



Newsletter

Friday 28th March 2025

Hello,

What an exciting time it has been at our school! As we approach the end of the term, the children have been fully immersed in their studies, particularly with the completion of their termly assessments this week. It's been wonderful to see them put forth their best efforts and demonstrate their learning. A special shout-out to our Year 6 students who are preparing for their forthcoming SATs. Their hard work and determination truly reflect their commitment to their education.

As we move closer to the end of term, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about our school policy regarding mobile phones. For the safety of all learners, we kindly ask that mobile phones be kept in the office during the school day. Your cooperation in this matter greatly contributes to the positive learning environment we strive to maintain.

With just one week left until the end of term, I want to take this moment to thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. I hope everyone gets an opportunity to enjoy the Easter holidays, spend time with family and enjoy a chocolate egg or two.

Wishing you a wonderful week ahead!

Mrs Winston

Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	96.79%	Goslings	96.91%
Hummingbirds	91.43%	Kingfishers	95.67%
Finch	96.96%	Robins	95.93%
Magpie	96.72%	Woodpeckers	91.23%
Owl	96.02%	Osprey	92.69%
Kite	97.02%	Falcon	91.46%
Hawk	94.76%	Eagle	★ 98.73% ★
School Average for this fortnight		95.18%	

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.elts.org.uk before 9am.



100% attendance parent winners

Last week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 1
This week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 4
Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!



Woodthorpe School Tour



We are hosting our next school tour on **Tuesday 6th May 2025 at 1:30pm.**

If you, or someone you know in our local community, are 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.elc.org 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.elc.org.

Staff Awards - Parent/Community Nomination Form

July 2025 will see the inaugural Excel Staff Awards, where we will be celebrating the exceptional contributions of staff across our Trust. One of the award categories is Excelling Through Parent or Community Recognition, therefore we are extending our nomination process for this category to parents and carers.

Complete the nomination form by following the link below and help us honour those who go above and beyond! There's no limit on the number of nominations you can submit - you just need to submit your nominee's name, the school they work at and the reason for your nomination.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfEYVltdRajjfE2fBlqP88k-GSc-3UahjnI5qrfEG-KO_I9HA/viewform

Random Acts of Kindness

This week's random act of kindness nomination is Oliwier in Year 4.

Oliwier has been exceptionally kind recently when helping a family friend with their reading. He has been busy listening to them read as well as explaining what the vocabulary meant to support her with her learning. Oliwier this is such a great random act of kindness. Not only have you generously helped someone but you are using your own knowledge and learning to help too! We are very proud of your kindness beyond Woodthorpe school!

As we approach our next half term, 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. This could be something that happens over the Spring half term break soon! 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 after the holidays!

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and RSE (Relationships, Sex and Health) 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 RSE 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 2025-2026.

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.elc.org.uk or school number 01904 806464 for the attention of Mrs Winston or Miss Britland

. Please ensure that any feedback is shared with school before 28.4.25. We will also be offering a drop in session on 28.4.25 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.

NURSERY

Happy Holi!

Ducklings had so much fun taking part in the recent Holi celebrations. We learnt all about the festival of colour and how it is celebrated around the world. Together we loved exploring colours in lots of different ways!



Natural World

Nursery have enjoyed exploring our natural world. We have been learning to care for our planet and living things. Together we have enjoyed looking in our nursery garden exploring what we can see near and far, saving sea creatures from rubbish as well as creating tasty bird feeders to attract more wildlife to our garden. Also, a huge shout out to our families who have helped by sharing photos of the different places we have visited!



Shout outs - Ducklings

A big shout out to Freddie. Freddie we have been so impressed with your mark making recently. You are working so hard to make marks using so many different tools. You have blown us away with some of your drawings and it has been amazing to see your enjoyment whilst making marks. Well done Freddie!

Ask us about...

Caring for our planet.

We can tell you lots of ways to take care of where we live and the things which live on Earth!

RECEPTION

Our Local Area

Reception have been learning about their local area and have enjoyed exploring Google Maps, drawing their own maps and making 3D maps in the construction area. They went for a walk around Woodthorpe to spot different features such as the church, shops, park and garage.



The Arctic

Reception have loved learning about the people and animals that live in the Arctic. They also enjoyed watching a video of the Northern Lights and then drawing them with chalk.



Odd and Even Monsters

In maths, reception have been learning about odd and even numbers. They enjoyed creating some very imaginative 'odd' and 'even' monsters!



Shout outs - Gosling

Lilian - For working really hard in phonics and always trying your best. You have made super progress with your reading Lilian and we are really proud of you - well done!

Ari - For making super progress with your writing. You are able to write lots of tricky words and also use your phonic knowledge to spell other words. Well done Ari!

Shout outs - Cygnets

Harley-James- For your wonderful progress in phonics. You have picked up your Phase 3 sounds really quickly and we are so proud of you. Well done Harley!

Ruby- For your wonderful penguin that you made last week in our Arctic week. You worked really hard, adding all the detail to your penguin - Well done Ruby!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning all about doubling in maths. Ask us to double any number up to 5...

Year 1

Art - 3D Sculpture

Year 1's new art topic is all about sculptures! We've been exploring 3D tubes inspired by the amazing artist Samantha Stephenson. The children had a blast creating their own unique pieces!



Length and Height

Year 1 have been exploring length and height in maths! We had fun using cubes to measure objects around the classroom and compare sizes. A hands-on way to learn!



PSHE - Healthy Me

This half term in PSHE, Year 1 have been learning about how to stay healthy! The children were fascinated to find out that they need 11 hours of sleep every night in order to be healthy!



Shout outs - Hummingbird

Alice - For being such a role model in Hummingbird class. Your behaviour is impeccable and you always put 100% effort into everything that you do. You are a pleasure to have in class - thank you!

Jacob - For your hard work in English. You have been trying so hard with your sentences, thinking of innovative things to say and really focussing on making your handwriting beautiful too - well done, keep it up!

Shout outs - Kingfisher

Elliott S- I am so impressed with your determination and resilience in Maths! You have worked so hard, even when things felt tricky, you've kept going with a positive attitude 😊☀️

Ariana- For your beautiful handwriting, you have work so hard to make it neat and clear, and it really shows. Keep up the amazing effort - you should be so proud of yourself! 💖

Ask us about...

As part of Art, we have been look at 3D art and different types of sculptures. We have also explored different ways we can fold and change paper. Ask us to show you how to make: the curve, the table, the spiral, the zig zag, the loop or even the zig zag spiral!

Year 2

Forest School

Year 2 has had a magical time in the forest this half term! We had a wonderful forest school session learning how to turn string into rope! We had to demonstrate brilliant teamwork skills and resilience, as the task was very challenging! We had to work as a team to carefully twist different pieces of string together before releasing them to form one long piece of rope! We then made our rope into beautiful decorations or bracelets. We are so excited to see what adventures we get up to in this week's forest school session.



PE - Send and return

In PE this half term, we have been focusing on developing our 'send and return' skills. This week, the children practised taking on the roles of both the feeder and the receiver. As feeders, they worked on accurately throwing the ball to their partner, while as receivers, they focused on returning the ball with control and precision. These activities are helping to build coordination, teamwork, and confidence in striking and fielding games.



Shout outs - Robin

A big thank you to George B and Ayda on our school trip to the air museum! You both showed wonderful manners and represented our school wonderfully! Well done to the both of you!!

YoYo Easter Workshop

In Year 2, we were very lucky to be visited by YoYo, who delivered a fantastic workshop all about Easter and how Christians celebrate. We listened to the Easter story and discovered why Easter is so important to many Christians around the world. We discussed the different ways in which Easter is celebrated and the important messages it carries. We then had great fun making our own Easter story wheel!



Shout outs - Finch

A big well done to **Delilah** for your beautiful handwriting in your English writing! You have taken so much time and care when completing your independent piece of writing on the Gruffalo! You're a star!

Ask us about...

We have started our new Art sculpture topic. We will learn how to make a basic pinch pot, join clay shapes, and make marks on a tile surface to create a pattern! Ask us about the scoring and slipping technique...

Year 3

Art - Growing Artists

Year 3 have been loving our art unit; drawing: growing artists. In this lesson we focused on botanical drawing. We used observational drawing skills to create detailed drawings of flowers.



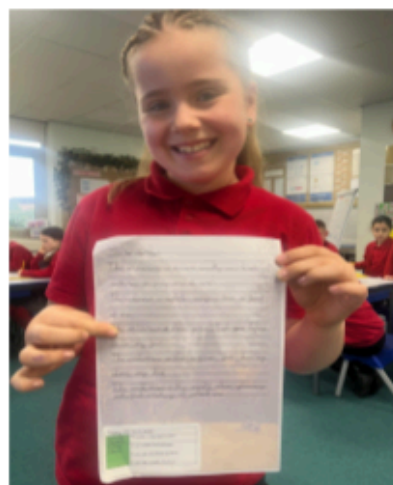
English - Using our senses

In Magpie class, we enjoyed writing our own expanded noun phrases in the sunshine! We explored our outside environment and wrote detail noun phrases about what we could see, hear, touch and smell.



English - 'In the Wilderness...'

We then used our expanded noun phrases and place adverbials to write wilderness poems. We are super pleased with our finished poetry!



Shout outs - Magpie

Carys - A huge well done Carys for your fantastic effort in our writing lessons. You have included lots of detail in your writing and you have shared some brilliant ideas. Keep up the great work!

Archie - A massive well done Archie for your brilliant maths work! You have been working a lot more independently and it has been great to see your effort and determination. Well done!

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Leon - For fantastic art work this week. You observed the flowers really carefully when you were doing your botanical drawings and your abstract art flower was fantastic! Well done Leon :)

Nancy - For writing a brilliant wilderness poem with some interesting adjectives and lots of different place adverbials. Great work Nancy!

Ask us about...

**We have been learning all about structures: building castles in DT.
Why not ask us about who lives there and why!**

Year 4

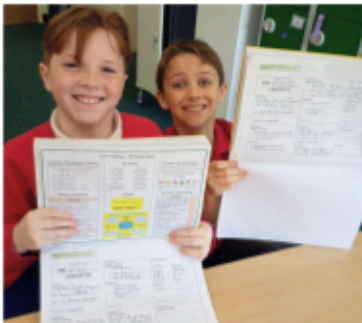
Trip - Howsham Mill:

Year 4 had an exciting school trip to Howsham Mill, where they created their own water mills and followed maps around the island. They also enjoyed making s'mores and seeing the fascinating Archimedes screw.



Writing - Newspaper Report:

We are travelling back in time to become reporters on the Viking invasion of York! We will include an eye-catching headline and arrange our work using subheadings and columns just like a professional publication.



PE - Tennis:

This week, we have played 2 v 2 matches. We have been learning how to communicate with each other effectively.



Shout outs - Owl

Billy - Thank you for being a superstar in all lessons this week. Keep it up!

Teddi - I have been blown away by your independence - you have shown great initiative and share ideas with confidence. Well done!

Shout outs - Osprey

Beth - I was very impressed how she demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout our school trip. She represented our school extremely well with her kindness and enthusiasm as well as answering lots of questions.

Ask us about...

Our new English unit is about the Vikings. We are writing a newspaper report about how they came to York. Ask us about the features we will be using in our writing.

Year 5

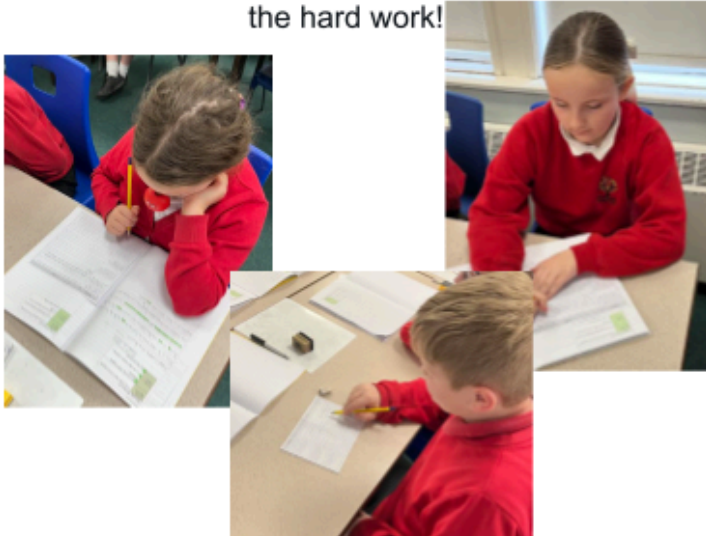
YoYo Workshop

Year 5 have really enjoyed participating in their YoYo workshops this week. We learnt about the Easter story and designed our own newspaper front pages to share our learning. Two members of each class even had the opportunity to become news reporters for the One Show!



English - Mars Rover

Year 5 are working really hard in English to achieve numerous different writing objectives. Last week we were focusing on formal and informal, progressive tenses and different clauses. Keep up the hard work!



PSHE

We learnt an important lesson in PSHE this week: how to safely put someone in the recovery position. We had a go at carefully following the steps with a partner and now feel confident in doing so should we ever need to.



Shout outs - Kites

Max- thank you for being such a polite, friendly and hardworking young man. You are supportive of your peers and bring to a smile of the faces of those around you. You are a star 🌟.

Shout outs - Falcons

Charlie - For your incredible, athletic performance in our fitness session this week, which earned you a well-deserved silver! Super effort Charlie - keep it up! 🌟

Ask us about...

- What is a self-portrait?
- What can colour choices represent in a self-portrait?
- What is mixed-media artwork?

Year 6

Art: Symbolism

Combining inspiration from the Maya and the style of modern artist, Dan Fenelon, we developed spirit companion symbols to represent ourselves by creating a drawn tile of line, pattern and colour.



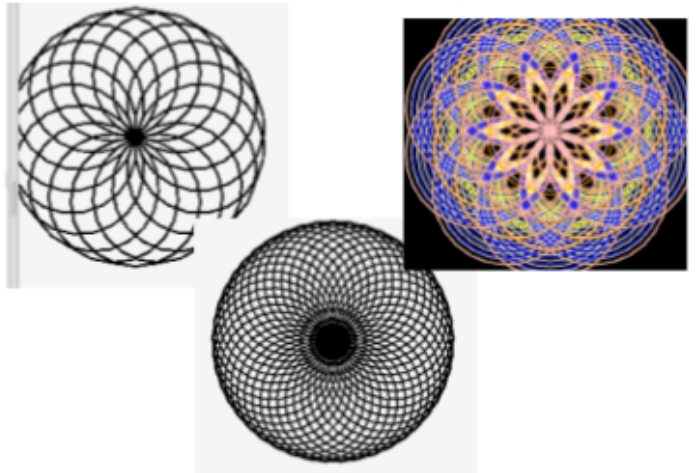
Tennis: Playing Doubles

In Tennis this week, we have begun to look at how to successfully play a doubles game. We were aiming to score as many points against our opposing team as possible, while defending well using teamwork skills to return balls over the court. We showed great resilience and determination when aiming to return the ball before it bounced twice in our courts!



Computing: Python Loops

Looking at art inspired by Islamic art, we then used this as a basis for our python coding designs. We learnt and applied our knowledge of nested loops to experiment with repeated shapes and a variety of different colours. Look at how amazing some of our designs are!



Shout outs - Eagle

A massive shout out to Sofia! We were so proud of the way that you approached our mock SATs last week and your progress in both reading and SPaG was phenomenal. We are so proud of you- keep shining brightly!

Shout outs - Hawk

A massive shout out to Paisley this week for you incredible piece of Mayan art; you have added so much intricate detail and shown an excellent understanding of the conventions of Mayan artwork. Well done you!

Ask us about...

In art this week, we have been learning about Mayan art and wayob symbols. We have been deciding which 'way' has similar characteristics to us and which suitably describe our personality traits and what job we would be good at. Ask us about it!

Diary Dates

Mon 31st March	Pea Hunt Day
Fri 4th April	Last Day of Term
Tue 22nd April	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) **£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.elst.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

Whilst Roblox can be a great way for friends to socialise, online games like Roblox that allow multiplayer gameplay with strangers are always fraught with a variety of dangers that can expose children to inappropriate or harmful content. Roblox enables people to play anonymously, which can often be something that attracts people to misuse the game and potentially put young people at risk of harm.

In addition to interacting with random strangers across the world, other factors such as in-game purchases and potential scams can also pose a financial risk. It's important that parents remain aware of the risks associated with this popular title and how it can be used safely.

If you wish to discuss any online safety issues or questions further, please do not hesitate in contacting Miss Bedda via the school office.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable in smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back - or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money safely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGBIBLIE.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Events in the Local Community



FRIDAY 18TH APRIL
10.00AM-12.00PM

St. James the Deacon Church,
Woodthorpe, York

FREE

**ST JAMES
THE DEACON
CHURCH
sjd**

**FAMILY
EASTER
WORKSHOP**

Looking for a fun and exciting way to celebrate
Easter with your family? Look no further than
our Easter Workshop!

**INTERACTIVE EASTER STORY
FUN EGG HUNT GAMES
CRAFTS AND ACTIVITIES
FREE REFRESHMENTS**

ALL CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE A CHOCOLATE EGG!

All welcome, children must be
accompanied by a responsible adult