

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 1st December 2023

There are some lovely moments captured within this newsletter. It is so wonderful to see the children so happy and enjoying their learning. As many classes have been completing their RE units on Christianity over the past few weeks, we have been lucky enough to have been supported by Reverend Luke Tillett and everyone at St. James Deacon Church. The pictures of our year 4 wedding are very special.

An enormous thank you to everybody that has been able to attend our Book Fair, we have been busier than ever! The last day to grab a book will be Monday, where we are open both before and after school – thank you so much for your support!

Many thanks to Rob from York Roofing and Guttering who came and fixed our roof when it was damaged and left dangerous during recent high winds

Class attendance

Cygnets	95.28%	Goslings	94.06%
Hummingbirds	94.92%	Kingfishers	92.02%
Finch	94.94%	Robins	95.48%
Magpie	96.04%	Woodpeckers	94.76%
Owl	95.96%	Osprey	97.02%
Kite	96.26%	Falcon	96.30 %
Hawk	★97.12%★	Eagle	90.17%
School average for this year so far			

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 4
This week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 2
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



Festive Thursday – 7th December 2023

Next Thursday is a thoroughly festive day at Woodthorpe Primary School. Starting with our special Christmas jumper day in aid of Martin House Children's Hospice, followed by our Christmas dinner (which can be pre-ordered on School Grid) and finally we will end our day with a festive film night! Please ensure that you have secured your child's place for the film night no later than Tuesday 5th December at 12noon.

This year we have chosen to support local charity Martin House Children's Hospice, who do an incredible job helping very poorly children and young people as well as supporting larger family networks. Michelle from the charity delivered an assembly in school on Thursday this week and we all were very touched by the incredible work that the charity do. We welcome Christmas Jumper Day donations on Thursday the 7th and we will send this off to the charity to enable them to be able to continue their incredible work. To find out more information about the charity and their relentless drive to providing family-led hospice care free of charge for people with life-limiting illnesses, please click [here](#). We welcome cash donations on Thursday the 7th, alternatively you can donate online directly using this link [here](#). Thank you so much for your help and support.

Proud to support



Martin House
Children's Hospice

Here when families need us most



Registered Charity No. 517919

Christmas Fair

If anybody has any bottles, toiletries, chocolates, or sweets that they are able to donate for raffle prizes, we would really appreciate your help. Please bring these to the main school office by Friday 8th December. For any keen bakers out there, we are also hoping to hold a cake stall, please can any donations be brought to the main school office by the morning of Thursday 14th December – thank you so much for your help with this. All proceeds of our school fair go directly back into supporting exciting opportunities for our children. We hope to see you all there for our Christmas Fair Fun!

Merry CHRISTMAS

**WOODTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS FAIR**

TREATS, GAMES, HAIR GLITTER & GIFTS

**JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED, FESTIVE FAIR -
FULL OF GAMES, ACTIVITIES AND TREATS!**

**THURSDAY
14TH DECEMBER
3:30-4:30PM**

Nursery

Our Community

Over the last couple of weeks in nursery we have been learning all about our community. We have loved sharing information all about ourselves and our family. We have thought about what makes us the same and what makes us different. We have loved sharing what makes us all unique!

As well as this, we have enjoyed learning about different occupations in our immediate world. We have had a whole host of visitors come to Ducklings including a hairdresser, a train dispatcher, a vet and our site manager. A huge thank you to all our visitors who took the time to come and tell us all about their job in the nursery. We loved your visits!



Numbers 1 and 2!

In our maths learning we have been learning all about the numbers 1 and 2. In play we have enjoyed exploring this by mark making different numerals 1 in the sand as well as creating dotted butterflies with lots of different '2' coloured dots. One of our favourite songs has also been 'one finger one thumb'. We had to be careful to only use 'one' each time!



Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to Ella. Ella, you come to nursery with a huge smile on your face every day and skip into our play! You always try your very best in everything you do. This week have you shone in your amazing number work, asking fab questions during carpet sessions as well as super singing in all of our songs. Well done Ella!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about our community. Ask us about what jobs we know in our community such as a hairdresser, shop assistant, a teacher or even jobs that are in your family! Then ask us what the person might wear, use to help them or where they work.

Reception

It's Autumn!

This week, in reception, we have been learning all about the season of autumn as part of our geography learning. We have been making observational drawings of leaves, painting trees and making leaf bracelets with leaves that we have collected from the ground.



Toasting Marshmallows

On a cold Autumn morning, reception had the best time warming up together by singing songs, telling stories and toasting marshmallows around the fire in the forest.



Exploring Shape

In maths, reception have been exploring different 2D shapes. We have been sorting shapes that have 4 sides and shapes that do not have 4 sides by printing pictures, making our own shape monsters and building different shapes using lolly sticks.



Shout outs - Cygnets

Layla - For being so creative in the art area. You make some incredible pictures and models. It is fantastic to see your imagination come to life and how you work carefully using different tools, materials and techniques to achieve your desired outcome. Well done Layla!

Thomas M - For trying so hard with your phonics and your handwriting. You have been working really hard on your pencil grip and letter formation. It is lovely to see the progress you are making - keep up the good work!

Shout outs - Goslings

Caleb - For working really hard on your handwriting and for always trying your best. Your letter formation is improving every week and you have really persevered with holding your pencil with a tripod grip. Well done Caleb!

Charlie - Your maths work over the last few weeks has been amazing! You have enjoyed demonstrating that you have a super understanding of the composition of 4 and 5. You have also been really confident in naming and describing 2D shapes. What a superstar!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about the season of autumn. Ask us about some of the changes that we can expect to see in this season.

Year 1

RE - Visit to the church

Last week, Year 1 had so much fun adventuring to our local church - St. James Deacon Church. We looked high and low around to spot the main features of a church such as the organ, the altar, the pulpit and the vestry. It was really interesting to hear about why all of these items are really important for Christians when they visit the church. Once we got back to school, we learnt all about hymns and why they are important to Christians. We listened to carefully to different hymns and wrote down the emotions we felt whilst listening to them.



Geography - What is it like here?

Year 1 have enjoyed using aerial photographs to investigate and develop knowledge of our local area. We added our own labels to different features that we can see in Woodthorpe.



Computing - Sketchpad Portraits

Year 1 were putting their mouse skills to the test in our final lesson of our computing unit. We used sketchpad to create a self portrait using the different features on the programme such as clipart, the paintbrush and the different shapes.



Shout outs - Kingfisher

Bobby- For your recent attitude towards learning in all subjects! You have blown me away with your dedication and passion. Keep up the good work!

Lara- For your fantastic key knowledge within our geography lessons. You have remembered key words such as 'aerial photograph' and can pick out the key features on a map. Well done!

Shout outs - Hummingbird

Thomas - I have been so proud of your perseverance in our maths lessons! You have started answering reasoning questions to challenge yourself further! Well done Thomas!

Esther - A huge shout out to Esther for your INCREDIBLE reading! You have been making me so proud with the progress you have made in phonics and guided reading sessions, this is all down to your enthusiasm towards reading both at home and at school!

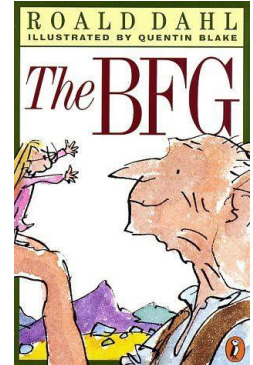
Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about our local area in geography... Please ask us about it!

Year 2

Celebrating the Illustrator- Quentin Blake

This week, in English we have been learning all about the inspirational illustrator that is Quentin Blake. We were fascinated to discover that he has illustrated over 300 children's books, including 18 for Roald Dahl. Throughout the week, we have been bringing in books from home that are illustrated by Quentin Blake and have enjoyed looking at his various illustrations.



Boxercise!

We loved our Boxercise lesson last week where we were learning how to perform the jab and the cross. We definitely felt our heart rates increase after the lesson!



Coding for Carrots

We have enjoyed our computing lessons this week and learning how to program our own algorithms. We played the game 'Coding for Carrots' and had to create our own algorithms to allow the rabbit to collect all the carrots.



Scan the QR code to play the game at home!

Shout outs - Robin

Bobby - For always trying super hard in maths and for getting so much faster when working out your times tables. Great work Bobby!

Maya - For your amazing writing this week in English. You have remembered lots of interesting facts about Quentin Blake and included some great conjunctions in your sentences. Well done Maya!

Shout outs - Finch

Rose- For your enthusiasm towards our Quentin Blake writing. We loved reading your Quentin Blake book from home and your writing this week has been incredible!

Oliver- WOW! What a week in writing you have had. Oliver, you have remembered an enormous amount of facts about Quentin Blake and have applied these all into your writing. What a superstar you are!

Ask us about...

This week in Geography, we have been learning about what it is like to live in a hot or cold place. Ask us about the seven continents and the North and South Pole - we can tell you lots of facts!

Year 3

Magpie - Geography - Identifying rocks



As part of our geography topic, 'Why do people live near volcanoes?' We observed and recorded the location of rocks around our school grounds. We discussed if the rocks were igneous, metamorphic, or sedimentary. We discussed the different types of rocks and where they are usually located. We then plotted the different types of rocks on our very own map of the school.

Woodpecker - Cosy reading!

Each day in reading time, Year 3 take turns to spend their reading time in the reading nook. They love getting out the blankets and teddies to cosy up into the corner and read their stories! Woodpeckers have been doing brilliantly with their comprehension quizzes after they've finished reading a library book, and are loving moving up the levels to challenge their reading!



Year 3 - Getting programming!



In Computing, the children have been loving learning to programme in Scratch. In this lesson, we started with an existing code for an animation that just had the beginning of a story. We changed (remixed) this code so that we could finish the story in whatever way we liked! We have thoroughly enjoyed these practical lessons and getting stuck into a real-world skill!

Shout outs - Magpie

Michael - A HUGE well done for completing your comprehension quiz on 'Millions'. It was a challenging book, but you showed great perseverance to read it. You are a superstar!

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Leni - your effort this week in all your work has really impressed me. You are always getting on with your work, and writing so much! I loved reading all the detail in your Geography and English books this week. Keep it up!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about the reasons to live near a volcano, and the reasons against living near a volcano. We have also been looking at how earthquakes happen on tectonic plate boundaries and how people protect themselves from them. Please ask us about it! Also, test us on our knowledge of the types of volcanoes, and what categories they are classified into!

Year 4

RE - Church Visit - Wonderful Wedding!

This week, Osprey and Owl class visited St James the Deacon church for a very special occasion...a wedding! As part of our RE topic, we have been learning about traditional Christian ceremonies. On our trip, we re-enacted a traditional Christian wedding, with hymns, vows and readings. We then celebrated with confetti, cake and music!



Osprey - Geography - Data collection

Osprey class have been conducting fieldwork this week to answer the question 'How is our local woodland used?' We went to our forest and asked members of our class what their favourite forest school activity is and how they use the woodland area. We then analysed our data to present our findings!



Owl - PE - Gymnastics

This week in PE, Owls have been working on our gymnastic key skills, in particular building up to a cartwheel. I was really impressed with the amount of determination and perseverance we showed as a class with completing a cartwheel.



Shout outs - Osprey

A massive well done to **Holly** and **Izzy** for their outstanding work in geography! You have both put in 100% effort in every lesson and have showcased everything you have learnt with some fantastic pieces of work. You both take great pride in your work and are determined to produce the best work possible! Keep up the great work!

Shout outs - Owl

A huge well done to Jett this week for putting in super effort in your reading at home. You are nearly at gold on our reading challenge and I am really pleased that you're challenging yourself to read more. Well done!

Ask us about...

This week we have continued to learn about why rainforests are important to us in our geography topic. We have explored how our rainforests are changing and the threats they are facing. We have also carried out our own fieldwork to understand how our local woodland area is used using a variety of data collection methods. Please ask us about it!

Year 5

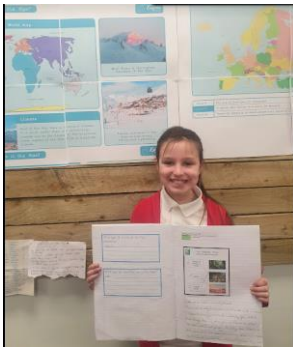
Forest School

This week in forest school, Kite Class created 'Bug Hotels' and Falcons created bird feeders. We are learning all about the biodiversity of the forest and which types of plants would entice bugs and birds to our bug hotels and bird feeders. We really enjoyed searching the forest floor for all the different leaves, twigs and materials needed for our creations!



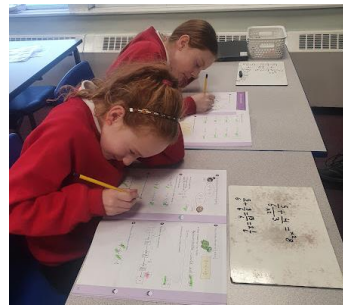
Geography

In Geography this week we have been developing our knowledge of the Alps and in particular, researching the city in Austria called Innsbruck. We have learnt that tourists visit Innsbruck for many reasons, but especially the skiing! We are now comparing the similarities and differences with our local area!



Maths - Fractions

In Maths this week we have been adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators, and doing calculations with mixed numbers and improper fractions. We have been using our knowledge of common multiples and our multiplication and division knowledge to support our calculations and have demonstrated amazing perseverance in the face of challenging questions. Well done year 5!



Shout outs - Kites

This week's shout out goes to **Reuben** for his excellent work in maths. Reuben has been developing his confidence with adding and subtracting fractions and has been participating in mathematical discussions! Well done Reuben!

Another shout out goes to **Leila**! We have been so proud to see Leila developing in confidence across all subjects, contributing to class discussions and sharing her skills and knowledge with classmates! Well done, Leila! Keep it up!

Shout outs - Falcons

This week's shout out goes to **Jayden** for making incredible progress in his handwriting. He has taken much care and pride in his geography and English work and has shown fantastic determination to improve his presentation. Well done Jayden!

Oliver has wowed us this week with his incredible maths work. Not only has he smashed his challenge questions after completing all of his work, he has then supported other students in the class, working on challenging questions collaboratively. Thank you Oliver!

Ask us about...

Our English work on our advertisements for a new Cookie Cafe! We are very excited to start our writing and have been enjoying learning about all the delicious cookie flavours on offer...

Year 6

Why does the population change? Geography Field Trip

As part of our Geography unit this half term, we have completed a field work study within our local area. By gathering evidence using tally charts and likert scales for two different areas, we have studied how population can impact an environment. Interestingly, we concluded that our sparsely populated area was busier, with higher levels of pollution because it was a larger road, with links to the A64 and the city centre. On the other hand, our more densely populated area was actually quieter and less busy due to it being a residential area and most residents being at work.



Fitness: Boxercise

Eagles loved creating different combinations of jabs, hooks, crosses and uppercuts in our Fitness lesson this week. By discussing the importance of fitness on our bodies (both long term and short term) as well as our mental health, we were able to complete a fitness circuit that developed our boxing techniques.



RE: Christianity Workshop



To aid in our understanding of what Christians do when times get hard, we were lucky enough to have a visit from St James the Deacon church. By opening a present without being able to use our hands (and consequently experiencing a difficult time), we were able to imagine a challenging situation and understand how the Beatitudes may support Christians through this.

Shout outs - Eagle

A massive shout out to **Angel!** Over the last two weeks, I have been blown away with the transformation that you have been making with your handwriting and presentation. You have also continuously strived to improve your understanding further in our Geography topic, which has been lovely to see! Well done, Angel!

Shout outs - Hawk

Evie K, your confidence is growing and you are beginning to put your hand up more during lessons. You are using your knowledge and understanding to justify your answers and this is having a great impact in your work. Keep it up as I am super proud of you!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about factors that impact the world's population. We have been able to identify sparsely and densely populated areas, explain changes to populations around the world and we have even completed a fieldwork study relating to the population in our local area. Ask us about it!

Diary Dates

Mon 4th Dec	Year 2 – Church visit
Thurs 7th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day & Dinner Day Christmas Film Night
Tue 12th Dec	Christmas performance to parents Nursery & Rec – 9.30am Year 1 – 2pm
Wed 13th Dec	Christmas performance to parents Year 1 – 9.30am Nursery & Rec -2pm
Thurs 14th Dec	Christmas performance to parents Nursery & Rec – 9.30am
Thurs 14th Dec	Christmas Fair
Wed 20th Dec	Last day of term
Mon 8th Jan	First day back at 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.



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

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)



Photo: Avon Leiff

- 🎄 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

Family Christmas Workshop



For unto us
a child is born!

Saturday 16th
December

3.00 - 4.30pm

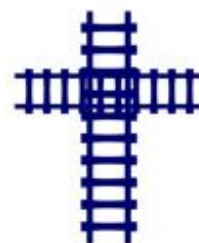
St. James the Deacon
Church, Woodthorpe,
YO24 2SE



Children's Nativity Christmas Activities & Crafts Festive Refreshments



For further information, please contact Nicola at
nicolastjamesthedeacon@gmail.com or through our Facebook
page - St James the Deacon Children and Families
Website: www.jamesthedeacon.org.uk





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

