

Woodthorpe Primary School

Headteacher: Mr James McGann
Chair of Governors: Mrs Jenny Parker

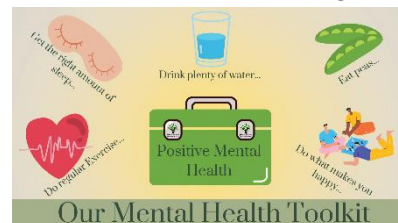
Our school is a happy, exciting and caring community in which each child thrives.

Friday 29th September 2023

We have had our first trips & sporting fixtures of the year. Year two have spent time in a Victorian workhouse, which they all absolutely loved, poor Miss Wheeler was asked to wear a special hat because she was naughty! Our KS2 football teams have both had their first matches and represented the school exceptionally well. Well done to both teams.

We have added a new section to each of our year group pages this week. The 'Ask Us About' sections give parents some information about what the children have been learning over the past fortnight. You might want to check children's knowledge and see what they remember!

Coming soon, we have the annual Hello Yellow Day when we spend time thinking about our mental health and how we can look after ourselves. Our Mental Health Toolkit also gives children top tips on how to do this.



Over the coming year, your child will have the opportunity to take part in our new school music group and choir, which will be running every Friday. We also have a new dance teacher who will be coming into school to work with children on a Monday and our forest school's teacher has agreed to come into school on both Tuesdays and Wednesdays this year to give children even more opportunity to learn outside.

Class attendance so far this term

| | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Cygnets | 95.56% | Goslings | ★★★★98.44%★★★★ |
| Hummingbirds | 92.95% | Kingfishers | 96.69% |
| Finch | 95.18% | Robins | 95.53% |
| Magpie | 94.33% | Woodpeckers | 93.96% |
| Owl | 95.28% | Osprey | 95.35% |
| Kite | 95.86% | Falcon | 97.86% |
| Hawk | 94.23% | Eagle | 93.66% |
| School average for this year so far | | 95.35% | |

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!



Have you heard about our Woodthorpe Character?

Our Woodthorpe Character is built around our school's aims and values - ***Our school is a happy, exciting and caring community in which each child thrives***

***As a community, we live out our values every day:
Respect | Challenge | Skills for life | Sport***

Within our school values, our character highlights key words, traits and attributes that, at Woodthorpe, we want our children to strive for and build during their school journey.

Our Woodthorpe Character is developing throughout our school community and can be found in many places including on displays in school, on our Twitter (X) page - #woodthorpe character, celebrated during our weekly assemblies and as part of our daily life at Woodthorpe!

Volunteers within school

If any members of our school community are interested in the possibility of volunteering within school, particularly helping out with school trips, please email your interest to the school office, or speak to Miss Wheeler for more information – thank you!



Would you like to find out more about supporting your child with autism?

If so, we would love to invite you to our parent coffee morning on **Thursday 26th October 8:45 - 10:15am**. We would love to be able to build a support network within our school community, sharing top tips for supporting children with autism and there will be an opportunity for you to ask myself (Mrs Elsworth, SENCO) any questions. We will meet inside the Breakfast/After School Club building from 8:45am and it would be lovely to see you there. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me via the school office. I look forward to seeing you there, Mrs Elsworth.



World Mental Health Day 2023



Tuesday 10th October marks this year's Young Minds #HelloYellow World Mental Health Day 2023.

At Woodthorpe, we value the importance of looking after our health both physically and mentally every, single day. In school, we regularly discuss how to keep ourselves healthy including talking about our emotions, opening discussions in circle time, taking part in weekly PSHE lessons following the Jigsaw Programme as well as referring to our Mental Health Toolkit displayed around school.

On Tuesday 10th October, we would like to invite our school to wear something yellow. This could be a pair of yellow socks, a yellow t-shirt or even a yellow bobble! During the day we will continue to explore positive mental health and discuss important issues within our school community,

This year, to mark World Mental Health Day 2023 we would like to continue to raise awareness of mental health and share donations with charities that are important to our school community. Therefore, any donations made on the day will be split between the charities chosen by **YOU!**

In order to support us with this, please fill out our Google form to share your opinions and select which charity you would like our school to support this year. To access the form, please click on this [link](#) or scan the QR code here → We have suggested the following charities for your consideration:

- YoungMinds
- Samaritans
- York Mind
- Menfulness
- Other (for you to specify)

Charity choice QR code



Given the current climate, families are invited to donate as they see fit: children can bring in a donation to school, or parents may wish to donate online at the [Young Minds](#) website.

Thank you for your support and we are looking forward to seeing our school shine in yellow for this year's World Mental Health Day!

Halloween Disco!

This year, our popular Halloween Disco returns! On Thursday 26th October, we will be inviting children from each year group, including reception, to a spooky disco! The disco will run from 4:30-5:30pm, entry is £3 and will include a drink and snack. For children in nursery, there will be special events happening during the week at school so they don't miss out. Letters will be sent home next week to secure your child's place and also let us know who will be collecting on the evening itself. Please bear with us when it comes to collection at the end of the disco, we need to ensure that everybody goes home safely and so this may take a little longer than usual, thank you for bearing with us on this.

| Year group | Location | Drop off & collection details |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Reception, year 1 & year 2 | Key Stage One Hall | Reception - Cygnets classroom Year 1 - Hummingbirds classroom Year 2 – Door 1 (by the side of ducklings) |
| Year 3, year 4, year 5 & year 6 | Key Stage Two Hall | Year 3 – Main school entrance Year 4 – KS2 hall doors Year 5 – Doors at the bottom of year 5 stairs Year 6 – Falcons classroom door |

Important note: Although we appreciate that Halloween costumes are available to all ages – please can we ask that costumes are more 'spooky' rather than horror based and avoid any costume 'weapons'.

Sport

Football success!

On Thursday 21st September, Woodthorpe's Year 3 and 4 football team played against Rufforth Primary School. Here are some highlights: amazing goal saving; brilliant teamwork and some great passing into the box. We're also really proud of all the sportsmanship the team demonstrated throughout the match. The final score was 3 - 1 to Woodthorpe. Our player of the match was Cody for his goal keeping skills. We hope you are as proud of them as we are - let's hope the next match is as much of a success as this one!

Report by Megan and Olu



National Fitness Day

We celebrated National Fitness Day at Woodthorpe with a gruelling session led by Miss Massingham. Each class were put through their paces with a variety of different activities: shuttle runs, burpees, star jumps, step ups and throwing. During our fitness sessions each week, we learn about the importance of exercise, what happens to our body during it and which muscles it helps to improve. Please ask us about these - we are becoming experts!



Nursery

Our Senses

This week in nursery we have started to learn about our five senses. We have enjoyed learning what these are and can point to the different parts of our body such as eyes for sight. In play we have enjoyed cooking with herbs in the mud kitchen, exploring lots of different materials and guessing what they are. In groups, we have explored the sense of taste by trying bitter lemons and sweet chews. Our taste buds were tingling!



Faces!

We have loved getting to know each other in nursery. As part of our learning about our family tree, we enjoyed creating different faces using different materials. On our biscuit we chose to recreate our own face or someone in our family. We discussed key features such as eyes, nose and mouth. The biscuits tasted very yummy!



Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to Ethan! Ethan you are a role model to all your friends in Ducklings. Each session you come with a beaming smile and excited to play and learn. Well done Ethan!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about our five senses - sight, smell, taste, touch and hear. Ask us about what part of the body our senses link to and even to sing our senses song!

Reception

Keeping Fit and Healthy

This week in Reception we have started to learn about how to keep ourselves fit and healthy. We have been finding out about how to look after our teeth - hopefully everyone is brushing twice a day! We have also had lots of fun in our outdoor area doing different types of exercise such as star jumps, hopping, running, press ups and sit ups!



Hide and Seek!

Reception have had their first visit to the forest and what a super time they had! Ms Banham made sure that everyone knew how to stay safe and then we played a really fun game of hide and seek.



Cutting Skills

Reception have been working really hard to practise their scissor skills, they have shown some excellent control and super fine motor skills.



Shout outs - Cygnets

Omari - You have made a fantastic start to school and we are so proud of the mature, caring and responsible attitude you are shown. Your tidying skills are superb too - well done Omari!

Daisy - The enthusiasm you have for learning has been wonderful to watch over the past few weeks. You have shown such engagement and eagerness to learn within all of our topics - what a superstar!

Shout outs - Goslings

Matilda – For your fantastic behaviour and your super attitude to learning. You are always keen to share the knowledge that you already have with your peers and you also love learning new things. Well done Matilda!

Sylwia – For being really kind and helpful. You are always happy to help others and you have been amazing at tidying up after you have finished playing somewhere. Well done Sylwia!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about ourselves and how to keep our bodies, including our teeth healthy. Ask us about how to keep our teeth healthy and why this is so important!

Year 2

Ripon Museum - Victorian Workhouse Day

To start off our History topic about schools in the past we visited Ripon Museum to find out more about life in Victorian times. It was fantastic. We met matron, did some Victorian baking, visited the school room, did some laundry and lots more!



Rewards and Consequences

In PSHE, we have been discussing positive and negative behaviours and how effective different rewards and consequences are when we demonstrate these. We all agreed we love it when someone smiles and recognises our hard work!



Finch Golden readers

Finch class has been working really hard this week on our reading and getting lots of ticks on our reading chart. We are so proud that some of our children have already reached 'GOLD' on the reading chart. Well done Finch!



Shout outs - Robin

Lydia

For fantastic research in science. You found out all about woodland animals; their diet, predators and where they shelter. Great work!

Harry For super Guy Fawkes writing - you have written some brilliant sentences and tried really hard with your handwriting. Keep up the hard work Harry!

Shout outs - Finch

Leon- Your superb Maths this week. Leon, you have worked independently in every lesson and I am so proud of your amazing work. Keep this up.

Mila- for your incredible reading this week during our guided reading sessions. You read with expression throughout and we loved hearing all your different voices for the various characters. Well done Mila.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about habitats in Science - we can give examples of animals and plants who live in different habitats and we can explain the different conditions. Please ask us about it!

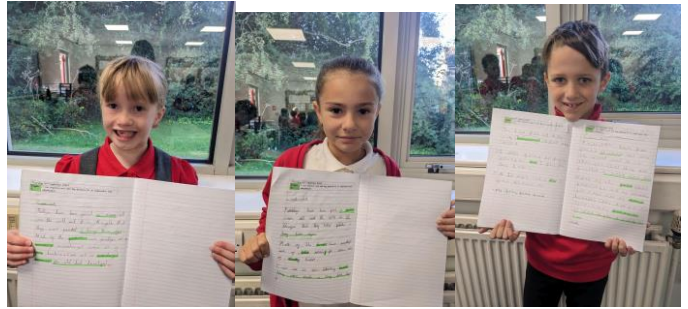
Year 3

Magpie - Incredible Readers!

Children in Magpie class have been enjoying their daily independent reading time! We have delved into the world of reading comprehension quizzes, testing our understanding of our library books! We absolutely adore tracking our progress and challenging ourselves to read different, new, and exciting book genres! We have also enjoyed visiting the library and spending time in our class reading area, the comfy chairs are our favourite!



Woodpecker - English - Cave Art writing



This week, Woodpecker class has been writing their explanation pieces about how people in the Stone Age created Cave art. We have enjoyed including prepositions, adjectives, and conjunctions in our writing. Year 3 are becoming increasingly independent and have wonderful focus as they write!

Year 3 - Science - Food Glorious Food!

As part of our science topic, 'Animals: Movement and Nutrition', we discovered that animals, including humans, need to eat food to survive! We explored the different ways in which the body uses energy before comparing the nutritional information on different food packaging. We learned to identify how energy needs are different between people before making food suggestions to support people's health. We discovered that unsaturated fats, such as those found in salmon, help our body to store energy!



Shout outs - Magpie

Robyn - A HUGE well done to Robyn who has already reached silver on our class reading chart! You have worked incredibly hard at home, completing lots of home reads! You are a superstar!

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Esme - I have been so impressed with your handwriting this week. Well done for taking on my feedback immediately and making sure your writing is cursive and joined up! Now your writing looks as brilliant as it sounds when I read it. Keep it up!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about the different types of skeletons different animals have, the muscles in our body and how they work, and the seven different nutrient groups we need to balance our diet to keep us healthy. Please ask us about it!

Year 4

Osprey - Music - Rainforests

To finish off our music topic, body and tuned percussion, Osprey class worked with their partners to create pieces of music that represented layers of the rainforest. We had to think about what type of animals and sounds you may find in each layer of the rainforest, and present this using a glockenspiel.



Owl - Science - Dental Nurse Visit

Owl and Osprey class thoroughly enjoyed a talk from a local dental nurse all about the benefits of keeping their teeth healthy and clean. The children loved asking lots of questions about the role of a dental nurse and learned a lot about the importance of dental hygiene.



Owl - Forest School - Compass Skills

Owls had a fantastic time in the forest this week. We were mastering our compass skills. We learnt how to find North, which way East, West and South are and how to follow a set of directions using our compasses.



Osprey - Science - Teeth cleaning!

Osprey class have loved their first science topic of Year 4 - digestion in food. In this lesson, we learnt about the importance of looking after our teeth. We conducted an experiment to find out what type of toothbrush is the most effective.



Shout outs - Osprey

Holly - A huge well done to Holly for her amazing handwriting and presentation in every lesson! Holly takes great pride in her work and is always keen to produce the best work possible. Keep up the great work!

Immy - A massive well done to Immy for her amazing reading! We have only been back in school for 4 weeks, but Immy has read over 55,000 words. It is lovely to see your passion for reading, keep up the fantastic work!

Shout outs - Owl

Abi - A big well done to Abi for making it to gold on our class reading challenge already. Abi has read over 25 times to an adult and shown her immense love for reading. Keep going Abi!

Max - A shout out to Max for always participating brilliantly in every single lesson. Well done for always having your hand up, ready to give a well thought out and insightful answer no matter the topic. We love your enthusiasm!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about digestion and food in Science. We have looked at the types of teeth carnivores, herbivores and omnivores have. We have also learnt about producers, predators, prey and food chains and what we can learn from their poo! Please ask us about it!

Year 5



Science - Filtering Liquids

In one of our recent science lessons, we investigated how we might separate liquids and solids that had similar particle sizes. Using a muddy water mixture, we used several materials including coffee filters, pebbles, sand and cloth to see if we could separate the mud from the water. We found out that using filters with tiny holes (such as the coffee filter) would be most successful in separating the smallest particles of mud from the water. Year 5 were incredibly diligent in the creation of their water filters and were successful in producing clear water.



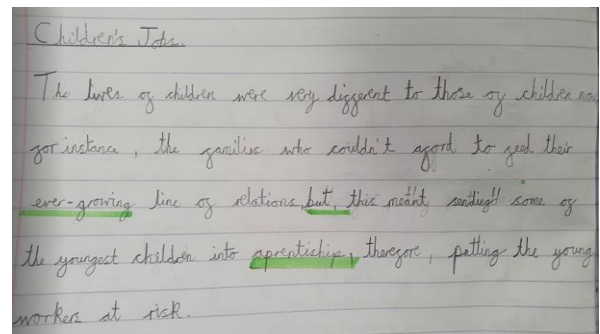
Fitness - Circuits and circulation

In fitness this week we have been building our stamina and strength in circuit training, progressing skills relating to jumping, skipping, running and endurance. During our fitness sessions we have also started to consolidate our understanding of the effect that exercise has on our heart and muscles. We have been discussing why our heart pumps faster when we exercise and which muscles we are targeting during our circuit.

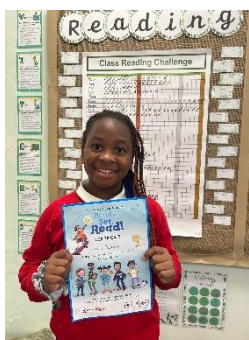


English - Life Then and Now

In English this week, we have been creating balanced arguments in order to determine whether children had a better quality of life in the Tudor period, or in the modern day. Using contrasting and causal adverbials to emphasise differing points of view and demonstrate cause and effect, year five have demonstrated fantastic skills in objectivity and debate.



Shout outs - Kites



Well done to Karis, who has successfully taken part in the summer reading challenge, Ready, Set, Read! Karis shares her love of reading with the class and has been an excellent role model encouraging others to read.

Shout outs - Falcons

Marius has been an absolute asset to our science lessons this week, his subject knowledge has blown us away and his passion for all things scientific is admirable. Well done Marius!

Another shout out goes to Teddy - Teddy, your behaviour this week has been impeccable, as has your enthusiasm for your learning. We have really valued your contributions in English this week and your ability to remember key SPAG knowledge has been outstanding. Well done you.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about filtering, solutions and the process of dissolving in **science**. We have thought about which factors affect the rate that a substance can dissolve and created our own test to determine whether our theories were correct. Please ask us about it!

Year 6

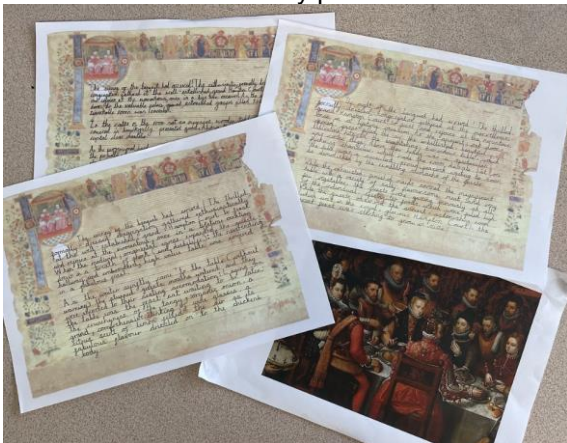
PE: Netball

In our Netball lessons, Year 6 have been developing our ability to mark passes and shots. By keeping our balance and outstretching our bodies, we have been able to successfully block passes and shots while maintaining our 1m distance from our opponent. We have also been able to apply these skills to a game based scenario too!



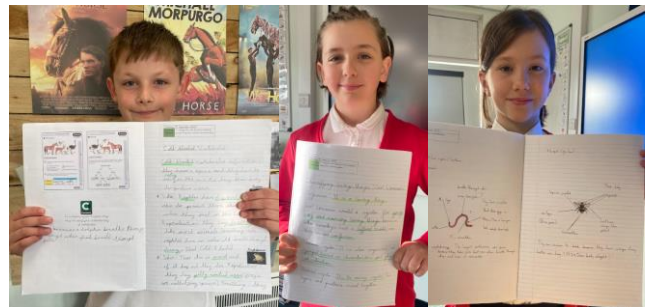
English: Tudor Setting Description

In English, we have been writing a setting description based on a Tudor feast to celebrate the birth of Henry VIII's son. By starting sentences with prepositions and thinking about the use of colons for a list, we have written some creative and detailed descriptions which we are incredibly proud of!



Science: Classifying Organisms

We have been learning about Carl Linnaeus and his significant role in both classifying and naming animals. By applying his methods, we have been able to correctly classify both vertebrates and invertebrates, before considering the characteristics of different plants and micro-organisms too.



Shout outs - Eagle

A massive well done to **Layla**! I have been blown away with your focused and determined attitude towards your writing this week! You have really considered your choice of adjectives in your descriptions whilst also making your work unique! We are so proud of you! 🌟

Shout outs - Hawk

Alanna, I admire how enthusiastic you are about learning! You are always extremely engaged in lessons; you enhance children's understanding with your superb knowledge; and you challenge yourself to improve and be the best that you can. 🌟

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about classifying living things in Science - we can classify organisms (animals, plants and micro-organisms) into a variety of groups using common physical characteristics. When learning about invertebrates, we were fascinated by a fact: dung beetles can drag up to 1,141 times its own weight, which would be the equivalent to a human pulling six double-decker buses! Please ask us about it!

Diary Dates

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Tue 10 th Oct | Year 6 Parent's meeting |
| Tue 10 th Oct | Hello Yellow Day |
| Thurs 19 th Oct | Flu Immunisations |
| Thurs 26 th Oct | SEN Drop in Morning |
| Thurs 26 th Oct | Halloween Disco |
| Fri 27 th Oct | Last day of term |
| Mon 6 th Nov | Back to school |
| Thurs 7 th Dec | Christmas Jumper Day |
| Thurs 7 th Dec | Christmas Film Night (information to follow) |
| Thurs 14 th Dec | Christmas Fair |
| Fri 27 th Oct | Last day of term |
| Mon 6 th Nov | 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



All SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Open Evening



TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER

6.00 PM – 8.30PM

Dear Parents, Carers and Year 6 Students,

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to All Saints Year 6 Open Evening.

To ensure that numbers in school are kept to a safe level, the Headteacher's talks will be ticketed events. Please use the link below to visit our website where you will be able to book your places for the presentation at the time of your choosing. You will need one ticket per person including your child.



Nunnery Lane, York, YO231 JG
lsreception@allsaints.york.sch.uk



<https://www.allsaints.york.sch.uk/students-and-parents/key-information/open-evenings/>

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



Can you help our breakfast and after school club?

Our Breakfast and After School Club are currently looking for some additional 'small world' toys to help support the activities on offer. We would be really interested if anybody could help us with Barbies, dinosaurs, Sylvanian Families, animals, cars etc. If you think that you could help, please drop any donations at the school office – we can guarantee that they will be going to a very loving home! Thank you so much for your help,
Wrap around care team.

