

# Woodthorpe Primary School

Headteacher: Mr James McGann  
Chair of Governors: Mrs Amanda Atkins

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

Friday 14th January 2022

Welcome back to everyone for the start of the spring term. I am pleased to announce that overall rates of Covid cases within school have fallen in January compared to December. However, we have had a number of staff members off school who have tested positive and so have been shuffling staff around to cover classes. The most affected area of school is currently Ducklings Nursery, here we have two staff members who have been isolating as well as a number of children. Thank you again to everyone for being so supportive and ensuring that any children with possible Covid symptoms are kept off school as a precaution.

Every term our four school teams do battle for housepoints - last term, our Champion Chestnuts were victorious in our house competition, clinching the lead by earning 2519 house points! As a reward the house have voted and are going to enjoy an extra playtime next Friday – well done team Chestnuts!

## **E-Safety**

The new term marks the start of our whole school focus around E-Safety through both our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and computing curriculums. Recent figures suggest that 1 in 5 internet users are children who, once logged onto the internet, are faced with a wealth of global information and services. Within school we dedicate a great deal of time supporting children to make positive online decisions, committed to keeping children safe and providing solutions and advice in uncomfortable online situations.

To help parents reinforce key messages at home, we would like to take the opportunity to highlight the NSPCC website (<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>) which contains practical, user-friendly advice to help support families. One particular feature that we would like to remind families about is parental controls which can help to limit what children see online:

### **What are parental controls?**

Parental controls allow you to block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content. They work across your WiFi, phone network, individual apps and devices.

Parental controls can help you to:

- plan what time of day your child can go online and how long for
- create content filters to block apps that may have inappropriate content
- manage the content different family members can see.

To find out how parental controls work in your home (including wifi, tablets, phones, computers, apps, game consoles), please click the link below that contains simple, easy to follow guides:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

If you have any questions regarding e-safety, please do not hesitate to get in touch with school – we are always happy to help and support in any way that we can.



## Nursery

### Magical new beginnings...

What a wonderful couple of weeks we have had back at Nursery! We are all so happy to be back together and we feel so lucky to be welcoming lots of new friends into our Class Family. We have spent our first moments together settling in, making friends and exploring our environment.



### Winter Wonder

We have enjoyed learning all about Winter and have been investigating ice in our water trays. The children have been inspired by nature and have loved exploring how the ice got there and how it could be melted. There have also been lots of lovely discussions about all of the animals that live in the cold.

"Penguins live in Antarctica!" Tyler told his friends excitedly.



### Shout outs - Ducklings

We are super proud of all the Ducklings! The children who have just started with us have been absolutely amazing and we have been blown away by their resilience, confidence and wonderful little personalities. Likewise, our children who have returned to Nursery have been so lovely and helpful in settling their new peers. They have been fantastic friends and incredible role models and we are so proud of them all.

Well done Nursery!

## Reception

### Traditional Tales

Reception have loved learning all about lots of different traditional tales. We have enjoyed going on a traditional tale word hunt outside, making and decorating our own gingerbread people using special gingerbread scented playdough and building houses for the three little pigs.



### Cleaning Up

This week, we have been working on our gross motor skills and building our muscle strength by scrubbing, brushing and cleaning our outdoor area walls and floor. We have loved making everything sparkly clean!



### Our New Reading Area!

We love our new reading areas in Reception, they are perfect to enjoy plenty of books! We can enjoy sitting in our very comfy new armchairs, pick books from our lovely display cabinets (wooden crates) and snuggle up with a cosy blanket. Our reading areas are complete with a few home comforts including carpets, twinkly lights, plants and even wallpaper, it is very relaxing!



### Shout outs - Cygnets

Archie - For your amazing effort in all areas of your learning, you always strive to do your best and show perseverance and determination with new challenges. Well done for being such a star Archie!

Eva - For working so hard on your writing! You have been so keen to practise your letters recently and your hard work is paying off, we are so proud of you! Fantastic work Eva!

### Shout outs - Goslings

Harry - For your amazing attitude in everything you do. We are really proud of your phonics each day. You are amazing at taking part in each session and always give your very best. Well done!

Charlotte - For your fantastic behaviour and attitude. You are a role model in Goslings! You are always such a super listener, try your very best and are fab at tidying up too. Great job Charlotte!

## Year 1

### Kingfisher- Construction area

In our construction area we have been busy building dens with our new equipment. We have enjoyed using our fine motor skills to connect the rods together. We have had such fun making different creations!



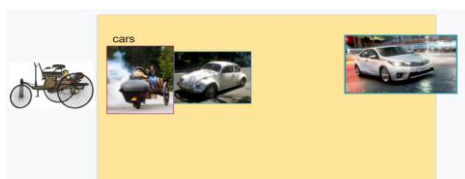
### Hummingbird - The British Royal family

As part of our History and English topic, we are learning all about the British Royal family. Our areas of provision have also had a royal transformation! Hummingbird class have had lots of fun building royal castles, dressing in regal clothing and sketching royal artefacts.



### Kingfishers- Computing

This term we have started computing. The children have loved getting to grips with using a chromebook. During our session they were able to resize images, use the spacebar, backspace, enter, shift and use the keyboard to type. We really enjoyed ourselves, have a look at our presentations below!



### Hummingbird - PE - Send and Receive



In Hummingbird class, we have started a brand new PE topic in which we are learning to send and receive a ball. We had lots of fun in our first session trying to block a ball from going through a goal. We had lots of cheering as children scored points every time they scored a goal. It was lovely to see the children demonstrating great team work.

### Shout Outs Kingfisher

Sophie- For your amazing independent writing in English, you took such care in your presentation and made sure that you included everything we asked for. Well done you!

Connor- For becoming more independent in phonics, you now work on the carpet without any help and you are contributing in lessons with prompting! It has been amazing to watch your progress over the last term!

### Shout Outs Hummingbird

I was so impressed with Dylan, Matilda and Lexie for their incredible Sonic drawings in our creation station! Take a look at their incredible masterpieces.



## Year 2

### Year 2- The Architects

Our writing this week is based on the story The Building Boy so year 2 have had a great time taking on the role of an architect. We were challenged to design and make a building made from marshmallows and spaghetti, which was both structurally strong and of an interesting design.



### Geography- Atlas Work

Year 2 have really enjoyed developing our Atlas reading skills. We were challenged to find our continent, county and city in a world atlas; using the index definitely helped!



### Gymnastics

We have made a great start to our gymnastics topic this week by sequencing together different shapes with our bodies. We thought about high, middle and low level shapes and put them together with our partner. It was tricky trying to stay in time with our partner but we made sure that counting in our head would keep us in sync!



### Shout outs - Finch

**Arya** - you have been amazing this week! I have been really impressed with your independence and have loved seeing how proud you have been after finishing your work! Keep this up.

**Stanley F** - for having some amazing ideas in English, the vocabulary you have been sharing has been incredible! Also your behaviour in class has been wonderful. Well done!

### Shout outs - Robin

**Kyle**- You have been working so incredibly hard this week! Your Maths and Geography work have really stood out and I am very proud of you- keep it up!

**Natalie**- Thank you for always working so hard, it is definitely paying off as you are now moving onto yellow challenges in maths and have gone up a book band too- well done!

## Year 3

### Guided Reading - The Enchanted Wood Drama

It's a new term so that calls for a new guided reading book! We had lots of fun reading the book *The Enchanted Wood* by Enid Blyton. We read chapter one this week and we loved acting out the scene about the children being greeted by the sleepy porter and had a class discussion about how the children would have felt if they had had to walk the five miles to their new home in the country.



### English - Creating our own stars

To kick off our most recent English topic: 'Star in the Jar' we were able to design and name our very own star within our first experience day. We are excited to continue to write our own story based on the book in the next few weeks.



### History - Timeline

We started our History topic on the Romans by seeing where it fitted in wider history. We looked at other significant historical events and created our own class timelines.



### Shout outs - Magpie

**Buddy-** For your fantastic start to the Magpie class. Buddy you have settled in perfectly and your work this week has made the whole class very proud. Well done.

**Tilly-** I am so proud of you Tilly for your Maths this week. You have tackled some challenging maths with real determination and pride. Keep up this hard work Tilly.

### Shout outs - Woodpeckers

**Jayden** - I have been so proud of your reading Jayden and the expression you use to make the story come alive. It is always a pleasure to listen to you read.

**Amelia L** - I just want to say a big thank you for all your hard work since starting Woodthorpe. You have settled in amazingly and we are so pleased that you are part of Woodpecker class.

## Year 4

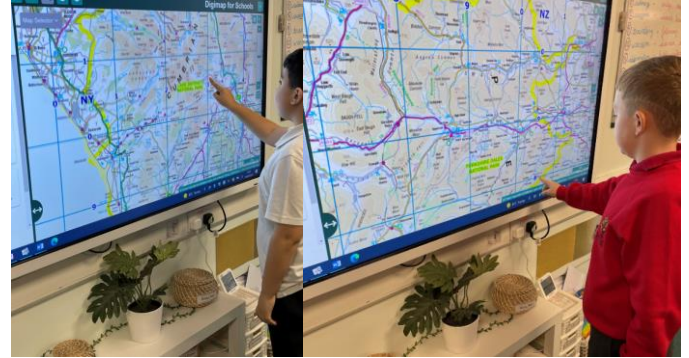
### Guided Reading- Paired Improvisation

In guided reading this week, Owls class took part in a drama paired improvisation. We were challenged to work in our pairs to create a piece of improvisation based on what the story could be that Grandpa Joe tells Charlie about Willy Wonka and the rich prince. We loved performing our short scenes to the rest of the class and we had some fantastic, creative ideas.



### Geography- Grid References

In geography this week, we put our fieldwork and map reading skills to the test. We were exploring physical features of the UK that were relevant to the Vikings' invasion of the UK and then using digimaps to locate the four figure grid references of these rivers, mountains, oceans and national parks. We loved competing against each other to find the grid references and are proud of how confident we are becoming with this skill.



### PE- Netball

Over the last two weeks, we have been developing our netball skills. We have been challenging ourselves by making sure that we are not moving whilst we have hold of the ball. We have also been working on our shooting and catching skills to ensure that we are obtaining the ball in a way that ensures that we can keep hold of it and to make sure we are being accurate with our throws. We loved applying our skills to game based scenarios and we cannot wait to develop these skills even further over the rest of the half term.



### Shout outs - Owl

A huge shout out to Verity! Thank you for putting so much effort into everything that you do! You are a fantastic role model to everyone at school and we are so proud of your exceptional behaviour and beautiful presentation that is always fantastic! Well done!

A massive well done to Gianluca! We have been blown away by the effort that you have been putting into our maths lessons since coming back to school after the holidays. You are constantly challenging yourself in order to deepen your understanding of the mathematical concepts and we are incredibly proud of you!

### Shout outs - Osprey

A huge well done to Luca! We have been so impressed with all your hard work and effort that you are putting into your learning! You have already achieved gold on the reading chart and your presentation in your books is exceptional! Your writing has been especially fantastic this week with great ideas! Well done Luca!

A big congratulations to Lucie! You have worked so hard to do your very best in all your learning and your fantastic listening and behaviour is showing in the brilliant progress you are already making this term! Your brilliant ideas in your writing are super and your resilience during maths is admirable! Keep it up Lucie and well done!

## Year 5

### Netball skills

Year 5 loved our introduction to netball. We began by practising our passes and then put our skills to the test with some mini matches.



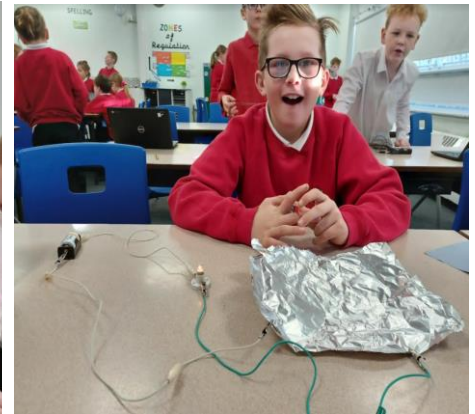
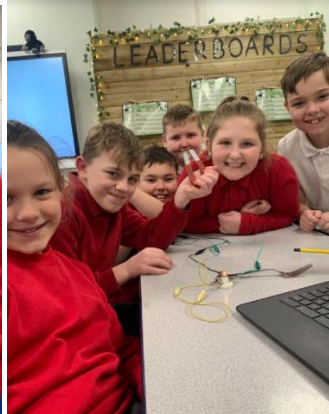
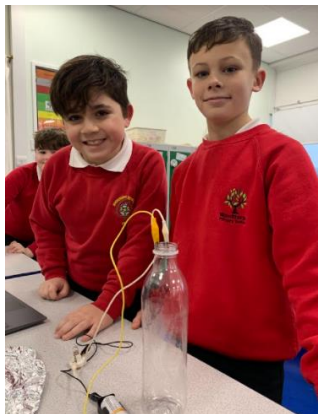
### Star readers

In Year 5 we already have a few children who have made it to gold on our whole class reading challenge! We are so inspired by your determination



### Year 5 are scientists!

This week Year 5 have begun their new science topic 'properties and changes to materials' and have been conducting a series of experiments to discover more about different materials. We tested everyday materials and sorted and grouped them based on their similarities, such as conductivity and whether they were magnetic.



### Shout outs - Kites

Harvey- for your fantastic positive mindset. You have shown such determination and resilience this week and have been an inspiration to us all. Thank you for just being you Harvey!

### Shout outs - Falcons

Layla - I have been really impressed with your attitude and determination to push yourself to achieve your best. Keep up the hard work Layla and be the superstar that you are!

## Year 6

### Human-sized Historical Timeline

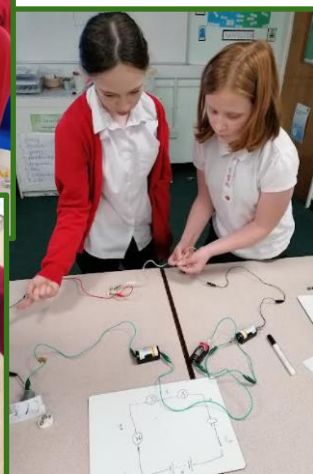
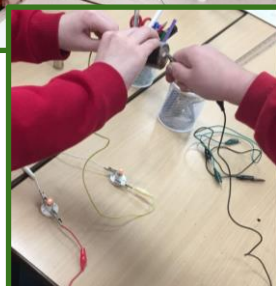
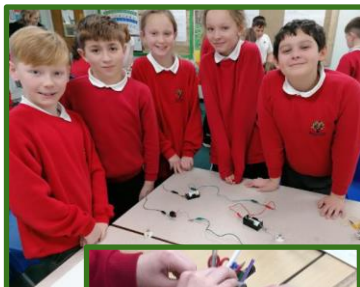
To begin our new History topic around Winston Churchill and WW2, we created a timeline on the playground.

This focused on making links between WWII and previous wars in historical periods we have learnt about through school.



### Electricity

In science, we have really enjoyed creating simple and parallel circuits. We have been looking at the different symbols scientists use to represent components in a circuit.



### Jumping for joy!

Harrier have been super gymnasts! They thoroughly enjoyed practising their jumping skills and learnt how to jump onto table tops, using their hands to steady themselves and landing on their knees, feet and in the straddle position. We definitely have some future Olympians in Harrier!



### Shout outs - Eagles

Lacey - I have been so impressed with your English work this week, you have listened carefully to the input and have created some brilliant work. Well done, keep it up!

### Shout outs - Hawk

Lacey J - you have been working really hard and I am especially proud of you for your attitude towards reading. You are a true role model, well done Lacey!

### Shout outs - Harrier

Arthur - I was really impressed with your poem which you wrote linked to hopes and dreams. Your rhyming was great and I loved how you cleverly discussed the topical issues such as global warming and racism. Well done!

### Diary Dates

Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> to Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half term
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Teacher Training Day
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Robinwood Residential
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Half Term

### PE Kit expectations

Sport is a core value at Woodthorpe and our PE lessons are a really important part of our curriculum. Please make sure your child is ready to join in, by ensuring they have the correct PE kit with them. Our PE kit consists of the following items:

- Plain, white t-shirt
- Black shorts or leggings
- Trainers or plimsolls
- Dark coloured jumper and jogging bottoms

For safety reasons, hair must be tied back and all jewellery removed. Your child will be asked to wear spare kit if theirs isn't in line with our school expectations.

Pictured are examples of our kits for warmer and cooler weather throughout the year.

If you have any questions about PE kit, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of our school office.



### 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/session £3/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/session £7/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

([woodthorpe.primary@york.gov.uk](mailto:woodthorpe.primary@york.gov.uk)) or call her 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**

Now, more than ever, safety around children accessing digital and remote learning online is of the upmost importance.

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.

