

# 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 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

Next week we have our sports days so fingers crossed for the weather. It is currently looking like it will be a little cooler but with a chance of rain so we will all keep our fingers crossed.  
Our year 2 children went on a trip to RHS Harlow Carr in Harrogate this week and had a fantastic time. There are some magical pictures of the children in this newsletter. It was also lovely to receive letters from general public congratulating the children on their behaviour and how, when the children were in the playground, they were helping the younger children and making sure that they were helpful and kind:

*Good Evening,*

*I believe that some of the children from your school were at RHS Harlow Carr on Wednesday of this week.*

*I was also visiting with my 3 year old grandson and wanted to let you know how polite and well behaved the children were. A number of the children reassured my grandson when he was a bit wary in the play area but in particular one little boy called Freddie was really helpful and kind with him.*

*I thought the children were a credit to your school and teachers.*

*Kind regards, Julie*

We are currently looking to expand our volunteers within school to help with trips and special events. If you think you, or a member of your family may be interested, please register your interest with the school office – thank you.

## Class attendance this half term

<b>Cygnets</b>	<b>93.75%</b>	<b>Goslings</b>	<b>92.86%</b>
<b>Hummingbirds</b>	<b>96.09%</b>	<b>Kingfishers</b>	<b>92.24%</b>
<b>Finch</b>	<b>94.07%</b>	<b>Robins</b>	<b>92.78%</b>
<b>Magpie</b>	<b>96.00%</b>	<b>Woodpeckers</b>	<b>90.33%</b>
<b>Owl</b>	<b>96.11%</b>	<b>Osprey</b>	<b>★★97.31%★★</b>
<b>Kite</b>	<b>90.58%</b>	<b>Falcon</b>	<b>90.10%</b>
<b>Hawk</b>	<b>96.00%</b>	<b>Eagle</b>	<b>89.83%</b>
<b>School weekly average:</b>		<b>91.91%</b>	

**Our whole school attendance so far this academic year is: 94.58%**

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 6  
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



## Non-Uniform Day – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> of June, we will be having a special sport themed non-uniform day within school. On the day, children can come to school wearing a 'sporty outfit', opt into the special 'Wimbledon' themed menu and also take part in some fun sports activities. Children do not need to bring money in to wear non-uniform, however we would really appreciate donations for our summer fair (20<sup>th</sup> July):

- **Bags of sweets**
- **Boxes of chocolates**
- **Toiletries**
- **Bottles of wine/prosecco**
- **Unwanted boxed gifts**

Thank you so much for your help and we can't wait to see the amazing sporty non-uniform on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June!



## Nursery

### Life cycles

In Ducklings, we have started our term by learning about life cycles! First, we have explored the life cycle of a plant. This has resulted in all of us becoming expert gardeners as we planted and observed the life cycle of cress as well as taking great care to look after our nursery garden. It has been so much fun watching how fast cress grows and comparing this to our sunflowers, which some of us have at home. We have also been inspired to design and make our very own sunflower pictures.



### Den building

At the end of last term, the children showed a keen interest in all things construction! As a result, during forest school we had a lot of fun creating our very own dens. To start the project we looked at different types of dens for inspiration, discussing the different lengths of sticks being used and how the sticks can be held together. Then we let our imagination run wild as we all worked together to design and create our own dens.

The end products were brilliant; well done Ducklings!



### Shout out

A massive shout out to Marley! We are so proud of your enthusiasm for learning and play each day! This week you have thrived learning all about life cycles of plants and animals. You have loved taking care of the plants outside and always have a huge smile on your face and excitement to learn new knowledge.

Well done Marley!



## Reception

### Practising Doubles

In maths, Reception have been learning all about doubling numbers and have enjoyed practising doubles using ladybird spots to help them and also by creating symmetrical butterfly paintings and doubling the spots on each wing.



### Super Sewers!

Reception learnt a new skill at the end of our D.T. project and demonstrated excellent sewing skills, we were very impressed with everyone's fine motor skills and how careful the children were too.



### Minibeasts

Over the last two weeks in Reception for our science topic we have been getting excited about all things minibeast! We have been hunting for minibeasts in the outside area and forest school; we have found woodlice, worms, slugs, spiders, centipedes and more. The children have been thinking scientifically and sorting different minibeasts. We have also been observing caterpillars turn into chrysalis and are waiting for them to emerge as butterflies!



### Shout outs - Cygnets

**Archer** - For your incredible sewing skills! We were so impressed with how you took to sewing and your perseverance to fill your entire bookmark - well done!

**Eleanor** - For your amazing independent writing, you have been working so hard recently and each day you have produced some wonderful writing all by yourself, applying your phonics knowledge accurately - great work Eleanor!

### Shout outs - Goslings

**Lara** - These last few weeks you have been a fantastic role model to all your friends in Goslings. You have lovely manners and are always one of the first to help in class. Lara keep being you. Well done!

**Jacob H** - We are so proud of how you dealt with your recent injury. Even though things have been quite difficult, you have shown such a commitment to school and learning! Jacob you are a star, well done!

## Year 1

### Kingfishers- Sport

Kingfishers got incredibly competitive in our first cricket game taught by the brilliant chance2shine! We learnt the correct name for scoring in a cricket game and how to hold the bat correctly. The fielders ran super fast to stop the batter getting more runs. One batter scored a total of 12 runs, Amazing!



### Hummingbirds - English

Hummingbird class began writing about the York Minster this week. The children have created wonderful postcards to a person of their choice. I have been blown away by the adjectives, facts and questions they have used within their writing. It has been so lovely to see how much pride they are taking in their work and their handwriting



### Year 1- Geography trip

Year 1 had a fantastic geography trip exploring their local area, Woodthorpe. They could point out all of the physical and human features that surround us. We will now begin to make comparisons against our local area and a country within the continent Asia, China. We have had so much fun!



### Shout outs - Kingfisher

A HUGE well done to everyone in Kingfisher class for your amazing efforts in our phonics screen this week! I am so incredibly proud of every single one of you! You have all worked so hard throughout the year and the progress you have all made is remarkable!

### Shout outs - Hummingbird

Wow, Hummingbirds, a massive thank you to you all for the effort and determination you have put into your phonics screening this week. You have all worked incredibly well and showed great perseverance. You should all feel super proud of yourself for the progress you have made, I know I am bursting with pride!



## Year 2

### Harlow Carr

Year 2 had an incredible day visiting the beautiful gardens at Harlow Carr in Harrogate. The children took part in a fun and fascinating workshop about the different plants we can eat, many of which we then spotted in the edible garden. The children potted their own lettuce plants and should be able to enjoy eating it as long as they remember what it needs to grow healthily! We loved exploring the gardens and identifying the different plants and flowers which were growing. Furthermore, we were so impressed with the children's positive attitudes and behaviour whilst there - you made us incredibly proud.



### Shout out Finch:

**Bella, Kyle and Lily** - the progress you have made with your phonics is INCREDIBLE! Thank you for being so determined - your hard work is really paying off!

**All of Finch class** - thank you for making our trip such a wonderful day! We learnt so much; saw beautiful plants and insects all whilst having fun.

### Shout out Robins:

Well done to all of Robins this week. I was so proud of each and every one of you for your wonderful manners, exceptional behaviour and enthusiasm you all showed on our school trip. Members of the public were saying how well behaved we were and what a credit we were to our school. So well done Robins - you did Woodthorpe proud!!



## Year 3

### Marvellous Maths

We have been learning about shape in maths this week - looking at angles and turns, identifying right angles and also comparing angles. We loved trying out our new workbooks!



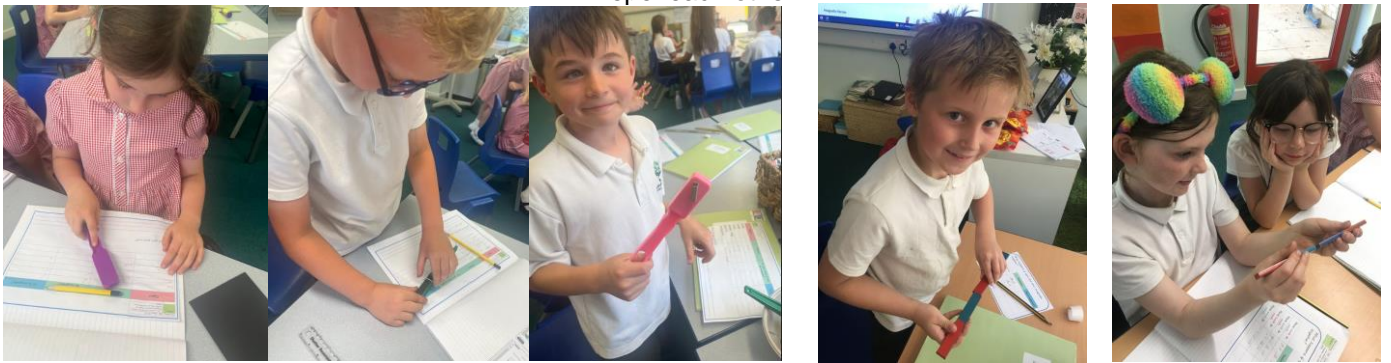
### Woodthorpe's Got Talent

We are incredibly proud of our Year 3 children who took part in our Woodthorpe's Got Talent competition. We were blown away by the talent in Year 3 and look forward to seeing who will get through to the semi-finals!



### Magnificent Magnets

In Science this week, we have been learning all about Magnets and their two magnetic poles. We first tested to see which materials were magnetic before moving onto learning about the North and South pole and how they attract and repel each other.



### Shout Outs - Woodpecker

**Lillianna** - For staying so focused and showing so much independence in your 'Romans in York' work in English. You have put so much effort into including your key knowledge and have shown fantastic dedication to your work. Well done!

**Sophia SW** - For showing real emotional resilience through tricky tasks and challenging work. You have pushed yourself to keep going even when things are hard and have produced some fantastic work as a result. Well done Sophia!

### Shout Outs - Magpie

**Harry**- For your incredible Maths work this week. Harry, you have taken angles and shape in your stride and have worked independently in every lesson. Well Done.

**Ryan**- for adding your own flare to your writing this week. I have loved reading about the Romans in York and you have included additional facts learnt from home. Well done.

## Year 4



### Owl - PSHE

As launch our new PSHE unit 'Changing me' we discovered the world of genetics! We learnt that some of our personal characteristics have come from our birth parents. Characteristics come from the genes our parents pass on to us. We were amazed to learn that each tiny cell that make up our body contains 25,000-35,000 genes! We completed an activity thinking carefully what different parent's children might look like, inheriting one characteristic from each parent.

### Osprey - Relay Races

In Osprey class, we have been enjoying our new PE topic - athletics! In our first lesson, we focused on the skills we need for relay races. We started the lesson by practising our sprints. Then we worked in teams for our relay races. We learnt what we need to do so we are ready to receive the baton and sprint to the next team member.



### Owl - Running techniques



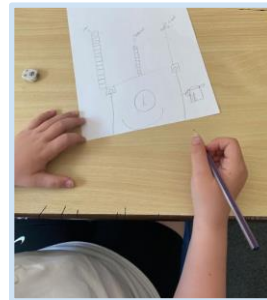
In Owl class, we have enjoyed experimenting with different techniques to help us improve our running skills. We first looked at the different ways to position our arms to help give us an extra boost!

We also discussed different starting positions including a 'Crouch 4-point start' and a '40 Yard Dash 3 point Start'.



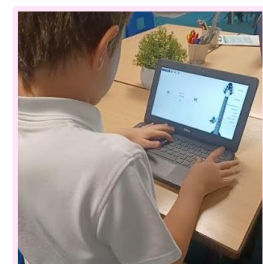
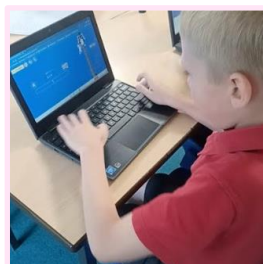
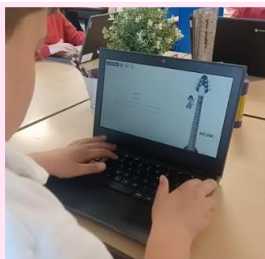
### Osprey - Weather Stations

In computing, we have been investigating weather! We started the topic off by looking at different types of weather and climates around the world. In lesson 2, we moved our focus to weather stations, in which we got to create our own! We had to make sure it could measure rainfall, wind and temperature.



### Shout outs - EVERYONE!

A huge well done and thank you to every member of Owl and Osprey class for taking part in the Year 4 times tables check! We are extremely proud of your hard work and determination to master your times tables. It has been great to see so many of you making amazing progress.

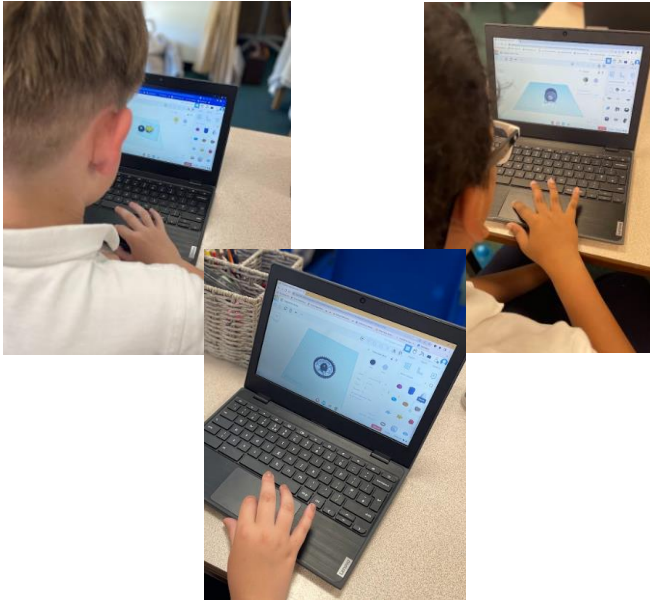




## Year 5

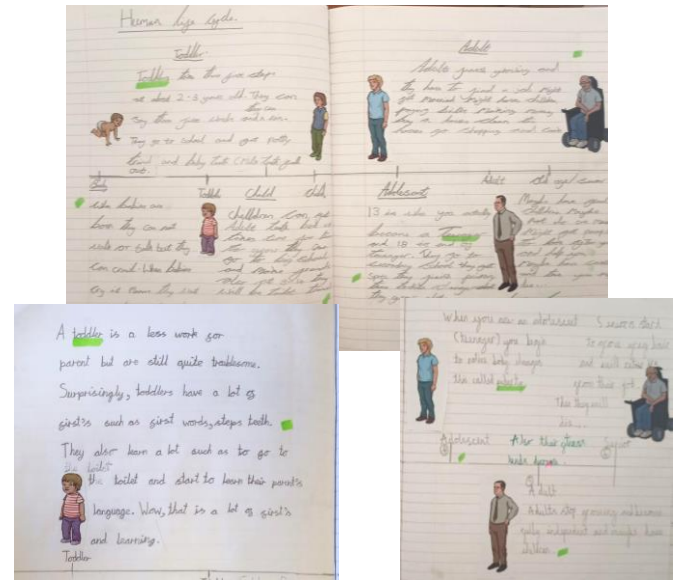
### Computing - 3D CAD Design

In Computing, Falcon class have been looking at CAD software and how this can be used to create 3D designs. With the stimulus of designing a wheel for a Mars Rover, we were able to use different tools to move our shapes, change their orientation, group shapes and remove areas too.



### Science - Human Timelines

We have been producing a timeline of the human life cycle in Kite class and developing our knowledge of the physical and emotional changes we go through in puberty. We worked scientifically by plotting the growth of a foetus on a line graph and analysed the speed and pattern of results.



### Art - 3D Bird Sculptures

As part of our Barbican art project, Year 5 have constructed birds this week that represent those found around rivers in our local area. We used collage and relief work to create fabulous textures!



### Shout outs - Falcon

A huge shout out to **Alfie G!** You have blown me away with your dedication towards your learning over the last few weeks! You were also such a fantastic team member during our art project this week! We are really proud of you!

A massive well done to **Romanie!** You have created a gorgeous piece of R.E display writing and we are really impressed by the content that you included! Keep shining so brightly!

### Shout outs - Kite

A massive well done goes to **Angel** who has been showing fantastic pride in her work, not only this week but throughout the term! I love the care and attention to detail in your human timeline (pictured top) and you were an inspiration in our D.T bird day - keep it up!

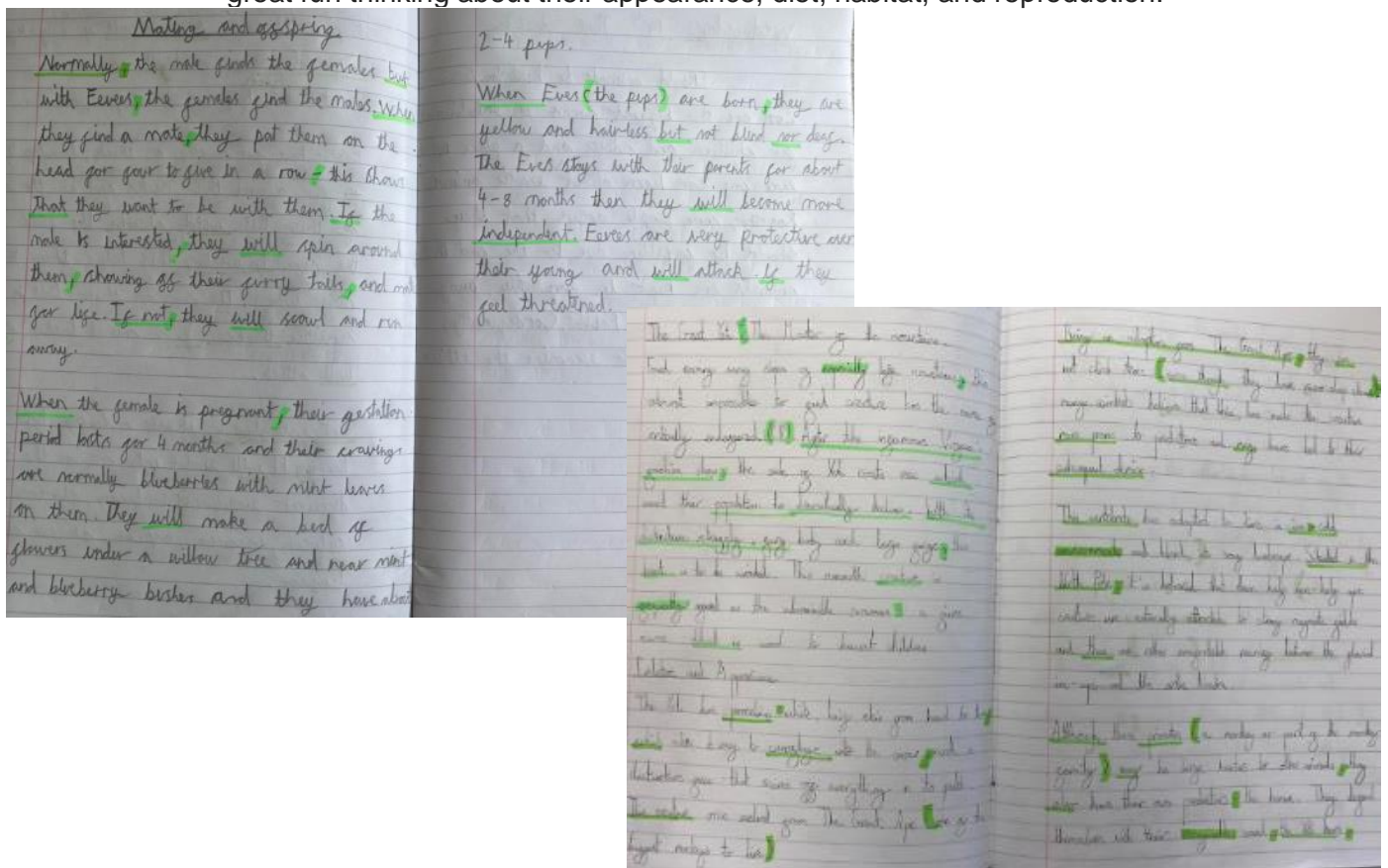
A huge shout out goes to **Reuben** who has been showing commitment to his work this week - in particular your teamwork skills in D.T and P.E set a great example. Thank you for your hard work!



## Year 6

### Mythical Creatures: Non-Chronological Report

Take a look at some of our writing which we have completed on a mythical creature of our choice. We had great fun thinking about their appearance, diet, habitat, and reproduction.



### Bikeability

A big well done to all our year 6s who completed their level 1 and 2 Bikeability courses recently. You showed great listening and perseverance skills to complete all of the activities and now have a much greater understanding of how to stay safe on the roads.



#### Shout outs - Eagles

**Layla B-** your non-chronological report on sea serpents has blown me away this week! You have thought so carefully about your choice of vocabulary and have tried to include many of our writing criteria into your work - well done!

#### Shout outs - Hawks

**Logan D:** it was lovely seeing how enthusiastic you were when writing your non-chronological report on 'Imposters'. You wrote a detailed piece that included parenthesis, a variety of punctuation and innovative ideas. Well done!

### Diary Dates

Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception – Trip to Askham Bryan
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> June	KS1 & EYFS Sports day (weather permitting)
Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	KS2 Sports Day (weather permitting)
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 – Trip to DIG and Jorvik
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 – Harewood House
Weds 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day backup
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day backup
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Reports out
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	MAT Sports Festival
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition Day Parent's open evening
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> July	MAT Arts Festival
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 – French Café Day
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 – Crucial Crew Visit
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fair 3.30pm – 5pm
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Disco
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term
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





# MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## **Become a School Governor at Woodthorpe Primary School.**

**From September 2023**

**Make a positive contribution to your community.  
Develop your own professional skills.  
Help shape experiences for the next generation**

School governors are volunteers who work with school leadership to provide vital support and direction. They help set the strategic vision, oversee the budget and supportively challenge the school's leadership team.

No in-depth knowledge of the education system is needed, you bring with you skills and workplace knowledge that will help positively impact young lives.

**Want to know more?  
Get in contact with us at the school office  
[admin@woodthorpe.southbank.academy](mailto:admin@woodthorpe.southbank.academy)  
We can't wait to hear from you!**



**Woodthorpe  
Primary School**



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

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

Tel: 01904 215071



### Research Project

As part of her university project, Miss Walker is doing some research investigating the imagination of children and how they see faces. She is searching for children between the ages of 4-9 years old to participate and participation will take place in school. If you would be interested in your child taking part, please follow the link or scan this QR code to complete a short survey before June 30<sup>th</sup> 2023.

If you have any questions you can email Miss Walker at [lily.walker@yorksJ.ac.uk](mailto:lily.walker@yorksJ.ac.uk). Your participation would be greatly appreciated!

[https://yorksJ.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cTOJYnjUWypCG46](https://yorksJ.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cTOJYnjUWypCG46)



### Can you help our EYFS team?

In Reception, we are looking to build up our sand, water, mud kitchen, and playdough resources. If you have any unwanted kitchen utensils such as: pots, pans, baking trays, baking equipment, rolling pins, potato mashers or moulds we would love to have them! If you anything that you would like to donate, please drop off your items at the school office. We really appreciate it and many thanks for your help and support.



Early years team