



# Newsletter

**Friday 13th December 2024**

Hello,


What a festive week it has been! Miss Smith and I have loved seeing the festive headwear and accessories on the school gate each morning. Nursery, Reception and Year 1 showcased all their hard work with their Christmas performances this week. They have been practicing their singing, dance moves and lines for weeks behind the scenes and we have all enjoyed seeing them rise to the challenge of performing on stage in front of an audience. Thank you to everyone who joined us and a reminder please keep any photos / videos for personal use and please don't share on social media.

On Thursday we all wore Christmas jumpers to raise money for Martin House Children's Hospice followed by the Christmas Fair. Thank you to everyone who came it was very busy! I hope you got a chance to look at the school tree where all children have hung a bauble they have made.

Finally I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and I hope you have a wonderful break. The last day of the term is Friday 20th December and we are looking forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday 7th January.

Mrs Winston

## Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	96.89%	Goslings	95.69%
Hummingbirds	94.42%	Kingfishers	93.69%
Finch	94.02%	Robins	96.47%
Magpie	95.41%	Woodpeckers	95.00%
Owl	96.22%	Osprey	97.45%
Kite	96.83%	Falcon	98.24% 
Hawk	89.85%	Eagle	95.42%
School Average for this fortnight		95.37%	

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 voicemail, report the absence on parent mail or email [admin@woodthorpe.elc.org.uk](mailto:admin@woodthorpe.elc.org.uk)



### 100% attendance parent winners

Last week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 3  
This week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 4  
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



## Raffle

I want to say a huge thank you for all your support with the school raffle. It has been a huge success this year! There have been many discussions about which coloured hamper people would prefer to win in the office.

The raffle has been drawn in assembly today and all winners have been contacted. If you are a lucky winner, please come and collect your hamper from the office.

## Random act of kindness

This week our random act of kindness goes to Jacob in Year 2 for being beyond kind!

Jacob has recently taken part in 'Dunelm is delivering joy'. Jacob was very keen to help others and has taken part in the Dunelm delivering joy campaign, where you can pick a gift tag off a delivering joy Christmas tree in Dunelm and buy someone in need the presents they had asked for.

Jacob visited Dunelm lots of times to try and take part and finally was able to collect a tag to show kindness to others. Jacob chose a tag that said 'man aged 70+ that would like puzzle books, colouring books, pens and chocolate'.

With his family, Jacob purchased all the gifts he thought the person would like for Christmas. Not only that, but Jacob also wanted to write a lovely Christmas card, as this could have been a person with no family that didn't get presents or cards at Christmas and he thought this would cheer them up and make them happy at Christmas!

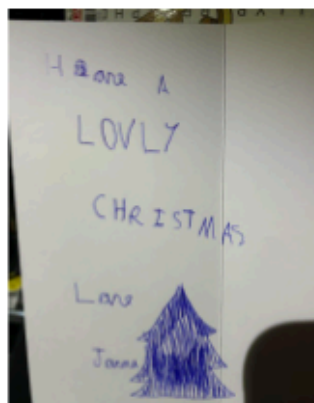
Once all the things were ready, Jacob took them back to Dunelm ready for someone to receive. The lady in the shop even acknowledged that this will make someone very happy at Christmas and it was a lovely thing to do. They thought that Jacob was very thoughtful because Christmas isn't just about receiving gifts but giving them too.

Jacob was so happy and pleased that he could do this for someone and said he would be thinking about him on Christmas Day.

We are so incredibly proud of Jacob for his kindness shown to others and thinking about others at this time of year. You are a shining example of our Woodthorpe Character. You showed such determination in making someone else happy as well as great generosity! Well Done Jacob, what a very thoughtful thing to do!

We are looking forward to seeing what random acts of kindness we hear about after our Christmas holidays! Like Jacob, you may even think about how we can be kind over the festive period. 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.

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.



# NURSERY

## All about colour!

Ducklings have loved exploring colour. Together we have learnt all about the primary colours and what happens when you mix them. It has been very exciting to see new colours created! We have also enjoyed drawing things we can see as well as exploring artists such as Ruth Faison who uses her fingers to paint.



## It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

Ducklings are enjoying talking lots about special things that may happen at home and in their community at this time of year. Together we have learnt all about some Christmas traditions such as presents, decorating a Christmas tree and visiting Santa as well as learning lots of Christmas songs ready for our special performance for our families and friends!



## Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to all our wonderful Ducklings for their super Christmas performances this week as well as their super singing in the classroom too! You have all worked so hard to learn lots of words and actions to our songs. It was truly magical! Well done everyone, we are really proud of you all!

## Ask us about...

The primary colours - yellow, blue and red. Pick two colours and we will tell you what colour they make when you mix them!

# RECEPTION

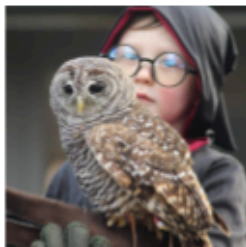
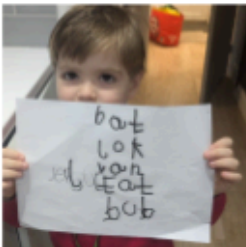
## Art and Design

This week, Reception have been exploring paint and painting techniques through nature, music and collaborative work. They have been developing their creativity through finger painting, making landscape collages and making transient art pictures of snow people!



## Home Learning

We have received lots of lovely posts on Tapestry over the past few weeks of some amazing things that have been happening at home. Here are just some of our highlights. Thank you to everyone who has sent photos in.



## Let it Snow!

Reception have been learning about Winter and what the weather can be like during this season. They have really enjoyed playing with the fake snow and are hoping for some real snow to come soon!



## Shout outs - Gosling

**Navia** - For your fabulous singing during our Christmas performance. You were really good at remembering all the actions too! What a superstar!

**Jax** - You have been brilliant at listening this week and have also been really kind and helpful. Well done Jax!

## Shout outs - Cygnets

**Isla** - For your super blending this week. Isla you have made me incredibly proud this week in Phonics and I have loved hearing you read every day. Well done superstar!

**Henry** - For being really brave on stage and saying your line in the performance. You have practised your words lots at home and it paid off in our show. Well done Henry.

## Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about the composition of four and five. Ask us about the different ways we can make 4 or 5!

# Year 1

## Nativity!

We would like to say a huge WELL DONE to the whole of Year 1 for their 'Baarmy Bethlehem' performance. You have all worked incredibly hard as a team and have shown Miss Bedda and Miss Carroll how much dedication you have. We have been blown away and you should all be really proud of yourselves. Well done and Happy Christmas! We hope you have the most magical Christmas!



## Musical vocabulary!

Year 1 have enjoyed their new music topic 'under the sea'. They have explored 'under the sea' through music, movement, chanting and the playing of untuned percussion instruments. They loved using the glockenspiels today to create their very own piece of music, based upon an underwater picture. They had to try and incorporate a variation of pitches and tempo.



## Christmas tree

We loved adding the beautiful decorations they had made to our school Christmas tree today. Our tree is looking so magical now!



## Shout outs - Hummingbird

Rosie - For your constant hard work. You always try your very best and put 100% into everything. You also set a wonderful example for you peers, you are a delight to have in class - keep up the good work!

Bobby - For your super reading, you have made such progress recently and it is fantastic to hear how fluently you are reading now - what a star, well done!

## Shout outs - Kingfisher

Marley - For your recent hard work in Maths! You have blown me away with your hard work and dedication, improving your maths score!

Eve- For your brilliant independent writing! You incorporated some fantastic adjectives and ensured your writing was beautifully presented!

## Ask us about...

In Music we have been learning all about different musical vocabulary! Why don't you ask us...

What is pitch?

What is tempo?

What is the pulse?

# Year 2

## Art - Map it out!

This week in art, we began our new craft and design unit titled "Map It Out." We started the unit by exploring various types of maps as a stimulus for our own unique maps using different media. We carefully considered our prior knowledge and skills from our drawing unit, employing oil pastels and wax crayons in innovative ways to produce different textures and mark-making techniques within our maps.



## Computing - Algorithms

This week in computing, we focused on algorithms and the importance of making our instructions clear and precise. During the lesson, we worked in pairs to build block towers. One partner acted as the "robot" and had to follow clear instructions to replicate the tower without looking. This exercise helped us identify the bugs in our algorithms, and we quickly debugged them!



## Church Visit

Year 2 was very lucky to attend Dementia Yorkshire's Christmas party! Dementia Yorkshire is a local charity supporting people living with dementia and their families across York and North Yorkshire. We first sang some wonderful Christmas carols before participating in a Christmas card exchange. We had a wonderful time creating our cards earlier in the week. It was such a magical afternoon sharing Christmas cheer! We formed some wonderful friendships and are looking forward to visiting again!



## Shout outs - Robin

**Hope** - A huge shout out to Hope this week because I have been blown away with all of your assessment scores from our assessment week last week! It shows your hard work and dedication towards school is really paying off!! Well done, Hope!

## Shout outs - Finch

**Esther** - A huge well done for your brilliant attitude towards school and your learning. You have gone above and beyond this week, setting a brilliant example for your peers with your outstanding behaviour! Keep it up; you're an absolute star!

## Ask us about...

This week in maths, we are learning all about 2D and 3D shapes. We have used the key terminology vertices, edges, and faces to describe 3D shapes. We knew that a face is a flat or curved surface on a 3D shape, and an edge is where two faces meet. Ask us what vertices are on a 3D shape!

# Year 3

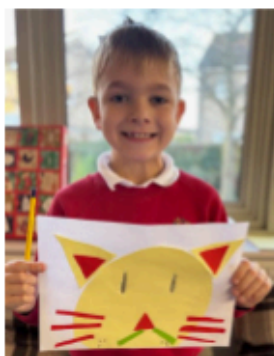
## Book Fair Visit

Last week, Year 3 loved visiting the book fair! We enjoyed exploring all the different books on offer, and we spent some time reading some of the new books on offer.



## French - Colour and shapes

In Magpie class, we enjoyed learning about Henri Matisse and his style of artwork. In this lesson, we used our knowledge of French colours and shapes to create our own pieces of artwork - we had to read the instructions and explain our creations in French!



## Art - Sculptures

This week in art we started our new topic about sculptures. For our first lesson we thought about what sculptures are and experimented with techniques to turn 2D shapes into 3D sculptures. Our challenge was to make our structures stand on their own and we were very impressed with our final results!



## Shout outs - Magpie

A massive well done to everyone in Magpie class for your hard work and determination during assessment week! Everyone put in 100% effort and some fantastic progress has been made.

Well done Magpie class - keep up the great work!

## Shout outs - Woodpecker

**Archie** - we are super proud of how hard you have been working in maths. You did brilliantly in your assessments and your TT score has improved so much! Well done Archie :)

**Kimberly** - for being such a super star in every single lesson. You always try your very best and do everything with a big smile on your face! Well done and keep up the hard work :)

## Ask us about...

In music, we have been developing our singing technique with a theme focusing on the Vikings. We have learnt to sing in time with others and how to recognise and use simple rhythmic notation. Why don't you ask us about it!

# Year 4

## Yo-Yo: A Christmas Workshop

To get us into the Christmas spirit, Yo - Yo came into year 4 for a festive workshop. We played a Christmas game and discussed what we like to eat and and who we like to see at Christmas time. To help us understand the Christmas story, we heard the points of view from different characters.



## Dance: A Superhero Story

In PE, we have loved becoming different superheroes! We perfected our final routine, ensuring it included an arabesque, cannon and formation.



## Samba Music

In music, we have been practicing some samba rhythms. We have been practicing keeping in time with everyone in our group and experimenting with a range of instruments.



## Shout outs - Owl

**Sophie** - She has thrived during assessment week and progressed amazingly. I have been so proud of her determination and desire to excel. It is clear that she is becoming more confident in the classroom and her discussions are high level.

## Shout outs - Osprey

**Matilda** - For her outstanding resilience and results throughout assessment week. Matilda has shown an incredible attitude and tried her very best! Keep it up - you're a superstar!

## Ask us about...

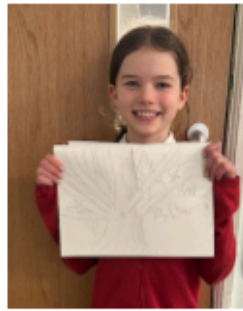
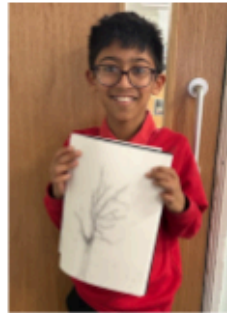
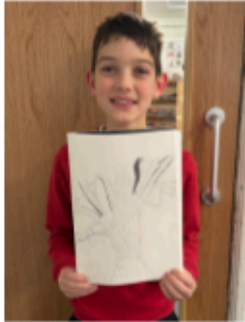
In French, we have been learning about colours and shapes. When you are describing the colour of a shape, it comes after the shape in a sentence e.g. un carré jaune (a yellow square).  
Ask us about different colours and shapes in french.



# Year 5

## Observational drawings: Winter trees

Take a look at our phenomenal observational drawings! Using photographs of winter trees, we paid close attention to the proportion of our drawing as well as the pressure of our pencil to create light and dark aspects.



## 12 Bar Blues



As part of our new music topic - The Blues - we put our glockenspiel skills to the test by attempting to play a chord (2 different notes at the same time). We play the C (notes C & E), F (notes F & A) and G (notes G & B) chords which make up the 12 bar blues. Both classes did brilliantly- well done year 5!



## French

Qu'est-ce que c'est? (What is it?) Year 5 are really enjoying learning the vocabulary for colour, size and shapes. We've been linking our knowledge to French artist Henri Matisse.



## Shout outs - Kites

Raheel- your outstanding work ethic has seen you achieve some well-deserved results as part of our assessments last week. You have truly shone with your dedication to succeed and we are very proud of you. Well done, Raheel!

## Shout outs - Falcons

Cody - for your excellent efforts this week, both in lessons and during this week's Forest School session. You demonstrated great maturity and leadership skills when supporting your peers in completing their tool work. Well done, Cody!

## Ask us about...

- Where did Blues music originate from?
- What emotion does Blues music express?
  - What is the 12-bar Blues?

# Year 6

## Christmas Tree Decorations:

Last week, Year 6 brought festive cheer by making their own Christmas tree decorations. Each ornament was beautifully unique, reflecting their creativity and Christmas spirit. Together, we added them to the school tree and we have now created a display that is truly special.



## PE- House Competition

This week, Year 6 adored our house PE competition. We were challenged to throw our bean bags into our house-coloured hoops. Bonus points were awarded for bean bags landing fully in their hoops- or even in other houses' hoops! The energy was high and the sportsmanship on display was fantastic, with everyone cheering each other on. What a great mix of skill, fun and teamwork!



## PE- Netball and Interception Skills

In netball, Eagle class focused on their netball skills; we worked particularly hard on honing our blocking skills with energy and determination. We practised positioning, timing and staying alert to intercept passes. We were really proud of our teamwork and competitive spirit as we applied our skills to mini-games.



## Shout outs - Eagle

A huge shout out to Tom for demonstrating an incredible, resilient and positive attitude during assessment week. You approached each challenge with determination and you stayed focused continually throughout the week, without giving up. Well done, Tom! We are so proud of you.

## Shout outs - Hawk

A huge shout out to Teddy this week. I am so proud of how hard you are working on overcoming challenges throughout the day. Your subject knowledge and retention for key vocabulary is superb but your ability to move past mistakes and remain resilient is so impressive too! Well done for all the work you do every single day to be your best self.

## Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about themes and variations in music by using the idea of Pop Art to help us! In Pop Art, a particular image is repeated but with changes to the colours. This is very similar to music: the melody (the theme) is repeated in different ways (variations) by changing the tempo, pitch and dynamics, for example. Ask us about it!

## Diary Dates

Week commencing 9th Dec	Please see Christmas Dates sent out separately for Christmas performances
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Jumper & Dinner Day
Thurs 12th Dec	Christmas Fair from 3.30pm
Week commencing 16th Dec	Please see Christmas Dates sent out separately for Christmas parties
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last day of term
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec to Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Half term
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	School Closed – teacher training day
Tue 7th Jan	Back to School

### 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 are 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.elk.org.uk](mailto:admin@woodthorpe.elk.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.

# Online Safety

## Top tips for online safety at Christmas

Christmas is such a wonderful time of year, excitable children and time to relax with family and friends. And of course, there are new toys to play with. With a huge increase in sales of devices (around 13 million people receive smartphones for Christmas each year) it is important to ensure that you and your children are safe when playing with new kit.

To help, we've set out a few top tips to help keep your household safe online over the holidays.

### Parent and Carer Advice-

## The Tech:

### Learn your way around

Most devices have controls to ensure that kids can't access content you don't want them to. Make sure your "in-app" purchases are disabled to avoid a nightmare surprise in the new year.

### Tablets

Tablets are really popular with younger children, and the market has several which are geared towards child friendly content. When it comes to using them, start slowly; only download games and apps you have checked out carefully (sites such as [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk), or [www.commonssensemedia.org](http://www.commonssensemedia.org) provide useful advice!) and steer them towards age targeted content such as [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids) or YouTube Kids.

### Mobile devices

If you have older children, and are thinking about getting them a new phone for Christmas, this can pose its own challenges:

The old online safety message about having your home computer in a communal place becomes defunct, because phones are literally mobile computers and have the power of most traditional desktop PCs.

## Set boundaries

Our advice is to set some ground rules, and ensure they understand them. For example:

### Screen Time

Agree a time limit or number of games beforehand, to avoid repeated disagreements around how long they can spend online.

### Sleep comes first

It is advisable that the phone stays out of the bedroom to avoid those night time interruptions.

### Ask for access

If you're genuinely concerned about them, ask them to allow you access to the phone.

If you would like any support with this, please feel free to speak to Miss Bedda, either in person or by emailing the school office.



## Events in the Local Community

Children and Families

# Christmas Party

20th December, 3.30pm to 5pm



at Foxwood Community  
Centre, Cranfield Place



Free food, entertainment and family food hamper to take home. No need to book, just turn up on the day. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Supported by:

Supported by your  
Ward Committee



**JRHT** JOSEPH  
ROUNTREE  
HOUSING TRUST



**HO HO HO HOLIDAY**

**Ignite**  
SPORTS COACHING

**MULTI SPORT CAMP**

CHILDREN AGED 5-11 (YR 1 - YR 6)  
FROM ALL SCHOOLS WELCOME!

**ACOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL**

23RD, 24TH DEC & 2ND, 3RD JAN

8.30AM-4.30PM

25% SIBLING DISCOUNT

£30 PER DAY

Ofsted  
Registered

BOOK HERE - [IGNITESPORTSCOACHING.CO.UK](http://IGNITESPORTSCOACHING.CO.UK)

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED!