

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 27th October 2023

Welcome to our end of half term newsletter. There has been some fantastic learning this half term and the children have been an absolute credit to our community. Thank you to parents for supporting us and helping with reading, homework and spooky costumes! The children loved the Halloween disco, and thank you to all of the teachers who stayed back to look after the children and also showed off their dance moves (Miss Arnett)!

Letters will be coming home in the first week of the new term to book slots for parents evening at the end of November. This will be a great opportunity to hear from your child's class teacher about how they have started the new school year.

Class attendance for the autumn 1 term

Cygnets	95.30%	Goslings	95.73%
Hummingbirds	91.71%	Kingfishers	95.82%
Finch	96.15%	Robins	95.89%
Magpie	93.10%	Woodpeckers	94.68%
Owl	94.96%	Osprey	96.42%
Kite	96.29%	Falcon	★98.10%★
Hawk	94.62%	Eagle	93.40%
School average for this year so far		95.17%	

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 2
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



School Photographs

On Thursday 9th November, Wrates photographers will be in school to take sibling and individual photographs. Individual photographs will be taken throughout the day.

All sibling photographs, including those children in and out of school, will be taken between 7:30am and 8:30am. If you wish to bring your children for sibling photographs, please come to the doors outside of the KS1 hall between 7:30am and 8:30am on Thursday 9th November.

We can't wait to see everybody's smiling faces and best hair styles -thank you!

If you have any questions, please contact the school via email
admin@woodthorpe.southbank.academy





WRITING CHALLENGE

This spooky season, our writing ambassador has set the whole school an exciting challenge... to continue this enchanting Halloween story opener! The deadline for entries is Thursday 9th November and you could be in with a chance of winning the following:

- 1ST PRIZE** - STATIONERY BUNDLE & £15 BOOK FAIR TOKEN
- 2ND PRIZE** - STATIONERY BUNDLE & £10 BOOK FAIR TOKEN
- 3RD PRIZE** - STATIONERY BUNDLE & £5 BOOK FAIR TOKEN



Don't forget to write your name & age at the top of your writing! Good luck!



WRITING CHALLENGE

Halloween had finally arrived! Decorations hung from every house in the village and mountains of mouthwatering treats were piled high on doorsteps. The treats, which were handed out by baby pumpkins and mini ghosts had an exquisite aroma that drifted through the trick or treaters (vampires, werewolves and witches) noses. The excitement for the night ahead was brewing...



Sport



Woodthorpe Vs Knavesmire

We are so proud of our Year 3/4 football team who beat Knavesmire last Thursday 3-1. It was an exciting match with three penalties awarded. Everyone showed brilliant determination, perseverance, and teamwork. There were some brilliant skills on show - tackling, dribbling, and shooting. Bring on the next match in our league!

Woodthorpe Vs OLQM

On Thursday 19th October, players from the Year 5 and 6 football team played against Our Ladies Queen of Martyrs. Sadly, the result ended in a 4-3 win to Our Ladies. However, it is worth mentioning the outstanding efforts that Woodthorpe put in. Incredible goal saving, amazing passing and 100% hard physical effort. The goal scorers were: Leo, who scored two astonishing goals, and Ryley who sneakily snuck in the other goal.


The player of the match is Leo! Well done to everyone who played.
Chief Football Correspondent: Megan



Woodthorpe 50 things

We are thrilled to share with you our 'Woodthorpe 50 things'! As part of our curriculum, we have created a list of 50 opportunities that all of our children will achieve before they leave us at the end of year 6. The list includes a range of enrichment activities, character traits, experiences and more! We aspire for this list of challenges to support the children holistically and contribute to their personal development. After half term, we will be exploring the '50 things' with each child in more detail.

50 INCREDIBLE THINGS I WILL ACHIEVE AT WOODTHORPE

01 GROW SOMETHING FROM A SEED/BULB	02 TAKE PART IN BAKING/ COOKING	 03 CREATE A PIECE OF ART	04 LEARN HOW TO STAY SAFE AROUND WATER	05 LEARN HOW TO CARE FOR THE WORLD WE LIVE IN	06 MAKE FRIENDS
07 BE PART OF OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY	 08 LEARN TO BE ADVENTUROUS, COMPASSIONATE, AND CONTENT	09 EXPLORE DIFFERENT CULTURES	10 SPEAK A DIFFERENT LANGUAGE	11 BE PART OF A TEAM	12 MEET A VARIETY OF VISITORS AND LEARN FROM THEM
13 GET 'GOOD WORK'	14 TAKE PART IN AN OUTDOOR LESSON	15 TAKE PART IN FOREST SCHOOL	16 LEARN AN INSTRUMENT	17 TAKE PART IN SPORTS DAY	 18 JOIN A CLUB
19 RAISE MONEY FOR CHARITY	20 GO ON A TRIP	21 TAKE PART IN A PERFORMANCE	22 BELIEVE IN MYSELF	23 READ TO A BUDDY	24 MEET AN AUTHOR
25 EAT OUTSIDE	26 CONDUCT A SCIENCE EXPERIMENT	27 MEET A FAMOUS PERSON	28 REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE	29 BE A CONSIDERATE AND CARING INDIVIDUAL	30 REPRESENT MY SCHOOL
31 TAKE PART IN A TREASURE HUNT	32 TAKE A RISK	33 LEARN TO SWIM	34 MEET AND HOLD (IF YOU WISH) AN ANIMAL	35 CHALLENGE MYSELF	 36 TAKE PART IN A PROJECT
37 BE BOTH INSPIRED AND INSPIRING	38 LEARN HOW TO CROSS A ROAD SAFELY	39 MAKE A FIRE IN THE SCHOOL FOREST	40 BE ON A STAGE	41 HELP ANOTHER PERSON	42 BE INQUISITIVE
43 BE INDEPENDENT	44 LEARN HOW TO BE A GOOD FRIEND	45 SHARE RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS	46 KNOW HOW TO KEEP MYSELF SAFE	47 HAVE A POSITIVE MINDSET	48 VISIT ANOTHER SCHOOL
49 LEARN HOW TO SEW	50 CELEBRATE MY ACHIEVEMENTS	WELL DONE!			

Nursery

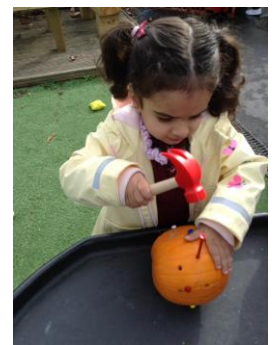
Hedgehog Hibernation Boxes

We have loved learning all about Autumn including what animals do at this time of year. Our focus has been on prickly hedgehogs. We have learnt what hedgehogs do at this time of year and even had a special visitor tell us all about hedgehogs as well as showing lots of videos of hedgehogs busy eating and finding homes at night. Ducklings have loved creating their own hedgehog homes in groups ready for the winter!



Our Fine Motor Skills

In Ducklings we spend lots of time getting ready for the foundations of writing. This includes lots of work on our fine motor skills! In nursery we have loved to practise in so many ways including hammering golf tees into pumpkins, making necklaces and threading Autumn leaves onto sticks!



Shout outs - Ducklings

A massive shout out to Charlie! Charlie, you are so enthusiastic about coming into nursery each day. We have been blown away by your beautiful manners and wonderful listening. You have been a star at talking about all things Autumn and remembering lots of new words too! Well done Charlie.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning all about animals in Autumn! Ask us what different animals do and even ask us what the word **hibernation** means!

Reception

Painting My World

Last week in reception we learnt about an American artist called Megan Coyle and looked at some of her amazing collages. We have created our own collages and transient art, had a fabulous time painting to different types of music and also explored finger painting and mud painting!



Pop Up Patch Visit

We loved having Abigail from the Pop Up Patch come in to help us learn all about the life cycle of a pumpkin to enhance our DT cooking topic.



Exploring Sound

This week in reception, we have been exploring different percussion instruments and learning how to play them. We experimented with playing them quickly and slowly.



Shout outs - Cygnets

Ari - For being an incredible role model in Cygnets class. Your behaviour is exemplary and you are so kind and caring towards your friends. You also work so hard every day to ensure the whole class is tidy and that everything is put back in the right place at the end of day. Thank you for being such a superstar Ari!

Freddie - For trying so hard to listen and follow instructions everyday and also for working so hard on your name writing. You have been practising and your progress is clear. It is lovely to see how proud you now are every time you write your name on your work - well done Freddie!

Shout outs - Goslings

Ezmae - For working so hard in every single lesson that we have! You always try your best, listen carefully and contribute your own ideas. Well done Ezmae for being such a super member of Gosling class - I am so proud of you!

Lois - For really challenging yourself and doing some super writing! You are really keen to learn new things and have been working really hard on writing words that we have learnt in phonics. What a superstar you are Lois and a great role model for other children in Gosling class!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning to explore different sounds as part of our music curriculum, ask us how to make different types of sounds using our voices and our bodies!

Year 1

Making Smoothies!

Year 1 loved our latest DT unit: 'Cooking and Nutrition' as we were able to step out of our comfort zone and try a range of different fruit and vegetables that we felt would be perfect for our very own smoothie! We started off the week by learning all about how we look for seeds to be able to identify fruit and vegetables. Then, we discovered where these fruit and vegetables are grown... we learnt that potatoes grow underground, apples grow on trees and tomatoes grow on vines! By the end of the week, we learnt a new cutting skill: 'the claw grip, to be able to create our very own smoothie containing grapes, banana and apple. It was YUMMY!



Computing - Sketch Pad

After lots of practice, Year 1 have started to get the hang of logging in and out of the school's chromebooks! So, the next challenge we had to face this week was creating a funky, fun background on the online programme: Sketch Pad. We had a great time getting creative using all the different tools!



Music - Pulse and Rhythm!

To finish our amazing half term, Year 1 have been practising rhythm and pulse. We listened out for the rhythms we could hear in well-known pop songs and we even recreated these rhythms on our un-tuned percussion instruments!



Shout outs - Hummingbird

Arlo C - A HUGE shout out to Arlo this week for receiving 5 silvers this half term! You are an amazing inspiration to the rest of hummingbirds and you are a fantastic ambassador for Woodthorpe School!

George H - Another big shout out to George H for growing in confidence this half term! It is so lovely to see you contributing in class discussions and circle times and playing with lots of different friends on the playground!

Shout outs - Kingfishers

Sam- For your fantastic recent attitude towards your home learning! I have been blown away with all the reading and homework that you have been completing at home. Well done, you are a super star!

Maisie- A huge shout out for your improved resilience in class! It has been amazing to see you complete work independently. Keep it up!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about Music and how we can use body percussion or un-tuned percussion instruments to create a pulse and a rhythm! Why not ask us about it?

Year 2

Hedgehogs!

Year 2 loved having Gordon and his team from University of York in to chat about hedgehogs and how we can help them. As we have been learning about habitats in our Science topic, we were able to see first-hand what these animals need to survive. He showed us a hedgehog first aid kit, tunnels used to track hedgehog activity and a hedgehog house. We were then able to make our own habitat using natural resources - we hope you're impressed!



Felt Making

We did some fantastic felt making last week! After drawing maps in our first art lesson, we used these as inspiration and worked brilliantly together to create our felt designs; laying out the wool fibres and then wetting and rolling to create our finished pieces.



Making Inspirational Maps

To kick start our Art week off, we made our own inspirational maps using different oil pastels and pencils. We were blown away by the talent in Year 2 and certainly have some artists to watch out for in the future.



Shout outs - Robin

Ina - for your fantastic map artwork. You used your imagination to create a wonderful map with lots of super details. Great work

Ralph - for trying so hard with your handwriting to make it smaller and neater. Also, for blowing us away with your progress in reading. Keep up the hard work!

Shout outs - Finch

Kaia- For your wonderful Maths work this week. Kaia you have challenged yourself in every lesson and your work has been outstanding.

Theo/ Arthur- For your wonderful letter to Mr Fishwick asking him to make our new Hedgehog house. We cannot wait to put it in our Hollow garden over half term and see if any Hedgehogs arrive.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning to create short sequences of sound in Music using tuned percussion instruments. Please ask us about the call and response songs we created!

Year 3



Magpie - Robotics and VR Headset workshop



Magpie class was very lucky to be visited by engineering students from York University! We took part in a fabulous workshop exploring the use of engineering in robotics and virtual reality (VR). We used VR headsets to go on a journey through space before making our very own robots, similar to the rover robot exploring Mars.



Woodpecker - Networks!



In computing this half term, Year 3 have been learning all about how our devices are connected together in networks so that information can be shared. In this lesson, we learnt that to transfer a large file, it needs to be broken up into smaller pieces of information, called packets, which are then put back together by our computers. We did the same with pictures, tasking our partner to put the packets back together using the instructions we gave them!

DT - Eating seasonally

Last week, we completed our 'Eating Seasonally' DT topic, and we absolutely loved it! Through a range of exciting, practical activities, we discovered that fruits and vegetables grow in different countries based on their climates. We also learned that seasonal fruits and vegetables grow in a given season and that eating these fruits and vegetables positively affects the environment! We made yummy vegetable tarts, tasty fruit kebabs, and finally, delicious apple crumble! We had a wonderful week!



Shout outs - Magpie

Sophie - I felt incredibly proud reading your English work this week! You included sophisticated vocabulary choices which enabled you to write some outstanding sentences. Your work was a delight to read.

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Maci - I have been so impressed by your writing this week! You have made your narrative very effective, putting in your own ideas and using very interesting vocabulary. I can see how much you are pushing yourself and your writing was lovely to read!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning all about ballads in our new music topic. We have discovered the different stylistic features of a ballad and have explored how actions can impact performance. Please ask us about a 'stanza' and 'chorus'! We will be able to provide you with accurate definitions.

Year 4

Osprey and Owl - Sculpture and 3D

In our Art lessons, we have been learning sculpture and 3D and the artists who create these masterpieces. We started our learning by developing ideas for 3D work through drawing and visualisation in 2D. We then created our own 3D sculptures by carving soap! We also created sculptures using wire and card to create different effects. We finished our unit by using a variety of materials to create unique sculptures that required skills such as weaving. In this unit, we learnt that perseverance is key, and all artwork is unique!



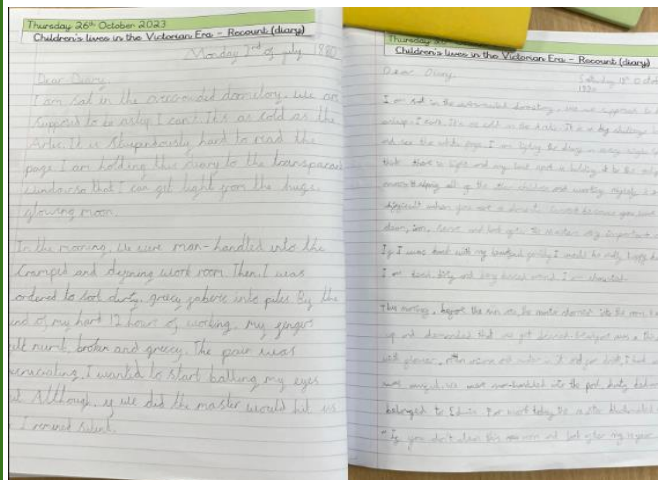
Osprey - Forest School

In our penultimate forest school session, we were working with tools to make initial boards! We had to carefully hammer nails into blocks of wood to create the letters of our initials. This lesson took lots of perseverance and determination, and a steady hand!



Owl - Writing

In our English lessons this week, we have been writing a diary imagining ourselves as Victorian children! The level of detail that we have included in our work is fantastic and the vocabulary choices we have made have been amazing. We have been focusing on including lots of adjectives and fronted adverbials in our diaries and we have really challenged ourselves to achieve this!



Shout outs - Osprey

A massive well done to EVERYONE in Osprey class! We have had a fantastic first half term in Year 4, and everyone has produced some amazing pieces of work. I am incredibly proud of how kind, respectful and determined every child is in Osprey class. I hope everyone has a lovely half term break and I look forward to Autumn 2!

Shout outs - Owl

We have had the most amazing first half term in Owl class. We have explored many wonderful topics in Art, Music, Science and History and we have produced some incredible work from all of our lessons. I am very proud of the kindness each member of the class has shown and I can't wait to see how much you will challenge yourselves next term!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about Samba and Carnival music. We have explored the roots of where Samba music comes from, what playing in the off-beat means and how to create a syncopation within our rhythms. We have really enjoyed playing and exploring the different types of instruments played in a traditional Samba Batucada bateria! Please ask us about it!

Year 5

DT - Doodlers

In DT, we have been testing and analysing motorised products in order to design our own 'doodler' - a doodling paper cup that is powered by a series circuit. On Monday we were able to make and test our designs. After lots of careful thought about the



configuration of the circuit components, and the formal design of the product, year 5 made some fantastic doodlers that were fit for purpose and looked amazing.

Robotics Workshop and VR Headsets

This week, students from the University of York visited us to run a VR workshop, where we experienced a tour of the planets and explored the galaxies. We also built Mars Rover robots using a range of circuit components which we have also been learning about in D.T. this week!



Music - Hieroglyphs and Notation

In music this week, we have been performing and writing Ancient Egyptian themed compositions. To better grasp the purpose of notation, we have been recording our own compositions using hieroglyphs and working with our partners to perform our songs according to our hieroglyphic notation.



Shout outs - Kites

Maizy - A huge well done to Maizy for her work towards our class reading challenge. Maizy has been working hard to support us in class with our Class Reading Challenge and encouraging other children to read! Well done Maizy!

Elian - Another shout out goes to Elian for his excellent work in D.T. this week and in the VR Workshop. Elian has been sharing his passion for space and sharing his exceptional knowledge of electrical circuits. Well done Elian!

Shout outs - Falcons

A huge well done to Tilly this week! Tilly has been so determined and involved in lessons, dazzling us with her music and DT participation. The positivity and joy she has taken in her learning has set an excellent example for the rest of the class.

A second shout out to Will, for his impressive resilience to improve his handwriting and his outstanding participation in Maths and English this week. Your confidence has grown so much over recent weeks, and it is such a pleasure to have your thoughts and ideas shared in class discussions. Thank you Will!

Ask us about...

In music we are performing and composing music within the theme of Ancient Egypt. We have been learning about tempo, pitch and key in music and how it affects the mood and tone of a song. We have also been learning the names of different musical notes, and reading staff notation.

Year 6

Art- Making Art Inspired by Artists

In our Art lessons, we have been gaining an understanding of a variety of different artists and have analysed their preferred styles and techniques. After choosing our favourite artists, we created our own pieces of artwork inspired by theirs. We were incredibly proud of our finished products and, it's safe to say, we've definitely got some future Van Gogh's among us!



PE- Eagles' Inter House Netball Competition

To end our netball topic in Eagles class, we completed our netball inter house competition! Through some excellent teamwork, exceptional marking and footwork skills, determination and positive attitudes, we are pleased to announce that the winning team was Sycamore!



Music- Fingal's Cave

Felix Mendelssohn, watch out! After appraising the work of this classical composer, we used a variety of instruments to replicate the sound of waves. Next, we fulfilled the role of composers and conductors by using superb teamwork to create a group composition which features changes in textures, dynamics and pitch.



Shout outs - Eagle

A massive shout out to **Megan!** You have blown us away with your interest in our History topic! It has been lovely to see your curiosity flourish at home and the facts that you have learnt about your own family history through researching censuses were incredible! Keep shining!

Shout outs - Hawk

Dillon, I have been very impressed with your commitment and enthusiasm to your house captain role. During break, you referee the football and it is wonderful to see your dedication and support shine through.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about classical music relating to oceans and Fingal's Cave on the Isle of Staffa! We have researched the composer Felix Mendelssohn and created our own music to depict waves by focusing on pitch, dynamics and texture. Please ask us about it!

Diary Dates

Fri 27 th Oct	Last day of term
Mon 6 th Nov	Back to school
Thurs 9 th Nov	School Photos
Fri 17 th Nov	Children In Need
Tuesday 21 st Nov	Parents evening
Wednesday 22 nd Nov	Parents evening
Tue 28 th Nov – 5 th Dec	Book fair
Thurs 7 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Thurs 7 th Dec	Christmas Film Night (information to follow)
Thurs 14 th Dec	Christmas Fair
Wed 20 th Dec	Last day of term

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.



Year 6 Clubs at York High School

York High School are running after school extracurricular activities, including recreational football, photoshop and coding clubs, for any children in Year 6 who may be considering attending York High from September 2024.

Parents/carers can find more information and a registration form at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/BgsgHeoeSkHmHG49>

Alternatively, email reception@yorkhigh.southbank.academy with the subject "Year 6 clubs"

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.



Can you help our nursery team?

As the days are getting colder, we are looking to re-house our nursery fish indoors! If anybody has a spare plastic fish tank that they would be happy to donate to school, we would be very happy to give it (and our fish!) a new home. Thank you so much for your help, **EYFS team.**

