



# Newsletter

**Friday 7th February 2025**

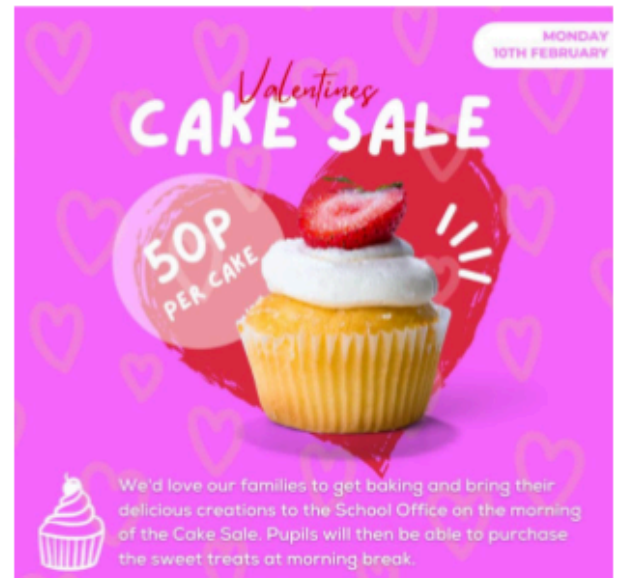
Hello,

Here we are at the end of another busy week at Woodthorpe. You will see in the class pages that we have taken part in Children's mental Health Week and lots of us have been getting crafty in DT.

A reminder was shared this week with all families that children cannot wear earrings and they cannot be taped for PE. Please check your emails, if you have not read it yet.

On Monday 10th February we are having a bake sale; please see the details on the poster. We would be very grateful for any donations of cakes for the bake sale being dropped off at the school office on Monday morning. Cakes will be sold at morning break on both the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 playgrounds. Please ensure that any boxes/tubs are clearly labelled with your child's name and class.

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Winston



## Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	91.48%	Goslings	95.93%
Hummingbirds	94.09%	Kingfishers	91.00%
Finch	93.75%	Robins	96.11%
Magpie	94.37%	Woodpeckers	93.23%
Owl	93.89%	Osprey	91.92%
Kite	96.17%	Falcon	91.30%
Hawk	★ 96.61% ★	Eagle	96.02%
School Average for this fortnight		93.68%	

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) before 9am.



### 100% attendance parent winners

Last week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 4  
This week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 2  
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



**Children's Mental Health Week 2025 - Monday 3rd to Sunday 9th February 2025**



This week we have been taking part in Children's Mental Health Week 2025.

*'The theme for 2025 is **Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**, with the aim to equip and empower children and young people across the UK to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them. We want children and young people to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop.'* (Place2Be - <https://www.place2be.org.uk/> )

We have been exploring this year's theme '**Know yourself, Grow yourself**' exploring lots of different emotions and what this can mean.

Please find below some suggested websites and resources our families can use at home to support your child's mental health (please use as appropriate for your child /their age).

- Parenting advice from our child mental health experts - [Place2Be: Parenting Smart: Articles](#)
- Place 2 Be's Children's Mental Health Week - [Families - Children's Mental Health Week](#)
- Place 2 Be's Supporting your child's mental health - [How to support your child's mental health – Place2Be](#)
- Place 2 Be's Support for parents and carers - [Mental health support for parents and carers – Place2Be](#)
- Practical tips to support children's wellbeing and behaviour - Family support - [Family wellbeing - BBC Parents' Toolkit - BBC Bitesize](#)
- Raise York - [Raise York](#)
- NSPCC - Promoting mental health and wellbeing - <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-health-development/promoting-mental-health-wellbeing>
- Advice for parents and carers: talking mental health with children at primary school - [Advice for parents and carers: talking mental health with children at primary school | Anna Freud](#)

# NURSERY

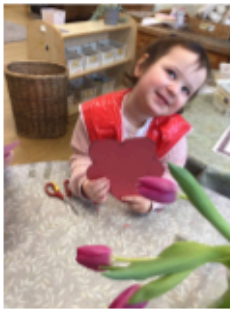
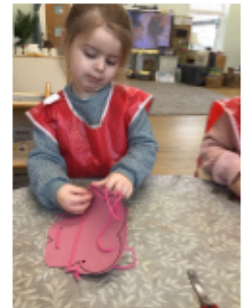
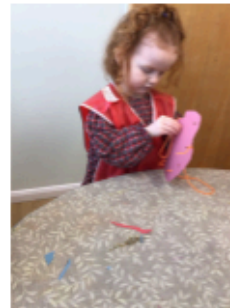
## Love of reading!

Ducklings love all things books! Lots of us love spending time in our play in the cosy Book Nook or choosing a book from the front and enjoying it on the carpet by ourselves or with friends. We have been very lucky to enjoy some new books that were bought for nursery recently too!



## Flower Threading

This week we have been busy with our design technology project, flower threading. First we have enjoyed looking at a range of flowers, then we got busy making our own. We have carefully cut out a flower, punched in holes on the cut out then used colourful wool to weave in and out of the holes. They look great!



## Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to Ada for your amazing foundations of phonics! We have been blown away by you hearing so many initial sounds as well as orally blending so many words. It has been fantastic! Well done Ada!

## Ask us about...

Positional language. Ask us to move an object (e.g. a teddy) on, under, next to or even behind an object (e.g. a table) and we will put it in the right place for you!



# RECEPTION

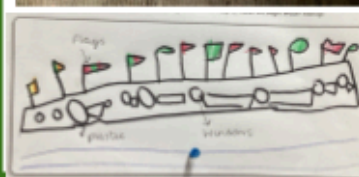
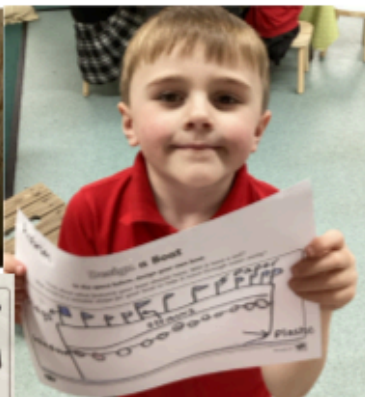
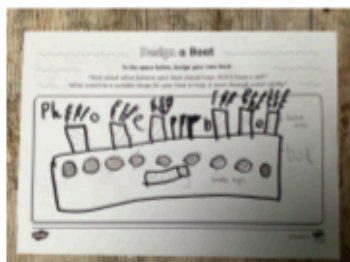
## Chinese Lunar New Year

Reception have loved learning about Chinese New Year! We have been learning about how Chinese New Year is celebrated and had lots of fun making our own Chinese dragons and lanterns. We've even tried writing some Chinese symbols! We read the story 'The Great Race' and discovered that each year is represented by a different animal, and that 2025 is the year of the snake.



## Designing Boats

This week in Design and Technology we have been learning about different types of boats, floating and sinking and which materials are waterproof. We have also started to design and make our own boats!



## Forest Schools

Cygnets loved going to forest school this week. We made our own dens. We had to work as team to carry the sticks around the forest.



## Shout outs - Gosling

**Francesca** - For always being a superstar in phonics and reading practice sessions. You are so enthusiastic and eager to learn Francesca - well done!

**Madison** - For making the most fabulous things in the creative area. You have a fantastic imagination and we all love to see the different things that you make from the junk modelling materials - well done Madison!

## Shout outs - Cygnets

**Jake**- For being brave and coming to the forest for the first time. We loved making a den with you and having snack with you.

**Theo**- For your wonderful writing this week. You included some Phase 2 and Phase 3 sounds in your sentence and even remembered your full stop.

## Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about Chinese Lunar New Year. Ask us about how it is celebrated and what colour is lucky...

# Year 1

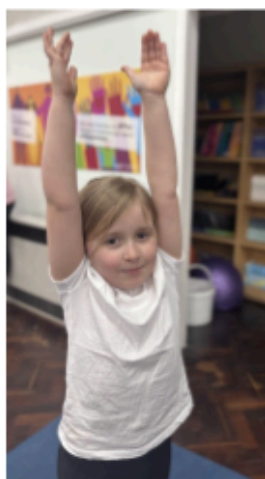
## History - Toys from the Past

Year 1 had a fantastic day yesterday, exploring a range of toys from the past! We had such fun playing with pick-up sticks, marbles, jacks, wooden trains, yo-yos and more.



## P.E

Year 1 have really been enjoying their Gymnastic sessions with Mr Innes. This week they were tasked to make a routine which had to include a series of different jumps that they had learnt. Our favourite one was a tuck jump!



## D.T

Year 1 have been working hard to design and create their very own hand puppets based on characters from 'Little Red Riding Hood'. They have explored different equipment to join materials together, they especially enjoyed using the staplers!



## Shout outs - Hummingbird

Oliver - For working hard on your number formation and going back to check your work to make sure that you have formed your numbers correctly - keep up the great work! Well done!

Mila F - For always being such a happy, positive member of Hummingbird class. You are so kind and caring towards your friends and you always have a smile on your face. Thank you for brightening our days, we are so proud to have in the classroom!

## Shout outs - Kingfisher

Charlie- For being a super role model in class, you have blown me away with your hard work recently ensuring that your work is presented to the highest standard, well done, keep up the good work! 😊

Elliott S- For always putting 110% into everything that you do, persevering when things get a little bit tricky and being a fantastic member of Kingfisher class. You are a super star! ★

## Ask us about...

In History, we have been learning about old toys and how toys have changed over the years compared with the toys we play with now.

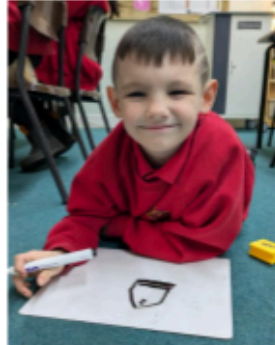
Ask us what old teddys used to be made out of, you might be surprised!



# Year 2

## PSHE - Our dreams...

As part of our final lesson in our 'Dreams and Goals' topic, we had to think very carefully about a dream we would like to achieve soon. We had to think about how we would feel when we achieved our dream and what impact it would have on our lives! We spent some time drawing our dreams to help us articulate our hopes to the class. We then spent some time thinking about what we had to do to accomplish our dreams! There were so many wonderful ideas shared, from running a swimming class to teaching children how to use Chromebooks. We hope all your dreams come true!



## Reading Superstars!

It has been so wonderful to see so many children in Year 2 already reach gold on the reading chart! That means they have read 25 times at home! Children have been really enthused to read at home and share their love of reading with their families. Keep it up, Year 2; we are really proud of you all! We wonder which class is going to finish the chart first, Robin class or Finch class...



## Shout outs - Robin

Lena and Kian - I was very impressed with both of your gymnastics skills this week. You showcased your flexibility to the rest of Robin's class by demonstrating some really challenging stretches! Well done to both of you!

## Teamwork makes the dream work!

In our 'Dreams and Goals' PHSE unit, we have been focusing on teamwork. We have learned and practiced new skills to become effective team members, such as listening, celebrating others' successes, and problem-solving. In this lesson, we worked in pairs to develop our oracy skills by creating identical birds.



## Shout outs - Finch

Willow Rose - Your handwriting is outstanding! The precision, neatness, and attention to detail make your writing a pleasure to look at. Keep up the great work—your dedication and effort truly shine through.

## Ask us about...

We have started our new topic in DT this week, 'Textiles.' In this topic, we will sew a running stitch with regular-sized stitches and understand that both ends must be knotted. We will prepare and cut fabric to make a pouch from a template and then use a running stitch to join the two pieces of fabric together. Ask us what tool we can use to protect our fingers whilst sewing...

# Year 3

## Forest Challenge

Year 3 have been having a fantastic time in their forest sessions this half term. Last week, Mrs Banham challenged us to make a cable car which would move up and down a mountain. We practised our knotting skills and showed amazing problem solving, perseverance and teamwork!



## DT - Wearable technology

In DT we have been finding out about wearable technology. We have designed our own product and had a go at programming a microbit on the Chromebooks.



## PE - Gymnastics

In gymnastics we have been learning about contrasting actions. We have loved showing off our routines at the end of our lessons!



## Shout outs - Magpie

**Emily D** - For being a super member of our class - always being ready and offering lots of great answers in lessons - great work.

**Harley** - For being a great listener, having lots of great ideas and always making fantastic contributions to our lessons.

## Shout outs - Woodpecker

**Isabela** - For your fantastic work in French. We were super impressed with how well you can speak, read and write words in French - well done :)

**Kyro** - For your fantastic work in the forest this week, You worked super with with your group and really persevered when sawing your log to make your robin. Great work!

## Ask us about...

We have been learning about the digital revolution in DT and finding out about how things like televisions and mobile phones have changed. Why don't you ask us about it!



# Year 4

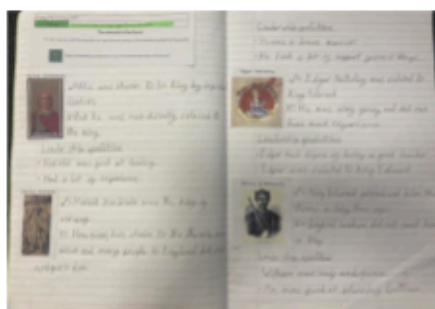
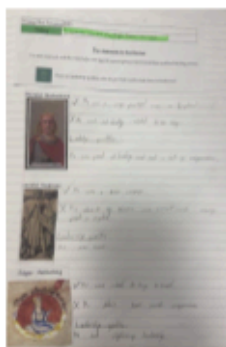
## PE - Gymnastics

In PE, we have been creating gymnastic sequences using all of our knowledge from our topic. We worked together in groups of 4 to help teach each other the best techniques.



## History - the claimants to the English throne

In History, we have been investigating all the claimant's reasons for becoming king in the Anglo - saxon period and who had the best claim.



## Art: Still Life

In art this week, students practiced creating tints and shades through colour mixing. They then applied these skills to a still life drawing of fruit, enhancing their understanding of light, shadow, and colour variation to create depth and realism in their artwork.



## Shout outs - Owl

A huge shout-out to **Jayde**, who has shown incredible growth in confidence! He's actively engaging in lessons, eagerly raising his hand, and taking more initiative in his work. It's inspiring to see his independence flourish, and I'm excited to see all the amazing progress he'll continue to make!

## Shout outs - Osprey

**Sophie** - I have been extremely proud of Sophie's effort towards her times tables this week. She is trying so hard to improve her TT speed on studio in every spare minute that she has. Keep it up Sophie!

## Ask us about...

We have been creating websites about our favourite books. We have included pictures, links, videos and reviews to make our viewers interested.

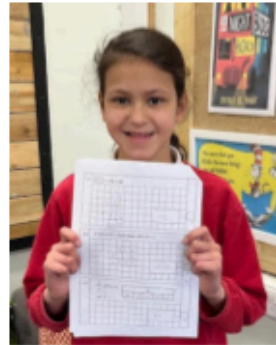
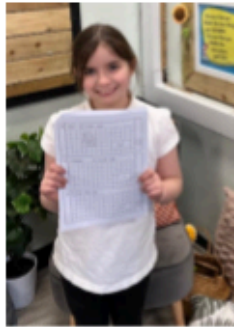
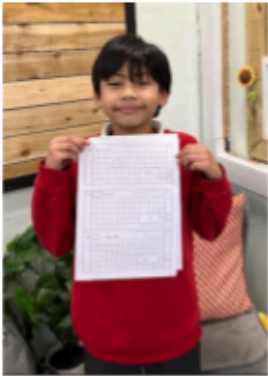
Ask us about them.



# Year 5

## Arithmetic stars ★

We are so proud of the progress Year 5 are making in their arithmetic sessions. Each week we complete a test to see how much we've improved. Keep it up!



## Mars Rover- data handling

Year 5 are thoroughly enjoying their current computing topic about the Mars Rovers and how they are able to send data and process instruction. We had a go at giving our rovers simple yet clear instructions as we only had 8 steps before the battery died and our CPU reset.



## Design and Technology - Pop-Up Books

This week, we began designing our own pop-up books for a year 1 target audience. In addition to choosing an appealing story and design, we have learnt how to make a range of mechanisms, including sliders and levers, which will make them engaging for children.



## Shout outs - Kites

Bethany- for your perseverance and determination to succeed in all aspects of school life but particularly in maths where you were able to complete some tricky fractions questions. Keep up the hard work ★

## Shout outs - Falcons

Daisy - for both the incredible kindness that she has demonstrated towards her classmates this week and for her exceptional efforts within all aspects of the curriculum! We're all very proud of you Daisy - keep it up! ★

## Ask us about...

- What is a mechanism?
- How is a lever different to a slider?
- How do I create a pop-up structure?

# Year 6

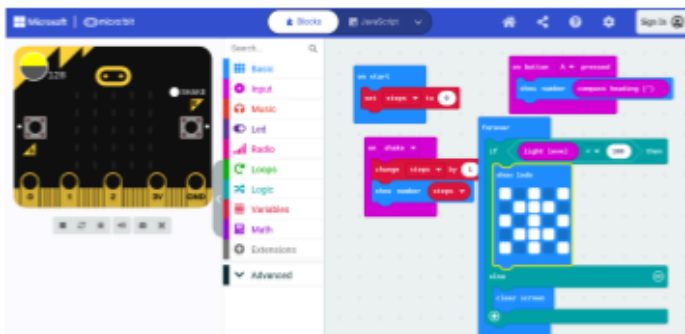
## Gymnastics: Balances

This week, Year 6 have been exploring the roles of a base and a flyer in partner balances. Through teamwork, communication and trust, we have learnt how stability and control are key to creating successful balances. It was fantastic to see our confidence grow as we supported each other and refined our techniques.



## DT- Coding for Adventure

In DT, we have been using Micro:bits and coding to design multifunctional electronic compact devices tailored for an outdoor adventure company. Through creativity and problem solving, we've explored how technology can enhance safety and efficiency in the great outdoors. It's been amazing to see our ideas come to life.



## Computing- Big Data:

In Computing, Year 6 have been thinking about how infrared waves can be used for data transmission, as heat detectors and as invisible barriers. We were challenged to design our very own device for the school based on these ideas: we designed new heat detection fire alarms, intruder alerts and even animal sensing devices.



## Shout outs - Eagle

A huge shout out to Will who has blown us away in computing over the last two weeks. Your creativity and deep understanding of infrared technology have been truly impressive and your application of sketchpad skills has taken your work to the next level! Keep shining!

## Shout outs - Hawk

A huge shout out to Sam this week for trying so hard in his assessments; you've shown incredible resilience, maturity and perseverance. I am so proud of all the progress you've made so far Sam - keep up the hard work!

## Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about World War II. Did you know that 1.5 million people were evacuated in England during 1939 and that school teachers went with the evacuees? Ask us about it!



## Diary Dates

<b>Tue 11th Feb</b>	Year 5 Trip to Merchants Hall
<b>Wed 12th Feb</b>	School Tour (Nursery summer intake)
<b>Wed 12th - Fri 14th Feb</b>	Peat Rigg Residential
<b>Fri 14th Feb</b>	Last day of term
<b>Mon 24th Feb</b>	Back at school
<b>Thurs 27th Feb</b>	Year 2 Trip to Yorkshire Air Museum
<b>Tue 11th March</b>	Whole class school photos

### 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.

# Internet safety day

Tuesday the 11th of February marks Safer Internet Day and this year's theme is: 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online.' To celebrate the occasion, we will be spending the day off timetable focusing on the importance of using the internet safely and responsibly. We will be exploring topics such as the potential dangers of posting and sharing personal information online, understanding privacy settings and learning how to spot misinformation or harmful content.

Key stage two will participate in a live lesson throughout the day, where they will step into a virtual world of scam smashers. In this exciting game, players must outsmart digital tricksters to protect their personal information. Classes will have to work together, using their detective skills, and make it to the end of the Live Lesson to beat the scammers.

Early years will explore Internet Safety Day through the story 'Chicken clicking'.

Our goal is to equip children with the knowledge and skills they need to navigate the digital world safely while making informed choices. We encourage you to have conversations at home about these topics as well to reinforce what they will be learning in school.

Thank you for your continued support!

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.

**SAFER**

**INTERNET DAY**

11<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025





## Woodthorpe School Tour



# Woodthorpe Primary School

We are hosting our next school tour on **Wednesday 12th February 2025 at 1:30pm.**

If you, or you know of someone in our local community who is thinking of joining our school nursery we would love to show you/them around. During the tour we will focus on our Early Years Provision as well as look around our whole school seeing learning in action. This is a fantastic way to see our school and our wonderful children!

Should you wish to book a place on our school tour, please contact our main office via the email [admin@woodthorpe.elt.org.uk](mailto:admin@woodthorpe.elt.org.uk) or telephone 01904 806464.

Should you have any specific queries related to the Nursery you can also contact the Nursery directly via the email [ducklings@woodthorpe.elt.org.uk](mailto:ducklings@woodthorpe.elt.org.uk).

Please note, any current applications received for our Nursery children starting in the Summer Term 2025, we will write to families in due course to offer a stay and play session ahead of them starting.



## FREE SIGNPOSTING EVENT FOR SUPPORT SERVICES, LOCAL FAMILIES, PARENTS & CARERS.

Join us at York St Johns Creative Centre where local support services will be available to give advice and information on mental health, neurodiversity, legal support, parents who are finding their early parenting journey a challenge, financial or health concerns, women's refuges, family abuse support, and much more.

**4TH FEBRUARY  
DROP IN FROM  
2PM - 6PM**

Attending services include:  
HomeStart, York Integrated Care Board, Citizens Advice, Big Future Foundations, IDAS, York SENDIASS, The Retreat Clinics, SJPLAW, York Maternity Voices Partnership, Raise York / FIS, Foundation Positive Choices Services...

**AT YORK ST JOHN  
CREATIVE CENTRE**  
Lord Mayor's Walk, York, YO31 7EX

BOOK NOW



SCAN ME

what3words: ///panic.fish.pages

For more information email:  
[Ewarren@theretreatclinics.org.uk](mailto:Ewarren@theretreatclinics.org.uk)

**ST JAMES THE DEACON CHURCH**

# STARTING Rite

A 5 week Baby Centred Course

**TUESDAYS  
10.45AM -  
12.45PM**

Includes books and handouts to keep!

- Week 1 - Peekaboo!
- Week 2 - Guess how much I love you
- Week 3 - Splash!
- Week 4 - Bubble talk
- Week 5 - Storytime

Why this group?  
You may be asking what church can offer you and your family. You may be wondering about what values you would like your child to grow up with.

Starting Rite helps you to think through and answer these, as well as giving lots of time for your own questions, while having lots of play and bonding with your baby!

Running from  
**25.02.25 - 25.03.25**

For more information or to book, contact:  
[nicolaastjamesthedeacon@gmail.com](mailto:nicolaastjamesthedeacon@gmail.com)

## Events in the Local Community

**CRAFTY FOX KIDS CLUB**

# HALF-TERM HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS



01 Drawing and painting    02 Crafting and model making    03 Exploration, fun and learning too!

**FOR AGE 5-10 YEARS**

## FEBRUARY ART & CRAFT WORKSHOPS



Monday 17th @ New Earswick Folk Hall  
 Tuesday 18th @ Acomb Methodist Church  
 Wednesday 19th @ Acomb Methodist Church

**DROP & GO**  
DRINKS AND SNACKS PROVIDED

**MORNING / AFTERNOON**  
AND ALL DAY SESSIONS AVAILABLE

**SIGN UP NOW**

SPACES ARE LIMITED AND PRE BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL.  
BOOK VIA: [WWW.CRAFTYFOXKIDSClub.COM](http://WWW.CRAFTYFOXKIDSClub.COM)

## February Half Term @Playden



<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Playden got talent, <b>AM:</b> preparing and rehearsing, <b>PM:</b> doing your show for the Judges
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Painting and edible art crafts for everyone
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	A full day of baking, Mexican Quesadillas and cheese cake for afternoon snack
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Bird and bug watching, dissection of regurgitated food, making 3D birds with clay.
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	Make your own board games, win prizes with Uno competition, team quizzes and get messy with pie face

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Our setting</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">All staff are DBS checked, have up to date Paediatric First Aid and are committed to safeguarding children. Our staff are qualified and have many years' experience in childcare.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Healthy snacks are provided on a morning and afternoon. Water is available throughout the day at all times. Please provide your child/children with a named water bottle. Please provide your child with a healthy pack lunch and drink. Extra drink will be required if we are going on a trip out.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: red;">Please ensure that food does not contain nuts, this includes Nutella. This is due to severe allergy sufferers. Who attend the Holiday Club. Thank you.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">The club is very accessible, and we are happy for children across the City of York and surrounding areas aged 3-11 years old to join our fun packed club.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Prices and Times</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Full day bookings only: £34.00 per child We are open 7.30am to 6.00pm</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: x-small;">To book:</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Email: <a href="mailto:playden@the-playden.co.uk">playden@the-playden.co.uk</a></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">We are based at: The Annex, 6/0 Our Lady Queen of Martyrs RC Primary School, Hamilton Drive, York, YO24 4W</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; color: red;">To cancel a place you must give 2 weeks' notice to avoid charge for a booked place</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Bookings will be confirmed once a registration form has been completed and submitted for each individual child.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">The activities/venue are subject to change due to weather and circumstances beyond our control.</p>
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Looking forward to seeing you  
 The Playden Team