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Newsletter

Hello.

Friday 24th January 2025

The start of the year has been a successful one in school. It has been lovely to celebrate the achievements of children from across the week in assembly this morning. I always love to hear about children's achievements outside of school too, so please do encourage your children to share their certificates and medals with us. Speaking of achievements, Year 6 visited Murton Park this week. Murton Park noted how well behaved children were, they were a delight and represented our school beautifully. Well done Year 6!

I have spent a lot of time in classes and around school this week. It has been lovely to see children engrossed in their learning and working really hard to make the best progress they can!

Have a lovely weekend Mrs Winston

Class attendance this fortnight

Glass attendance this forting it			
Cygnets	94.02%	Goslings	92.81
Hummingbirds	96.62%	Kingfishers	95.10
Finch	90.22%	Robins	96.14%
Magpie	96.07%	Woodpeckers	93.27%
Owl	95.45%	Osprey	96.72%
Kite	97.62%	Falcon	96.65%
Hawk	97.62%	Eagle	95.73%
School Average for this fortnight		95.58%	

Thank you to all families who manage to get their child to school on time every day – it makes such a difference. As a reminder, if your child is absent from school, please call 01904 806464 followed by option 1 to leave a voicemail, report the absence on parent mail or email admin@woodthorpe.elt.org.uk before 9am.



100% attendance parent winners

Last week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 6
This week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 3
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



Thank you

I just wanted to say thank you for the donations of books and toys. People have been so generous and it will make a huge difference to what we can offer at Lunch club. Thank you!





Random Acts of Kindness Day 2025

We have been blown away with our random acts of kindness so far at Woodthorpe. A huge thank you to our school community for helping recognise how our children can be exceptionally kind in so many different ways!

To further enhance what we already do at Woodthorpe, shortly we will be asking our school community to take part in the Random Acts of Kindness Day 2025. This year it is going to be held on Monday 17th February (in February half term).

Next week in school we will be sharing an assembly with our children all about this day and continuing to learn about what random acts of kindness are, how we can recognise these as well as thinking about some of the positives kindness can bring too!

"Kindness is more than just a 'nice thing to do'. It plays a crucial role in our well-being. Research has shown that kindness improves our physical and mental health – whether we're giving kindness, receiving kindness or even just witnessing kindness. How amazing is that?"

(Taken from - Science of Kindness - School of Kindness)

We will write to our families in due course to explain and ask for your support with the Random Acts of Kindness Day 2025.

We are looking forward to sharing our special kindness challenge for the half term holiday!

In the meantime, we would still love our school community to continue to help us celebrate our random acts of kindness in our newsletter.

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.

Children's Mental Health Week 2025 - Monday 3rd - Sunday 9th February 2025



On the week commencing Monday 3rd February we will be taking part in Children's Mental Health Week 2025.

'The theme for 2025 is **Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**, with the aim to equip and empower children and young people across the UK to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them. We want children and young people to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop.' (Place2Be - https://www.place2be.org.uk/)

During the week we will be continuing to think about the positive things we can do to support our mental health based on this year's theme as well as some of the things we already do at Woodthorpe including 'Our Mental Health Toolkit'.

Keep an eye out in our next newsletter for some suggested websites and resources our families can use at home to support your child's mental health.

NURSERY

When did dinosaurs roam the Earth?

This week we have started to explore all things dinosaurs. We have been busy learning that some people think that dinosaurs were around a very long time ago! We have loved reading about them as well as playing in our dinosaur small world.









Busy Fingers!

In Ducklings we spend lots of time thinking about how to get our fingers moving ready to help us mark make and write!

Recently we have enjoyed using our super fine motor skills to thread beads onto string, use tweezers to count out pompoms as well as make patterns in the sand using different brushes. Look at our fingers go!

















Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to Nolan! Nolan you are an amazing role model in Ducklings always trying your best, showing fantastic behaviour, beautiful manners and kindness towards others. We also are blown away with your knowledge that you share with us from things about space to all things dinosaurs - it is wonderful to hear your ideas. Well done Nolan!

Ask us about...

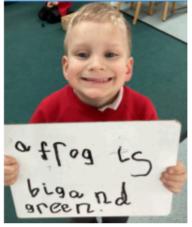
When Dinosaurs roamed the Earth... Are they here now? What do people think happened?

RECEPTION

Caring for Animals

Reception have been busy learning all about how to look after and care for different animals. We have done some wonderful writing, have thoroughly enjoyed pretending to be vets in our role-play area and have been making different animals, with moving parts, from paper plates. We have also received lots of lovely photos of family pets which the children have loved talking about!







Bird Feeders.

Goslings loved making bird feeders in the forest last week. They worked hard to push lots of seeds into slices of apple, thread string through and then hang them up in a tree. Let's hope the birds enjoy them!





The Purple Pig Company

Reception enjoyed a visit from 'The Purple Pig Company' last week. We loved meeting all the different animals including an angora rabbit, a tortoise, a chicken, a hedgehog and Rex the bearded dragon. We were even allowed to stroke them!





Shout outs - Gosling

Evie - For telling us all about her pet dog - Digby! You spoke beautifully about how you look after him and how much you love playing with him - thank you Evie!

Gianmatteo - For working really hard to improve your letter formation and handwriting. It's been lovely to see how proud you are of your achievements. Well done Gianmatteo!

Shout outs - Cygnets

Lev- For your wonderful start at Woodthorpe Primary School. You have settled into Cygnet class really well and we have all loved getting to know you.

Sienna- For you fantastic writing in the writing area last week. Sienna you wrote some incredible sentences and applied your phonics too. Well done superstar!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about the different generations that we have in our families. Ask us about about our families and who are the youngest and oldest members...

Science - Our Senses

Year 1 have really enjoyed learning about our 5 senses and carrying out different experiments to test our different senses. One of our favourite experiments was our taste test where we tried different types of food and used our taste buds to describe what the different foods tasted like. Some of the foods were yummy and others were very sour!













P.E- Gymnastics

Year 1 have started the new year developing their gymnastic skills! They have enjoyed practising different types of rolls, including a log, teddy bear, and egg roll. We have shown great determination with these, as some are particularly tricky!





Maths - 1 more and 1 less
Year 1 have loved practising 1 more and 1 less
number skills by playing a space themed game - it
was so much fun!





Shout outs - Hummingbird

Bobby - For your super effort with your handwriting. We are so proud of the hard work you are putting into your pre-cursive writing. Your handwriting is becoming so neat - well done!

Eve - For your hard work in maths, you are trying so hard and really working on your number skills and your number formation. Your hard work is paying off and we are so proud of you! Keep up the great work!

Shout outs - Kingfisher

Erin - For being a kind and caring member of Kingfisher class. Your smile brightens up the whole classroom and it is an absolute joy to teach you!

Lacie- For your brilliant maths work! You have been working particularly hard, ensuring that you are challenging yourself! Keep up the hard work.

Ask us about...

In Science, we have been learning all about our senses! Why don't you ask us...

What are our 5 senses?

How do firefighters use their senses in their job?

Testing Strength!

As part of our final science lesson, we took part in an exciting experiment testing the strength of different materials. We had to recognise that the strength of some materials can be changed by manipulating the folds. We folded paper in different ways to create a different number of layers. We then recorded how many cubes the different paper folds could hold. We presented our data in a block graph. We were so surprised to discover that a sheet of A4 paper can hold up to 18 cubes! Incredible!









PE -Gymnastics

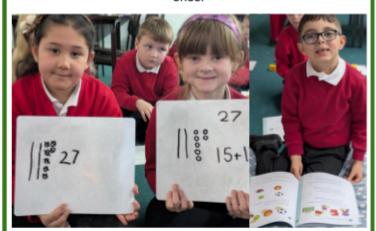
In PE this half term, we have been focusing on developing new skills in gymnastics. In this lesson, we experimented with different types of jumps. Some jumps were high, some were low, and others we attempted to make as long as possible!





Maths Superstars!

We had a very challenging maths lesson in which we had to solve two-step problems! The problems all involved money, adding an extra level of challenge! We showed great determination and resilience when answering the questions. We also used some clever techniques to help us solve the problems, such as drawing base-ten to calculate the tens and ones.



Shout outs - Robin

Lara - A big thank you to Lara this week for being a fabulous mini Miss Poulter and always helping others around her. You are always showing lots of kindness and respect for your classmates. Keep shining Lara!

Shout outs - Finch

Raeya, thank you so much for all the incredible reading you do at home! You are already on your second reading record; this is incredible! It is a joy to listen to you read. You read with expression and fluency. Keep it up, Raeya!

Ask us about...

We have started our new topic in history this week, 'How did we learn how to fly?'. We have explored important events surrounding the history of flight, discovered how a significant event changed the lives of others, and have used primary sources to find out about people and events in the past. Ask us who the Wright brothers were...

History - Romans

In History, we have been exploring the key question, Why did the Romans invade and settle in Britain? In this lesson, we investigated life in Ancient Rome by looking at its buildings and monuments. We used inference skills to understand what the buildings suggested about life in Ancient Rome.











Computing - Emailing

In computing, we have been learning about computer systems and networks: Emailing. In this lesson, we explored what emails are and how to compose and send one. We also learnt how to change the theme of our email accounts.





Howsham Mill

We had a super day at Howsham Mill last week!
As part of our Science topic we investigated what
soil is made of and then looked at properties of
different rocks. We also loved making S'mores on
the campfire!









Shout outs - Magpie

George - A huge well done for your hard work and determination in your reading! You have been putting in lots of effort in your phonics intervention and it is great to hear the progress you are making!

Arthur - A massive well done for always putting in 100% in all of our lessons! You always aim to include lots information in your work and you frequently share detailed and thoughtful answers with the class.

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Amie - for trying really hard in maths. You listened really carefully and did brilliant working out when we were dividing and even found the remainders. Great work:)

Darasimi - For fantastic work in RE. You contributed brilliantly during our Yo-Yo workshop - listening carefully and having lots of great ideas in the discussions. Well done!

Ask us about...

In History, we have been learning about the Romans. Why don't you ask us about it!

PE - Gymnastics:

Our PE unit this half term is gymnastics and we have been practicing a range of rolls (Dolly, log, tuck and over the shoulder) and learning how to do these in unison with our partner. Impressively, we have included starting and finishing positions.











French - board games

In our new french unit, the children have been learning to count to 10 in french. To help us apply our knowledge of numbers and colour, we played a game.





Science - Water cycle

We have been learning about the process of the water cycle and had a go at drawing our own water cycle diagrams.





Shout outs - Owl

Mollie - In English, Mollie impressed me with her desire to use a semi-colon. She was inquisitive as she was asking where to use it and why it would be best suited in that place. Within her writing, she included this Year 6 skill and was extremely proud of her achievement.

Shout outs - Osprey

Charlie D - I have been extremely proud of Charlie as he has been very passionate about his reading this week. I can clearly see his enjoyment for reading improving massively. Keep up the great work!

Ask us about...

This week in English, we have started writing our character and setting description of a carnival. We have learnt how to use expanded noun phrases and subordinate clauses.

Ask us about it?

How much money do different professions earn?

In PSHE, we have been investigating how much money you can earn from different jobs. We started the lesson with a game of charades; using only actions, the class had to guess a profession we would look at in the lesson. We then ranked different jobs in order of which we deemed most important before assigning a salary to each. We were surprised with how much or little









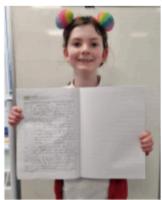




Another for the chop!

This week, we have begun our new history topic: the Tudors. We have enjoyed analysing different historical sources to draw our own conclusions about whether King Henry VIII was a fair ruler or a cruel tyrant!





Un, deux, trois...

Year 5 are really enjoying our new French unit numbers and age. Last week, we played a board game where we had to use our new counting skills along with our colours from last half term.



Shout outs - Kites

Jacob- for your determination to complete a challenging maths question this week. You worked methodically and with resilience which got you to the answer- very well done \(\shc \)

Shout outs - Falcons

Charlie - For his incredible enthusiasm in our history lessons this week. In addition to showcasing his fantastic knowledge about the Tudors, he has also pushed himself to complete the greater depth challenges in lessons. Amazing work Charlie - we're very proud of you!

Ask us about...

- Why did Henry VIII have so many wives?
- How do marriage requirements differ between the Tudor period and now?
 - What is absolute power?

History Trip: Murton Park

This week, we have been lucky enough to go on a school trip to Murton Park. Upon arrival, we were immersed in the role of being an WWII evacuee. After learning about our fate, we undertook many activities that would have been a part of our daily lives: churning butter, baking with rationed ingredients, washing clothes, creating rugs inspired by propaganda posters, putting out fires and participating in air raid drills. We were amazed to hear the real recording from Neville Chamberlain, which announced the start of the war, and to think about what the morale must have been like in England at the time.











Science- Evolution

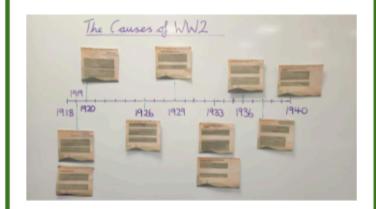
Our Science topic this half term has been, 'Evolution and Inheritance'. By studying variations in different species and researching different scientists (A.R.Wallace and Charles Darwin), we have considered how species have adapted and evolved in order to survive.





History: Why did Britain go to war in 1939?

As part of our History topic based on WWII, we were tasked to create a to-scale timeline mapping out the run up to the war. Using correctly measured increments and our understanding of chronology, we were able to plot the events that may have played a part in causing WWII as well as discussing the significance of the Treaty of Versailles.



Shout outs - Eagle

A huge shout out to Harry! You have blown me away with your enthusiasm and understanding of WWII this week. Not only has your use of vocabulary around it been phenomenal, you have also shared so many interesting facts with the class too. Well done!

Shout outs - Hawk

A huge shout out to Demi this week - you were so impressive on our school trip to Murton Park. You offered thoughtful answers, taught others new skills and were an attentive and curious learner. I am so impressed with how hard you are trying to be a conscientious and kind member of the class.

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about evolution and inheritance. Did you know that an axolotl can actually regrow body parts and lay roughly 1,000 eggs to support its survival? Ask us about it!

Diary Dates

Tue 11th Feb	Year 5 Trip to Merchants Hall
Wed 12th Feb	School Tour (Nursery summer intake)
Fri 14th Feb	Last day of term
Mon 24th Feb	Back at school
Tue 11th March	Whole class school photos

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) £9.00/session £7.50/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 are 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.elt.org.uk 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

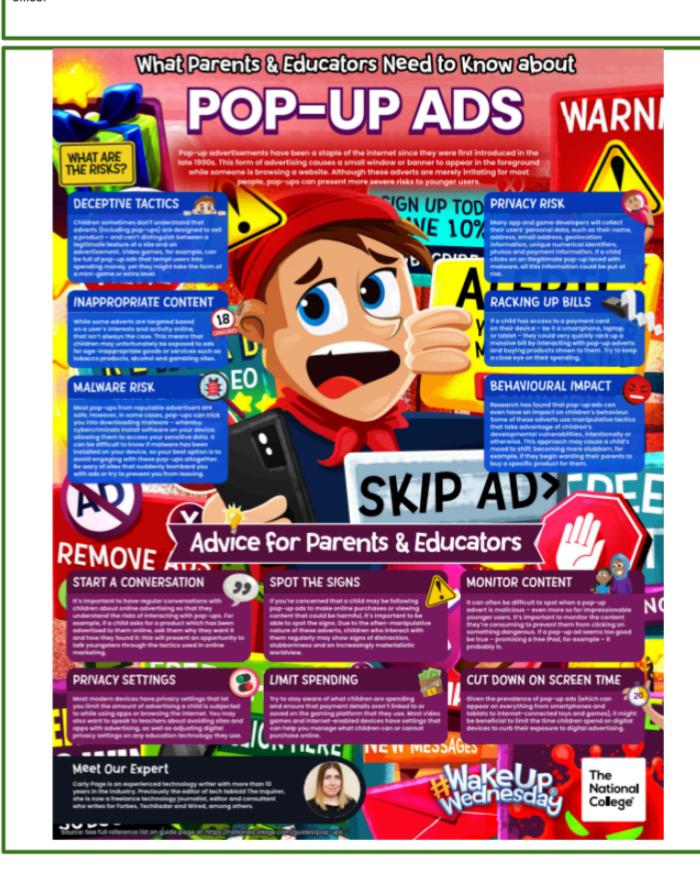
As a school, we are always keen to promote online safety and would like to share this useful website— where you can access the latest copy of the Digital Parenting magazine and many other additional resources regarding internet safety. For further information support and copies of our own Woodthorpe digital newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact our school office.

Online Safety

Top tips for managing pop-up ads

As children begin to spend more time online, it is important to stay informed about potential digital risks, including the increasing presence of pop-up ads. These ads can be more than just annoying - they may lead to harmful content or even encourage accidental downloads of malicious software. Please have a look at some of the top tips below. By staying vigilant and proactive, you can help ensure a safer online experience for your child.

If you would like any support with this, please feel free to speak to Miss Bedda, either in person or by emailing the school office.



Woodthorpe School Tour



We are hosting our next school tour on Wednesday 12th February 2025 at 1:30pm.

If you, or you know of someone in our local community who is thinking of joining our school nursery we would love to show you/them around. During the tour we will focus on our Early Years Provision as well as look around our whole school seeing learning in action. This is a fantastic way to see our school and our wonderful children!

Should you wish to book a place on our school tour, please contact our main office via the email admin@woodthorpe.elt.org.uk or telephone 01904 806464.

Should you have any specific queries related to the Nursery you can also contact the Nursery directly via the email ducklings@woodthorpe.elt.org.uk.

Please note, any current applications received for our Nursery children starting in the Summer Term 2025, we will write to families in due course to offer a stay and play session ahead of them starting.





FREE SIGNPOSTING EVENT FOR SUPPORT SERVICES, LOCAL FAMILIES, PARENTS & CARERS.

Join us at York St Johns Creative Centre where local support services will be available to give advice and information on mental health, neurodiversity, legal support, parents who are finding their early parenting journey a challenge, financial or health concerns, women's refuges, family abuse support, and much

4TH FEBRUARY
DROP IN FROM
2PN - GPM

Attending services include: HomeStart, York Integrated Care Board, Citizens Advice, Big Future Foundations, IDAS, York SENDIASS, The Retreat Clinics, SJPLAW, York Maternity Voices Partnership, Raise York / FIS, Foundation Positive Chaices Services

AT YORK ST JOHN CREATIVE CENTRE

BOOK NOW (3)



For more information email



Events in the Local Community

CRAFTY FOX KIDS CLUB

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS



01 Drawing and painting

02 Crafting and model making

03 Exploration, fun and learning too!



FEBRUARY ART & CRAFT WORKSHOPS



Monday 17th @ New Earswick Folk Hall Tuesday 18th @ Acomb Methodist Church Wednesday 19th @ Acomb Methodist Church

DROP & GO DRINKS AND SNACKS PROVIDED

MORNING / AFTERNOON AND ALL DAY SESSIONS AVAILABLE

SIGN UP NOW

SPACES ARE LIMITED AND PRE BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL. BOOK VIA: WWW.CRAFTYFOXKIDSCLUB.COM

February Half Term @Playden



Monday 17th February	Playden got talent, AM: preparing and rehearsing,
	PM: doing your show for the Judges
Tuesday 18th February	Painting and edible art crafts for everyone
Wednesday 19th February	A full day of baking, Mexican Quesadillas and cheese cake for afternoon snack
Thursday 20th February	Bird and bug watching, dissection of regurgitated food, making 3D birds with clay.
Friday 21st February	Make your own board games, win prices with Uno competition, team quizzes and get messy with pie face

Our setting

All staff are DBS checked, have up to date Paediatric First Aid and are committed to safeguerding children. Our staff are qualified and have many years' experience in childcare.

Healthy snacks are provided on a morning and afternoon. Water is available throughout the day at all times. Please provide your child/children with a named water bottle. Please provide your child with a healthy pack lunch and drink. Extra drink will be required if we are going on a trip out.

Please ensure that food does not contain nuts, this includes Nutella. This is due to severe allergy sufferers. Who attend the Holiday Club. Thank you.

The club is very accessible, and we are happy for children across the City of York and surrounding areas aged 3-11 years old to join our fun packed club.

Prices and Times

Full day bookings only: £34.00 per child We are open 7.30am to 6.00pm <u>To book</u>:

pleyden@the-playde

We are based at: The Annexe, Q/O Our Lady Queen of

To cancel a place you must give 2 weeks' notice to avoid charge for a booked place

Bookings will be confirmed once a registration form has been completed and submitted for each individual shild.

The activities/Venue are subject to change due to weather and circumstances beyond our control.

Looking forward to seeing you The Playden Team