

# 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 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

There have been so many highlights over the past few weeks, throughout the newsletter you will see some of the amazing things that the children have been doing. The school band performance to the whole school has been a real highlight. The band played with such confidence and had everyone clapping along. We have also have many of our art and DT units over the past few weeks, which have really highlighted some of the children's hidden talents.

Thank you to those children who took part in our poetry competition, we wanted to share this poem with you as we start to think about summer, well done to our winner Carys in year 1. This amazing haiku follows the pattern of 5/7/5/ syllables.

Sunshine on my face.  
Eating ice cream is so good.  
Swimming in the sea.

We know how financially daunting holidays can sometimes be for families, so please click the link [here](#) for local ideas, tips and suggestions (many of which are free for those in receipt of Free School Meals).

## Class attendance this week

Cygnets	93.93%	Goslings	95.00%
Hummingbirds	97.24%	Kingfishers	95.17%
Finch	97.41%	Robins	95.93%
Magpie	96.00%	Woodpeckers	91.67%
Owl	96.79%	Osprey	★★97.78%★★
Kite	93.60%	Falcon	93.33%
Hawk	93.10%	Eagle	89.67%
<b>School weekly average:</b>		<b>94.72%</b>	

**Our whole school attendance so far this academic year is: 94.65 %**

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 4  
This week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 6  
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



## Review of current PSHE policy

This year we have implemented a PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) Programme across our school called Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE.

Following the Department for Education RSHE Guidance, 'All schools must have an up-to-date policy, which is made available to parents and others'. Therefore, as part of our annual review we will consult with our school community including parents/carers, staff and governors on our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RSE (Relationships, Sex and Health) Policy.

Please find our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RSE (Relationships, Sex and Health) Policy for Woodthorpe Primary School on our school website. This can be found under the section 'Policies > PSHE & RSE Policy > PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RSE (Relationships, Sex and Health) Policy'.

Should you wish to share any feedback or discuss anything further about this policy please contact the school via our school email - [admin@woodthorpe.southbank.academy](mailto:admin@woodthorpe.southbank.academy) or school number 01904 806464 for the attention of Mr McGann or Miss Britland. Please ensure that any feedback is shared with school before 21.4.23.

In addition to this, Jigsaw has provided some helpful information to tell parents and carers even more about the programme. The documents can be found on our website under the section 'Curriculum > Personal, Social & Health Education' titled 'Jigsaw information leaflet for parents and carers', 'RSHE a guide for parents and carers', 'Jigsaw content overview', 'How does jigsaw 3-11 meet the personal social and emotional development in early years?' and 'Jigsaw 3-11 and RSHE overview map'.

## Nursery

### Marvellous marks

Last week in Ducklings we loved transforming ourselves into little artists as we explored different variations of mark marking. Taking inspiration from the artist Williëm De Kooning, we used our gross and fine motor skills to explore the different marks we could make using a range of different materials such as paint, flour, shaving foam, rain, water, chalk.



### Happy Easter

This week we have been learning about different traditions associated with Easter by making our very own Easter eggs. We have been using our pattern knowledge from maths to replicate different patterns onto our very own eggs. Then, outside we all had lots of fun role playing as the Easter Bunny by hiding our eggs for our friends to find!

In addition to learning all about Easter eggs, we have also been learning how important Easter is to Christians. We have read the Easter story and talked about the special days during Easter.



### Shout out

A huge shout out to Lacie! Everyday you come into the nursery with the biggest smile on your face and you are always considerate of your friends by encouraging them to join in with your games. We are also really proud of your confidence blossoming. You are always first to put your hand up and have a go at answering questions. Well done Lacie!



## Reception

### Observational Drawings and Self-portraits

Reception loved learning all about observational drawing and self-portraits as part of our art curriculum. We explored how to look very closely at objects and spot the details to add into our drawings. We created some fantastic artwork!



### Controlling a Ball

In P.E., Reception have been exploring how to move and control a ball around a space using a baton. It was very tricky at first but the more we practised the better we got - great work Reception!



### Music

This week our music topic has been 'Big Band'. The children have been able to play both tuned and untuned instruments. They have even made their own musical instruments from a variety of resources in the creative area. The children have also been learning about the sections of an orchestra and what types of instruments they include. We have been really impressed with the children's enthusiasm for this topic.



### Shout outs - Cygnets

**Albie** - For being such a kind and polite member of Cygnets class. You always look out for your friends and your manners are exemplary. What an excellent example you set to your peers! We are so proud of you - well done Albie!

**Lyla** - For your amazing work in phonics, we are so proud of how hard you are trying and the progress you have made. As a result, your reading is really coming on and it is so lovely to see you fostering a real love for reading - fantastic work Lyla!

### Shout outs - Goslings

**Lèna** - For always being a positive and friendly member of our class. You are a role model to your friends when it comes to learning and always try your hardest and push yourself. We are really proud to have you in Goslings!

**Joshua** - Joshua you have made such amazing progress in your phonics this term. All your hard work and concentration has really been worthwhile. Well done Joshua, you have done amazingly!

## Year 1

### Art

Year 1 became sculptors for the day! They experimented with different ways of folding paper to make an incredible 3-D sculpture. We then used all of our skills to make a gigantic spider sculpture, inspired by the artist Louise Bourgeois.



### Kingfisher- P.E

This term Kingfishers have worked really hard on their defending skills! They applied this to a game in which they had to stop their opponent from getting the object over the line!



### Hummingbirds - P.E

In our P.E 'send and return' unit, we upped the challenge by scoring points by hitting our opponent with the ball. The children had to be quick on their feet to avoid being the target!



### Shout outs- Kingfishers

**Annabelle-** A huge well done for your incredible attitude towards school lately! You have been a fantastic role model in Kingfisher class. I am so proud of you!

**Amie-** For your fantastic artwork, you did a great job creating a 3D sculpture and even helped other when they were struggling!

### Shout outs - Hummingbirds

**Elijah -**A huge shout out to Elijah for working so hard on your pre-cursive handwriting, I have seen such a huge improvement in the effort you have been putting in to make your work look beautiful.

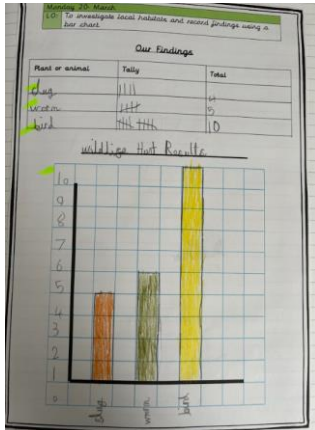
**Ina -** For working super hard during art lessons. Well done for showing determination and resilience when you found things tricky. You kept going and produced beautiful art work.



## Year 2

### Geography

To finish off our 'What makes our world wonderful?' geography unit, we adventured around the school on a nature hunt to see how many different animals we spotted. When we got back to the classroom, we had fun creating our own bar graphs to record our findings.



### Forest School

In our (very wet) forest session this week, we were learning all about minibeasts. We were able to group the different minibeasts depending on how many legs they have. For example if they have eight legs they are put in the arachnid category. We then adventured around the forest to try and find our own minibeasts.



### Ferris Wheel Fun

Last week, Year 2 created their own moving ferris wheels in our DT sessions. Prior to making the wheel, they planned out how they were going to make it, what materials they were going to need and what design they were going to create. There was lots of cooperation and teamwork as they built the sculptures and solved any problems that occurred. We are super proud of the final products.



### Shout outs - Finch

**Scarlett** - It has been wonderful to see your enthusiasm in maths lessons these last few weeks. You have shown real determination when completing some of the trickier questions. Keep up this incredible attitude! 😊

**Oliwier** - A big thank you for being such a kind, caring and thoughtful member of Finch class. You are always thinking about others and making the right choices setting a fabulous example to others. You're a real star!

### Shout outs - Robin

**Oakley** - Robins want to say a very sad goodbye to Oakley this half term as he is starting a new adventure at a new school after the Easter holidays. Thank you for all of your hard work this year Oakley. We will miss your infectious smile, your enthusiasm and your fantastic football skills! Don't forget to come visit us!!

## Year 3

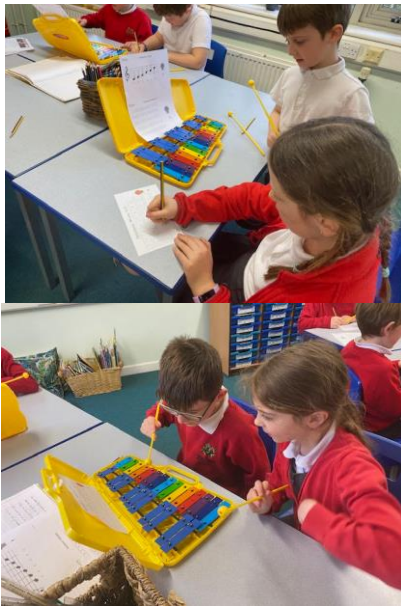
### Art - Abstract Sculptures

In Art this week we have been making sculptures out of cardboard. We had to make our sculptures based on playground equipment and we had to learn to use different joining techniques that didn't use glue and tape.



### Music - Pentatonic Melodies

In Music we have been learning about the pentatonic scale and then creating our own melodies with these notes in. We have used glockenspiels as our instrument.



### Music- Making our own dragon masks

We started our music topic off about Chinese New Year, by making our own dragon masks ready for our final dragon dance performance. We are super excited to put our new pentatonic melodies and dance moves together to create our end of unit showcase.



### Shout outs - Woodpecker

**Immy** - for a constant positive attitude to all that you do. You are a ray of sunshine and it is wonderful to hear you share all your ideas in class with such enthusiasm and confidence!

**Annie** - for doing incredibly in her assessments this week, we are so proud of you and all the hard work you have put in. Well done Annie!

### Shout outs - Magpie

**Theo**- For you incredible attitude towards your writing this week. Theo you always strive to achieve your best and we just love your wonderful writing about Antarctica. Keep up this hard work.

**Jett**- For you wonderful maths results during our assessment week. Jett I was blown away by the amount of progress that you have made this year and can't wait to see you shine in the summer term.



## Year 4

### Year 4 - DT - Slingshot Cars

In Year 4, we were challenged in DT to make our very own slingshot cars! First, we had to build the chassis of the car using lollipop sticks, elastic bands and paper clips. We then had to design the body of the car using a net. We found this part extremely challenging but we all showed great determination and perseverance! The unit involved a lot of teamwork, so we had to work on our communication and decision making skills - but we loved the challenge!



### Owl - York St John University Visit



Owl class had the most incredible trip to York St John University. We started our visit with a tour of the University to learn a more about what life is like as a student. We then headed to the art and drama studios where we performed our own Greek play, using our homemade props and costumes! We have absolutely adored taking part in the project, it has been a magical four weeks.

### Osprey - PSHE - Acrostic Poems

In PSHE, we have been learning all about 'Healthy Me'. In our final lesson, we focused on celebrating our inner strengths and assertiveness. We explored what this meant to us by writing acrostic poems, using keywords from our topic. We really enjoyed writing our own poems and expressing our strengths!

Act with Kindness and go with what is right.  
Sometimes people do something wrong but it doesn't  
mean you need to speak wrongly about it.  
Situations are to be respected and handled with  
Kindness.  
Everyone is to be treated fairly.  
Right is not always the same as Kindness.  
Treat people with Kindness and respect.  
Insert care into every word.  
Very kind is never to much Kindness.  
Every thing is not always right.

### Shout outs - Osprey

**Connor** - A huge well done to Connor for his determination and perseverance! You missed some days at school while poorly, but you have come back and dived straight back in! We are so proud of you!

**Travis** - A massive well done to Travis who has been working more independently in maths! You have been giving all of your work a go, and it is clear that your hard work is paying off! Well done Travis!

### Shout outs - Owl

A huge thank you to these incredible Owl class members who demonstrated exceptional behaviour on our recent school trip. You represented Woodthorpe beautifully! Thank you!



## Year 5

### Geography: Scarborough Trip

Last week, Year 5 went on a school trip to Scarborough.

The purpose of our trip was to gather data on the different types of litter that were found, as well as the quantity of each. We were incredibly shocked to discover that plastic can take at least 400 years to decompose and now want to play our part in keeping our oceans healthy.



### Music: South and West Africa

This week, in Music, Year 5 have been learning how to sing 'a capella', while also constructing a finished piece to the African song, Shosholoz! We thoroughly enjoyed harmonising at different parts of the vocals, playing different chords on the glockenspiel to accompany our piece, as well as incorporating some African dance moves for our final performance. Listen to a sample of our music by scanning the QR code below!



### Art: Drawing

As part of our art topic this half term, we were challenged to create a futuristic piece of artwork using a mixed media approach. We started off our topic by analysing some retrofuturistic pieces of artwork and we then created our very own collagraph printing plates. When we applied ink to these, we were able to create textured backgrounds for our final drawings. We were incredibly proud of our finished pieces!



### Shout outs - Falcons

A massive shout out to Eval! I have been blown away with your understanding of area and perimeter this week! It has been lovely to see your confidence growing when tackling more complex maths questions too. Well done!

A huge well done to Eden! You have written some incredible poetry this week and you have made us all incredibly proud with the literary techniques that you have incorporated into it. Keep shining, Eden!

### Shout outs - Kites

A huge shout out to Layla T for her fabulous cartoon drawings on the theme of space (pictured above centre). We are always blown away by your artwork but this week you really shone when using mixed media and experimenting with a different topic. Well done!

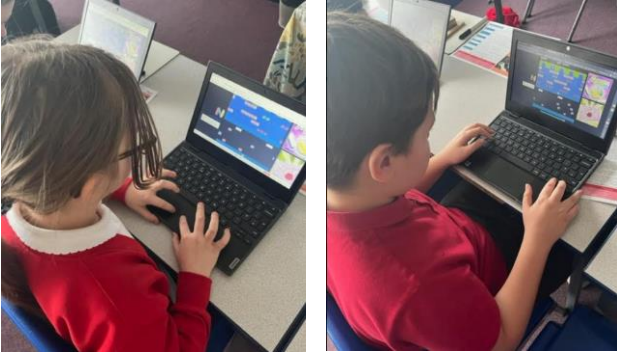
Well done to Ronnie who has shared lots of amazing ideas in PSHE this week and has been thinking carefully about what makes a healthy diet and the advice that he would offer other children. Thank you!



## Year 6

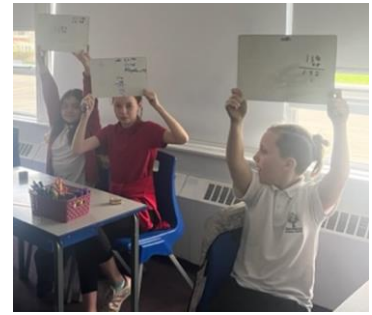
### Frogger: A classic arcade game

As part of our Computing topic, we travelled back to the 80's and played the arcade game 'Frogger'. We compared the graphics, controls and sound effects to the modern computer games we love and enjoy.



### Booster Bananza

Our recent SATs booster clubs have proven popular with our year 6 children: all the staff involved have been so proud of everyone's determination and hard work. It has been wonderful to see children celebrating their phenomenal progress and supporting each other to achieve greatness too.



### Year 6 Band 🎵

What an incredible privilege it was to watch our year 6 band perform in assembly this week: the whole school thoroughly enjoyed clapping and singing along to Ed Sheeran and we loved the 90's classic 'Everybody' by Backstreet Boys. Nancy, Amelia, Imogen and Oliver, you were all stars and we are very proud of you.



### Shout outs - Eagles

**Aaron-** I have been so impressed with your attitude to your learning recently, particularly in Guided Reading, where you are showing a super understanding of what you have read. Not only this, but you are also beginning to share your ideas in whole class discussions and I am very proud of you- keep it up 😊.

### Shout outs - Hawks

**Lexi -** You are such a wonderful member of Hawks class: you are kind, caring and friendly. In maths, you are determined to improve your skills and it is great to see you confidently using written methods to solve arithmetic calculations. Your positive attitude and hard work has not gone unnoticed - we are all really proud of you!

### Diary Dates

Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> April to Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Teacher Training Day
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> May	School Closed for Polling Station – <b>Open to year 6 only</b>
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> -Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> May to Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Half Term
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> July to Thurs 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Summer Holidays
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Sep	Teacher Training Day
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Teacher Training Day
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.







CITY OF  
**YORK**  
COUNCIL



First Step  
Sports Group



**HAPPY EASTER**


**FREE**  
TO KIDS WHO  
RECEIVE  
BENEFITS  
RELATED FREE  
SCHOOL  
MEALS

KEEP YOUR  
**CHILDREN BUSY**  
THIS EASTER WITH OUR


# HAF Sports & Dance

**ACTIVITY CAMPS**

**FREE  
MEAL  
PROVIDED**


 **Ages:** 5-12 years

 **Poppleton Road  
Memorial Hall**  
Oak Street, Holgate,  
York YO26 4SE

 **HAF Holiday Camps**  
9:30am - 1:30pm

 **Easter Holidays:**  
 **Week 1:** 3rd-6th April  
 **Week 2:** 11th-14th April

 **Require Help?**  
Call 01482 218 753

 **Information**

Children will be provided with a free, healthy lunch and will take part in a nutritional workshop

  
**COVID-19  
SAFE**



**BOOK TODAY**

[bit.ly/poppleton-easter-23](https://bit.ly/poppleton-easter-23)

  
Department  
for Education

 **CITY OF  
YORK  
COUNCIL**

This Holiday Club is part of the City of York Council HAF Programme for children and young people in receipt of free school meals.





# Spring Craft Fair

**SATURDAY 25TH MARCH**

**10:00am - 1:00pm**

CAKES - CRAFT STALLS - RAFFLE  
TEA & COFFEE - GIFT IDEAS - CARDS  
KIDS' CRAFTS & MORE!

**ST JAMES THE DEACON CHURCH,  
ACOMB MOOR, YORK. YO24 2SE**



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](http://www.musicinschoolsyork.org.uk)

[info@misYork.org.uk](mailto:info@misYork.org.uk)

Tel: 01904 215071

