



# Newsletter

**Friday 29th November 2024**


Hello,  
What an action packed week it has been! Year 6 have been out into the local area for fieldwork, Year 5 have visited York High for a fantastic DT day which they thoroughly enjoyed and Nursery have had visitors in from our local community. I hope you enjoy reading more about it in the Newsletter. This time of year in schools gets really busy, so please make sure you have read the Christmas dates poster that was sent out last week.

I want to say thank you for your support today on our non uniform day with your generous donations towards our raffle and tombola prizes. We now have some fantastic colour hampers to win as part of the Christmas Fair. If you would like a ticket for the raffle, they can be purchased on ParentPay for £2 or at the Fair itself.

Just a reminder that the colder weather seems to be setting in. Please make sure children are wrapped up warm. I can't believe it is December next week, there will be lots of festive updates in the next Newsletter. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Winston

## Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	94.89%	Goslings	97.62%
Hummingbirds	96.28%	Kingfishers	97.14%
Finch	95.94%	Robins	94.37%
Magpie	94.60%	Woodpeckers	94.76%
Owl	95.61%	Osprey	95.79%
Kite	97.31%	Falcon	97.88% 
Hawk	95.60%	Eagle	95.77%
School Average for this fortnight		95.23%	

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!



## Christmas at Woodthorpe

Next week the first signs of Christmas at Woodthorpe will be seen. In class, all children have made a Christmas decoration ready to decorate our school tree on Tuesday. I can't wait to see the tree in all its festive glory! The tree will be in the hall for all to see and it should make the perfect backdrop for the Christmas Fair and Christmas performances taking place.

The Christmas Fair will take place on Thursday 12th December. Please join us in the hall from 3.30 pm - 4.30pm for a raffle, tombola, cakes, hotdogs and so much more! Also on Thursday 12th December it is Christmas Dinner day and Christmas jumper day. There is more information in the Newsletter about Christmas Jumper Day and how we are supporting Martin House Children's Hospice.

## Book Fair - Wednesday 4th December - Monday 9th December 2024

We are so excited to announce that the book fair will be returning to school on **Wednesday 4th December - Monday 9th December 2024**. The book fair will be open from 8:25–8:40 a.m. and 3:20–3:45 p.m. and will be in the KS1 hall. We now also have a cashless payment option in which you pay for books using the QR code on your phone! There are lots of amazing new titles to discover, including the latest Dog Man edition and the brand-new title from Julia Donaldson! Children will visit the book fair during the week with their classes to see the exciting range of books on offer and will have the opportunity to select some new titles to include in their class 'Reading for Enjoyment' selection!



## Random act of kindness

This week our random act of kindness goes to Isaac in Year 3 and Jacob in Year 2 for their wonderful kindness! Whilst out and about with their family, the boys noticed a member of the public who they wanted to help. The boys went to the shops and kindly bought them some thermal clothing and food to keep them warm. It was amazing to hear of Isaac and Jacob thinking of others and how they could help. What a fantastic gesture!

We are very proud to hear kindness in our community and thinking of others. Isaac and Jacob have shown being 'generous' comes in many ways as part of our Woodthorpe Character! Well done Isaac and Jacob!

We are looking forward to seeing what random acts of kindness we hear about next! 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.

## Christmas Jumper Day 2024

This year for Christmas Jumper Day 2024 we will be supporting Martin House Children's Hospice. On Thursday 12th December we will be holding our Christmas Jumper Day in school. We would welcome any donations on the day to support this local charity.

Ahead of this day, next week we will be joined by Martin House Children's Hospice for an assembly to tell us all about the important work they do within our local community.



(Please note, at Woodthorpe we will be wearing our Christmas jumpers on Thursday 12th December to align with our Christmas dinner and Christmas fair day)



# NURSERY

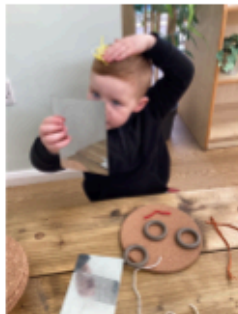
## Exploring Ice!

Last week brought some super cold temperatures! With this, nursery took the opportunity to explore things that changed outside. We were fascinated to discover that so much water had frozen! Together we loved exploring the very cold ice and even set up our own water to ice experiments each afternoon ready to see what happened overnight!



## Communities

Ducklings are enjoying learning all about our community! We have talked lots about members of our family as well as exploring what makes me, me and celebrating our differences in our nursery class. We have enjoyed creating paper dolls of ourselves, friends and family as well as creating our faces using different materials. A real highlight has been also playing in our mini-me small world too!



## Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to Kelia for her amazing attitude to learning, kind manners and fantastic behaviour! You blown us away each session with your enthusiasm for learning and in play. You are a shining role model to all of Ducklings! Well done Kelia. .

## Ask us about...

Communities! Ask us to describe ourselves including our physical appearance and what we like/ don't like. We could even tell you about our friends and members of our family too!



# RECEPTION

## 2D Shapes

This week, reception have been creating shape pictures using the 'Tap a Shape' game and have made shape monsters in the playdough area. They were brilliant at naming and describing the different 2D shapes that they used.



## Forest Schools

Reception had a fantastic time in the forest this week. They collected wood and sat really sensibly whilst Mrs Banham lit the fire. They loved toasting their marshmallows and thoroughly enjoyed eating them!



## Autumn Leaf pictures

In our outdoor area this week, we have been making our own leaf pictures using some of our Autumn leaves. Here are just some of our amazing pictures.



## Shout outs - Gosling

**Harry** - For trying really hard in handwriting sessions this week. Your letter formation is improving everyday and getting much neater. Well done Harry!

**Phoebe** - For your fantastic singing! You know all the words to our Christmas songs and are so enthusiastic! You will be fabulous in our Christmas performance!

## Shout outs - Cygnets

**Hollie**- For your super reading this week. Your blending is coming on nicely and it has been a pleasure listening to you read this week.

**Denny**- For your wonderful singing in our Christmas show rehearsal. It is lovely to see you so confident in our rehearsals and I am sure your parents will love seeing you sing on the day.

## Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning all about Autumn, Winter and the other seasons. We have looked at how our weather changes over time and what we would wear throughout the year.

# Year 1

## Geography - Maps

Year 1 have had such fun this week using their map skills in geography! We have used aerial photographs to investigate and develop our knowledge of the local area and our school grounds. We then created our very own messy map of the classroom. Have a look at some of our work!



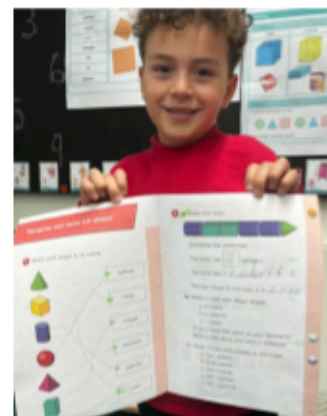
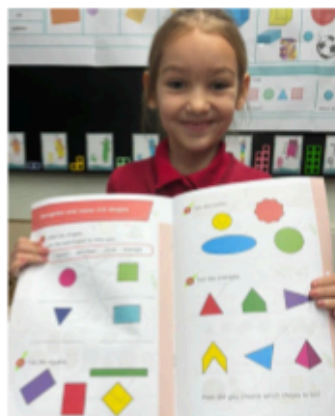
## Computing- Algorithms

Year 1 enjoyed their new computing topic 'Algorithms unplugged'. This week they learnt what an algorithm is and the importance of them. They used a set of instructions to dress a doll and then had a go at writing their own instructions!



## Maths - Shapes!

Year 1 have spent the week learning all about 2D and 3D shapes! We have learnt all their names and how to group them. We have had fun recreating some different pictures out of 2D shapes only! Have a look at some of our work below.



## Shout outs - Hummingbird

Matilda - For being such a fantastic narrator in our Nativity practises. You have learnt all your lines and are always ready for your cue to say your next line - well done!

Mason - For working so hard on your reading, I am so proud of how hard you are trying and how fluent you are becoming. Your enthusiasm for reading is a pleasure to see - keep up the good work!

## Shout outs - Kingfisher

William - For your enthusiasm! You are an absolute joy to have in the classroom, it is lovely to see your confidence growing and being a fantastic role model to others, keep up the hard work!

## Ask us about...

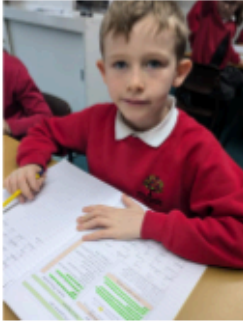
In Geography, we have been learning all about where we live and maps!. Why don't you ask us what the four countries of the United Kingdom are?



# Year 2

## Writing Superstars

In English, we have been finishing our narratives on Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder plot. We learnt that a narrative is a sequence of fictional or non-fictional events, usually in chronological order. It's a story created in a constructive format with a plot, characters, structure, setting, and theme. We are so excited to present our final pieces in our very own books!



books!



## Dementia Yorkshire - Christmas Cards

Year 2 has been very excited making Christmas cards for the members of Dementia Yorkshire. Dementia Yorkshire is a local charity supporting people living with dementia and their families across York and North Yorkshire. The children are so excited to give their Christmas cards!



## Dance - Sport

During this half term in PE, we have been focusing on dance and creating movements, freeze frames, and routines based on the story "Penguin Small" by Mick Inkpen. This week, Year 2 had the opportunity to create solo routines and present them to the rest of the class. That takes a lot of courage!



## Boxercise - Sport

In our physical activity session this week, Year 2 practiced their jab and cross techniques in boxercise. This time, we had the opportunity to use the boxercise equipment and create short sequences with a partner.



## Shout outs - Robin

**Aurora** - A big shout out to Aurora this week as you have worked very hard on your handwriting this week, and I am so proud of how beautifully formed your letters have become! Keep up this wonderful standard, Aurora!

## Shout outs - Finch

**Albie H** - congratulations on your incredible reading! I am so impressed at your progress, and it is wonderful to hear you reading challenging words independently! Keep up the hard work, Albie!

## Ask us about...

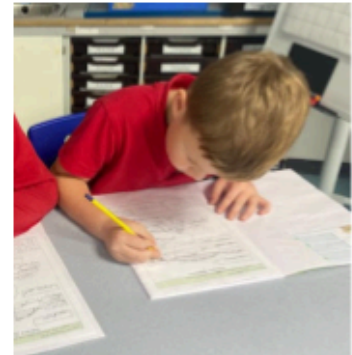
This week in Geography, we are learning about the different continents and how to accurately place them on our maps. We can now identify the locations of the North Pole, South Pole, and the equator on the world map. Feel free to ask us any questions about what we've learned!



# Year 3

## Geography - Volcanoes and Earthquakes

In Geography, we have been learning about types of volcanoes and earthquakes. We found out that they are mostly located along on tectonic plate boundaries. We have learnt about dormant, extinct and active volcanoes and research where they are in the world.



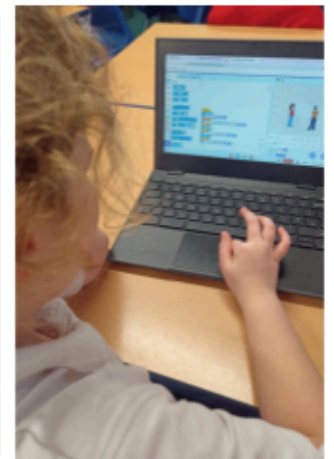
## French

C'est un petit cercle rouge! This week we have been looking at sizes, shapes and colours. We have also looked at cognates and near cognates - words that are nearly the same in English and French.



## Computing - Scratch

We have been looking at Scratch in computing this week and we are really enjoying learning to programme. We have learnt how to programme a story and how to debug.



## Shout outs - Magpie

**Lilly B** - For being super helpful in class this week. You have gone above and beyond when working class. Well done Lilly. Keep it up!

**Rory** - You have blown us away with your maths this week. Your times table knowledge is incredible, a massive well done!

## Shout outs - Woodpecker

**Thomas** - You have had a fantastic week this week, well done! You have worked incredibly hard with your handwriting and it is really paying off as your work is of a very high standard. You are a superstar!

**Mason** - You are working so hard on your reading and you have blown us away with your quiz scores! We love listening to you read and how you are able to answer a wide range of questions, well done!

## Ask us about...

In geography, we have been learning about volcanoes and earthquakes. We discovered that the Earth is constructed in layers and the crust is divided into tectonic plates. Why don't you ask us about it!

# Year 4

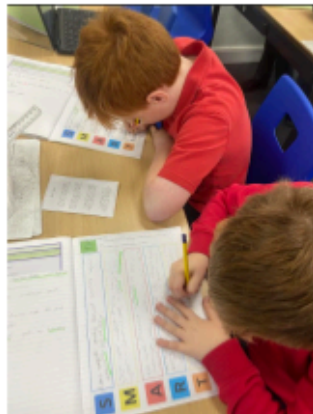
## Dance

This half term, we have thoroughly enjoyed our dance sessions. We have taken on the role of a spy to create routines which include freeze frames, a variety of formations and a canon. We have confidently practiced our routines and ensured that our actions and facial expressions are emphasised to portray emotions.



## PSHE - online safety!

In year 4, we have been creating posters to help people stay safe online. We discussed as part of our posters about being SMART online. This stands for: Safe, meet, accept, reliable and tell.



## Geography - layers of the Amazon rainforest.

As part of our rainforest topic, we have been investigating the 4 different layers of the Amazon rainforest (The forest floor, understorey, canopy and emergent layer).



## Shout outs - Owl

**Ajay** - This week, I have been blown away with your determination to improve your handwriting. You have showed superb patience and resilience when completing tasks to ensure that it is presented neatly. It has been wonderful to see how proud you are of your achievements!

## Shout outs - Osprey

**Lexie** - This week, I have been really impressed with Lexie's attitude towards maths. She has put 100% effort into all of her work and got the answers correct for the challenging challenges! Well done Lexie!

## Ask us about...

In writing this week, year 4 have been writing a diary entry of a child working in a Victorian mill. We have used our history knowledge to help us become a Victorian child and put ourselves in their shoes! Ask us about our jobs... trust me they were horrendous!



# Year 5

## 'Get set for the holidays'

Our trip to York High was a great success: we baked and decorated gingerbread reindeer, created 2 baubles out of different materials, then designed a gift bag to put them in. Everyone worked so hard and had a fantastic day!



## Into Film Festival

Year 5 had a brilliant time at Cineworld taking part in the Into Film Festival. We loved watching how the producers brought our guided reading book, Kensuke's Kingdom, to life.



## Forest fun: Viking herbal tea

To keep warm, year 5 had a go at making herbal tea using ingredients which were also available to the Vikings. The process involved us boiling some water and using a tea bag to put together a blend of different herbs, fruits and spices. We then enjoyed sampling our creations.



## Shout outs - Kites

Harvey- you blew us away when you came into school with your saxophone and shared with us a piece of music which you had written to accompany our current Computing topic, thank you for being a star!

## Shout outs - Falcons

Charlie - For your outstanding work ethic and commitment to your learning. You are a wonderful role model for your peers with your amazing, resilient attitude. Very well done!

## Ask us about...

- What is the climate like in the Alps?
- What physical features are there in the Alps?
- What human features are there in the Alps?



# Year 6

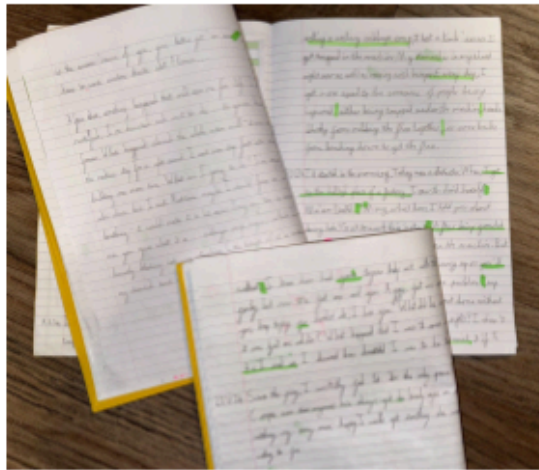
## Geography: Population Fieldwork Study

As part of our Geography unit this half term, we have completed a field work study within our local area. By gathering evidence using tally charts and likert scales for two different areas, we have studied how population can impact an environment. Interestingly, we concluded that our sparsely populated area was busier, with higher levels of pollution because it was a larger road, with links to the A64 and the city centre. On the other hand, our more densely populated area was actually quieter and less busy due to it being a residential area and most residents being at work.



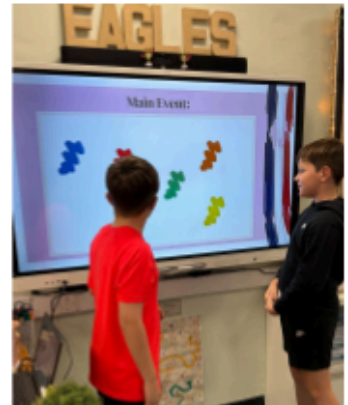
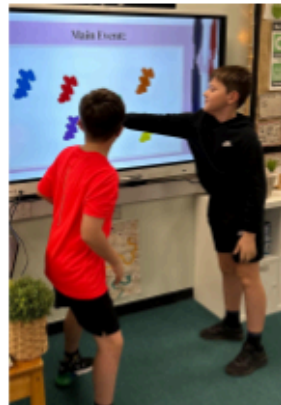
## Writing- Victorian Flax Mill Diary Entries

Over the last two weeks, Year 6 have become Victorian flax mill apprentices by writing diary entries. We described the long hours, dusty air and strict overlookers while imagining the hardships that children faced. Writing from their perspective allowed us to connect with history and appreciate how different life was back then.



## French- Colours and Adjectives

In French, we have been exploring how to describe shapes, using adjectives of both colour and size. We practiced phrases like *un grand cercle bleu* and *un petit triangle rouge*. To reinforce our vocabulary, we played fun games that challenged us to listen, speak and create.



## Shout outs - Eagle

A massive shout out this week to Bella! Over the last two weeks, I have been blown away with the transformation that you have been making with your handwriting and presentation. You have also continuously strived to improve your understanding further in our Geography topic, which has been lovely to see! Well done, Bella!

## Shout outs - Hawk

A huge shout out to Liv this week! You have been making incredible progress in maths. You are now frequently completing challenge questions and developing your reasoning and problem solving skills. I have been so impressed with the fantastic determination you show in every single lesson. Well done you!

## Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about factors that impact the world's population. We have been able to identify sparsely and densely populated areas, explain changes to populations around the world and we have even completed a fieldwork study relating to the population in our local area. Ask us about it!

## Diary Dates

Wed 4th - Mon 9th Dec	Book Fair
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

As the Christmas holidays start to draw closer, it is important to acknowledge the likelihood of increased online activity amongst our children. As our children become more connected through technology, it is essential that we equip them with the knowledge and rules to navigate the internet safely. If your child is using specific social networking sites, it may be worth activating their safety measures. This will help your child to control who has access to their content and what they see. 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.

### Parent and Carer Advice-

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators CREATING FAMILY RULES FOR USING DEVICES

A set of family rules agreed on with children can promote the safe, responsible use of devices like tablets, smartphones, gaming consoles and computers. By developing rules around technology, it opens the conversation regarding boundaries and expectations, ensuring a healthy balance of screentime. This guide will help you to develop an age-appropriate family agreement to suit your household.

- 1 WORK TOGETHER**  
Collaborating with children when setting rules around the use of technology is a valuable task that can encourage them to take more ownership. It's important to make rules which reflect your family and are age appropriate. Think about what you all enjoy doing online and what apps, games or devices children use most frequently.
- 2 AGREE TIME LIMITS AND SUITABLE TIMES**  
Be realistic when setting screen time limits. These can vary depending on the child's age, whether it's a weekday or weekend, and what they're actually doing online. If they're conducting research for homework, that might require more time than if they were playing games. Consider when screen time begins: does it come after chores and homework? Agree times when technology and phones must be put away.
- 3 ENCOURAGE HONESTY**  
Family rules ensure that everyone can have fun with their devices and be safe while doing so. Nonetheless, children may make mistakes as they learn to navigate the online world. Emphasise that if they ever feel worried, unsafe or upset about something they've done, sent, said or received, they should tell you immediately so you can help them resolve the problem.
- 4 CHARGING AND OVERNIGHT STORAGE**  
To ensure children get the downtime they need overnight, it's important that devices - especially smartphones - are kept in a common space, where possible. This reduces the chance of pointless late-night scrolling or sleep being disturbed by calls, messages or notifications. There are charging boxes you can purchase, or all gadgets could be charged in the kitchen overnight to avoid distractions.
- 5 REVIEW RULES REGULARLY**  
Anything you agree on isn't set in stone. These rules will likely alter as children get older and the way they use technology changes. Take time to review these as a family; discuss what's working, and what isn't. Communication is key - so by doing this, you involve the child in their own online safety while promoting an open dialogue.
- 6 PROTECT PERSONAL INFO**  
Discuss and demonstrate the importance of protecting your personal information. Talk about what details you share online and who with. Use parental controls to block children from connecting with strangers, so that any information they do share is among their real friends. Ask a child's permission before posting any photos of them on social media, as this demonstrates positive online behaviour that they should learn and remember.
- 7 BE RESPECTFUL**  
Highlight the importance of showing respect to others when using technology. Encourage children to speak kindly to others online - such as on social media, when playing multiplayer games or in group chats (which can often lend themselves to teasing behaviour). Explain that if they aren't treating others considerately, they might be made to stay away from their devices for a while.
- 8 "NO TECH" ZONES**  
Designating spaces in the house where technology isn't allowed (for example: bedrooms, bathrooms and at the dinner table) lets you keep an eye on what children are viewing and who they're communicating with. It gives you some quality, screen-free time with them, too. It also helps reduce any impulses to impulsively engage with inappropriate content, as they're unlikely to do so in a common space within the home.
- 9 AGREE ON CONSEQUENCES**  
As a family, discuss why the rules are important: to balance their screentime, to ensure everyone enjoys gaming or interacting online, and that they are safe when doing so. Therefore, if these rules are broken, there has to be a consequence. Discuss what would be fair for certain breaches of the rules, as this can prevent a disproportionate response in the future.
- 10 KNOW ALL PASSWORDS**  
To protect children from inappropriate content, parents should have access to all passwords. Parents should also make it clear that they will check children's devices, should they have any concerns about their use. Emphasise that this isn't due to a lack of trust but is an extra way of keeping them safe.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**#WakeUpWednesday**  
**The National College**

Source: See full reference on the guide page at [nationalcollege.com/guidetips-for-creating-family-rules-for-using-devices](http://nationalcollege.com/guidetips-for-creating-family-rules-for-using-devices)



## Events in the Local Community



Join us for the  
**Woodthorpe  
Christmas Tree Light  
Switch On**  
30th November 2024 Outside The Dick  
Turpin

**What to expect?**  
Santa Tombola  
Grinch Hot Dogs  
Music Mince pies  
Raffle Mulled Wine  
Cakes

There are five mega prizes in this years raffle, each worth at least £50!!  
Check them out here:



<https://bit.ly/wycg-raffle-2024>

16:00 Event starts  
16:15 Woodukes, our local ukulele group  
17:10 Singing by Liv Quigley  
18:00 Tree lights switch on  
18:00 Raffle sales close  
18:30 Raffle drawn



**WOODTHORPE  
xmas raffle**

- 1. 32" Sharp HD Ready Smart LED TV**  
Kindly donated by Tesco Askham Bar
- 2. £100 Christmas Dinner voucher**  
Kindly donated by Tesco Askham Bar
- 3. Woody's Giant Christmas Hamper Train**  
Kindly donated by The Waggy Dog Creche
- 4. £100 Cash**  
Donated by Woodthorpe York Community Group
- 5. £50 Cash**  
Donated by Woodthorpe York Community Group

To be drawn on 30th  
November at the  
Christmas tree light  
switch on event outside  
The Dick Turpin.



<https://bit.ly/wycg-raffle-2024>

£5 per ticket  
Tickets will also be available  
to purchase during the  
Christmas event 4 - 6pm.

# Carol Service

with guest singers  
"The Clerkes of All Saints"

Sunday 8 December 2024

7:30pm

*followed by mince pies and mulled wine*

St James the Deacon Church, Acomb Moor

