

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 26th May 2023

I'm sure that many of our parents will have noticed the development of our early years outdoor areas recently. Mr Fishwick and our EYFS team are doing a fantastic job of enhancing our outdoor provision, but we are in need of some additional resources such as pots and pans and cooking utensils. If you think that you may be able to help, please see the notice on the final page of this week's newsletter – thank you for your support.

It is lovely to see so many pictures of our children enjoying their learning outside - we are so lucky to have such an amazing school site with so much space. The children have really enjoyed the school forest and they always come back with stories of campfires and bug hunts!

After the holidays, we will be starting our transition arrangements for pupils as they move through school. We always start with those children who need a little more help. We have also been busy recruiting new teachers who will be joining us in September. We also want to say a massive congratulations to Mrs Elsworth who has been promoted to Assistant Headteacher, Helen will be taking on the role of SENCo from September. Miss Morris is leaving us at the end of the school year to work as the SENCo at Carr Junior School. Mrs Elsworth & Miss Morris will be working on handover arrangements before we finish for the summer holidays.

Class attendance this half term

Cygnets	94.89%	Goslings	93.13%
Hummingbirds	95.74%	Kingfishers	97.94%
Finch	91.60%	Robins	96.51%
Magpie	96.47%	Woodpeckers	95.19%
Owl	97.18%	Osprey	★★98.22%★★
Kite	94.20%	Falcon	94.66%
Hawk	94.79%	Eagle	91.42%
School weekly average:		93.63%	

Our whole school attendance so far this academic year is: 94.69%

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 1
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



Community Competition!

The Woodthorpe Community Group are inviting the local community to come up with a poster & slogan to encourage families to look out for their neighbours!

During an assembly this week, we looked at the power of kindness and helping out our neighbours – particularly those who may be elderly. We know that YOU can make a difference!

The posters should encourage families to support their neighbours, whether this be a smile in the street, spending just a few moments chatting together, or even organising a group event such as coffee and cake!

Ideas include slogans such as: *'Every once in a while, take some time to raise a smile!'* or, *'Your community needs you!'*

The posters are due by Friday 16th of June, where they will be passed to the Community Group for judging. There will be prizes for top 3 posters and also the lucky winners will be able to see their designs on display throughout the community.

We cannot wait to see the incredible designs for our special community! Good luck everybody.

Please note that during discussions with children about this project, we have emphasised how they should never approach strangers without their trusted adults.



Nursery

How have teddies changed over time?

Last week the nursery loved learning all about teddies from the past and present! We enjoyed looking at teddies that were the children's, teachers' and family members too! In Ducklings, we enjoyed making marmalade sandwiches with Paddington Bear, going on a teddy bear's picnic, looking for teddies in our outdoor area and creating our own teddies too.



Rainbow Salad

We have loved learning all about fruits and vegetables in Ducklings. This week we have enjoyed making a very tasty rainbow salad packed full of fresh fruit and vegetables. Ducklings were amazing at working in teams and trying the salad too! We have learnt what the difference is between the two and also learnt the names of so many different types of fruits and vegetables!



Shout out

A massive shout out to Lilian! We have been blown away with your fantastic behaviour and knowledge of the world. Each day you come into nursery with a huge smile and a spring in your step, you light up the room with your enthusiasm! We have also been very impressed to hear all about your learning at home too. Well done Lilian!

Reception

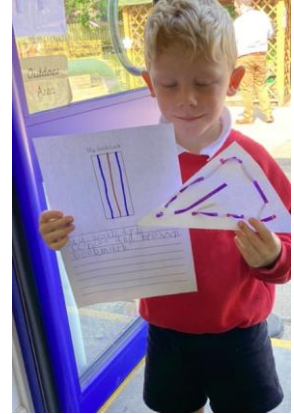
Bird Watching

Reception have loved exploring our new woodland area and seeing if they could find any birds hiding in the trees. We have worked to stay really still and quiet and used binoculars to see what we could spot.



Reading and Writing

We love reading and writing! Recently, we have been working hard to apply our phonics learning to our reading and writing with some impressive results! We have enjoyed sharing stories and writing new words and sentences - well done Reception!



Threading and Weaving

This week we have been learning about threading and weaving for our DT textiles topic. The children have explored different ways to thread and weave both indoors and outdoors. The children have also been planning and sewing their own bookmarks ready to take home before half term! We have been really impressed with the determination the children have shown in learning a new skill.



Shout outs - Cygnets

George - For his incredible effort with his writing, you have been practising so hard and persevering when it has been tricky. Your hard work is really paying off and we are so proud of you - well done!

Luna - For her excellent effort with reading, you are remembering so many sounds now and this is really helping with your reading. Well done for trying so hard - what a superstar you are!

Shout outs - Goslings

Sam - For such a huge improvement in your writing. It is incredible how much you have improved over the last few weeks. Keep up the good work Sam!

Willow-Rose - For always being an amazing member of the class. You are always the first to check if a friend is ok and comfort them if they are sad. You are also a role model and take care of the classroom by looking after resources and always helping tidy up. So thank you for being amazing!

Year 1

Kingfisher- Storytelling magic

In forest school this week, Kingfishers used story cubes to create their own magical stories. We then had to work in a team and use items from within the forest to create our very own stories. Children delved into the world of stickman and Jack and the bean stick! We let our imaginations run wild.



Hummingbirds - Forest School fun

In our final forest school session, the children began by using story cubes to invent their own amazing stories, using their imagination! They then used their team work skills to invent their own story using pipe cleaners, fabric and natural resources. To end the session, they spoke about fire rules and how to stay safe around the fire, then toasted and enjoyed some yummy fruit bread!



Kingfisher- Maths

Towards the end of this half term Kingfishers have been focusing on the maths topic 'geometry'. Looking specifically at position and direction. We have been working really hard at using directional language when describing the movement of different objects.



Hummingbird - PE

In our final 'hit, catch, run' PE session, Hummingbird class enjoyed a competitive ball game. The striker threw the ball as far as they could in order to get as many runs, whilst the fielders used their agility and speed to get the ball as quick as possible to get the striker out!



Shout outs - Kingfisher

Lara- For your incredible independent writing in both English and history. You have made sure that you have incorporated all of the non-negotiables!

Amie- A massive well done to Amie for her recent home reading. Every night you have been reading at home and this is incredible, I am so proud of you!

Shout outs - Hummingbird

Arthur - You have worked incredibly hard in maths this week. I have watched your confidence grow as you work independently.

Scott - Your manners and kindness does not go unnoticed! You are always super kind, helpful and go above and beyond for your peers and all staff! Thank you!

Year 2

PSHE

This half term in our PSHE lessons, we have been learning all about relationships and how to build up strong, positive relationships. In this week's lesson, we focused on who is part of our circle of trust and how they can help us if we need them. We started the lesson with a challenge as we had to try and get to the floor and back up on our feet without letting go. It showed we needed teamwork, good communication and a lot of trust!



SATS - Over and Out!

We have been so proud of all the children in Year 2 this last couple of weeks whilst they have been completing their KS1 SATS. They worked hard, were resilient and showed determination throughout the week despite some tricky questions. More importantly, every single child tried their best - we couldn't ask for anything more.



Clay sculptures

This week we have loved getting our hands dirty whilst working with clay. We began by using our hands as a tool to explore what different shapes and patterns we could create. We were super impressed with their creativity and enthusiasm. After that, we created our own pinch pots and added different shapes as decoration - some of the designs were amazing and we're sure they'll look great in their new homes.



Shout outs - Robins

Owen - I have been so proud of you over the last couple of weeks, as you have been trying so hard with your handwriting. It is beginning to look wonderful, keep up this amazing hard work!!!

Harley - I was bursting with pride with the resilience you showed with your SATs test last week. Even when you found questions really challenging, you carried on and tried your absolute best! Well done you!

Shout outs - Finch

Emily - a HUGE shout out for being an amazing member of Finch class every single day. You have such a wonderful attitude towards everything you do and your imagination is incredible. Not only that you have a heart of gold - keep being the star you are!

Freddie - for your enthusiasm in maths this last week. You have really impressed me with your knowledge and determination when completing some tricky challenges. Keep up this wonderful attitude.

Year 3

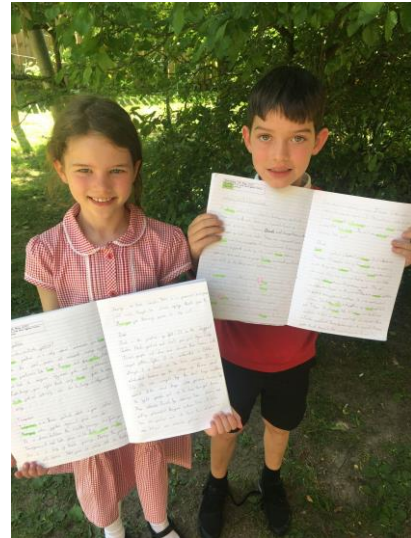
Super Circuits

We loved our fitness lesson in the sun - running, jumping and lots of other fun activities to help us get fitter and stronger.



Hindu festival writing-

This week, we have been learning and writing about the different Hindu festivals. We have learnt all about Holi, Diwali, Ratha Yatra and Thaipusam and how Hindus prepare for and celebrate these festivals.



Egyptian Art- Making our own scrolls

We have been making our own Egyptian scrolls this week in Art. We started by looking at some Egyptian artwork before designing our own scroll. We then moved onto making our own scrolls using brown paper and greaseproof paper. We are super excited to share our scrolls with you once they are complete!



Shout outs - Woodpecker

Freddie - We have been blown away by your RE writing about Hindu festivals this week Freddie. You have written some amazing information and tried SO hard with your handwriting - keep up the fantastic work.

Saffah - What wonderful art work you have done this week Saffah! You have drawn some beautiful sketches based on ancient Egyptian paintings and have come up with some super ideas for your own scroll - well done!

Shout outs - Magpie

To the whole of the Magpie class. This half term, you have all worked incredibly hard in all of your lessons and your enthusiasm for reading, TT Rockstars and writing has been phenomenal and has certainly paid off. I cannot wait to see you all progress throughout the final summer half term.

Have a great break Magpies!

Year 4

Owl - 'Kwick' Cricket



In our cricket lesson this week, we played a game of 'Kwick Cricket'. Kwick Cricket provides an opportunity for all players to bat, bowl, wicket-keep and field. The game also allowed us to practise our team work skills, particularly when fielding to send the ball back to the bowler. We had so much fun and we are really looking forward to our final class cricket match at the end of our unit!

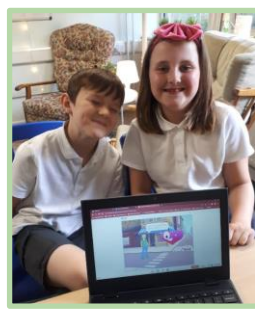
Osprey - Outstanding Artwork!

In Osprey class, we have been enjoying our new art topic; painting and mixed media! We started the topic by making tints and shades, and then used this skill to make our paintings look three dimensional. We had to think about where the light source would be so that we could create the effect of shadows using paint!



Computing - Computational Thinking

This term, we have discovered computational thinking as part of our new computing unit. Computational thinking refers to the thought processes involved to solve problems through computational steps and algorithms. In one of our sessions, we discovered the world of algorithms. An algorithm is a set of rules to be followed in calculations or other problem-solving operations. We had to give our partner a set of instructions to follow in order to copy a drawing, we found this challenging! We then used an algorithm to write a script on scratch.



Shout outs - Owl

Tom - A very big well done to Tom who has managed to maintain an impressive high score of 25/25 on Times Tables Rockstars! This is incredible!

Mia - Mia has already read over 130,000 words just this term! Mia has worked tirelessly every reading session to read some very large and challenging books! We are all really proud of you Mia!

Shout outs - Osprey

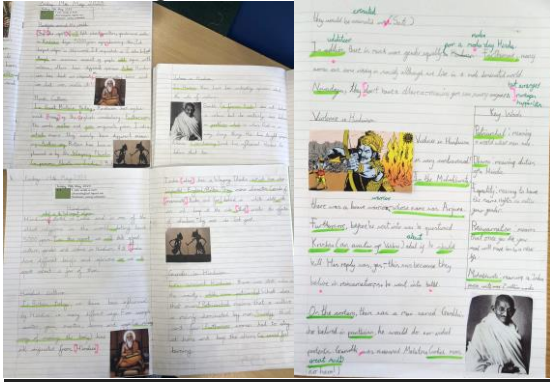
Leila - A massive well done to Leila for her hard work in English! At home, she gathered information about Sikhism to use in her writing. This has meant you have been confident in your writing. Brilliant work Leila!

Freddie - A huge well done to Freddie for his determination in maths! He has been flying through his challenges and regularly completes silver challenges! Keep up the great work Freddie!

Year 5

RE- Hinduism Writing

In our RE-based writing this week, Year 5 have written a non-chronological report about Hinduism. We have learnt about Hindu's beliefs on gender and violence, whilst also considering how their culture has had an impact on Britain. Did you know that some of our vocabulary, like mantra, yoga and even avatar, originated from Hinduism?



DT- Phunky Foods

Over the last few weeks, some of Year 5 have loved the opportunity of being able to take part in a Phunky Foods club after school! While making our own pizzas and cheesecakes, we have been able to learn many skills, including how to cut correctly using the bridge and claw grip!



DT- Designing a Healthy Bolognese

In our DT lessons this week, Year 5 have been challenged to design and make our very own bolognese. By testing different products and analysing the ingredients, we have been able to create our own healthy designs for a bolognese. We thought carefully about the different ingredients we needed to include, whilst also considering the welfare of animals. We absolutely loved making our very own recipe!



Shout outs - Falcon

A huge shout out to **Millie!** We have been blown away by your fantastic attitude towards your learning in every subject area over the last few weeks. We were particularly proud of you receiving your gold award on our behaviour chart! Well done, Millie, keep shining!

A massive well done to **Leo W** this week! You have shown fantastic resilience and determination in our PE lessons over the last two weeks! Not only have you hit some incredible balls in rounders, but you have also shown some excellent catching skills! Well done, Leo!

Shout outs - Kite

A massive well done to **Luca** for shining especially bright in maths lessons this week and challenging himself even further! Congratulations on your 100% arithmetic test - you're an absolute superstar!

A big shout out to **Josh!** You have really impressed me with your perseverance in swimming over the past few weeks - your front crawl demonstrations when you moved into the big pool were incredible! You've also shown excellent writing skills this week when explaining complicated topics in Hinduism - you should be proud.

Year 6

WW2 Writing

Our recent writing genre took us back to 1939, on an eerie and isolated battlefield. We used descriptive language to show how many soldiers would have felt fighting for their country.

The Robin
Everybody scattered around the foul smelling, claustrophobic trench like foam dissipating along the waves. Grabbing their ^{vital equipment} guns, they made their way outside the confines of the trench, ready to attack...

I looked back and saw my comrades, my friends, gleefully got their lines. Then suddenly, a bomb plummeted towards my squadron. NO! I choked as it ignited and blew up. Crimson was launched in the air by the bomb. Raining guts and organs, the remains of their bodies were scattered around the barren land, limbs flying overhead. Tears smelled up in my eyes. They were gone, my brothers were no more.

*

Sports Galore!

Year 6 have been loving the recent weather and have taken full advantage by taking part in a variety of different sporting activities: circuits, rounders and rugby.



Art: David Hockney

After looking at the artist David Hockney and his style of work, we have absolutely loved bringing our creative ideas to life and showing off our own personal ideas when given the brief of 'global rivers'. We researched rivers around the world and chose one, which we thought we would be able to reproduce in the style of Hockney best.

Shout outs - Eagles

Oliver- I have loved your writing this week: you have tried so hard to include many of your tick list objectives into your writing as well as telling a gripping and well-thought-out twisted tale, well done *.

Shout outs - Hawks

Natalie - We have been in awe with your incredible artwork based on the Colorado River which is nestled in the Grand Canyon. You used fauvism (strong colours and fierce strokes) to create the rocky textures of the cliffs and water.

Diary Dates

Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd June	Half Term
Wed 7th June	Year 1 – Woodthorpe Walk round
Wed 14th June	Year 2 – Trip to Harlow Carr
Tue 20th June	Reception – Trip to Askham Bryan
Wed 21st June	KS1 & EYFS Sports day (weather permitting)
Thurs 22nd June	KS2 Sports Day (weather permitting)
Mon 26th June	Year 4 – Trip to DIG and Jorvik
Wed 28th June	Year 1 – Harewood House
Weds 28th June	Sports Day backup
Thurs 29th June	Sports Day backup
Fri 30th June	Reports out
Mon 3rd July	MAT Sports Festival
Wed 5th July	Transition Day Parent's open evening
Thurs 13th July	MAT Arts Festival
Fri 14th July	Year 5 – French Café Day
Mon 17th July	Year 6 – Crucial Crew Visit
Thurs 20th July	Summer Fair 3.30pm – 5pm
Tues 25th July	Last day of term
Fri 1st Sep	Teacher Training Day
Mon 4th Sep	Teacher Training Day
Tue 5th 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



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 30th 2023.

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

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