

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 12th May 2023

This newsletter we would like to say a huge 'well-done' to our year 6 pupils. They have been sitting their SATs this week and have done themselves proud. You might have read in the press how tough some of these papers were, the reading paper on Wednesday was a real challenge. Our children have done so well, shown real determination and resilience to tackle the papers and made us all so proud!

Please keep an eye out for club letters over the next week, ready for children to start new clubs after the holidays.

Class attendance this week

Cygnets	96.43%	Goslings	93.30%
Hummingbirds	97.32%	Kingfishers	★★99.14%★★
Finch	93.52%	Robins	97.22%
Magpie	95.42%	Woodpeckers	89.58%
Owl	98.21%	Osprey	98.15%
Kite	98.56%	Falcon	93.98%
Hawk	95.69%	Eagle	94.83%
School weekly average:		95.77%	

Our whole school attendance so far this academic year is: 94.79%

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



Mental Health Week 2023

Mental Health Awareness Week starts on Monday 15th May.

At Woodthorpe, we want to equip our children with a toolkit to help prioritise and look after our mental health and wellbeing. We do so much within school to support our mental health through our curriculum, assemblies, circle times, discussions, doing activities we enjoy, talking about our emotions and much more!

We have attached some resources that you may wish to use to support your child at home:

- You're never too young to talk mental health - [Tips for talking for parents and carers](#)
- Parenting Smart: [mental health advice for parents](#)



Nursery

Caring for our planet

Last week we finished our topic of caring for the world by thinking of different ways we can be responsible for our environment. This led to us saving some of our smallest creatures by making a wormery for the worms we had found at forest school. We also had lots of fun saving our sea creatures by cleaning the beaches up in role-play. Good job Ducklings!



Coronation celebrations!

To celebrate the coronation of King Charles, in nursery we had lots of royal inspired activities. We have loved learning about The Royal Family, dressing up as kings, queens, princesses and princes as well as creating our very own crowns!



Shout out

A huge shout out to Primrose! Primrose, you are a superstar in the nursery. You always come in with a great big smile on your face eager to learn. You are a very kind and caring Duckling and always show others what amazing looks like. Well done Primrose!

Reception

Plants

Reception really enjoyed their most recent science topic 'All About Plants'. We have learnt the different parts of a plant and what they do, what a plant needs to grow, how plants can feed animals and humans and best of all we have been able to take care of our own plants.



A Visit to the Allotment

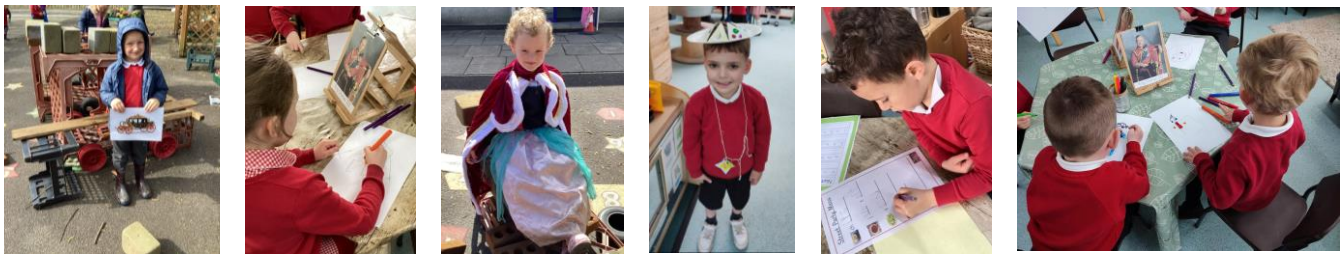
Reception had a great time visiting Mrs Percy in our school allotment. We enjoyed looking in the poly tunnel, where our plants begin their journey as seeds, looking at the strawberry and rhubarb plants, smelling the lavender and hearing all about the other fruits and vegetables that will start to grow as the year goes on.



Kings and Queens

Continuing from the excitement of the coronation of Charles III, in reception we 'Kings and Queens'. We are mainly focusing on King Charles III, Queen Elizabeth II and Queen Victoria. Next week we will be looking at placing them on a timeline.

The children have drawn portraits of different monarchs, made crowns, built thrones, written menus and role-played a coronation street party, built royal carriages and more. We are very excited to continue next week and learn even more about the royal family.



Shout outs - Cygnets

Ryan - For his fantastic effort in writing, you are working so hard on your letter formation and this is really paying off. We are so proud of your hard work - well done Ryan!

Adaline - For your hard work and effort with your reading. You always try your very best and your blending skills are really coming along. It has been a delight to watch your confidence in reading grow - what a superstar!

Shout outs - Goslings

Jacob B - For showing real effort in your writing. The progress you have made recently is amazing. We are really impressed how you now use the sound mat independently when writing. Your letter formation has improved. Keep up the good work!

Lua - For always trying your hardest in all you do. You are always enthusiastic about our current learning and ready to contribute to the class discussions. Thank you for being amazing!

Year 1

Kingfisher- Forest fun!

What a fabulous way start to our week! In forest school this week, Kingfishers listened to the story 'tree'. They learnt all about the different seasons and the changes that take place within them. The children then learnt about some important fire safety rules before enjoying some campfire songs and roasting a marshmallow! To top off our wonderful session, we completed some team building activities and even got the chance to climb trees!



Hummingbirds - Forest fun!

In forest school this week, we collected natural resources and sorted them into the seasons 'spring, summer, autumn and winter'. We then worked super well as a team and went off to collect natural resources such as logs, branches and sticks. We then placed them over our river and tested if they were safe enough to cross. It was so lovely listening to the children use words of encouragement to one another and watching them use their team building skills!



Year 1- Wind vane

As part of our science topic 'Changing seasons', year 1 were challenged to create their very own wind vane! We attached tissue paper to rolled up card so we could see which way the wind was blowing! They then tested them outside and incorporated their geography knowledge of the compass points to know which direction the wind was going in.



Shout outs - Kingfisher

Henry- For your fantastic team building in the forest! You were able to work well with your peers to build a bridge.

Nancy- For your incredible counting in 5's! You blew me away when you told me you counted to 1000 on the way to school.

Shout outs - Hummingbird

Scott - For your enthusiasm and determination in phonics! You consistently try super hard and we are so proud of you!

Arthur - For your positive attitude in maths! Even when you are unsure you still give things a go! Well done!

Year 2

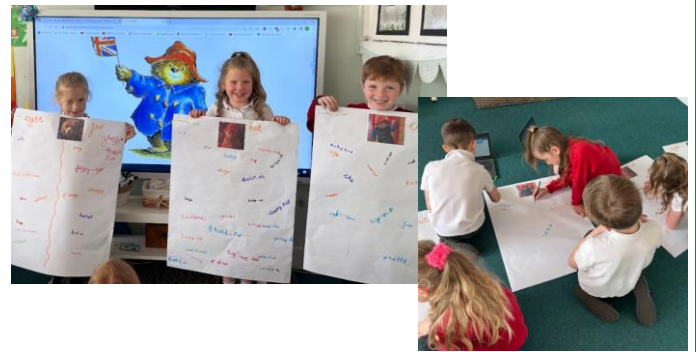
Cricket

We have been super impressed with how well the children are developing their hitting, catching and throwing skills in PE. We have loved practising our under arm throws before using them in different team games.



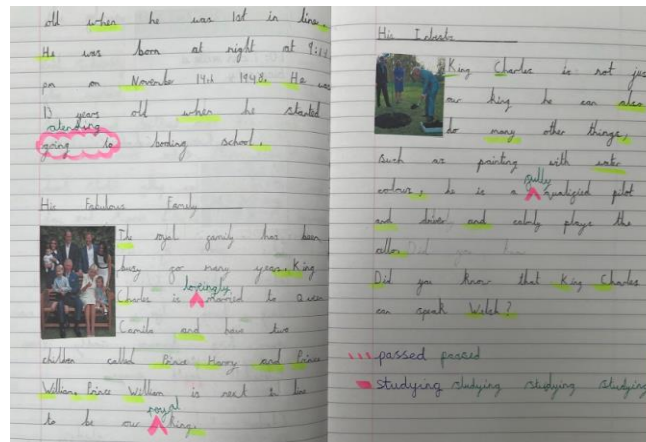
English

This week in our English writing, we have been looking at how to write a character description. We have chosen the nation's well-loved character, Paddington Bear, to focus our character description on. Our planning session involved us looking at Paddington's main features and finding some outstanding adjectives to describe them!



Coronation Fun

Year 2 had so much fun last week writing our very own biographies all about King Charles and his royal life! After planning and researching facts about his early life, his interests and we even found some unique interesting facts, which made for some wonderful biographies. To carry on the coronation fun, we enjoyed a royal family scavenger hunt, where we had to find and name 17 members of the royal family and did an online school quiz! Amazingly, Finch class came 2nd in both - we were super proud of their amazing achievement.



Shout outs - Finch

Joel and Samuel - A huge shout out to you both for your incredible knowledge and enthusiasm during all our work on King Charles and the coronation! I was so impressed with you both.

Leni - for your continuous determination and hard work! In every lesson, you challenge yourself and should be proud of your achievements. We're so lucky to have you in Finch class Leni, keep shining!

Shout outs - Robin

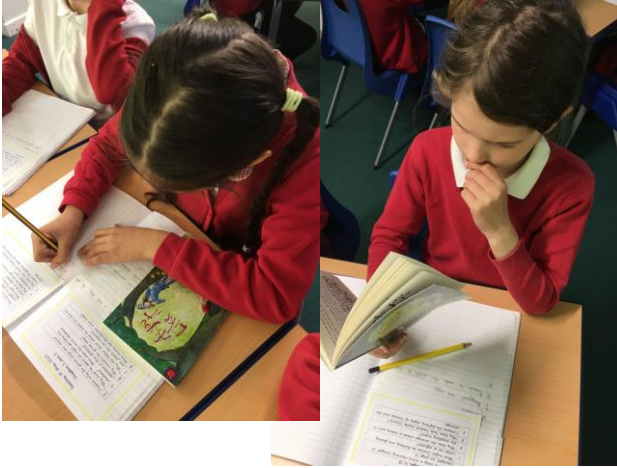
Rory - For inspiring the rest of Robins with all your home reading. You have already reached gold on our reading chart, which is a fantastic achievement! Keep it up Rory!

Harley - I have been so proud of your enthusiastic and positive approach you have got to school life! You are a fantastic asset to Robin class Harley keep on being you!

Year 3

Shakespeare- 'As you like it'

In guided reading, we have started to look at the Shakespearian text 'As you like it'. We have had a big focus on vocabulary this week, and dived deeper into the meaning of the various words.



Super Subtracting

This week in maths, we have been continuing our money work - subtracting amounts and finding change. Great work Year 3, we have been so impressed at your confidence when calculating decimal numbers!



History- Mummification

A very messy mummification! In History, we used tomatoes, salt, and baking powder to learn the process of mummification and how the Egyptians used the water from the River Nile, spices and salt to preserve their bodies ready for the afterlife.



Shout Outs - Woodpecker

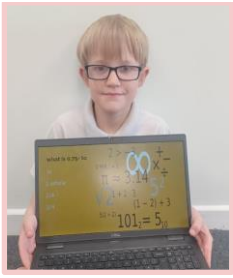
Darcie - for working super hard on your story about an incredible singing girl. You included some brilliant features and we loved reading it! Keep up the hard work.

Freya - well done Freya for working so hard in maths this week and for always being a super role model to the rest of the class!

Shout Outs - Magpie

Emma- For your wonderful work in Maths this week. You have taken money in your stride and have answered some challenging questions. Well done.

Natalie- for your incredible piece of independent writing last week. Well done.

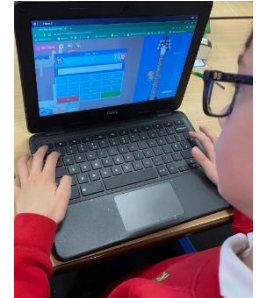


Owl -Quiz Masters

Owl class have turned into spectacular quiz show hosts! Members of Owl class have been inspired to create their very own quizzes based on famous television programmes. They have applied their knowledge of google slides from our computing lessons to create some incredible presentations. We have especially loved the use of Photoshop! We have had so much fun answering challenging questions to score points.

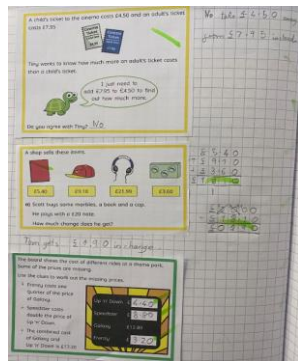
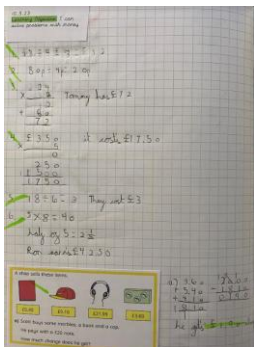
Osprey - Times Tables Champions

As our Year 4 multiplication checks draws closer, Osprey class have been working on their times tables skills! We have been practicing our times tables every day, and we are all making progress. We have also been taking part in a competition with Owl class and Year 3, in which we have won 3 weeks in a row!



Osprey - Money in Maths

This week, we have been calculating and solving problems with money! We have been looking at word problems and identifying what the question is asking us before using our key skills to answer the question. We have also been working on our presentation skills, ensuring our workings out are set out neatly, as this helps us to not make mistakes.



Owl - Writing Heroes

This week, we made the finishing touches to our 'Great Chocoplot' narratives. As part of our daily story time, we decided to read snippets of our narratives to the class. This allowed us to trial reading with prosody to engage the listener. It was so wonderful to hear our narratives come to life with the use of different character voices! We also experimented with the volume of our voices to add suspense.



Shout outs - Owl



Congratulations to our Year 3 and 4 reading competition winners! Thank you to everyone who took part!

Shout outs - Osprey

Erica - A HUGE well done to Erica for her hard work and determination to improve her TTR scores! You have been practicing so much, and it is really paying off! Keep up the great work!

Karla - A MASSIVE well done to Karla for her amazing independent writing! Your story was filled with ambitious vocabulary and it was a pleasure to read! Keep up the great work!

Year 5

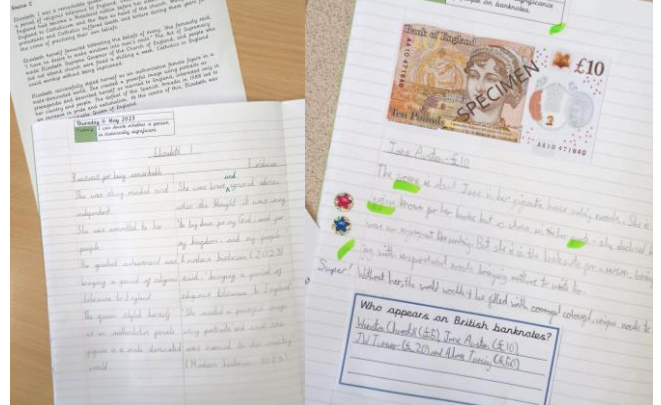
Coronation Celebration: Winners!

Big cheers were heard from Year 5 as we became podium winners of the whole-school Coronation Quiz (Falcons 1st, Kites 3rd)! Also, we loved learning about the significance of the monarchs on coins from the Head of Governors, Mrs Parker - thank you!



History: Bank Note Significance

In History this week, Year 5 have been learning about the significance of different historical figures. First, we examined British bank notes and discussed the features of the notes. Next, we analysed the impact that the historical people, such as Winston Churchill, Jane Austen and Alan Turing (who feature on these notes) had on our lives.



PE: Rounders

In PE this half term, Year 5 have been developing our rounders skills. We initially focused on developing our ability to judge how far we could run based on the distances of our hit. After this, we began to consider successful fielding techniques in order to get batters out, by throwing with power and accuracy over short distances to get batters out.



Shout outs - Falcon

A huge shout out to **Ryley**! You have blown me away with your knowledge of shape in Maths this week. I have been so proud of your accuracy when counting edges, vertices, and faces on 3D shapes. Well done!

A massive well done to **Megan**! You have demonstrated fantastic knowledge and understanding during our history lessons and your recall of previous topics has been phenomenal. Thank you for being such a star!

Shout outs - Kite

A big shout out to **Elizabeth**, who has wowed me with her history knowledge and facts as we started our new topic this half term. You have been analysing, investigating, and thinking outside the box - well done!

A huge well done to **Riley** this week! I always enjoy your enthusiasm and purposeful contributions to lessons and this week was no different - thank you for all your hard work and determination this term.

Year 6

Our year 6 children have been incredibly focused over the last few months, sharpening their SPAG knowledge, consolidating their comprehension and mastering their mathematics in the lead up to SATs 2023!

This week the children have demonstrated the most wonderful levels of dedication and resilience: approaching each test with a sense of calm, collected, and quiet confidence. We have been so proud of their learning journey and know that each and every member of year 6 has done their best – what more could we ask for?

We look forward to making some lovely memories in the final few weeks with the children before they leave Woodthorpe – thank you year 6 and enjoy your well-deserved weekend!



Diary Dates

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.



**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



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

