Woodthorpe Primary School

Executive Headteacher: James McGann Head of School: Charlotte Grason-Taylor Chair of Governors: Sheriden Hutchinson-Jones

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

Friday 22nd March 2024

What a busy term we have had! Woodthorpe has been full of excitement; with so many children enjoy new trips, visits and clubs. We have been so proud of how hard the children have worked and have seen so much progress. This week's newsletter manages to capture just a few of our magical moments, including hosting author Tom Vaughan, embracing World Book Day and even becoming published poets!

Over Easter, building work will begin on the front of school. This is part of an exciting project to remodel the existing office areas and will continue into the summer term. We have ensured that children will not be disrupted during this time and that classrooms will remain unaffected. Keep your eyes peeled for the sleek new entrance!

As the evenings get lighter and the days a little warmer, we hope that you all enjoy the bursts of spring and have a lovely, relaxing Easter Holiday. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 9th April.

Class attendance this term!

Cygnets	95.27%	Goslings	95.52%
Hummingbirds	95.41%	Kingfishers	95.85%
Finch	97.03%	Robins	94.86%
Magpie	94.00%	Woodpeckers	96.16%
Owl	95.63%	Osprey	97.73%
Kite	94.82%	Falcon	95.74%
Hawk	94.63%	Eagle	91.47%
School average for this year so far		95.16%	

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 or email admin@woodthorpe.southbank.academy



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 2 Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



Review of current PSHE and RSE policy

At Woodthorpe we implement a PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) Programme across our school called Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE.

Following the Department for Education RSHE Guidance, 'All schools must have an up-to-date policy, which is made available to parents and others'. Therefore, as part of our annual review we will consult with our school community including parents/carers, staff and governors on our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RSE (Relationships, Sex and Health) Policy.

Please find our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RSE (Relationships, Sex and Health) Policy for Woodthorpe Primary School on our school website https://www.woodthorpeprimaryschool.co.uk/. This can be found under the section Our School > Policies > PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RSE (Relationships, Sex and Health) Policy 2024-2025. In addition to this, Jigsaw has provided some helpful information to tell parents and carers even more about the programme. Our PSHE and RSE policy and additional documents can be found on our website under the section Curriculum > Personal, Social and Health Education.

Should you wish to share any feedback or discuss anything further about this policy please contact the school via our school email - admin@woodthorpe.southbank.academy or school number 01904 806464 for the attention of Mr McGann or Miss Britland. Please ensure that any feedback is shared with school before 22.4.24. We will also be offering a drop in session on 22.4.23 at 4pm should you have any further questions or want to discuss this in more detail. If you wish to attend, please book via the school office.

Random act of kindness - 22.3.24

We have continued to be blown away by our random acts of kindness entries from our school community. This week is no exception!

Millie and Lexie have been very kind, spending one of their weekends busy making lots of loom band bracelets for runners at the Bloodaxe Challenge so they could receive donations for the RSPCA! Well done girls, it must have taken you a very long time to make so many!



Ted in Year 4 has shown amazing kindness to others. Whilst shopping with his family, Ted noticed a member of the public who he wanted to help. Ted asked his adults if he could get the person some food and drink. Ted kindly got them a meal deal and a bag of

chocolate to which the man was very grateful. It is wonderful to hear our children thinking of others!



Mille, Lexie and Ted you are shining examples of a random act of kindness. Woodthorpe Primary is so proud of you all!

We would like the school community to continue to help us with this! We want to hear from families, from school staff and from children about how exceptionally kind we can be. If you would like to nominate your child at any point, please email the school office with the subject 'Random Act of Kindness', the name of your child, a description of what they did and a photo (where possible). This will then be passed on to Miss Britland. Should you be unable to email a nomination in, please contact the school office and request to speak to Miss Britland.

We are looking forward to seeing which random act of kindness will feature in our next newsletter!

Charity Focus

As you know, this week we have been raising awareness and money for OSCAR's Paediatric Brain Tumour Charity. The charity exists to support and care for children facing brain tumours and for their families, to raise awareness of children's brain tumours. The charity strives to fund new research to drive down diagnosis time, increase survival rate and improve children's quality of life during and after treatment. It was set up in memory of nine-year-old Oscar Hughes from York but exists to serve any child, anywhere in the country having to deal with life with a brain tumour.

During our assembly with Phil & Cain from the charity this week, we were told that there is only a tiny fraction of funding spent on brain tumour support. It really is a case of every little helps, so if you are able, please consider donating via this link. We were really touched to hear about the amazing work that this charity does and are so proud of our family of schools coming together to make a difference — thank you.





1%
of the national spend on cancer research is allocated to this devastating disease

Nursery Nursery

Exploring our world

In Ducklings we have loved learning about our natural world. Together we have talked even more about planet Earth, living things, the weather and how to make sure we look after our world! We have explored maps, reported on the weather, created bird feeders and listened to lots of stories about taking care of our planet. A real highlight has been sharing family photos about all the wonderful places we have been. Together we have enjoyed looking at places including Filey, Scotland, Spain and New Zealand.

















All things Easter

To end the half term we have been learning about Easter. We have learnt about the Easter story and about traditions at this time of year including Easter egg hunts, hot cross buns and Spring. We have also loved creating our own Easter egg hanging decorations in groups. Ducklings have carefully cut out a template, punched a hole at the top, decorated their egg with lots of different materials and patterns then completed this with a loop of ribbon. They look wonderful!











Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to Lil! We are blown away each session by your wonderful attitude and amazing behaviour! You remember so much of our learning and also share lots of your own facts too. We have been thrilled to see your kind, caring nature in our setting and being a fantastic role model to other Ducklings! Well done Lil!

Ask us about...

This week, ask us about where we live, which city and which country. You could also ask us to tell you how we can look after our world!

The Arctic

Reception have loved learning about the Arctic and how it is different to where we live. We have been learning about the weather, the people and the different animals that live there. We have loved making different Arctic animals in the creative area and learning what they eat and how they survive in the cold climate. We have also enjoyed looking on Google maps to compare our local area to what it is like in the Arctic region and we talked about what it would be like to live there. Most of us think it would be too cold!



The Northern Lights

Reception have really enjoyed exploring chalk and creating beautiful pictures of the Northern Lights which are also called the Aurora Borealis. We loved watching a video of them!



Writing

Reception have been completing a writing challenge every morning when they arrive at school. They are doing absolutely brilliantly and wanted to show off their fantastic writing!



Shout outs - Cygnets

Mila M - For your super enthusiasm and engagement during our maths sessions. You have been trying so hard recently and have shown great understanding of different mathematical concepts. Fantastic work Mila!

Omari - For your excellent behaviour, listening and concentration during carpet sessions. You always try your absolute best and set a great example to your peers. Well done Omari - keep it up!

Shout outs - Goslings

Elliot - For making super progress with your reading and writing. You have been working really hard in phonics, particularly with your writing which is improving every day. Keep up the good work Elliot!

Archie - For always trying your best with everything and working really hard every day. You have a fabulous attitude to your learning and are always enthusiastic. Well done Archie!

Ask us about...

We have been learning about where polar bears and penguins live, ask us if they both live in the same place...

Year 1

World book day fun!

Year 1 loved celebrating World Book Day, they all looked fabulous in their costumes and thoroughly enjoyed sharing their favourite stories with Year 4!









Geography - What is the weather like in the UK?

DADADADADADADADADADADADADADADADADA

To enhance our geography topic, Year 1 visited the school forest. They had such fun taking part in their first fieldwork activity. They were challenged to investigate seasonal changes in our school forest by producing a season stick.



Computing - Bee Bots

This week, we enjoyed role playing and stepping into the life of a bee-bot. We worked in groups to control human bee-bots by using the up, down, turn and go buttons. We had to listen to our team mates instructions well so we could complete the correct actions!





Shout outs- Kingfisher

Stanley- For your newfound passion for reading! Seeing you read a wide range of books at home and the enjoyment you receive from them is simply delightful!

Adaline - You have amazed me with your phonics improvement! Your perseverance and determination is amazing! Keep up the good work.

Shout outs- Hummingbird

A big shout out to **Reuben** and **Ayda** for your amazing phonics and reading achievements! You are both making so much progress every single day all because of your brilliant, hard-working attitude! Well done Ayda and Reuben!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about timbre and rhythmic patterns in relation to the well known story 'The Three Little Pigs'. Why don't you ask us about it?

York Minster trip - Year 2 loved visiting York Minster and Clifford's Tower as part of their Geography topic. We completed a tricky treasure hunt around York Minster before going to Clifford's Tower and playing an eye spy game to find out the many landmarks of York.









World Book Day!

Year 2 loved the different activities we took part in for World Book Day, especially the paired read we did with Year 5.



Meet our caterpillars!

Finch and Robin class were delighted to receive some caterpillars last week as part of our life cycles topic. We have watched them grow and change every day and can't wait for them to change into bright and beautiful butterflies!







Shout outs- Robin

To the whole of Robin class...we were so proud of you on our school trip last week. You were super well behaved and represented Woodthorpe School brilliantly as we walked around York. You also listened really well as we went around the Minster and found out some fantastic facts about the different landmarks in York. Well done Robins!

Shout outs- Finch

George- For all your amazing additional work at home. George, you have worked so hard with your parents at home doing lots of additional tasks and the class have loved looking at them all. Keep it up.

Amelia- For your new found confidence in Maths. Amelia I have loved watching your confidence grow. Keep shining.

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about different melodies, pulse and tempo in our music lessons- I wonder how many pieces of music you will hear over the Easter break.

Year 3 trip to the Railway Museum and the Wonderlab!

Year 3 had a magical time visiting the National Railway Museum and Wonderlab! It was wonderful to discover the history of locomotives and how they have adapted and changed over time. We loved visiting the 'Flying Scotsman', considered the most famous locomotive in the world! In the Wonderlab, we made our way through 18 hands-on challenges and fuelled our curiosity with amazing live experiments! We tested our engineering skills by stepping into the human wind tunnel, launching a rocket, and building big! We had a fantastic time!



Magpie - Tom Vaughan Author Visit

It was an absolute delight to meet the author, Tom Vaughan, in school! It was wonderful to see the children so inspired by Tom's work and eager to start writing their own stories. It was an extra special moment to see one of our Magpie members receive the first signed copy of Tom's new book, 'Hercules: Diary of a Sort of Hero!! We are really excited to start reading



Hercules for our class reading enjoyment book.

Woodpecker - Pentatonic melodies!



This week, Woodpeckers have been learning about music that is played and danced to during Chinese New Year celebrations! Traditional Chinese and folk music are often made up of pentatonic melodies, which use 5 notes. We have been writing our own melodies, and are so excited to perform and dance to them at the end of the week!

Shout outs - Magpie

Oliver -I am so impressed with your amazing attitude towards school and your learning! I have been particularly impressed with your incredible wealth of knowledge, which you have shared throughout our Antarctica topic! Keep it up, Oliver; you are a superstar!

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Chhimmi - We are so glad that you have joined Woodpecker class! I am so proud of how resilient you have been since joining us as you've been getting used to our learning. It's not easy having a new start, but it's been lovely to see you making wonderful friends.

Ask us about...

In Geography, we have introduced our new topic, 'Who lives in Antarctica?'. We have already discovered what the Antarctic climate is like, planned an expedition around our school, and learned about the famous explorer Ernest Shackleton. Ask us to describe what the lines of longitude and latitude are!

Osprey and Owl - Howsham Mill

Osprey and Owl class had a fantastic time at Howsham Mill! We started the day off with a rivers quiz, in which we explored the island around Howsham Mill, looking for key river features. In groups, we then made our own water wheels and took part in some map work activities. We even enjoyed s'mores around the campfire!









Osprey - Dance

Osprey class have really enjoyed their dance lesson with Miss Cooper this half term. During this unit, we have developed our leaps, jumps and turns, and we have learnt a dance as a class!



Owl - Music

This week in music, we have been exploring what an ostinato and a round is. We have used our voices as well as the glockenspiels to create some beautiful river themed ostinatos.



Shout outs-Osprey

A massive well done to EVERYONE in Osprey class! We have had a brilliant spring term and we have produced some amazing pieces of work. I hope everyone has a fantastic Easter!

Shout outs- Owl

A huge well done to everyone in Owls this week. You all represented Woodthorpe fantastically on our school trip this week, demonstrating excellent behaviour and a great learning curiosity. I am very proud of you all!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics in music. We have learnt how to sing in two groups with expression and dynamics, and we have created and performed our own ostinatos! Ask us about it!

Drax Power Station: Science and Geography Trip

This half term, Year 6 were lucky enough to visit Drax Power Station. Linking to our geography topic based on generating electricity, we were able to learn about the journey of how their biomass can be used to provide energy to up to 4 million houses! We were blown away by the size of their boilers and by the ingenuity of their methods for efficiency. We were particularly impressed with the trains, which were able to deposit the biomass at the power station without even stopping.



RE: York High Islam Session

This week, Year 6 took part in an RE lesson delivered by a specialist teacher from York High School. The session focused on Islamic holy buildings; we discussed mosques and even the Ka'aba in Mecca! We were really impressed by the amount of key knowledge we could remember and apply from our previous RE units based on pilgrimages!



Music: Baroque and Opera

Our music topic this week has been based on opera and baroque music. Each lesson has been based on a particular musician or composer from this period of music. Lesson 1 focused on the work of Monteverdi, who was an Italian composer. Using his work as inspiration, we were able to create our very own recitatives.





Shout outs- Eagle

A massive well done to Scarlett this week! You have blown us away with the results that you achieved during your mock SATs last week and it has been so lovely to see your confidence blossom over the last half term.

Keep shining, Scarlett!

Shout outs- Hawks

Scarlett, you are such a great ambassador for Woodthorpe: you have done an incredible job at promoting your Easter writing competition; you have challenged yourself during our writing topics; and you're such a supportive member of our class.

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about Pachelbel's canon and opera in music. Did you know that opera is very similar to theatre: it is a play that is performed purely by singing. Ask us about it!

Geography - Field Trip to Scarborough

As part of our Geography unit 'Why Do Oceans Matter?' Year 5 went on an exciting field trip to Scarborough! We have been learning all about the importance of our oceans for medicine, food, providing jobs and creating renewable energy. We have been learning about the various things which harm our oceans, including litter and chemical pollution in the water. While we were in Scarborough, we litter picked and analysed the amount of litter we found in three different locations along the beach. We categorised the different types of litter and discussed how each type might biodegrade over time. We then sieved the sand to identify smaller pieces of plastic and learn about how this type of litter impacts marine life.



Once Upon a Dream - Poetry Competition

We are so proud to share that lots of children from Kites and Falcons won the Once Upon a Dream poetry competition and we will have the honour of having their amazing work published in a book. Their poems were based on dreams and were



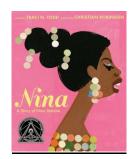
Shout outs- Kites

This week's shoutout goes to Poppy for her excellent biography about Nina Simone! Poppy has worked really hard to develop her writing and has shown real passion in her finished piece. Poppy has been keen to share her knowledge with the class in lessons too. Well done, Poppy!

Another big shout out goes to Esmee! Esmee has been an absolute star this half term. She has such a positive mindset and is always happy to help out around school and is keen to help other children whenever she can. Esmee is ambitious in everything she does and we are so proud of her!

English - Nina Simone

In English this week we have been writing a bibliography about blues, jazz and folk singer Nina Simone. We have been discussing her amazing impact on the civil rights movement while recalling important information about her style and why she rose to success during the 1960s. It was great to recap our blues music knowledge while learning about such an inspirational woman.



Shout outs- Falcons

This week's shout out goes to Lacie for her kindness and respect to others. She is always going out of her way to help her partner if they are stuck and is consistently offering to help around the classroom - all while putting incredible effort into her work. Thank you Lacie!

Another well done goes to Charlie for his fantastic reading! He has been so passionate and excited about his book, *Varjak's Paw*, and had great success in his quiz. He has also been using incredible key vocabulary words in our wider curriculum subjects. Good for you Charlie!

Ask us about...

East and West African music! Ask us what call and response means and who originally sung the 'Shosholoza' song we have been learning.

Mon 8th April Teacher Training Day Tue 9th April Back to school Thurs 2nd May School closed for Polling – Year 6 students still to come in Mon 6th May Bank Holiday – School Closed Mon 27th to Fri 31st May Half term Mon 3rd June 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 <u>not entitled to Working Tax Credit</u> 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 <u>this</u> <u>useful website</u>— where you can access the latest copy of the Digital Parenting magazine and many other additional resources regarding internet safety.

For further information support and copies of our own Woodthorpe digital newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact our school office.







Parking on the School Keep Clear markings and other yellow lines around schools is inconsiderate and dangerous

Parking here **endangers** the safety of all children that attend the school

These markings are there to help children see and be seen

Children should never have to cross between parked cars outside of their school

> By stopping here you are committing an offence and you could get a parking ticket or fine





Ducklings Nursery at Woodthorpe Primary School Now accepting pupils for September 2024 and beyond

Our fully qualified and highly experienced Nursery team are welcoming 3 and 4 year olds to Ducklings. Our inspiring and nurturing environment provides hands-on immersive experiences for your child, using the natural environment to promote exploration and independence, helping your child become school ready.

We accept both 15 and 30 hour funding and provide wraparound care. Parents are also able to pay for additional sessions that are not funded at a rate of £4.20 an hour. You can also use the Government tax free scheme to pay for your sessions.

Please visit www.woodthorpeprimaryschool.co.uk/ducklings-nursery to apply for a place, or pick up an application pack from the school office. You can also email us at ducklings@woodthorpe.southbank.academy















AT ENERGISE LEISURE CENTRE(YORK HIGH SCHOOL)

CORNLANDS ROAD, ACOMB, YORK, YO24 3DX

STARTING WEDNESDAY 10TH APRIL 2024

(NEW PLAYERS CAN JOIN AT ANYTIME DURING THE YEAR(PROVIDING PLACES ARE AVAILABLE)



Dear Parents.

I am delighted to inform you that following the success of previous year's courses we are expanding the football coaching programme for the season. The course will run on a weekly basis EVERY WEDNESDAY during school term times.

All of our courses are run by F.A. QUALIFIED COACHES INCLUDING EX-PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS. All of our coaches have been DBS/CRB police checked. The course is open to boys and girls aged between 4 and 12 All abilities are catered for with total beginners introduced through fun and confidence building practices. The course is tightly structured to ensure all aspects of football skills are developed.

At the end of the term(usually 10-15 weeks) every child will receive a merit trophy and course certificate, with chances to win extra trophies including penalty shoot out, american shoot out and champions league competitions.

The cost of the course is £7.50 per week, which is payable every four weeks (£30) with the first payment due on week one. Parents are welcome to stay and watch however the club is fully supervised so children may be left in our care. We have the use of excellent facilities including the large indoor sports hall.







Crafty Fox Kids Club

After school craft club

St James the Deacon, Woodthorpe Mondays (term time) 3.45-4.45pm

(Pre-booking essential)

For more information visit: www.craftyfoxkidsclub.com













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 it's own site. The new website site 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