Year 6 Eucalyptus Class

RR - Year 6 Juniper Class

Curriculum Focus

Reception

This week in Literacy, the children have continued exploring our core text 'It's Okay to be Different'. They have thoroughly enjoyed sharing stories about their families,





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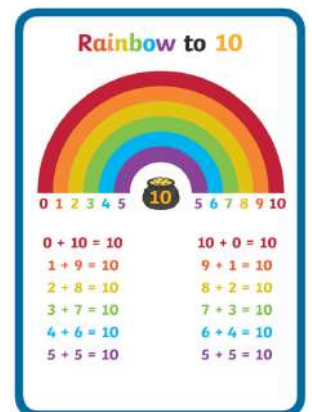
proudly bringing in family photos and speaking about their loved ones. Through these heartfelt conversations, the children reflected on how their families are both unique and similar to others. To end the week, they created beautiful drawings of their families.

In Maths, we have been learning all about sorting and grouping. The children had lots of fun using objects to explore how they can be sorted by colour, size, and shape. Later in the week, they compared their groups and discussed which had more or fewer items, developing their reasoning skills and confidently using mathematical language in their explanations.

As part of our topic work, the children have been learning about the important people in their families and wider community. We explored different ethnicities and languages and looked at flags representing the countries their families come from. These thoughtful discussions have helped the children understand that different places can hold special meaning for different people, supporting their growing awareness of the wonderfully diverse world around them.

Year One

Year One has had another busy week! They have been working so hard in phonics. Not only have they been securing some tricky words that they have been finding hard, they have also been working on blending in their heads and reading longer words.



In maths they have been learning all about addition. At the beginning of the week they wrote number sentences using part whole models. Now at the end of the week they have learnt about the commutativity of addition and all about fact families.

In art they have been busy creating their own designs for their flags using a simple design that represents them and repeated patterns. The children can't wait to print their designs on fabric. It has also been an exciting week in science. They have been experimenting with different materials to create the best boat for the Lonely Beast.

Year Two

This week in English, the children have been writing their own diary entries pretending to be an inventor, talking about what inventions they had created and how they managed to fix their inventions just like how Izzy Gizmo did. They started by planning their own ideas, writing about what they had created, coming up with exciting inventions and names, what happened to their invention and how they felt when this happened and finally what they did to fix the problem. They did this by using all of the diary entry features they had learned about last week.

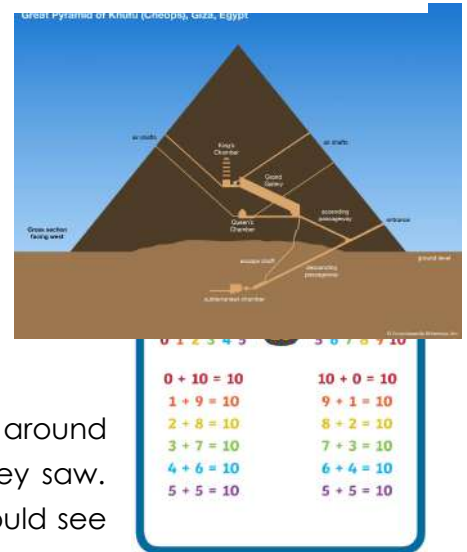


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In Maths this week the children have been learning about number bonds to 10 and learning how to systematically do this. By doing this they were able to find a distinct pattern to help them calculate their number bonds to 10. They also used part whole models to show how they can add different numbers together to get to a number within 10. By doing this they were able to find fact families that related to bigger numbers.

In their wider curriculum learning, the children went on an exciting Geography trip to Mitcham Common where they looked around the landscape discussing what human and physical features they saw. The children really enjoyed doing and pointing out what they could see around them.



Year Three

This week, we continued our exciting unit on poetry! The children have been diving deep into different types of nouns, learning about the difference between a concrete noun (something you can touch or see, like a 'ball') and an abstract noun (a feeling or idea, like 'joy' or 'freedom'). They have been using these powerful words to help them write their own free verse poem based on the important Right to Play.

In Maths, we tackled a challenging new concept: adding 10s across a hundred! The children have been using two fantastic resources to help them understand this: Dienes blocks and place value counters. With place value counters, they would count out a number like 90, and then add 20 more, recognizing that the ten counters in the tens column needed to be regrouped to make one counter in the hundreds column. This helped them smoothly calculate tricky sums like $90+50=140$.

In Science, we became expert observers by conducting a great experiment on shadows! The children measured their own shadow at different points during the day, making sure they measured from the exact same starting spot each time. They made some brilliant observations, noticing that as the Sun moved higher in the sky, their shadow got shorter as the day went on.

The class travelled back to Ancient Egypt this week to explore the structure of the pyramids. The children learned about the important spaces inside, like the various passages and chambers. They specifically learned where the pharaohs used to keep their sarcophagus (the stone coffin) within the burial chamber and what the purpose of the antechamber (the room before the burial chamber) was.

Year Four

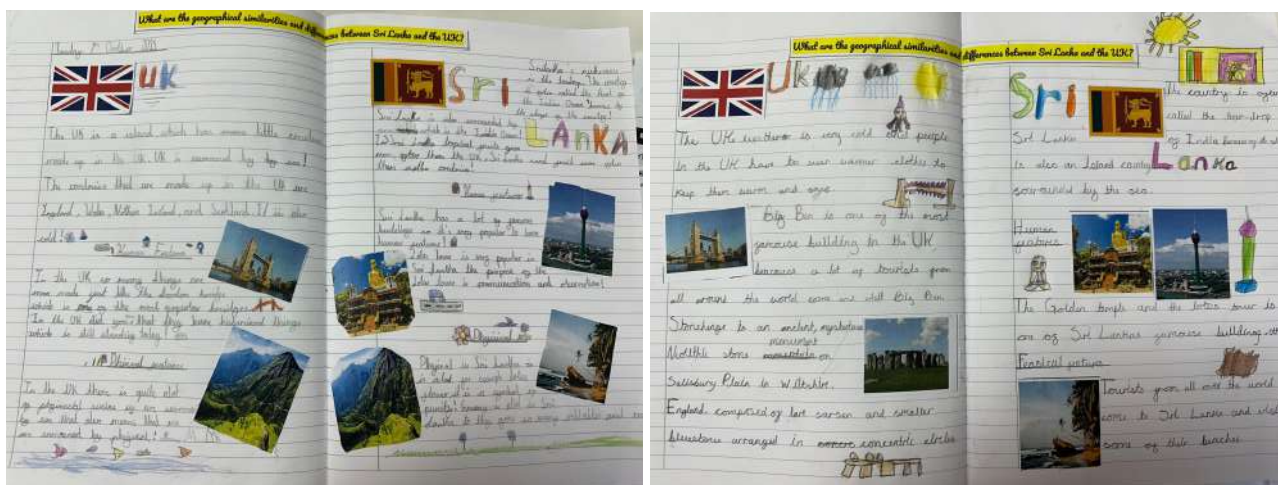


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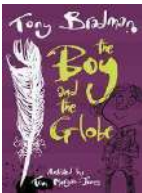
This week in year 4, the children have had a fantastic and busy week! In Maths, we have been practicing subtracting 4 digit numbers with multiple exchanges using the column method. We then challenged the children to use these skills and knowledge and apply them to reasoning and worded problem questions. Towards the end of the week, the children then learnt various other efficient methods for subtraction and found the method that worked best depending on the question type. This should definitely help them with their speed in arithmetic going forward!

In English, the children have been working towards writing a speech about climate change. They have used some fantastic persuasive techniques such as emotive language, hyperbole, repetition, power of 3 and rhetorical questions. The children have put in so much effort and we agree that their speeches deserve to be heard in Parliament! Well done Year 4, be the change you wish to see in the world!

In Geography this week, the children created their double page spreads answering their assessment question, "The similarities and differences between human and physical features of Sri Lanka and the UK." The children pulled on their knowledge from the entire half term to create some fantastic end of topic work. Your books look great, you should be proud!



Year Five



This week in English, the children have been writing a letter in the role of Toby, the main character from our core text 'The Boy and the Globe'. They used the information about Toby and his life to write a letter which was a recount of 'a day in the life of a pickpocket'. While writing, they applied the literary devices that they have been learning about. This included writing in the first person, using relative clauses to give more information about people or objects and using adverbial phrases to show when the events

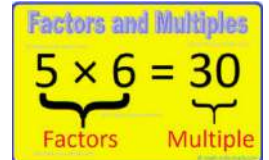


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happened. They also included Toby's thoughts and feelings to show how he felt at different events during his day.

This week in Maths, the children have been learning about multiples and how to identify these as well as common multiples, they have also been learning about factors and how to find common factors of two numbers. The children have been also consolidating their understanding of times-table in a number of ways including playing games, carrying out activities and using online resources.



In history this week, we have continued our learning about the Tudors. The children began by thinking about what they already knew about King Henry VIII, they then used secondary sources to carry out research to add to their knowledge and thought about what else they would like to know.

Year Six

This week in Year 6, the children have been trying to use their persuasive techniques to convince cosmetics companies to stop testing on animals! They have used the Rule of Three, flattery and presumption to get their point across and change the minds of the big CEOs! In maths, they have tackled the tricky concept of long division. The children have practised laying the method out correctly on the page and following a set of instructions to get the final quotient. It can be challenging, but they have persevered and shown some excellent resilience to complete the calculations.

In science, we have spent time exploring the nutritional value of different foods by studying their labels. Did you know that there are about 2 and half tablespoons of sugar in a can of coke? The children compared and discussed 2 types of food to see which might give them the most benefits if they ate it.

We have completed some beautiful sketches of anatomical hearts in art and also analysed our geographical data from the fieldwork trip in the local area. We found that around West Thornton, there is a mixture of land use, from small parks and terraced Victorian housing, to the ancient woods of Mitcham Common which has been a consistent green space for a thousand years! Rosecourt Road visited Wandle Park for their geography fieldwork and discovered how the River Wandle has changed over the years as the land use around Croydon has changed.



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Reading

Phrases of the Week



¡Feliz cumpleaños! - Happy birthday!

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Kyro	Riya	Jeremy	Beatrice	
Thomas	Aharan	Aarabhi	Salaim	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Rayden	Malahki	Amna	Ariana	
Victoria	Aniyah	Khadija	Stan	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Haris	Harry	Alesia	Aaliyah	
Victoria	Favour	Nesma	Elikem	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Chestnut	
Kaliyah	Yusuf	Ayra	Zina	
Sufiyaan	Ishaan	Emilia	Param	
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Chanelle	Mia	Ayesha	Imani	Nitya
Nabil	Romelle	Aadia	Florjan	Elizabeth



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Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Kavel	Scarlet	Niyah	Hazel	Midhun
Sapna	Rely	Arleen	Brianna	Aasiyah
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Amir	Azna	Lucy	Michael	Bilal
Josiah	Kishan	Richard	Alicia	Rithika

Community



To find current Diwali events in Croydon, search **Eventbrite** and local news sources like Inside Croydon for festival listings, or visit the Stanley Arts London website for their Diwali celebrations which can include workshops, music, dance, and food. For broader London events, check for the annual Diwali on the Square in Trafalgar Square.



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Free internet boxes for light usage

We've partnered with Jangala, a charity who help people get online for free. One million people in the UK gave up their broadband access in 2023 alone. Jangala wants to ensure that everyone has the connectivity they need. They do it through a clever device called a "Get Box".

We will be offering 10 boxes on loan for 12 month, to those who need them most. To express your interest in receiving a GET BOX, please email familysupport@inspirewestthornton.co.uk





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This October, Croydon proudly celebrates Black History Month once again with a diverse array of events honouring the culture, history, and achievements of the Black community. From inspiring talks and vibrant performances to art exhibitions, workshops, and family-friendly activities, there's something for everyone.

This year's theme, "Standing Firm in Power and Pride," reflects the strength, resilience, and unity of the Black community. It is a reminder to celebrate heritage while embracing the future with confidence and pride.

Whether you're looking to learn, reflect, or simply enjoy, this directory will guide you to the best events happening across Croydon throughout Black History Month. Explore, engage, and be inspired!

<https://cbmeforum.org/black-history-month-2025/>



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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

*T & Cs apply for emergency sessions.