

Woodthorpe Primary School

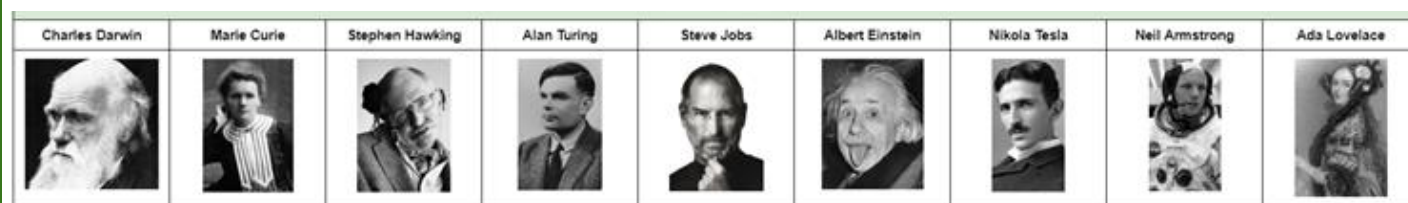
Headteacher: Mr James McGann
Chair of Governors: Mrs Jenny Parker

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

Friday 17th November 2023

Next week we have our first parents evening meetings of the year. We hope that everyone has managed to book a meeting to hear how well their child is doing within school. The children are excited to share their work and tell you all about the topics that they have been studying so far this year.

Please 'ask your children about' our STEM pioneers! In assemblies, this half term, we are looking at incredible scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians and have already discovered Stephen Hawking, Marie Curie, & Nikolas Tesla. From static cats to 'Little Curies' – our children are a wealth of knowledge! We are inviting children to explore these famous people further. Any children who do some work at home will get a special mention in assembly and get a bronze sticker for their hard work. This might include some additional research, artwork or even stories containing these famous people.



Class attendance

| | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Cygnets | 95.88% | Goslings | 95.14% |
| Hummingbirds | 91.68% | Kingfishers | 94.89% |
| Finch | 96.60% | Robins | 95.81% |
| Magpie | 92.71% | Woodpeckers | 95.16% |
| Owl | 95.37% | Osprey | 96.26% |
| Kite | 96.17% | Falcon | ★ 97.25% ★ |
| Hawk | 94.47% | Eagle | 92.50% |
| School average for this year so far | | 95.03% | |

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 2
This week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 6
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



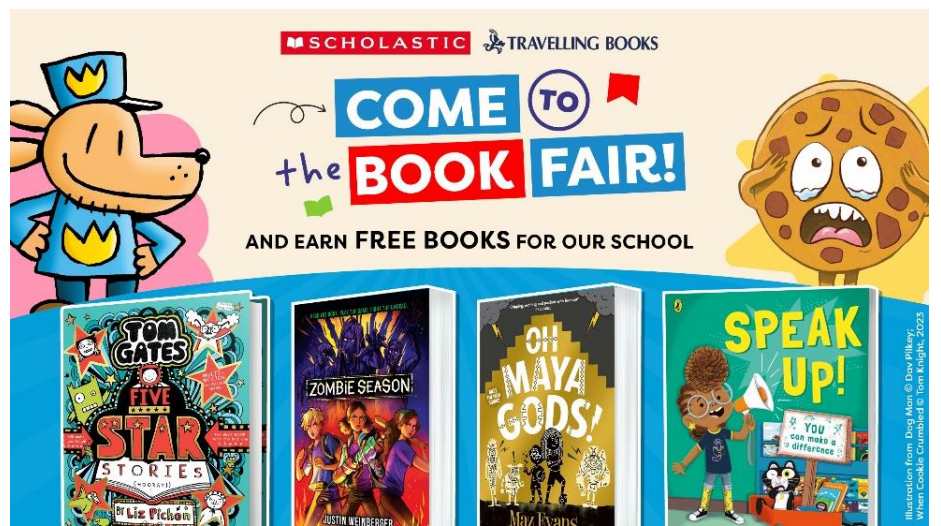
School Book Fair - 29th November - 4th December

Our popular School Book Fair returns between the 29th November and 4th Decemeber! Open each day between 8:25 and 8:40am, then after school between 3:20 and 3:45pm in the Key Stage 1 hall.

Come along and explore titles new and old – prices start at just £2.99 and for every book you buy, the school earns rewards to replenish our library. You may even find the perfect Christmas gift or stocking filler!

Please see some of the newer options on offer on the next page of the newsletter. This year we are pleased to be able to accept both cash and updated card payment options.

We hope to see you there!



Sport

Sports Hall Athletics Competition

On Wednesday 15th November, 18 children from Year 5 and 6 went to York High school to compete in a Sportshall Athletics competition. Officially, we came 4th place out of 6 different schools – although we think due to our fantastic performance we actually finished higher up! We competed in a range of events: triple jump, speed bounce, chest throw, standing long jump, long distance and short distance running. The whole experience was joyous and incredibly loud due to all the energetic cheering. We all did an incredible job representing Woodthorpe!

Sports correspondent:
Megan



Nursery

All things materials

We have loved learning all about materials. In Ducklings we have been busy identifying different materials and their names for example plastic, fabric and wood. We have also loved exploring how materials can change, seeing if light can pass through some materials or not and which materials float and sink!



Happy Diwali!

In Ducklings we have been exploring the Hindu festival of light, Diwali! We have enjoyed learning about this festival and how it is celebrated around this time of year. We have loved making our own decorative Rangoli patterns and creating beautiful Diya lamps out of playdough. In our music lesson, we have also enjoyed listening to traditional Diwali music and dancing to this with scarves.



Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to Denny. Denny, it has been wonderful to see you so inquisitive whilst learning about materials! Not only this but during our phonics sessions you have worked incredibly hard to segment sounds and try and orally blend them together. Well done Denny!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning all materials. Pick an object and ask us to tell you whether it is wood, metal, plastic, fabric, glass, paper or rock.

Reception

Electricity

This week in reception we have been learning about electricity and how we can stay safe. We looked for things in the classroom that use electricity and talked about mains electricity and battery power.



Visit from the Church

Reception enjoyed a visit from St James the Deacon Church as part of our RE learning. We learnt about the story of Zacchaeus and how the Bible teaches Christians to be kind. We loved showing kindness by passing smiles to each other and drawing smiles too.



Remembrance Day

Reception learnt all about Remembrance Day and why we wear poppies. Both classes made a poppy wreath which we proudly displayed in our classrooms and we also enjoyed creating our own poppies too.



Shout outs - Cygnets

Mila M - For trying so hard with your writing! You have been practising your writing both at home and at school and I am so proud of the progress you have made. Well done Mila - keep up the good work!

Bobby - For being such a kind and polite member of Cygnets class. You have a lovely nature with your friends and your beaming smile always lights up the room. You are a pleasure to teach, thank you for being such a great role model for your peers.

Shout outs - Goslings

Theo - For fantastic behaviour and having a super attitude to learning. You are also a very kind member of the class, always inviting others to join your play and including them in your games. Well done Theo!

Ava - For being a superstar all of the time! You always listen carefully and are so keen to learn new skills and knowledge. You are a fabulous role model to the other children in your class and you should be very proud of yourself. Well done Ava!

Ask us about...

This week all about electricity as part of our science curriculum ask us about which items in school and at home are electrical and how we can be safe around electricity.

Year 1

Odd sock day!

To mark the start of Anti-Bullying week, Year 1 loved coming to school in their odd socks to celebrate what makes us unique! We listened to the 'Odd socks' song and discussed ways in which we can be kind towards each other.



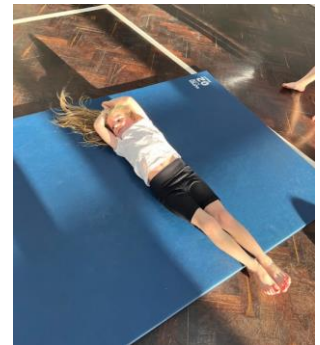
Science - Everyday materials

We have really enjoyed working like scientists this week in our 'Everyday materials' topic. We were challenged to help a grumpy wizard clean up his spilt liquid. We used different materials and tested each one to see if they were absorbent or not.



PE - Gymnastics

We have moved on to our next half term PE unit this week, which is 'gymnastics'. We really enjoyed learning different rolls such as an egg roll and a teddy bear roll. To put our practise to the test, we were able to create a mini gymnastic routine including our newly learnt rolls and different types of jumps to connect our moves together.



Shout outs - Kingfisher

Kyson- For your fantastic contribution in phonics. You have been working incredibly proud and we are just so proud of you!

Jacob- For always being a kind and caring member of Kingfisher class. You are a true model and always put 110% into everything that you do.

Shout outs - Hummingbird

Esme - A huge shout out to Esme this week as I have been so proud of your English writing. You have worked so hard to remember your finger spaces and to improve your handwriting. Well done you.

Eleanor - For your fantastic key knowledge within our science lessons. You have remembered sophisticated vocabulary such as 'transparent' and have contributed amazingly to our science experiments!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about everyday materials in science... Please ask us about it!

Year 2

Minibeast Hunt!

In Science, we carried out a minibeast survey around our school grounds - we found worms, beetles, ladybirds and slugs. The most popular microhabitat was under logs and stones as this is dark, damp and warm for these creatures.



Odd Socks Day

To mark the start of Anti-Bullying Week, we loved wearing our odd socks for Odd Socks Day. We thought about how special and unique we all are and how important it is to spread kindness 😊



Making our own algorithms

In our computing lessons, we have been learning about what an algorithm is and how it needs to be a clear step of instructions. We then used cubes to help build our own models using our own written algorithms and challenged our working partners to copy our models.



Shout outs - Robin

Levi - for always giving 100% to absolutely everything you do. We are super impressed with your handwriting and love how hard you are trying with your sentences in English - keep up the hard work.

Charlotte - For your fantastic work in English - you have been including lots of different conjunctions in your writing, have the most beautiful handwriting and always challenge yourself to include something extra - well done!

Shout outs - Finch

Amie- For your wonderful maths this week. Amy, you have taken addition and subtraction in your stride and I am so proud of your new found confidence in maths.

Layla- For showing great determination in guided reading this week. Layla, you confidently read your phase 5 sentences and answer questions with great confidence. Keep this up Layla.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about microhabitats in Science. Please ask us about the wormery we created and our minibeast hunt!

Year 3

Magpie - Remembrance Day

For Remembrance Day, Magpie class made some beautiful poppies. We learned that on Remembrance Day, we commemorate those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country in the line of duty. We were also interested to discover that we wear poppies to honour the soldiers who fought on the battlefield. Poppies have become an important symbol for the war because the flower grew in Flanders, Belgium, where important battles were fought.



Woodpecker - Super Scientists!



This week in Science, Woodpeckers have been doing investigations and experiments to learn about non-contact and contact forces! In this lesson, we learnt about the non-contact force magnetism. We predicted whether or not materials around our classroom created an attraction force with our magnets. Here we are testing our magnets around our classroom before we recorded our results!

Anti-Bullying Week - Magpie



To celebrate Anti-Bullying Week, Magpie class took part in the BBC Teach Live lesson! It was an interactive lesson in which we had to complete different, exciting activities! In the lesson, we discovered what

bullying is and discussed the different ways to speak out about bullying. We also came to school wearing odd socks to celebrate our uniqueness!

TT Rockstars Competition!

Between Tuesday the 14th and Thursday the 16th November, Year 3 have been taking part in the Times Table Rockstars Competition held across the country. They have loved logging into TT Rockstars each day and playing times table games to try and bring up their score to the highest it could possibly be!



EVENT DETAILS

START DATE:
November 14th 2023

END DATE:
November 16th 2023

TIME:
Daily 7:30am to 7:30pm

LOCATION:
England

DAILY CAP:
1 hour per player

Shout outs - Magpie

Chase - You have worked so incredibly hard this week to perfect your cursive handwriting. You have ensured that your ascenders and descenders are all the correct height. Your work is looking amazing!

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Lacie - Your writing this week has been amazing! I've loved how you've put your own spin on the sentences we have been writing. Keep up using your own unique ideas and impressing me!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about forces and magnets! We have described the relationship between friction and the roughness of a surface, named some examples of types of magnets, and described some uses of magnets. Please ask us to identify some examples of magnetic and non-magnetic materials!

Year 4

Osprey - Computing - Coding with Scratch

In Osprey class, we have enjoyed revisiting Scratch in our computing lessons. In this lesson, we explored and recalled the key features of scratch by playing one of the games. We had to identify how the game worked and what each component was for. We then looked at the code to see how it worked!



Owl - Spanish

In Owl class, we have loved learning how to order our favourite food and drink in a cafe! We all worked really hard to learn our new Spanish vocabulary so that we could ask the rest of the class if they enjoyed certain food or drink. Owls showed brilliant determination and perseverance at learning the correct pronunciation.



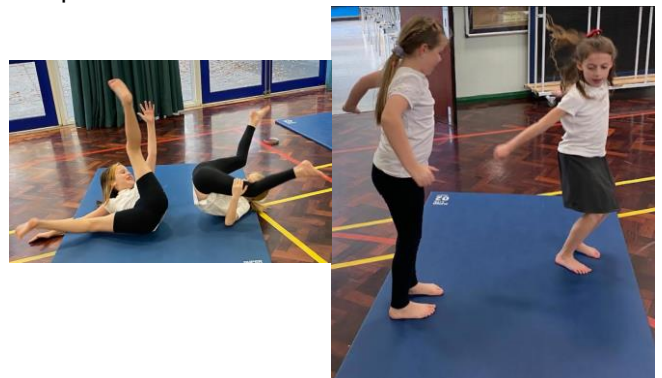
Owl - Science

This week in Science, Owls have been learning all about electricity! We created our own buzzer games to explore how to build a circuit, what powers a circuit and how a switch works.



Osprey - Gymnastics

Osprey class have been showing great resilience and perseverance in gymnastics this half term. We have been developing our teddy bear, log and over the shoulder rolls. We then created routines using these rolls with a partner.



Shout outs - Osprey

A massive well done to **Harvey, Ryan and Evangelina** for reaching GOLD on the reading chart! It is amazing to see how much reading you have done and the enthusiasm you show towards reading. Keep up the great work!

Shout outs - Owl

A huge well done to everybody in Owl class this week for making our new classmate feel extremely welcome. I have been really pleased to see everyone making a fantastic effort to show our new classmate how wonderful Woodthorpe School is.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about electricity and circuits in Science. We have been learning how to build circuits, the importance of conductors and insulators and how to stay safe around electricity. Please ask us about it!

Year 5

Science - Properties and Materials

In science we have been looking at the properties of different materials. In one of our experiments, we tested the hardness of different materials using the 'scratch method'. Taking a nail, we looked at the effect of a scratch on various materials such as wax, plastic and wool. While doing so, we considered what makes a test 'fair'. We tried to ensure our controlled variables were as consistent as possible, but realised that different participants of the test would put a different amount of pressure on each scratch, which may have had an effect on some of our results. We were able to note our results in a table, and also wrote a reflective paragraph about what would have made our experiment even more fair next time.



R.E.- Visit from St James the Deacon

Year 5 enjoyed a visit from Father Luke and Mrs Cook from St James the Deacon Church on Monday. We learnt about the significance of the church for Christians and the different events which are held at the church, including weekly prayers, baptisms, weddings and funerals.

We learnt about what the local church does for Christians and for the local community, including running community groups, food banks and also providing pastoral support. We are using all of this knowledge to inform our current English topic!



Forest School

This week in forest school we have been practising orienteering skills! We have been using compasses to ascertain North, East, South and West and we have used this knowledge to locate different 'landmarks' on a map. We have also looked at various maps of York and thought about the difference between local maps, city wide maps, maps of countries and maps of the world.



Shout outs - Kites

This week's shout out goes to Elian, for his super work in English. Elian has shown his dedication to improving his writing by spending time at home doing additional homework! Well done Elian. Keep it up!

Another shout out goes to Ashley, for her exceptional effort in maths this week. Ashley has been contributing to class discussions more and is working on some challenging maths questions too. You are a star!

Shout outs - Falcons

This week's shout out goes to Paisley, who has been building her confidence in maths, participating in mathematical discussions and completing work with resilience and independence, even when questions are challenging. Well done you Paisley!

A second shout out goes to Olivia! Her positivity has been radiant throughout all of our tasks this week, and she has also made amazing progress in her maths work. Great job Olivia!

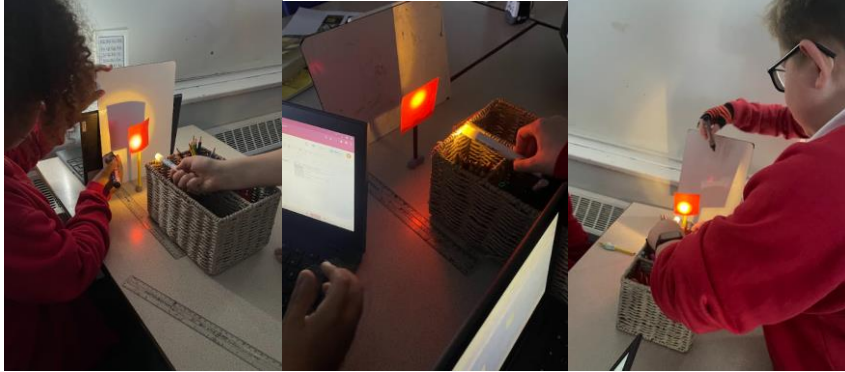
Ask us about...

Irreversible and reversible changes in Science! We have been learning about changes relating to states of matter, including condensation, evaporation, melting and freezing.

Year 6

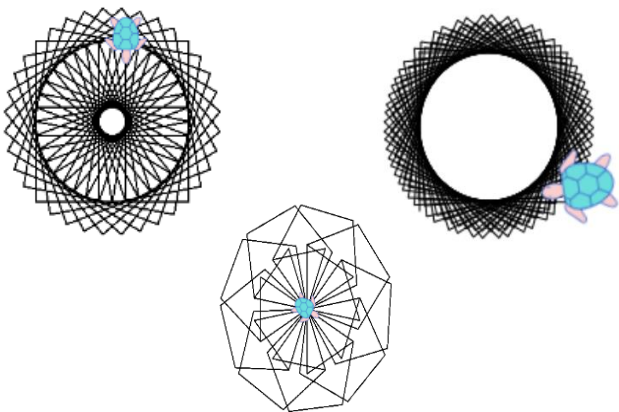
Science- Investigating Light

In Science over the last two weeks, we have been investigating light. Through planning our own scientific enquiry, we have been able to investigate the effect that the distance between an opaque object and a light source has on the size of a shadow. We have also studied the different angles involved in reflection and we now know that the incoming ray is equal to the reflected ray and that this finding is vital to the creation of periscopes.



Computing- Python Coding

As part of our new Computing topic, we have been tinkering with different programming languages: Logo and Python. By thinking about nested loops and concise codes, we have been able to code indentations that result in repeated patterns.



Netball

In PE, we have been practising and developing our skills for marking a pass or a shot. We discussed why it was essential to mark the ball (to make it harder for you opponent to make a pass) and we mastered the key teaching points for this skill.



Shout outs - Eagle

A massive shout out to Leo! I have been blown away with the positive mindset and the resilience that you have shown in every single lesson this week. You have continually been seeking out ways to challenge yourself and you have completed some excellent work, particularly in Science! Well done, Leo! We are so proud of you! 🌟

Shout outs - Hawk

Elizabeth, you have been working relentlessly to improve your writing: you are trying to incorporate our greater depth objectives into your work; you are using a thesaurus to enhance your vocabulary and you are doing extra writing at home! In your own time, you have created wonderful diary entries based on our recent history topic.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about light in Science. We have investigated a variety of different topics: how light travels in straight lines, what affects the size of a shadow and the factors that influence reflection. Did you know that periscopes reflect light between two mirrors at a 45 degree angle and were used in WW1 by soldiers to see over the trenches? Please ask us about it!

Diary Dates

| | |
|--|---|
| Mon 20 th Nov | Year 1 Church visit |
| Tue 21 st Nov | Parents evening |
| Wed 22 nd Nov | Parents evening |
| Mon 27 th Nov | Year 4 Church visit |
| Tue 28 th Nov – 5 th Dec | Book fair |
| Thurs 7 th Dec | Christmas Jumper Day & Dinner Day Christmas Film Night (information to follow) |
| Tue 12 th Dec | Christmas performance to parents Nursery & Rec – 9.30am Year 1 – 2pm |
| Wed 13 th Dec | Christmas performance to parents Year 1 – 9.30am Nursery & Rec -2pm |
| Thurs 14 th Dec | Christmas performance to parents Nursery & Rec – 9.30am |
| Thurs 14 th Dec | Christmas Fair |

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.



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, Sylvania 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.**



FESTIVE RIDE KIDIMAS YORK

Sunday 3rd December 14.00

Start and Finish at Cycle Heaven, 31 Hospital Fields Rd,
Fulford, York YO10 4FS (parking available)



- 🎄 14.00 COMPETITION for best handmade festive bike and costume
- 🎄 14.30 FESTIVE RIDE starts (family-friendly mass bike ride)
- 🎄 15.15 APPROXIMATE FINISH
- 🎄 15.30 COMPETITION PRIZES @ social

Free squash and a hot beverage and cake for £5 at the café

CYC
YORK
CYCLE
CAMPAIGN

FREE ENTRY!



CHRISTMAS
CRAFT
Fair

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER 2023
10AM - 1PM

- CRAFT STALLS
- REFRESHMENTS
- CAKE STALL
- JEWELLERY
- GIFT IDEAS
- CARDS
- KIDS CRAFTS
- ... & MORE!



ST JAMES THE DEACON CHURCH
ACOMB MOOR, YORK



Dear Parent/Carers,

We are delighted to announce the launch of two new websites www.raiseyork.co.uk and www.yorksend.org. They have been created with children and young people, parents, carers and professionals to make it quicker and easier for local families to get the information they need about local services and community support.

The **Raise York** site is part of the city's new network of Family Hubs; a project funded by the Department for Education to bring together organisations supporting children and families in a 'one stop shop'. A network of people, places and online support from pregnancy through to adulthood (age 19 years, or 25 years for people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), the aim is to make it easier to get advice, help and support on a wide range of topics including infant feeding, mental health support, health visits and parenting classes.

In partnership with Raise, York SEND Local Offer (yorksend.org) is also being relaunched onto its own site. The new website provides a dedicated resource for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, their families and the professionals working with them.

The York SEND Local Offer sets out services and activities available to children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities; support is available from birth to 25 years old. Our website provides helpful information for families at every stage of their journey, whether this is to learn about what Special Educational Needs are, to find out about the support available with or without a diagnosis, or to understand what preparation for adulthood looks like for young people with disabilities, the website covers all.

Take a look at both websites:

www.yorksend.org

www.raiseyork.co.uk

If you have any questions, please email yorklocalofferSEND@york.gov.uk