



# WEST THORNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## West Thornton Weekly Newsletter

23rd January 2026

Our Year 6 pupils recently took a fantastic trip to the Croydon Junior Citizenship Scheme, where they swapped their usual classroom routine for some high-stakes, real-world learning. Throughout the morning, the children navigated a series of interactive scenarios designed to build independence and safety awareness. From mastering public transport etiquette with Transport for London to learning vital emergency first aid and fire safety skills, our students rose to every challenge with maturity and enthusiasm. It was fantastic to see them collaborating to solve problems and discussing how to make responsible choices as they prepare for their transition to secondary school. We are incredibly proud of how well they represented our school community!



### Rosecourt Road Valentine's Discos



Don't forget to visit the school office to purchase your Valentine's Disco tickets. Details can be found below:





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### Year 5 Community Food bank Collection

This week, Year 5 put their classroom learning into action. Following their recent learning about justice and social equality, the children discussed the importance of a fair society. Inspired to show true social responsibility, they decided that the best way to lead by example was to support those in need right here in our community so the children organised a collection for our local food bank.

The response to our food bank appeal to year 5 was overwhelming. After sorting through the many kind donations, several children walked to the local church to drop them off. The staff there shared that they currently support 185 families, making our students' efforts more important than ever. We are so proud of Year 5 for their leadership and thank our school families for their kindness.



## Attendance

Well done to all these classes with Attendance over 97%

CR - Year 1 Lime Class

CR - Year 1 Elm Class

CR - Year 3 Cherry Class

CR - Year 3 Chestnut Class

RR - Reception Pine Class

RR - Year 1 Maple Class

RR - Year 2 Rowan Class

RR - Year 4 Beech Class



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CR - Year 6 Acer Class

RR - Year 5 Silver Birch Class

### Curriculum Focus

#### Reception

It has been another busy and productive week in Reception. The children have shown wonderful focus as we dive deeper into our writing, number work, and storytelling.

In our writing lessons, the children are becoming real wordsmiths. They have been working hard to apply their phonic knowledge to sound out words independently as they write. We are also focusing on the mechanics of building a sentence; the children are now beginning to consistently use finger spaces between their words to make them easier to read. Furthermore, we have introduced full stops, and the children are learning how to use these to show that their sentence has finished.

This week, our math focus has been all about the composition of number 5 using the classic rhyme *Five Little Speckled Frogs*. The children have been exploring how 5 can be partitioned, or split, into different parts. For example, they might see that 5 can be made of 3 frogs on the log and 2 frogs in the pool. We have been practicing how to explain what these parts are and using this knowledge to solve problems, such as working out a hidden number when part of a group of 5 is covered up.



We have been "run, run, running as fast as we can" with our Gingerbread Man core text. To help us internalize the story, we have been using Talk 4 Writing actions to retell the tale with expression and movement. This has been a fantastic way to explore the structure of stories, as the children are learning to identify the clear beginning, middle, and end of the Gingerbread Man's adventure.

#### Year One



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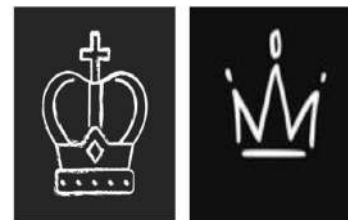


It has been a fantastic week in year 1. In English we have written and edited our own description of a forest as inspired by the book we have been reading 'The king who banned the dark.' The children have been encouraged to use their senses to help them with their setting descriptions. In maths we have been learning about subtracting ones using number bonds. We have used tens frames to help us do this successfully.

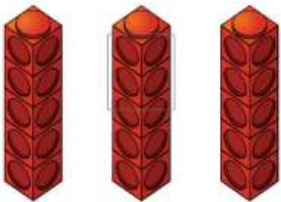
In line with this half term's theme of Power and Governance, the children in each year 1 class conducted their very own class election! We watched a few videos of how actual elections are carried out with a ballot voting system and then the children did the same thing in class. Each class then had its own class Prime Minister for the day.



In art, the children have been looking at mosaic art inspired by Stephen Wright. Towards the end of the term we will be creating crowns using this art form. However, this week we drew the outlines of those crowns using chalk and black card.



### Year Two



$$5 + 5 + 5 = 15$$

It has been another great week in Year 2 as children have dived into their new maths topic of multiplication. They began the week by identifying whether groups were equal and un-equal before practically making their own equal groups using cubes. They also recorded these as repeated addition number sentences. At the end of the week the children then began adding equal groups using pictorial representations.

In English, the children have enjoyed being innovative writers and were very enthusiastic when writing their own letter of complaint as a piece of equipment from around the classroom. They excelled at including all the key skills that we have learnt during this learning journey including using different openers, adverbs and including exclamation marks for some of their sentences.



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In Geography we were learning to identify and locate key landmarks in London. The children enjoyed sharing what they knew about these landmarks and finding where they were in London using goggle maps. They noticed that most of these are located close to the river Thames and collaborated in pairs or groups to correctly place these on a map of London.



### Year Three

It has been another fantastic week in Year 3, with the children working extremely hard and making great progress across all subjects.

This week, Year 3 tackled the challenging task of dividing two-digit numbers by one-digit numbers using flexible partitioning and remainders. The children have used tens and ones counters to help them visualize the process of exchanging when dividing. They started by partitioning two-digit numbers into tens and ones and then explored how to divide these parts step by step. Through practical activities and guided discussions, the children developed strategies to handle tricky remainders and explain their thinking.

In English, we have been focusing on descriptive writing, specifically using scientific vocabulary to bring our writing to life. We have been exploring the Amazon rainforest as our setting, and the children have been using their senses to create vivid and engaging descriptions. To bring the Amazon Rainforest to life in their writing, the children explored the use of powerful adjectives, commas in list and scientific vocabulary. For example, they described the vibrant emerald canopy stretching across the sky, the chorus of chirping crickets and squawking parrots and the earthy scent of damp leaves after the rain. Through shared writing, peer editing, and independent tasks, the children built beautifully detailed paragraphs that captured the magic and mystery of the rainforest.

In science this week, the children have been digging deeper into the world of rocks. They explored the different rock types before classifying them into three main groups: sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. Mr Blakemore kindly brought in some of his fascinating finds from his



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travels and the children were able to use their knowledge to talk about these rocks as well as learn a thing or two from Mr Blakemore!

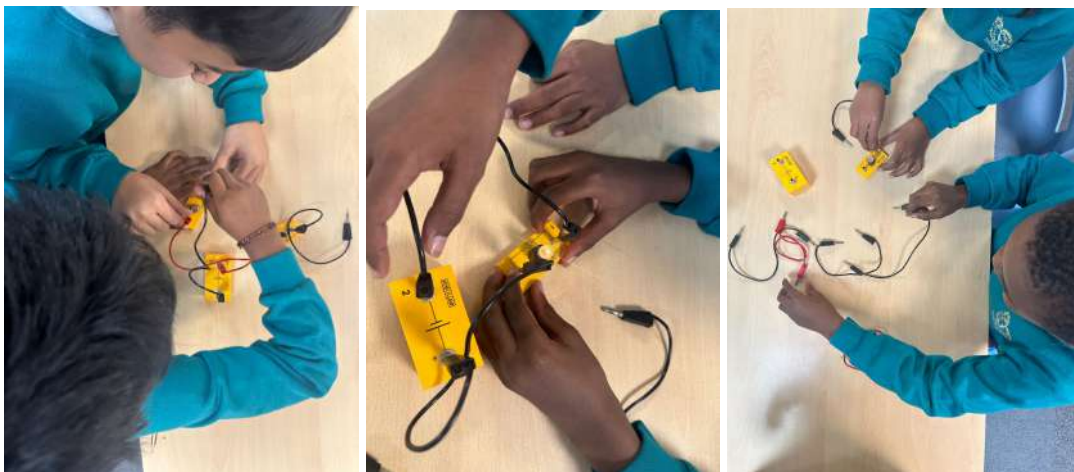


### Year Four

This week in year 4 the children have tackled some tricky division questions in maths. The children have shown resilience when learning how to divide up to 3 digit numbers by a 1 digit number with remainders using place value charts, part whole models and the bus stop method. Well done year 4 - you have done a great job!

In writing the children have begun their learning journey towards writing a Greek myth. We started with identifying features of a Greek myth and then immersed ourselves into the mythical story of Cyclops and Odysseus. They put their acting skills into practice by role playing scenes and using their body language to show how the characters were feeling.

In Science, the children have been so excited to learn all about electricity! They have used equipment to create circuits and used their investigating skills to test and see whether a given circuit would work and light a bulb.





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In RE, year 4 has explored the significance of Eid- Ul Fitr, celebrated at the end of the month of Ramadan. Children shared their own experiences of Eid and we had excellent discussions comparing how muslims celebrate Eid with other celebrations and festivals from other religions.

### Year Five



This week, Year 5 began writing some amazing introductions to their flashback narratives inspired by our core text 'The Windrush Child.' They worked very hard to include what they have learnt over the weeks and created some strong emotive paragraphs stirring strong feelings in the reader. Their writing exhibits fantastic similes, metaphors, personifications, brackets for parenthesis and flashback transitions!

In maths, the children have continued to work with fractions and were successfully multiplying and dividing using the methods learned in class. They sped through questions of finding fractions of an amount and were able to find the most efficient methods to use for various calculations when multiplying unit and non-unit fractions with integers.

Children have been looking at migration to the UK in geography, researching significant push and pull factors that cause people to leave their home countries and also why Croydon was desirable for immigrants over other parts of the UK.

In RE, looking at why people are judged, labelled and discriminated against because of their faith has been a very important and personal learning experience for all the children as we have such a diverse school community. Children were very good at explaining what discrimination is and looks like, who it can happen to, where it may take place and what to do about it.

In art, Year 5 have built their own three dimensional figure sculpture using their sketches from the previous week in correct proportion. They used foil, masking tape and cardboard to make a stand. The sculptures were sprayed with gold spray paint for a more realistic look.



### Year Six



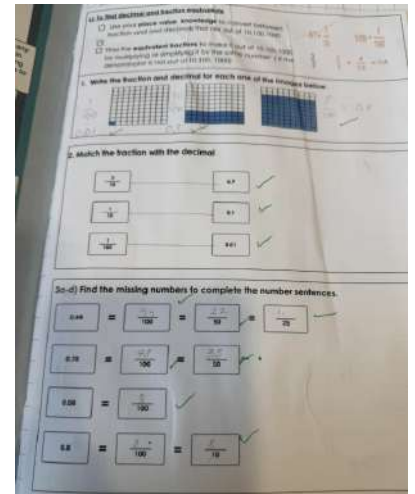
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It's been another fantastic week in year 6! The children completed another set of assessments this week. It has been great to see the progress they have made, consolidating their new learning from year 6 and the previous years! There has been great improvement in arithmetic where some children have improved by over 10 - 15 marks!!

In English, the children have been writing a narrative, based on our core text 'When the Sky falls'. We have focused on using a range of figurative language techniques to describe the platform when the evacuees were leaving and using dialogue and action to portray character emotions and thoughts.

We started the week by recapping decimals and fractions and then moved onto our new topic of percentages! This is a big unit in our arithmetic paper and the children are looking forward to their new learning.



### Reading

The lending library at Canterbury Road has been restocked. Please borrow any books you fancy or if you have any books you have read and think others would enjoy, please feel free to leave them.



### Phrases of the Week



¿Cuál es tu color favorito? - What's your favourite colour?

Mi color favorito es el rojo. - My favourite colour is red.



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### Stars of the Week

|               |               |             |                 |             |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| YR Ash        | YR Oak        | YR Pine     | YR Willow       |             |
| Jaylen        | Eden          | Areesha     | Yahya           |             |
| Mateo         | E'Marni       | Maulisha    | Lilian          |             |
| Y1 Elm        | Y1 Fir        | Y1 Lime     | Y1 Maple        |             |
| Benjamin      | Chengetai     | O'Brian     | Vishesh         |             |
| Bethel        | Niswarth      | Zainab      | Daneya          |             |
| Y2 Aspen      | Y2 Palm       | Y2 Rowan    | Y2 Spruce       |             |
| Eloise        | Umair         | Hareem      | Tharun          |             |
| Derrick       | Reece         | Esther      | Avah            |             |
| Y3 Cedar      | Y3 Cherry     | Y3 Larch    | Y3 Chestnut     |             |
| Aadam         | Ishaan        | Yumna       | Alice           |             |
| Hareem        | Aayla         | Scarlett    | Jayden          |             |
| Y4 Acacia     | Y4 Beech      | Y4 Hornbeam | Y4 Olive        | Y4 Yew      |
| Chanelle      | Anass         | Kirlore     | Evan            | Afrah       |
| Musa          | Mia           | Donald      | Iyaaz           | Srishalini  |
| Y5 Cypress    | Y5 Hawthorn   | Y5 Magnolia | Y5 Silver Birch | Y5 Sycamore |
| Ava           | Evan          | Hasan       | Yathusha        | Fiza        |
| Melania       | Samuela       | Ruusa       | Brianna         | Lathixan    |
| Y6 Blackthorn | Y6 Eucalyptus | Y6 Juniper  | Y6 Holly        | Y6 Acer     |
| Anaaya        | Whole Class   | Kayan       | Giovanni        | Whole Class |



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|     |  |       |         |  |
|-----|--|-------|---------|--|
| Chu |  | Alyan | Parthan |  |
|-----|--|-------|---------|--|

### Community

Croydon Council and Access Sport will host its annual festival of sport for disabled children and young people, at New Addington Leisure Centre on Thursday 19 February.

The free event will offer taster sessions for people aged five to 25 in a variety of sports – from rebound therapy, which uses trampolines to improve movement and balance to inclusive dance, boccia, football and more.

The festival will be more than just a sports event. It is a community gathering for young people and their families to explore sport in a supportive and inclusive environment. The goal is simple, yet powerful: help young people discover a sport they love and encourage them to continue participating long after the event.

The festival forms part of the Council's RAP disability sports programme and Access Sport's Changing Places London work. It is run in partnership with BETTER and local organisations such as Palace for Life Foundation.

Children and young people with disabilities who enjoy the taster sessions are welcome to sign up for the RAP programme's regular sessions and courses. To book, use the following link - [Croydon Send Multi-sports](#)



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# KG-Doodles

CHILDCARE

## BREAKFAST & AFTERSCHOOL 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 - up to 100% fees paid
- Universal Credit claimants - up to 85% of fees paid
- University Students Childcare Grants CCGPS up to 80% of fees paid
- Childcare choices & Voucher scheme Tax relief

UC Universal  
Credit

Childcare Vouchers

Childcare  
Choices

CGPS VISA



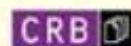
#### Open Hours:

Monday - Friday Breakfast  
07:30 am - 8:40 am  
£5.50 per session

Monday - Friday Afterschool  
15:15 pm - 18:30 pm  
£12.50 per session\*

Registered & Approved

Ofsted



[www.kgdoodles.co.uk](http://www.kgdoodles.co.uk)  
0117-3322-811

\* £12.50 applies for emergency sessions