

Woodthorpe Primary School

Headteacher: Mr James McGann
Chair of Governors: Mrs Jenny Parker

Our school is a happy, exciting and caring community in which each child thrives.

Friday 28th April 2023

It has been lovely welcoming our families back to school after Easter. Our children have very quickly launched into their new summer term topics with such fantastic enthusiasm!

Across school, we have been sharing lots of facts and information about King Charles and are looking forward to putting everybody's knowledge to the test in next week's whole school Coronation quiz (further details of next Friday's plans below)!

The summer term is such a busy and exciting time for us within school, so please check the back pages of the newsletter for important dates for the weeks ahead.

Finally, this term the South Bank MAT are holding a festival of the arts and a 'sports fest' (further information to follow) and are looking to our local community for help. If you are a budding photographer, videographer or may be able to provide sponsorship for this term's exciting MAT events, please see the letter on the penultimate page for more information – your help very much appreciated - thank you.

Class attendance this week

Cygnets	96.22%	Goslings	97.03%
Hummingbirds	97.50%	Kingfishers	99.31%
Finch	93.33%	Robins	★★99.63%★★
Magpie	97.67%	Woodpeckers	97.00%
Owl	96.79%	Osprey	97.41%
Kite	95.00%	Falcon	99.26%
Hawk	96.90%	Eagle	91.72%
School weekly average:		96.77%	

Our whole school attendance so far this academic year is: 94.75 %

Thank you to all those parents who managed to get their child to school on time every day! As a reminder, if your child is absent from school, please call 01904 806464, followed by option 1 to report the absence.



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 4
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



Coronation Celebrations!

Next Friday (5th May 2023) we will be celebrating the Coronation in style! Firstly, we are inviting our children to come to school wearing red, white and blue non-uniform. Then throughout the day, we will be holding royal treasure hunts, a special Royal Family quiz and hopefully (weather permitting) holding a glorious outdoor lunchtime picnic with our special one-off menu (more details of this can be found on School Grid)! We're all very excited about the day and can't wait to see everybody dressed in the colours of the Union Jack. Judging by the children's knowledge of the King already, we are sure that lots of our families will also enjoy watching the Coronation on Saturday 6th May.



Nursery

How are you feeling today?

In nursery we started our term by learning all about our emotions. We had lots of fun naming our feelings as we read books such as 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas and 'In My Heart. A Book of Feelings' by Jo Witek. We have learnt a range of words to label our feelings and enjoyed taking part in some calming, mindfulness activities too.



What a wonderful world!

We have loved celebrating Earth Day 2023 in nursery! This week we have continued to learn all about our planet. We have been learning to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. Ducklings have loved reading lots of stories all about caring for our world, learning about plastic pollution and creating some amazing Earth collages using lots of different materials.



Shout out

A huge shout out to all our new nursery starters who joined us after the Easter holidays! We have been blown away with how well you have settled and enjoyed taking part in lots of play too. A second shout out to our nursery returners. We are very proud of you all for being amazing role models and kind, caring friends to the new Ducklings showing them what a fantastic nursery we are!

Reception

Our New Sandpit

Reception have had the best time exploring our brand new sandpit built by our incredible Mr Fishwick! We have created everything from sand angels, to castles to a life-sized canoe - what an amazing and immersive experience for everyone, thank you so much Mr Fishwick!



Ready, Steady, Bake!

Reception have enjoyed experiencing another one of Mr Fishwick's incredible creations - our new mud kitchen. We have been cooking in it all week, we even started our very own 'Bake Off' competition!



Road Safety

For our first week of the Summer term, we learned all about road safety. We looked at how to cross the road safely including how to 'Stop, Look, Listen and Think!' We looked at traffic lights and most specifically what red and green men mean.

The children were very enthusiastic about this topic. It was impressive to see how much knowledge the children already had and to hear from families about how some children have taken their learning on board and improved how they act around roads.



Shout outs - Cygnets

Joshua - For his fantastic learning at home. Joshua loves continuing his learning from school at home and over Easter completed a spring hunt with some amazing drawings and writing of what he found - what super work Joshua!

Evie - For her conscientious attitude towards learning, especially within phonics. Evie always tries her absolute best in everything that she does and this is really paying off within her phonics and how many sounds she now knows - what a superstar!

Shout outs - Goslings

Delilah - For showing real effort in your writing. The progress you have made recently is incredible. It really shows how much you are trying. Well done, we are really proud of you!

Esther C - Your attitude for learning has been amazing over the last few weeks. You have been sitting beautifully on the carpet and always eager to contribute. We know how hard you have been working on this and it has been noticed by all the adults. Well done Esther!

Year 1

Kingfishers- Computing

Year 1 enjoyed their practical computing lesson this week! They were tasked to represent zoo data in a number of different ways.



Hummingbirds - PE

Hummingbirds thoroughly enjoyed our new PE topic 'hit, catch, run'. We began our session with a game of piggy in the middle. The children realised the importance of tracking the ball.



Forest school

Year 1 were so excited to kick the term off by starting forest school. We enjoyed listening to the story of the three little pigs and were tasked to create suitable houses.



Shout outs - Kingfisher

Lily- For your fantastic independent sentences in English. I was blown away with your simile, 'The sand was as brown as a pretzel'.

Bobby- For your recent home reading! It is fantastic to see that you are reading every night at home, keep this up!

Shout outs - Hummingbird

Kaia - A huge shout out to Kaia for leading the way on the reading chart, and is super close to being at silver! You have blown me away with the use of expression, and listening to you read is a pleasure.

Layla - Your effort, attitude and determination in both maths and phonics has been incredible. I am super proud of you and your 'can do' attitude!

Year 2

Fascinating Facts

Did you know King Charles is a qualified diver? This is just one of the interesting facts we found when researching our wonderful King. The children loved using the Chromebooks to research King Charles and sharing their facts with others.



History - Monarchy

This week, we have been getting ready for King Charles' coronation by learning all about the monarchy. We've learnt about the role of a King or Queen and what happens during a coronation. It was lots of fun acting out the different stages of the Coronation, which are: the oath, the anointing, the investing, the crowning and the procession.



Forest School

Year 2 were 'buzzing' after their last forest school session, which was based around bees 🐝. We played bee games to show how bees carry their honey with their knees and then created our own bees using elder cones. To make the bees, we had to learn how to tie knots with rope to create a flying effect. We ended our session by toasting bread on the campfire and added some delicious honey.



Shout outs - Finch

Bella - I love listening to you read and am so proud of the progress you are making. ★ Not only are you segmenting and blending words correctly, you can also answer questions about what you have read.

Joshua - A big well done to you for your incredible maths work this last week. You have shown a great understanding of fractions and have completed some tricky questions with ease. Keep shining Joshua - you're a maths superstar!

Shout outs - Robin

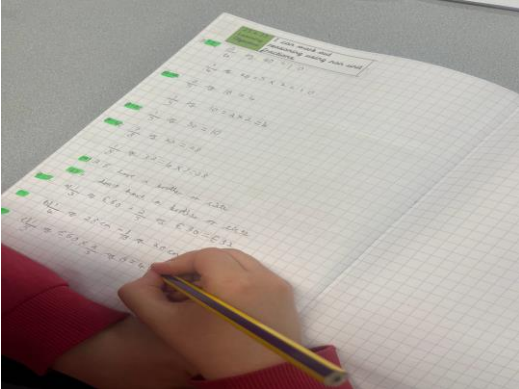
Liam - A huge shout out to Liam this week who has joined Robin class this half term! You have settled in so amazingly by making lots of new friends, showing wonderful manners and working hard in lessons! We are so happy to have you in Robin class Liam!

Phoebe - For working so hard on your reading. Miss Poulter and Mrs Martin have been so impressed with how you're now sounding out lots of words all on your own. Keep up this fantastic work!

Year 3

Maths

We have seen some fantastic fractions work in Year 3 this week, even though it has been really tricky, we have persevered and given it our all!



Science- A dirty pudding!

In Science, we made our own 'dirty pudding' to show the layers of the earth and soil. We used different foods to represent the various layers, and even got to try some of our own handmade soil!



Yoga

This week, in our fitness PE lesson we put our balance skills to the test and tried some intermediate level yoga. We used some of our yoga skills from our previous lessons to kick start our fitness, before moving onto some different positions such as the 'Eagle'.



Shout outs - Woodpeckers

Lilly - for such amazing resilience this week and last, you have done so well with your broken arm, still managing to complete your work to such a high standard!

Bobby - for always having a positive attitude to everything you do! You are such a pleasure to have in class and we love how enthusiastic you are about everything!

Shout outs - Magpie

Georgia- For being a wonderful friend to so many people in the Magpie class. Every day, Georgia you help people within our class and you put a smile on their faces too. Thank you for being such a wonderful member of our class.

Jacob- for your fantastic reading over the half term break. Jacob, you have already read 20,000 words, which is incredible. Keep this amazing reading up.

Year 4

Osprey - Science

In our new science topic, we have been learning about animals including humans. This week, we carried out an experiment to find out what can damage our teeth. We placed pieces of chalk in cola, water, energy drink and vinegar to see if they would become damaged. To our surprise, our 'teeth' were damaged in cola, vinegar and energy drink. This has shown us how important it is to look after our teeth!

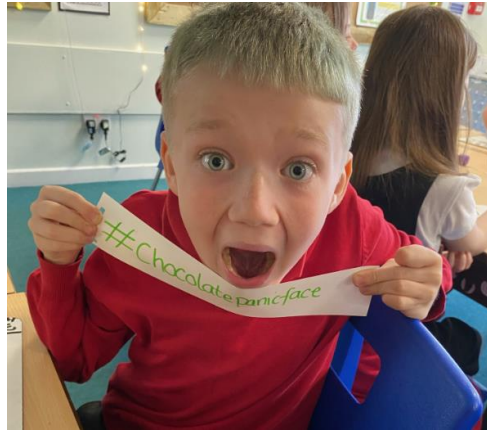


Owl - Cricket

This week, we launched our new PE unit, cricket. As part of our first lesson, we discovered how to throw and catch the ball with increasing accuracy. We also discussed the best techniques and methods to throw the ball into different zones to score points. Throughout the lesson, we demonstrated excellent teamwork skills and sportsmanship. We are looking forward to working towards our first class cricket match!



Year 4 - The Great Chocoplot



This week in English, we explored our new text: 'The Great Chocoplot' by Chris Callaghan. The Great Chocoplot is a modern day Charlie and Chocolate factory with a twist, where all the chocolate in the country mysteriously disappears! We have spent the week reading the first few chapters of the story, listening to the magic tale of Jelly and her Grandma's Gran-O-Van! We thought carefully about the different emotions we would feel if all the chocolate in the country really did disappear...

Shout outs - Osprey

A massive well done to EVERYONE! Every member of Osprey class has come into the Summer term with enthusiasm and determination, which has been amazing to see. We have been working hard on our times tables and the progress everyone has made is amazing. Keep up the great work Osprey class!

Shout outs - Owl

Harrison - You have worked incredibly hard to improve your times tables rockstar speed! You now have an average score of 25/25! This is absolutely incredible!

- A huge thank you for all the reading you do at home. You have read so many times at home, you are now onto your second reading record, what a fantastic achievement!

Year 5

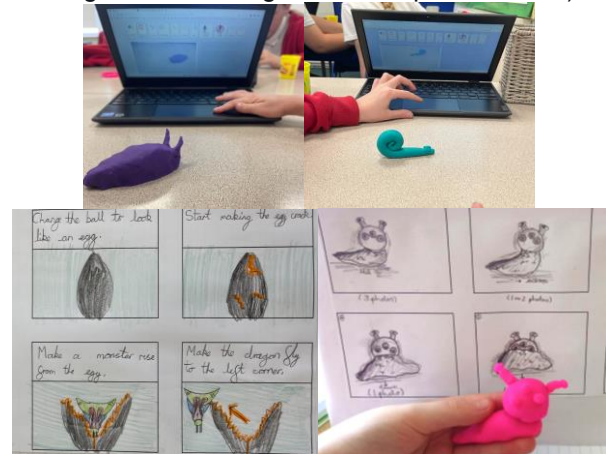
Maths - Shape

We have been learning to classify, estimate and measure angles accurately with a protractor in our maths lessons. By classifying an angle as acute or obtuse, we then use the correct scale to measure the angle to the nearest degree - with extreme accuracy!



Computing - Stop Motion Animations

Over the last two weeks, Year 5 have become stop motion animators. By watching some extremely popular animations like Wallace and Gromit, we were able to plan, create and edit our very own stop motion animations. We had to think extremely carefully about the number of frames we used and the positioning of our characters (by using onion skinning tools to help us with this).



Computing and Science- Robotics Workshop

Year 5 were extremely lucky this week and have had the opportunity to participate in a robotics workshop. While learning about how important engineering is to the world around us, we were given the opportunity to construct our very own robots. We thought carefully about our knowledge of space and we consequently designed our robot by considering data collection on Mars.



Shout outs - Falcon

A massive well done to Dillon! You have blown me away over the last two weeks with your determination and attitude towards our computing work. The animations that you produced were incredible and you really thought carefully about the positioning of your frames. Well done!

A huge shout out to Elsie! It has been fantastic to see your confidence blossoming in maths over the last two weeks. You are always willing to share ideas and give things a go and you bring a focused attitude to every lesson! Keep shining, Elsie!

Shout outs - Kite

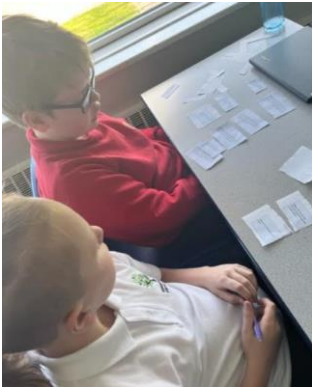
A massive well done to our Librarian Team: Alanna, Chloe, Elizabeth, Jules and Luca, for organising and labelling hundreds of new book arrivals and donations for KS1 and KS2 libraries! We can't wait to read them...



Year 6

PSHE: Gangs

What do you think of when you hear the word 'gang'? What would make someone want to join one? Financial gain? Peer-pressure? To fit in? Year 6 have been exploring different scenarios around gang culture and the reasons they exist. It has really made us think and ponder the impact of peer pressure on young people.



York Knights & York Mind

Our first session with York Knights was a real hit last week. We played a variety of games, which involved decision-making and teamwork. We also considered our emotions at different points: how does it feel when you win? What about when someone cheats? We already can't wait for our next session!



Robotics Workshop



Year 6 were fortunate to have a visit from York University engineers. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about engineering, how essential it is in the world around us and which careers it can lead into. After exploring Mars rovers, we put our knowledge of computing and science to the test by building and controlling our own robots, considering how its robotic arm can support scientists to collect data on Mars.

Shout outs - Eagles

Ruban - for your home reading and enthusiasm to learn. It has been great to see you giving it your all in lessons and striving for greatness. Thank you for continuing this at home where you are regularly reading and bringing in your reading record- keep it up! ☆

Shout outs - Hawks

Milly - you are continuing to work exceptionally hard during maths lessons and, due to this, your scores are improving dramatically! It is wonderful to see you applying your knowledge of arithmetic to solve reasoning problems and you should be really proud of your determination.

Diary Dates

Mon 1 st May	Bank Holiday
Thurs 4 th May	School Closed for Polling Station – Open to year 6 only
Friday 5 th May	Coronation celebrations within school
Mon 8 th May	Bank Holiday
Tues 9 th -Friday 12 th May	Year 6 SATs
Mon 29 th May to Fri 2 nd June	Half Term
Wed 21 st June	KS1 & EYFS Sports day (weather permitting)
Thurs 22 nd June	KS2 Sports Day (weather permitting)
Weds 28 th June	Sports Day backup
Thurs 29 th June	Sports Day backup
Fri 30 th June	Reports out
Wed 5 th July	Transition Day Parent's open evening
Thurs 20 th July	Summer Fair 3.30pm – 5pm
Tues 25 th July	Last day of term
Fri 1 st Sep	Teacher Training Day
Mon 4 th Sep	Teacher Training Day
Tue 5 th Sep	Children 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) **£8.20/session £7.18/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.southbank.academy) 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 the following website – where you can access the latest copy of the Digital Parenting magazine and many other additional resources regarding internet safety:

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting>

For further information and support, please do not hesitate to contact our school office.



Dear parents/carers,

We are holding two large festivals in July this year for pupils across the Trust - one '**South Bank Trust Sports Fest**' at the University of York athletics stadium on 3rd July, and the other '**South Bank Trust Festival of the Arts**' at York Barbican on 13th July. The festivals are designed to celebrate the achievements of pupils across our six schools and parents and carers will be invited to attend. We will also be fundraising for staff-nominated charities through ticket sales, stalls and additional promotion. Further information will be shared in the coming weeks.

For both events we are looking for **sponsorship** to help cover costs, as well as a **videographer** and/or **photographer**. Please follow the link below and complete the survey if you feel you may be able to support in either of these respects.

[Parent/carer festival support survey](#)

Many thanks for your continued support,

Jen Mitchell

Director of Personal Development

South Bank Academy Trust

01904 806460

**The best view comes after the
hardest climb...**



West Thorpe Scout Group are currently recruiting young people and adult volunteers to join all four of our groups at West Thorpe Scouts:
Squirrel Scouts for 4-6s,
Beaver Scouts for 6-8s,
Cub Scouts from 8-10.5s
Scouts for 10.5-14s.

Sometimes, life can be hard. But Scouts is about building those 'Skills For Life' to help conquer those challenges.

It's not always easy, but it's always great fun! Join the journey with us, explore the great outdoors and make amazing friends that will stick with you for life! For more information, get in touch with Tom on join@wtscouts.co.uk

Scouts
West Thorpe Methodist

Contact Tom: gsl@wtscouts.co.uk

York Mind have got a great opportunity for schools in York! It is for young males and young people representing as male.

York Mind have funding to run six weeks projects within school. At first it was for young males attending offsite and out of school hours but we did not receive many referrals, thus we had to change tack. This funding has come from a Tadcaster based family whose son died by suicide in December 2020. You can read about this here in this link: <https://www.yorkmind.org.uk/events/the-bruce-projects/>

Although the projects have come about by an extremely sad situation, we believe that a positive can come from the situation. We have created an Active minds provision for your school which entails, one hour of movement and half an hour of chat with York City Knights. The chat will be a place for the young males to have an opportunity to talk about their thoughts/feelings/hopes/futures amongst peers. Yes, we will talk about suicide, as that is the subject matter and why this project exists, however this will be done in a sensitive and delicate manner. But I must reiterate that talking about the subject matter doesn't encourage or lead someone to take action; rather, it reduces the risk.

Please see the link below for more information about our projects.

<https://www.yorkmind.org.uk/events/active-minds/>

This project is created with and for young men, in response to the knowledge that generally young men stop talking around age 11. We want to change that!

Following on from these sessions we would like to invite these young people to another provision we will be running in the summer term. It is football at York City ground on 6th June at 4pm till 5:30. If a young person is interested in this extra provision a referral will need to be completed on the link above, we have limited places.

Brass & Woodwind Lessons

Music in Schools (York) is an organisation that teaches KS2 children to play musical instruments in schools. We are passionate about encouraging children to learn an instrument and have been teaching in Woodthorpe Primary school for over 25 years.



Learning a musical instrument can be a truly enriching experience for children, providing them with a creative outlet and fostering skills such as discipline, perseverance, and teamwork. Research also shows that playing an instrument can have positive effects on academic performance and cognitive development.

We offer lessons on a variety of brass and woodwind instruments including trumpet, cornet, clarinet, flute, and saxophone all taught by Mrs Hanson every Tuesday.

If you are interested in your child learning a brass or woodwind instrument, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. We will be happy to provide you with more information, answer any questions you may have or arrange for your child to try an instrument.

Further information can be found:

www.musicinschoolsyork.org.uk

info@misYork.org.uk

Tel: 01904 215071

