



Newsletter

Thursday 24th October 2024

What a half term we've had! Jam-packed with trips, visitors, forest school experiences and so much more. Each and every one of our children have worked so hard this half term and made some fantastic progress in their learning.

Next half term we move into one of busiest and most magical times of the year! Keep your eyes peeled for key dates and events throughout our November newsletters to ensure that you don't miss out. We will also be sending out our parent's evening appointments in the first week back after half term. This provides families with a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress within school.

I hope that all of our families have a safe and restful half term break and we look forward to welcoming back everybody to school on **Monday 4th November**.

Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	94.73%	Goslings	★ 99.26% ★
Hummingbirds	97.96%	Kingfishers	95.77%
Finch	94.48%	Robins	97.31%
Magpie	95.76%	Woodpeckers	96.21%
Owl	95.63%	Osprey	97.73%
Kite	96.52%	Falcon	97.64%
Hawk	94.37%	Eagle	95.62%
School average for this fortnight		96.34%	

Thank you to all families who manage to get their child to school on time every day – it makes such a difference. As a reminder, if your child is absent from school, please call 01904 806464, followed by option 1 to leave a voice mail, report the absence on parent mail or email admin@woodthorpe.elc.org.uk



100% attendance parent winners

Last week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 1
This week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 2
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



Volunteers – we need you!

Woodthorpe Primary School are looking to increase our numbers of volunteers within school and are reaching out to members of our school community. Volunteers can help support us in a number of ways, from listening to readers, helping with arts and crafts projects, or joining us on our many school trips and adventures!

No matter how frequently you may be able to help, we would love to expand our team of committed volunteers - if this is something that you may be interested in, please enquire via the school office. Please note that our volunteers within school will be subject to the usual DBS checks as part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding.



Woodthorpe Outdoor Area - plant donations

We're working hard to develop our outdoor areas and had some fantastic help this week from Benenden Health and York Cares as well as our wonderful pupil led Eco Council and Ranger groups. We now need your help! One of the areas we're currently developing is a sensory garden and we desperately need plants!

If you are dividing or taking out any garden plants this autumn, we would be very grateful if you could donate those no longer needed to us. Please leave them either outside the school office or in the covered area opposite the main entrance. Thank you so much for your help.



Random act of kindness

This week our random act of kindness goes to Piper in Year 1. In class, Piper noticed one of her peers was finding an activity a little tricky. Piper decided to be a wonderful friend, offered her help and showed them how to do it. Together, they were able to complete the task! Both Piper and her peer were so proud of themselves when they had achieved it!

It is amazing to hear that through Piper's own kindness she has made others very happy too! A wonderful example of 'teamwork' in our Woodthorpe character!

We are looking forward to seeing what random acts of kindness we hear about on our return to school for the second part of the Autumn term! We would like the school community to continue to help us with this. We want to hear from families, from school staff and from children about how exceptionally kind we can be. It may even be something that happens during our half term holiday!

If you would like to nominate your child at any point, please email the school office with the subject 'Random Act of Kindness', the name of your child, a description of what they did and a photo (where possible). This will then be passed on to Miss Britland. Should you be unable to email a nomination in, please contact the school office and request to speak to Miss Britland.



**Woodthorpe
Primary School**

Pupils' behaviour across school is exemplary. They greet everyone with smiles and hold open doors. Pupils are highly respectful towards staff, their peers and visitors.

OFSTED REPORT
JULY 2024

**Ofsted
Outstanding**

EXCEL LEARNING TRUST

Nursery

Fun in the forest

We love to be outdoors! This week in our forest school we enjoyed rustling up some delicious treats: lovely apple crumble, sticky mud pies and yummy hot chocolates. These were all perfect for an autumn day!



All things hedgehogs!

This week, whilst continuing to learn about things in autumn, nursery has focussed lots on hedgehogs! We have learnt that some animals, like a hedgehog, like to hibernate and what they do to prepare for the winter. Together we have worked to plan, design and create hibernation boxes fit for a hedgehog to enjoy a big sleep!



Shout outs - Ducklings

Kobe for your amazing knowledge all about autumn! You have blown us away with your enthusiasm for learning and remembering lots of key facts and information. You have also thought of so many different ways both inside and out for how to make a home perfect for a hedgehog. Well done Kobe! .

Ask us about...

What hibernation means as well as some of things/events we like about this time of year!

Reception

Making Soup

Reception loved making their own vegetable soup this week! We peeled, chopped and sliced the fruits and vegetables and then put them in the slow cooker for a couple of hours. Everyone was really sensible and careful when they were using the peeler or a knife - well done! It was a mixed reaction when we tasted it - some of us loved it and some of us weren't quite so sure!



Exploring Pumpkins

Reception really enjoyed reading the story 'Pumpkin Soup' by Helen Cooper and then explored some pumpkins using their five senses.



Gardening with Mr Drabble.

Reception were really lucky last week to have Mr Drabble for a whole morning to help us dig up our allotment area. We were surprised when we found some potatoes and carrots!



Shout outs - Gosling

Isaac - For making super progress with your handwriting and letter formation. You always try your best Isaac - well done!

Freddy - For working hard in phonics and for learning to blend and read words. You have also been practising your sounds at home which is fantastic. Well done Freddy!

Shout outs - Cygnets

Oliver- For your wonderful writing this week. You found lots of Phase picture cards and could write the words to match them together. Well done Oliver!

Ruby- For your super progress in Phonics this half term. You have remembered lots of your sounds and I am so proud of you.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about different fruits and vegetables. Ask us what the difference is between a fruit and a vegetable.

Year 1

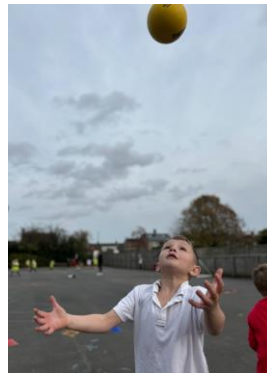
DT- Fruits and vegetables

Year 1 have loved preparing different fruits by juicing them and practising our cutting skills as part of our smoothie making topic in DT. It was hard work but we persevered!



P.E

Year 1 finished their 'Attack, defend and shoot' topic by playing some ball games. We used the skills that we have learnt over the half term and practised the games using overarm and underarm t



House competition

Year 1 loved participating in a house relay race around the KS2 playground to earn as many points as possible for their houses, they showed some great team spirit!



Shout outs - Hummingbird

Millie - For trying really hard in everything that you do, you are a super role model in Hummingbird class and it is lovely to see your enthusiasm during carpet sessions, you love to share your super ideas - well done!

Taio - For working so hard on your number and letter formation. You are trying so hard to ensure that your letters and numbers are formed correctly and we are so proud of the effort you are making, it is really paying off. Great work!

Shout outs - Kingfisher

Jesse - For coming into school every day with a smile on your face! We have been super proud of you, keep it up!

Myla- For your maths work! You have been trying really hard, ensuring that you are challenging yourself every time. It has been incredible to see you working independently and using resources to help you.

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about Fruits and Vegetables in DT, why don't you ask us where they grow?

Year 2

DT - Baby Bear's Chair

This week, Year 2 moved on to DT, where they had to create the perfect chair for a baby bear. We had to think about which shapes and materials would be the most stable and sturdy so that the baby chair could sit comfortably. We realised cylinders were a great shape to use, so we set to work to see if our chair sculptures supported our class teddy bear!

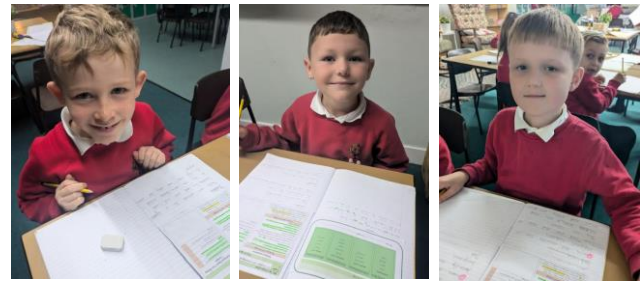


House relay competition:

In our PE physical activity session this week, Year 2 got stuck into our whole school relay house competition. Each house had 3 minutes to sprint as fast as possible to earn house points. It was lovely to see all the other children from rival houses showing great sportsmanship and cheering on the other teams. In total we collected over 200 house points, well done Year 2!



Writing Superstars!



Year 2 has worked incredibly hard to create their very own habitat reports! We first looked at the writing features we needed to include when writing a non-chronological report. We linked our writing to our science key knowledge. We included a wide range of interesting facts to impress the reader. We also used neat, cursive handwriting. We can't wait for you to read our finished reports!

Shout outs - Robin

Halle - A big shout out to Halle this week as lots of children decided to draw you in their PSHE 'best role model' picture frame. Children described you as kind, respectful, a good listener and a good friend. What wonderful words to describe you Halle!

George H - For being a marvellous mathematician. You used all of the methods we have been learning in class to help you with your assessment questions! Well done George!

Shout outs - Finch

Raeya - Congratulations on your remarkable amount of reading at home! I am also so proud of the dedication and enthusiasm you show towards your reading, and it was a wonderful moment when you moved up a book band level! Well done, Raeya! Keep it up!

Evie - A big thank you for your beautiful handwriting! You have tried hard daily to perfect your cursive handwriting, and your books look incredible! Well done!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about pulse and rhythm within our music unit! Please ask us about it!

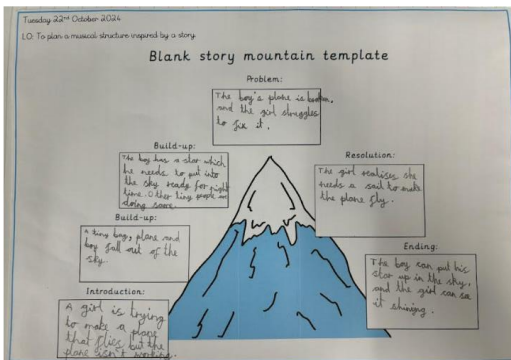
DT- Eating Seasonally - Making vegetable tarts

In DT, we have been learning all about cooking and nutrition. In this lesson, we used our understanding of seasonal foods and a design criteria to design and make our own vegetable tarts. We had to use a variety of skills to make our tarts - we had to ensure they were visually appealing and tasty!



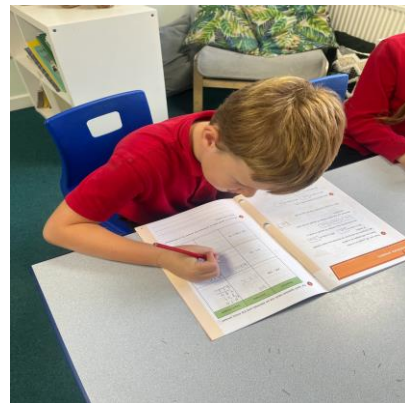
Music - Ballads

In Magpie class, we have been enjoying our first music topic of year 3 - ballads! In this lesson, we watched a short story and identified the key parts using a story mountain. We are going to use this learning to help us to write our own ballads!



Marvellous Maths

We have been practising column addition and subtraction in maths, it was tricky at first but we are getting there!



Shout outs - Magpie

Gianluigi - A huge well done for always putting in 100% effort in all of our lessons! You always complete your work to an excellent standard, and you always aim to challenge yourself. Keep up the great work!
Elijah - A massive well done for focusing on your handwriting this week! You have shown great determination, and there has been a big improvement in your handwriting. Well done Elijah!

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Rose - Well done Rose for trying your hardest with all your work. You especially shone last week with your DT work and with your contributions in class.
Maya - It is always so wonderful to see how dedicated you are to your learning! We love how you are so keen to read and how wonderfully you read out loud. Well done Maya, you are a superstar!

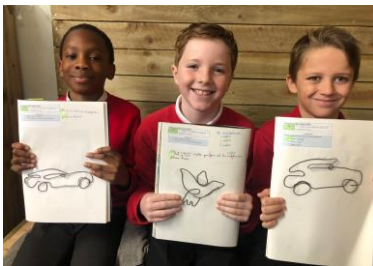
Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about ballads in music, why don't you ask us about it!

Year 4

House relay competition

During PE, we took part in a relay house competition! *Challenge: how many laps could you complete in 3 minutes?* Each house group showed determination, superb teamwork and, most importantly, good sportsmanship. All children cheered and encouraged other teams that were competing.



All 'wired' up and ready to showcase our skills!

In art, we explored Jaume Plensa's wire sculpture (Irma-Nuria) which has been displayed at Yorkshire Sculpture Park. Inspired by his art, we worked with wire, twisting and bending it to create the form of a variety of objects. Throughout the lesson, we showed a superb range of skills: resilience, perseverance and teamwork.

Forest school - den building

In forest school, we have been looking at how to stay safe and protected in the wild. We needed to work in groups to create a den (made out of natural materials) before the big storm hit. We were also set a challenge to create at least one tripod to support our sticks. Bear Grylls would be very impressed!



Shout outs - Owl

Daniel - I have been very impressed with your recent narrative as you have used inverted commas to indicate direct speech, you have included a variety of openers to ensure your sentences are engaging to read and you have punctuated your fronted adverbials by using commas. I was extremely proud of your engagement and it is evident that you enjoyed writing this genre.

Shout outs - Osprey

Oliver - I have been blown away by your effort and engagement this week! You have shown amazing teamwork skills in forest school and tried really hard with your dilemma narrative in English. You have shown lots of engagement by answering questions and sharing facts in lessons. Well done Oliver! Keep it up. ☐

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about a variety of sculptors. In one of our art lessons, we explored the work of Barbara Hepworth who creates sculptures by carving natural materials. We used a range of tools to carve a piece of soap into a sculpture... please ask us about it!

Year 5

Hello Yellow!

What do you do to help with your mental health? In Year 5 we spoke about having time to do things we enjoy, such as reading. We loved our paired reading sessions on Hello Yellow day with Reception.



Meet the Doodlers

Year 5 have taken on the role of product analysers this week- they looked at different motorised products (Doodlers) and decided which features worked best and which could be improved.



Musical Maestros

This week, we began our new music unit: Composition notation. We've had great fun creating our graphic scores and performing our compositions to the class!



Shout out- Kites

Ruby- your independent maths work focusing on multiplying numbers by 10, 100 & 1000 was truly amazing, I was blown away! Keep up the good work, Ruby.

Shout out- Falcons

Mason - For his incredible learning attitude! Mason is really striving to improve in all aspects of the curriculum, demonstrating fantastic resilience and determination. Well done Mason!

Ask us about...

What is improvisation?

What is notation?

Why don't all musicians use graphic notation?

Year 6

Computing: Bletchley Park

Last week, Year 6 had an exciting visit from Bletchley Park, where we stepped into the shoes of a WWII codebreaker. The session began with an immersive tour of the historic site, followed by a hands-on workshop, where we cracked Caesar ciphers to unlock a safe. We also explored the fascinating world of biometrics and facial recognition technology. It was a fantastic opportunity to dive into the history of cryptography while learning about modern security systems.



French: Finger Puppet Rhymes

This week, in French, Year 6 got creative by writing and performing our own French rhymes using finger puppets. We explored a variety of different French greetings and incorporated them into our rhymes while practising pronunciation and dialogue. It was a fun, practical way of building our confidence when speaking French and expand our vocabulary through performance.



Art: Artist Studies

Over the last two weeks, Year 6 have embraced our inner artists by creating a finished piece of artwork inspired by artists of our choice. After exploring and taking inspiration from their famous pieces, we created our own unique works. Some of our incredible pieces were inspired by Picasso, Van Gogh and more- a real *masterpiece* of a lesson!



Shout out- Eagle

A massive shout out to Aniella! You showed incredible maturity and focus during our assessments last week. Your self-motivation has led to outstanding progress and we could not be more proud of your hard work and dedication. Keep shining, you're a superstar!

Shout out- Hawk

A massive shout out to Ayaz this week for his confidence in lessons, it's been great to hear your voice in class discussions! As always, your writing has been incredible this week, your use of ambitious vocabulary is fantastic. Well done you!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about classical music relating to oceans and Fingal's Cave on the Isle of Staffa! We have researched the composer Felix Mendelssohn and created our own music to depict waves by focusing on pitch, dynamics and texture. Please ask us about it!

Diary Dates

Fri 25th October	School Closed – teacher training day
Mon 28th Oct to Fri 1st Nov	Half Term
Wed 6th Nov	Flu Vaccinations
Thurs 7th Nov	School Pictures (individuals and siblings)
Thurs 14th Nov	Year 5 Trip to Vue
Fri 15th Nov	Children in Need
Thurs 12th Dec	Christmas Jumper & Dinner Day
Fri 20th Dec	Last day of term
Mon 23rd Dec to Fri 3rd Jan	Half term
Mon 6th Jan	School Closed – teacher training day

Woodthorpe wrap-around care

We are delighted to be able to offer full wraparound support for our families. This starts from 7.50am and continues until 5:45pm daily. Our offer includes care for all of our children, from nursery to year 6. *Nursery pupils must book wraparound care sessions through the nursery as, due to the childcare funding, they receive, the charges are different.*

Breakfast Club: (7.50-8.50am) **£4.20/session £3.15/siblings.** Children have a wide range of breakfasts and also have the chance to play games with their friends or take part in a morning physical activity to really help wake them up.

After School Club (3.15-5.45pm) **£9.00/session £7.50/sibling.** At after school club, children start the session by having a snack and completing a 'circle' activity. From this, pupils then have the option to complete activities with their friends, take part in physical activities or relax with a book or film.

If you are interested in our wrap-around care options, please pop into the office and ask for our wraparound care administrator, Caroline Young.

Childminders

Within our local area there is also a number of Ofsted registered childminders, a full list of these are available via the YorOK website: <http://www.yor-ok.org.uk/families/Childcare/childcare.htm>

The school also holds an up-to-date list of local childminders who are able to offer 15 and 30 hours care, please contact the school directly for this information.

Support Via the Pupil Premium

Given the difficult times and changes to people's circumstances. If you feel that you might be eligible to claim 'Pupil Premium' for your child, we will be able to support you with items such as school uniform, breakfast club and daily school meals etc... Please email our school office **admin@woodthorpe.elc.org.uk** or call in person to discuss 01904 806464. **You will need to currently be in receipt of one of the following:**

- Universal Credit, (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are also not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual household gross income that does not exceed £16,190 (as assessed by HMRC)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit

A run-on of Working Tax Credit – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Digital Parenting

As a school, we are always keen to promote online safety and would like to share [this useful website](#)– where you can access the latest copy of the Digital Parenting magazine and many other additional resources regarding internet safety.

For further information support and copies of our own Woodthorpe digital newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact our school office.



Ducklings Nursery at Woodthorpe Primary School

Now accepting pupils for January 2025 and beyond

Our fully qualified and highly experienced Nursery team are welcoming 3 and 4 year olds to Ducklings. Our inspiring and nurturing environment provides hands-on immersive experiences for your child, using the natural environment to promote exploration and independence, helping your child become school ready.

We accept both 15 and 30 hour funding and provide wraparound care. Parents are also able to pay for additional sessions that are not funded at a rate of £4.70 an hour. You can also use the Government tax free scheme to pay for your sessions.

Please visit www.woodthorpeprimaryschool.co.uk/ducklings-nursery to apply for a place, or pick up an application pack from the school office. You can also email us at ducklings@woodthorpe.southbank.academy



Events in the local community



Year 5 & 6 clubs at York High School

York High School are running various after school extracurricular activities for children in Year 6.

These activities may be of particular interest to children who are considering applying for a place at York High. Photoshop Club is open to anyone in Year 6 and is free to attend.

Parents/carers can find more information along a form to register interest at:

<https://forms.gle/md59JU453VAqHZbH8>

Alternatively email reception@yorkhigh.elt.org.uk with the subject "Year 5/6 clubs"



BOOO! YOU ARE INVITED TO



WOODTHORPE

HALLOWEEN TRAIL

.....
DRESS IN YOUR BEST COSTUME AND COUNT HOW MANY WITCHES HATS,
GHOSTS AND PUMPKINS YOU CAN FIND TO GET A HALLOWEEN TREAT!



SUNDAY 27TH OCTOBER

2:00 – 3:30PM @ ACOMB WOODS

.....
FIND US AT THE ENTRANCE NEAR THE STANDING STONE FENCED AREA AT
GIRVAN CLOSE.



St. James the Deacon

Community Cafe

Every
Thursday,
9am-12pm
Term Time



FREE!

Pop in for a
cuppa and a
chat!

Home-made
cake

Children's
toys

Food parcels
available

Back Thursday 5th September!

Sherringham Drive, Woodthorpe, YO24 2SE
For more information, contact
nicola.stjamesthedeacon@gmail.com



SUPPORTED BY
BENEFACT TRUST

Interactive
Worship

Back Saturday 14th September!

JUNCTION



where faith and family
come together

KIDS 

Every other Saturday
3.00-5.00pm

St. James the Deacon Church,
Woodthorpe, YO24 2SE

Food

Fun

Games

crafts

Songs

Stories

For more information follow
on Facebook: @stjamesthedeaconchildrenandfamilies
or email: nicola.stjamesthedeacon@gmail.com



Crafty Fox Kids
Club

After school craft club

St James the Deacon,
Woodthorpe
Mondays (term time)
3.45-4.45pm

(Pre-booking essential)

For more information visit:
www.craftyfoxkidsclub.com

