



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

12th December 2025

There was a fun and festive atmosphere to mark the end of the penultimate week this week. Our dining halls were transformed for our annual Christmas Lunch today. The children and staff enjoyed a delicious lunch with all the trimmings surrounded by Christmas jumpers and crackers. A huge thank you to all the kitchen staff for their hard work and to all members of staff who helped out on the day to make this event special.



Our youngest pupils delivered fantastic performances today. Reception children sang their hearts out and truly entertained the audience. They were brilliant! Their hard work and practice over the last few weeks certainly paid off! A massive thank you to the Reception team for coordinating a fantastic event.



Movie Night

Rosecourt Road's Movie Night was a great success yesterday! The children had a fantastic time watching *The Grinch*, and thoroughly enjoyed their popcorn and drink. The money raised from this event will go towards achieving our sustainability goal of increasing our recycling capacity.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Football Success

Our boys' school football team had a fantastic match against Elmwood this week. They won 5-1! Samuel scored 4 brilliant goals and Ayden scored an amazing goal too! It was a wonderful team effort from all the boys. Well done!

Parental Engagement

Thank you to all the Canterbury Road Reception parents who came in for the Reception Phonics gallery this week. There was a fantastic turnout and this really helps us to make phonics consistent at home and school and help the children with their reading and writing.

There will be another one scheduled for the New Year when we move onto teaching Phase 3. We hope you can all join us again then.

Attendance

Well done to these classes with Attendance over 97%

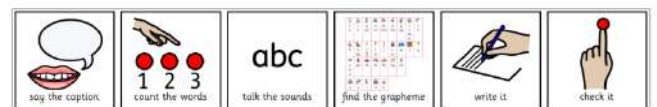
RR Year 1 Maple Class

RR Year 4 Beech Class

Curriculum Focus

Reception

This week in Literacy, the children have been busy becoming little caption writers! They have been putting words together to make short phrases, such as 'pat it' and 'nap in it'. They have been sounding out each word carefully and practising leaving clear spaces between words. The children have also been using these simple writing steps to guide them: saying their caption out loud, counting the words, talking through the sounds, finding the right graphemes on their sound mat, writing it carefully and finally checking their work with pride!



In maths, the children have been exploring ways to make and break apart the numbers 4 and 5. They have been investigating different ways to compose and de-compose 4 and 5, using words to describe the shapes they see. The children have also been learning that different parts can combine to make the same whole, helping them



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

understand numbers in a deeper, more flexible way. Alongside this, the children have been practicing copying and continuing patterns by spotting the pattern, reading it aloud and saying what comes next.



The children were thrilled to perform their Christmas play for parents today, showing great confidence and proudly sharing all their hard work. The teachers are incredibly proud of each child's performance and we know you must be just as delighted with their achievements as we are!

Year One

We have had a lovely week in year One. In English we have been writing diary entries as Little Red Riding Hood. In these entries we have discussed the order of events as well as the emotions that Little Red may have been feeling throughout the story. In maths we have been looking at how to find one more and one less of a number. The children have been using concrete resources such as beads, cubes and tens frames to help them.



In science we have been looking at how animals and humans change in the autumn. We learnt that animals migrate, hibernate and even grow more fur during the colder seasons. We also learnt that humans adapt by wearing warmer clothes during this season to avoid illnesses.



Year Two

This week has been very busy in Year 2! We have been preparing and rehearsing our Christmas play, learning our lines and the songs so we are ready to show all parents/guardians on Monday! The children have really enjoyed the space to be creative and just to get a little festive!

In English, the children wrote their own **Stanza poems**, which detailed their experience in the dark. The children explored the reaction of different senses in the dark and generated some fantastic adjectives to help further their descriptions.

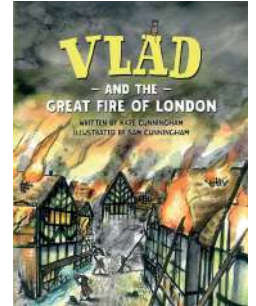


WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

In maths, the children have begun to gain confidence in subtracting 2 two digit numbers from one another using a variety of different modelled methods (part whole, number line, column method). The use of concrete resources to help explain exchanging two digit numbers was a fantastic lesson which really allowed them to grasp quite tricky concepts!

In the foundation subjects this week we are coming to an end of all our topics as this term grows to a close. In history this week the children attended a workshop all about Vlad the Flea and his perspective of the Great Fire of London. The children thoroughly enjoyed this immersive workshop and the activities really helped them to imagine life in 1666.



In RE we have finished our topic on religious celebrations this week. The children have learnt about Hinduism, Christianity and Judaism, and these lessons offered a really lovely space for children to share their own experiences of religious festivals.

We are looking forward to showcasing the children's performance, and we know they are too! Please remember to buy your tickets so you don't miss out!

Year Three

It has been a busy and fun-filled time in year 3 this week. In English, the children have written their very own newsletter about 'Rosie Revere' the inspiring engineer and how she showed resilience to produce a quality invention. They were able to include all of the important features of a newsletter, including a headline and a quote using speech marks.

In maths, they have been working on multiplication and division using their 8 times table. The children were able to identify fact families and use them to solve a variety of problems. They have continued to memorise their 3,4 and 8 times tables.

In DT the children have been hard at work transforming their imaginative designs into photo frames. This week, they've been assembling their frames, drawing on the skills they've honed in previous lessons. From precise measurements to careful cutting and gluing, our young designers have been showcasing their creativity and attention to detail. We're excited to see the final results and celebrate their artistic achievements!



Elsewhere, rehearsals for the Christmas production are in full swing! The children are working very hard to remember their lines and have been singing with such passion. We are looking forward to sharing this with you all next week, don't forget to get your tickets!



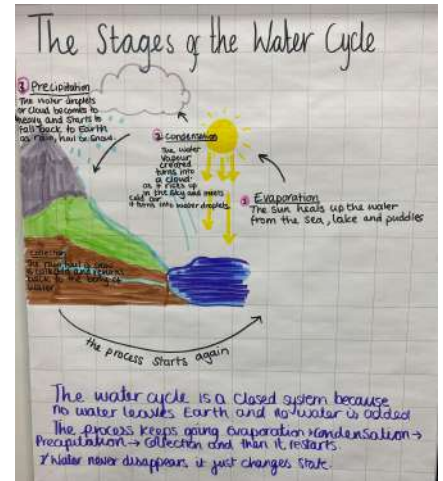
WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year Four

This week has been a very busy one in Year 4, as the children have been working incredibly hard while also taking part in their singing rehearsals for the upcoming performance. Despite the packed timetable, the pupils have shown fantastic focus and enthusiasm across all subjects.

In English, the children have been developing their own innovative narratives inspired by our core text *The Girl Who Stole an Elephant*. They focused on creating vivid descriptions, introducing a clear problem, and shaping a well-structured storyline. The children carefully selected ambitious vocabulary and varied sentence types to make their writing engaging for the reader. They are now in the process of publishing their final pieces, which will soon be displayed to celebrate their tremendous effort.



In maths, we continued developing our fluency and reasoning by multiplying three numbers. The children practised identifying different number patterns, used their times-table knowledge confidently, and explored how multiplication can be grouped and rearranged to solve problems efficiently.

In science, Year 4 have been learning about the water cycle. They explored key scientific vocabulary such as evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection. The children enjoyed using diagrams to describe how water changes state and travels continuously around our environment.

It has been a productive and exciting week, and we look forward to building on this learning as we move into next week.

Year Five

Year Five have had a very busy week as we start our preparations and rehearsals for our Christmas production, which we know you will enjoy!

This week in Maths, the children have been strengthening their multiplication skills. The children have been practising both the *column method* and the *box method* to solve a range of multiplication problems. They have worked hard to choose efficient strategies and explain their reasoning with growing confidence.



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

In English, the classes have been preparing to write their own newspaper articles inspired by our core text, *Boy in the Tower*. They explored key features of newspaper writing, including using **direct and reported speech**, and crafted their own **catchy headlines** to hook the reader. The children are now ready to apply these skills in their own exciting news reports next week!

In DT, the children are working on their soft toy projects, which they have designed from influences from the book, 'The Colour Monster'. They are very excited to show off their finished products!

Year Six

It's been a fantastic week, this week in year 6! The children have been working very hard in their singing rehearsals for the upcoming Christmas show!

This week in Maths, we have been learning about metric measurements. The children have been converting metric units of mass, length and capacity. Towards the end of the week they applied their knowledge to answer more complicated reasoning questions.

In English, the children have been writing their biographies on Paul Stephenson. They have used all their knowledge from research, as well as drawing in their knowledge from our History lessons. It has been great to see the children using the skills learnt during their English lessons being used in their writing.

In our foundation subjects, we are coming towards an end of our learning. The children have been planning and preparing their double page spreads. They have been gathering information learnt throughout the last 6 weeks to answer their assessment questions. We look forward to seeing what their final, creative outcomes will look like.

Phrases of the Week



¿Cómo te llamas? - What's your name?

Me llamo ... - My name is...



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Stars of the Week

YR Ash	YR Oak	YR Pine	YR Willow	
Matthew	Ethan	Anaiyah	Hoorah	
Thackshan	Ziva	Nivaan	Aathee	
Y1 Elm	Y1 Fir	Y1 Lime	Y1 Maple	
Melvin	Akshara	Yassin	Taqi	
Ayran	Minahil	O'Brian	Vivaan	
Y2 Aspen	Y2 Palm	Y2 Rowan	Y2 Spruce	
Ahana	Aadhith	Hareem	Elrick	
Kacie	Ayda	Anam	Amani-Rae	
Y3 Cedar	Y3 Cherry	Y3 Larch	Y3 Chestnut	
Vaidehy	Paari	Scarlett	Juvana	
Eugithan	Jaafina	Aaron	Ali	
Y4 Acacia	Y4 Beech	Y4 Hornbeam	Y4 Olive	Y4 Yew
Nabil	Anamika	Mustafa	Whole Class	Keyaan
Adil	Anass	Eisa		Shahid
Y5 Cypress	Y5 Hawthorn	Y5 Magnolia	Y5 Silver Birch	Y5 Sycamore
Elias	Sophia	Arthur	Whole Class	Edwin
Helna	Kanish	Cairo		Khairunnisa
Y6 Blackthorn	Y6 Eucalyptus	Y6 Juniper	Y6 Holly	Y6 Acer
Izza	Alex S	Mohamad	Charlie	Fiza
Zaim	Ha My	Romarie	Suela	Zayne



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Community



Improve your English language
with CALAT



English Course

Our Services :

- ✓ Speaking
- ✓ Writing
- ✓ Listening
- ✓ Reading



- Improve your English language skills
- Support your children in school and at home
 - Get help accessing local services
 - Work towards an English qualification
- Make friends, socialise and become part of the community

**CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT WEST THORNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL,
ROSECOURT ROAD CR03BS ON A TUESDAY & THURSDAY 9AM-12PM**

Email below for more
information:
linda.gray@croydon.gov.uk
or
claire.smith@croydon.gov.uk



Croydon Adult
Learning and
Training



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are excited to share an exciting opportunity to learn or improve your English language skills. To gauge interest, I would like to get an idea of how many people would be interested in attending, to ensure there are enough tutors for the course. Please use the link below to register your interest, ready for registration after the New Year.

<https://forms.gle/zkiBWAKXtRS9wVyD9>

Help with childcare costs

You can get help with after-school childcare costs through UK government schemes like Universal Credit (UC), which refunds up to 85% of costs for working parents, and Tax-Free Childcare (TFC), offering £2k-£4k/year, though not usually with UC, plus potential employer schemes and local council support for wraparound care. Check eligibility on the Best Start in Life website to see what you qualify for, as it covers clubs, nannies, and holiday schemes, say [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) and [Money Saving Expert](https://www.moneysavingexpert.com).

1. [Universal Credit \(UC\)](#) Childcare Costs:
 - Who: Working parents on UC, can claim back up to 85% of costs.
 - What: Covers after-school clubs, holiday clubs, childminders, nannies.
 - How: Pay upfront, report to UC, get reimbursed in your next payment cycle.
2. [Tax-Free Childcare \(TFC\)](#):
 - Who: Working parents (not on UC).
 - What: Government adds £2 for every £8 you pay, up to £2,000/child/year (or £4k for disabled children).
 - How: Use your online childcare account to pay providers.
3. [Employer-Supported Childcare \(ESC\)](#):
 - What: Some employers offer help through salary sacrifice, reducing tax/NI.
 - How: Ask your HR department if this is available.

Disney on Ice Tickets

Thanks to a generous donation from Chartwells, we have secured a wonderful prize package - 4 VIP tickets to 'Disney on Ice' at the O2 Arena on Monday 29th December at 2.30pm. Winners will enjoy the experience of being in the hospitality box. We are giving families a chance to win this fabulous prize whilst helping to raise money for our school!

How to Win: The Silent Auction

Each parent or carer can **reply to this email with an amount they would be willing to pay for this prize**. The highest bidder will win the tickets. You have until 12.00pm on Monday 15th December to place your bid. The winner will be informed by Tuesday morning. Good luck!



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

KG Doodles
CHILD CARE

CROYDON HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

KIDS FESTIVE CAMP

Ofsted

FUN & CREATIVE ACTIVITIES FOR BOYS & GIRLS 4-11 YEARS OLD
3 DAYS, MON - WED

HAF Bookings
22 DEC - 24 DEC 2025
10AM - 2PM

KG Doodles Bookings
22 DEC - 24 DEC 2025
10AM - 2PM

Admission
Fully funded with HAF Voucher
KG Doodles: £20 Per Session

West Thornton Primary School
Rosecourt Road
Croydon, CR0 3BS

Activities

- ✓ Robotics
- ✓ Baking
- ✓ Crafting
- ✓ Sports
- ✓ Group Games

Registration Links
www.kgdoodles.co.uk
www.croydon.gov.uk/holiday-activities-and-food

More Information 07535814004 eclarke@kgdoodles.co.uk
HAF Government Funded: hafprogramme@croydon.gov.uk



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL



WEST THORNTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

KG-Doodles

CHILDCARE

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL

Club



WEST THORNTON
PRIMARY SCHOOL



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.