

The West Thornton Weekly - 13 March 2020

News from West Thornton Academy

Dear Parents and Carers,

The teachers have been busy this week with two professional development meetings. Firstly, Nav Sanghara (Executive Headteacher of the Inspire Partnership) spoke to colleagues about the Inspire Global Citizen Curriculum, which has now been implemented at West Thornton. It is designed to ensure pupils develop core knowledge and skills leading to high quality learning outcomes, as well as developing pupils' confidence to make a difference in the world. Secondly, the teachers spent time together this week to develop their art teaching skills. They looked at sequencing lessons, key vocabulary, modelling outcomes and actually got to paint too! We are looking forward to some impressive artwork to display and share with you by the end of this term.

Pupils have been learning about the Coronavirus. The children have been asking us lots of questions and we discussed effective hand washing, catching sneezes in tissues and sensible contact. We told the children that we needed to stay safe to protect those that are more vulnerable than themselves. The children understand that this is a team effort and we need to work together as a community to protect each other. We are keeping the hand sanitiser dispensers topped up! We are sent updates from the DfE on a daily basis and we have also spoken to the community nursing team on best practice. If there are any updates we will inform you immediately. Please make sure that the office has your current email address and mobile phone number.

Parent consultation evenings are on the 1st and 2nd of April. This year we are introducing a new online booking system which simplifies things no end, especially for families with multiple siblings. A letter will be going out next week.

The behaviour policy continues to embed itself into our daily practice. Pupils are working hard to earn stars and we should be seeing our first certificates for 20 stars in a couple of weeks. If you would like more information about the policy, you will find it on our website.

Our Learning This Week

EYFS

Reception

This week Reception visited Godstone farm to follow on from the learning about the ducks and farm animals.

The children are also now learning about different animal habitats and what they need to survive in them. In maths we have been learning

Key Stage One

Year 1

The pupils have been gripped by their core text, *The Lonely Beast*, a tale of determination, bravery and identity. The book has hooked the children's imagination and has sparked some fantastic high quality writing.

about weighing and using mathematical language to order and describe objects weight.



Goldstone farm

In maths the children have been exploring the whole - part model to secure their number bonds up to ten.

Year 2

Unfortunately at the beginning of the week some precious items were "stolen" from Year 2 and now the children have become detectives. They have been collecting evidence and making inferences about what has happened, the children have written descriptions of the suspect based on what our eyewitnesses have said in hope that we will catch the person responsible. Also in Year 2 the children have been learning about fractions in their maths work and have successfully been identifying halves, quarters and thirds. In science we have been observing our caterpillars and documenting their lifecycle as they begin to transition into butterflies.

Key Stage Two



Year 3
Year 3 have been exploring the use of direct and reported speech in their writing. They have investigated how effective use of speech related adverbs, such as swiftly, grudgingly, softly, briskly, happily, directly and

impatiently can transform their writing.

The core text, Rosie Revere Engineer, challenges stereotypes about jobs and careers. This theme has continued with the trips to Kidzania where the children have learnt about a range of careers and the importance of gender equality.

Year 4

For Art, the children have enjoyed painting with coffee and exploring the art done by the refugee Alwy Fadhel. They are learning about the work done by this particular artist as part of our current theme of learning on 'Peace and Conflict'.

In Science, the children made predictions before they were tested for real by building circuits using wires, bulbs and batteries. They have also been engaged in drawing circuits using the scientific symbols.

Year 5

The children had a fantastic day at Paultons Park on Friday. The sun shone! The roller-coaster physics workshop really helped the children understand how Newton's Laws can be seen in the world around us. Year 5's behaviour was exemplary.

The children are now deep into the book *Boy in the Tower* and they're ready to start producing their narratives describing the collapsing towers.

Year 6

Pupils are enjoying the work they have been doing on electricity and circuits. The learning is rapidly building up to making their own electric motors using an iron nail, copper wire and a small battery.

Dates for your Diary

Year 4 Canterbury Road - Trip to Imperial War Museum - 16 March 2020
Year 4 Rosecourt Road - Trip to Imperial War Museum - 4.2 going 17 March 2020
4.1 & 4.3 going on 18 March 2020
Parents evenings - 1 and 2 April 2020
Easter Bonnet Parade - 3 April 2020
Last day of term - 3 April 2020
First day of term - 20 April 2020
Mayoral Elections: Both sites closed for children - 7 May 2020
Bank Holiday - 8 May 2020

Attendance (%) 4 - 12th March 2020

Canterbury Road

Reception - 96.8
Year 1 - 92.9
Year 2 - 94.9
Year 3 - 96
Year 4 - 96.4

Rosecourt Road

Reception - 91
Year 1 - 96.1
Year 2 - 94.3
Year 3 - 98.3
Year 4 - 95.7
Year 5 - 95.4
Year 6 - 96

Sport

West Thornton Primary Academy Year 5 & 6 Girls competed against Gonville Academy last Monday. It was a hard fought battle, against a well disciplined squad. West Thornton Girls displayed true resilience in their collaborative efforts coming back to finish 5 - 4 even after Gonville had the lead at the halftime whistle.

Scorers:

Lorrel - 3
Nicole - 1

