



Newsletter

Friday 9th May 2025

Hello,

As we end another busy week at Woodthorpe, a reminder that SATs begin next week for our Year 6 pupils. We've sent home information this week with details about timings—please do take a moment to check these. It's really important that children arrive on time and are well rested so they can do their very best. To help with a positive start each day, we'll be offering a free breakfast from 8.10am throughout the week.

This week, we were also delighted to welcome some young people and adults from Choose2 York, who joined our student ambassadors at Woodthorpe for a Forest Schools session and some litter picking. It was lovely to see the group enjoying outdoor activities together, topped off with a well-earned hot chocolate—everyone got so much from the experience.

The warm weather is set to return to York this weekend, so I hope you all get the chance to enjoy a bit of sunshine!

Mrs Winston

Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	98.26%	Goslings	★ 99.79% ★
Hummingbirds	96.54%	Kingfishers	96.67%
Finch	94.14%	Robins	98.95%
Magpie	97.04%	Woodpeckers	95.30%
Owl	96.46%	Osprey	95.48%
Kite	93.92%	Falcon	94.47%
Hawk	98.32%	Eagle	97.37%
School Average for this fortnight		96.60%	

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





MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

12-18 MAY 2025

[\(Mental Health Awareness Week | Mental Health Foundation\)](#)

Next week marks Mental Health Awareness Week 2025. This year, Mental Health Awareness Week will take place from 12 to 18 May 2025. The theme for 2025 is community and our campaign is **"Together for good mental health"** (taken from Mental Health Foundation).

As our community knows, at Woodthorpe we value and talk about both our physical and mental health regularly through our daily circles, assemblies, class discussions, curriculum, Jigsaw PSHE lessons and more!

Please find below a list of supportive online resources for you to access for your child. Please pick as appropriate for your child's age range. We hope you find these resources helpful.

- Mental Health Foundation:
 - [Why is community important for our mental health and wellbeing? | Mental Health Foundation](#)
 - [10 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR COMMUNITY](#)
 - [Talking to children about scary world events | Mental Health Foundation](#)
 - [Resources for schools, caregivers and young people | Mental Health Foundation](#) (section - Resources for Caregivers)
- YoungMinds:
 - [How to Talk to Your Child about Mental Health | YoungMinds](#)
- Place2be:
 - [How to support your child's mental health – Place2Be](#)
- RaiseYork:
 - [Welcome to Raise York – Raise York](#)
- NSPCC:
 - [Promoting mental health and wellbeing | NSPCC Learning](#)
- Anna Freud:
 - [Advice for parents and carers: talking mental health with children at primary school | Anna Freud](#)



Random Acts of Kindness

As part of this year's Mental Health Awareness Week 2025 we want to remind our children how being kind in our community is good for our mental health following the theme this year **"Together for good mental health"**.

'Research shows that helping others can be good for our mental health. It reduces stress, improves our emotional well-being and even benefits our physical health. In short, doing good does you good.'

(Mental Health Foundation)



With your child you may want to explore the Mental Health Foundation's ideas for random acts of kindness (picking appropriately for your child's age), then share with us in school what you have been up to!

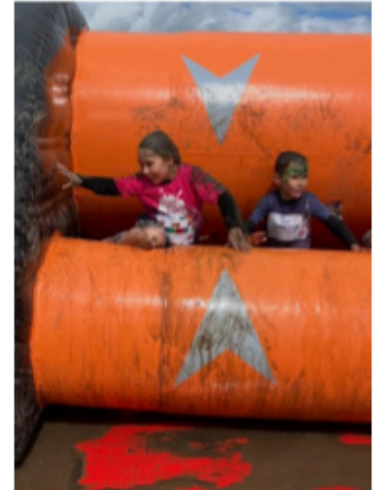
[Random acts of kindness | Mental Health Foundation](https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/ideas/random-acts-kindness)

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!

Random Acts of Kindness

Many of our amazing Woodthorpe children have taken part in the York Race for Life Pretty Muddy Kids 5K race on the Knavesmire over the weekend. The children enjoyed walking/running round the racecourse, doing obstacle courses through mud and cold muddy water! It has been wonderful to hear of so many children doing this. It was also amazing to hear that so many children raised lots of money for this charity too. What a fantastic random act of kindness! Some of the children who took part were Arya, Ruby, Emma, Noah, Evelyn, Arthur, Emily, Daisy, Ava, Emily, Caoimhe and Esther. Well done everyone!



NURSERY

Fruits and Vegetables

Ducklings have loved exploring fruits and vegetables. Together we have learnt about the differences between fruits and vegetables, talked about our favourites as well as explore first hand what these look like whole and chopped up. This has inspired us to design healthy food plates and also draw what we could see!



Healthy snacks

As part of our design and technology learning, Ducklings have loved making a fruit salad. Together we have explored how fruit can be fresh, dried and tinned. We have used our senses to talk about how fruit feels, tastes and smells. Finally, we have loved working together to prepare, chop and eat a delicious fruit salad which included pineapple, peaches and strawberries!



Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to Nelly! Nelly, we are all very proud of your amazing attitude to learning. You always come to nursery with beautiful manners, being a kind friend to others as well as fantastic behaviour. We are also super impressed with your amazing contributions in carpet sessions including your wonderful singing and actions. You are a role model to other Ducklings! Well done Nelly!

Ask us about...

Fruits and Vegetables!

We can tell you some of our favourite, what they look like and how they taste!

RECEPTION

Outdoor Play

Reception's outdoor area just got a whole lot more exciting! With our brand-new outdoor equipment, the children have been busy building brilliant dens, weaving through wobbly obstacle courses, and dreaming up all sorts of wild adventures. From secret hideouts to daring missions, their imaginations are running wild! It's been a joy to see so much laughter, teamwork, and creativity as they explore and play in new ways every day.



Woodwork

Reception have been continuing their woodwork journey and have really impressed us with their skills and creativity. They have made some amazing models and we are really proud of them!



Planting

This week Reception have been busy planting some seeds in our outdoor area. We decided to plant onions, peas, lettuce and sweet peas. Fingers crossed that they grow!



Shout outs - Gosling

Francesca - For making a fantastic unicorn in the woodwork area. You came up with a brilliant idea and then worked really hard to make your model, using the hammer carefully and safely. Well done Francesca!

Lyla - For settling into your new class, making some new friends and for trying your best with learning some new things. Well done lyla, I am really proud of you!

Shout outs - Cygnets

Ethan- For your wonderful hedgehog in our woodwork area last week. I loved how you used the nails as its spikes and added two eyes at the front of your creation. Well done Ethan!

Ella- For your wonderful writing this week. Ella your confidence in writing has blossomed this week and you are writing bigger sentences every day. Well done Ella!

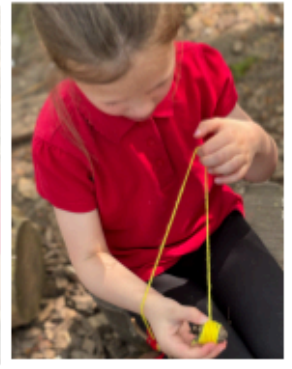
Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about counting beyond 20. Ask us what number we can count to...

Year 1

Forest schools

Year 1 learnt how to tie an overhand knot in the forest. Then, they used this skill to make their very own pinecone bee!



English - Billy and the Beast

Last week, Year 1 were shocked to find their shared corridor had been ransacked by a Monster! During the week, we investigated what had happened using suffixes to describe the Monster.



DT - Windmills

Our DT topic this half term is all about windmills. We have been learning the key features of a windmill and working as teams to make our own paper cup windmills.



Shout outs - Hummingbird

Jack - For trying really hard with your writing. You have been working to try and extend your sentences and make them more interesting - keep up the great work!



Nicholas - For your super work in science, you showed some excellent knowledge about animals and wrote some super facts - great job! 🌟

Shout outs - Kingfisher

Marley- For your fantastic dedication and enthusiasm towards your learning! You have blown me away with how much effort you are putting into your work, keep it up! 😊☀️

Everlyn- For your fantastic reading over the weekend! It was lovely to hear that you read an amazing 15 times of the weekend, we are so proud of you! 💖

Ask us about...

As part of our maths, we have been learning how to count in 2s, 5s and 10s, ask us to show you our new counting skills and see how high we can count!

Year 2

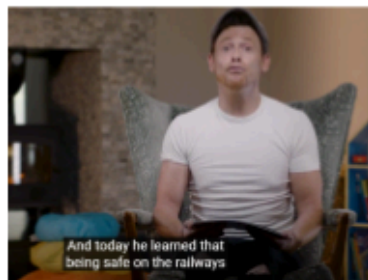
Computing - Stop Motion Animation

Year 2 have kicked off an exciting new computing topic—stop motion animation! This week, the children explored how to create their own animations by experimenting with different backgrounds and characters. They carefully captured a sequence of images, ready to be used in their very own stop motion animation films. We can't wait to see their creativity come to life on screen!



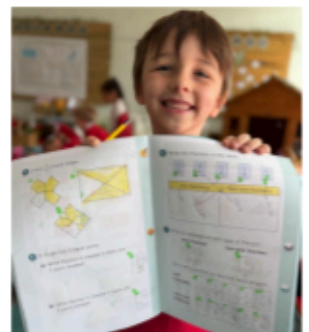
Rail Safety Week

Year 2 took part in Rail Safety Week, learning all about the importance of staying safe near railways. Through a range of engaging activities—including listening to stories, answering thought-provoking questions, and watching informative videos—the children discovered how to make safe choices around railways and why it's so important. It was a valuable and informative week that helped raise awareness in a fun and meaningful way.



Maths - Fractions

During this half term, Year 2 has been learning about fractions, particularly focusing on recognizing and finding halves, thirds, and quarters. This week, we introduced the terms "unit fractions" and "non-unit fractions." We practiced identifying how many parts of a shape were shaded to reinforce our understanding of these concepts.



Shout outs - Robin

Lua - I have been so proud of your reading both in school and at home this half term! In our guided reading sessions it is always so lovely to hear you read aloud. Keep it up Lua!

Shout outs - Finch

Esme - I have been so impressed with your knowledge of fractions! You have used accurate mathematical vocabulary when explaining the answers to challenging questions. Keep it up!

Ask us about...

This week, we are starting our new DT topic, 'Moving Monsters!'. In this topic, we have to create a design criteria for a moving monster as a class. We also have to experiment with linkages, adjusting the widths, lengths, and thicknesses of cards used. Ask us what a linkage is!

Year 3

Science - Light and shadows

We really enjoyed investigating in Science - using torches to find out how shadows change throughout the day.



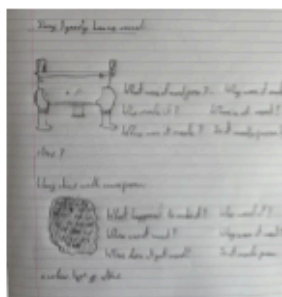
PE - Cricket

We had our first cricket session with Ignite Coaching last week - developing our batting and fielding skills. Great work Year 3!



History - Ancient Egyptians

We have been enjoying our new history topic; what was important to ancient Egyptians? In this lesson, we developed our questioning skills using sources about ancient civilisations. We looked at different artifacts and worked as archeologists to develop key questions about the artefacts.



Shout outs - Magpie

Charlotte - A huge well done Charlotte for your effort and determination in writing! Your work is always presented to the highest standard and you always include lots of detail. Keep up the great work!

Sydney - A massive well done Sydney for your hard work in guided reading lessons. You have been adding lots of detail to your answers and you have been challenging yourself by completing our go for golds!

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Daisy - For fantastic work in maths. You are doing brilliantly with your column addition and subtraction and have done great money work this week - well done :)

Emily S - Well done with your History work this week. You looked at the artefacts carefully and thought of some great questions to ask about them. Keep up the hard work :)

Ask us about...

In history, we have been learning all what was important to the ancient Egyptians...Why don't you ask us about it?

Year 4



Science:

Going the Distance

We worked scientifically to test the theory that the the greater the distance from a sound source, the quieter the sound. We used an online decibel meter and recorded our findings.



Rail safety week:

We have been participating in engaging activities all about how to stay safe near trains and train tracks.



PSHE - Love and loss:

In Year 4, we created a mind map to explore and express our feelings around the word 'loss'.



Shout outs - Owl

Dylan- I am proud of your writing this week Dylan. You are thinking carefully about using Year 4 writing features and making it relevant to the topic - super independence. Well done and keep it up!

Shout outs - Osprey

Charlie.L - I have been extremely impressed with Charlie's fantastic improvement in his times tables soundtrack score. He is showing incredible determination. Well done Charlie!

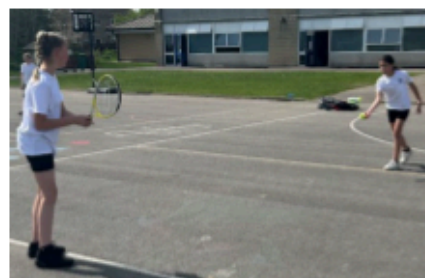
Ask us about...

We are starting our new DT unit all about structures and pavilions. We will be using different materials to try and create a strong and sturdy structure. Ask us about them!

Year 5

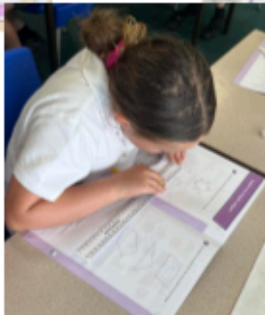
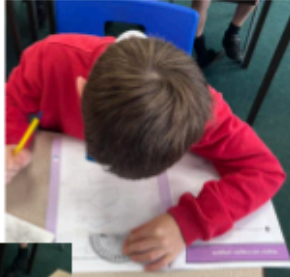
Tennis- volleying

Practising forehand and backhand volleys was a great way to spend a sunny Thursday afternoon last week. After taking it in turns feeding and volleying, we progressed onto returning a shot using a volley whilst running from the baseline. It was important that we controlled our feet before hitting the ball to ensure it landed within the scoring area.



All things shape

We have really enjoyed our shape maths topic this term. We are becoming experts in using a protractor, ruler and identifying regular and irregular polygons.



The Ancient Greeks

To begin our new history unit, we created our own timelines which showed the six periods of Ancient Greek history, and how they relate to the other historical periods that we have already studied.



Shout outs - Kites

Arya- thank you for being a hard-working, kind and supportive member of our class. We have been particularly impressed with your maths work around shape this week; well done 🌟.

Shout outs - Falcons

Theo - for your incredible efforts within our writing lessons this week! Not only has your cursive handwriting improved dramatically, the content of your writing has also been extremely impressive! Well done Theo - keep it up! 🌟

Ask us about...

- What is an abstract noun?
- What is xenophobia?
- Why might an author use foreboding in their work?

Year 6

PE: Yoga

As part of our physical activity lesson, Year 6 took part in a calming break from our SATs revision with a fun and focused yoga session. We practiced poses like the bear pose, tree pose and the ever-popular downward dog. This helped us to stretch out bodies, improve our balance and build our mindfulness strategies. Yoga not only supports physical health but also encourages us to breathe deeply and focus on our mental health too.



Science: Shedding Light on Resistance

In last week's science experiment, we explored how adding more bulbs to a simple circuit affects resistance. By gradually increasing the number of bulbs, we observed a noticeable dimming of each light. This showed us how the resistance increases with each component that is added to the path of electrical current.



Computing: Packet Data

In our computing lessons, we have started our second Big Data topic. By taking part in an unplugged activity, we have explored how data can be safely transferred: messages are now broken up into 'packets' and sent to recipients in a specific order to prevent corrupters from receiving the information.



Shout outs - Eagle

A massive shout out this week to Karis! You have made such a fantastic start to the Summer term and we have been so impressed with the positive, resilient attitude that you have shown towards your learning this week! Well done, Karis!

Shout outs - Hawk

A massive shout out to Freddy this week. You have radiated positivity during the last two weeks, even in the face of challenges. Your consistent kindness, focus and resilience during the school day are appreciated by the whole class and we are so lucky to have in Hawks. Thank you and well done Freddy.

Ask us about...

This week, in History, Year 6 have been learning about where and when the ancient Maya lived. We started by thinking about the four periods that made up the Mayan civilisation: the Preclassic period, the Classic period, the Postclassic period and the Contact and Spanish Conquest Period. Ask us about it!

Diary Dates

Mon 12th - Thurs 15th May	Year 6 SATs Week
Mon 26th to Fri 30th May	Half term
Mon 2nd June	First Day Back at school
Mon 2nd June	Year 2 Trip to Tropical World
Mon 9th June	Reception trip to Askham Bryan
Thurs 12th June	Year 1 Trip to Harlow Carr

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.elk.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

Thank you to all those that attended the NSPCC online safety workshop last week. For those who did not attend, the resources are below!.

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

Online safety

Resources for parents and carers



NSPCC resources

- For guidance on a wide range of topics, visit the NSPCC's online safety pages: nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety
- For practical tips and real-life case studies, watch the NSPCC's parenting online series: youtube.com/user/nspcc
- Use Talk PANTS resources to help you speak to younger children about sexual abuse online, in an age-appropriate way: nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule

Reporting sites

- Contact CEOP if you're concerned about someone making inappropriate or sexual contact with a child online: ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
- Report sexual images and videos of children shared online to the Internet Watch Foundation
- Report anything online which causes someone distress or harm to Report Harmful Content: repharmfulcontent.com

Resources for children and young people

- They can visit the Childline website for advice and information: childline.org.uk
- Call Childline on 0800 1111 to speak to one of our counsellors about anything worrying them
- Share experiences and get peer support on the Childline message boards: childline.org.uk/get-support/message-boards
- Contact Young Minds crisis messenger (Text YM to 85258) or visit the Young Minds website for advice about mental health: youngminds.org.uk
- Visit Childline's online and mobile safety page to learn how to stay safe online: childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety
- Watch films on lots of different topics on Childline's YouTube Channel (aimed at young people aged 13-18): youtube.com/user/childline



For more advice or information, contact our trained helpline counsellors on:

0808 800 5000 or help@nspcc.org.uk

If a child is in immediate risk of harm then call 999

NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

Online safety

Thank you to all those that attended the NSPCC online safety workshop last week. For those who did not attend, the resources are below!

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

Online safety Workshop factsheet



Key risks

- Who they're **talking** to
 - This includes grooming and cyberbullying
- What they're **seeing**
 - Innocent searches can lead to not so innocent results
 - Children are often a few clicks away from inappropriate/harmful content
- What they're **'oversharing'**
 - Personal information, location and nude images/videos
 - Remember that when young people share online, it may never be fully private

Signs of online abuse

- **Children may not know what's happening to them**, so the signs may not always be obvious
- **Sudden, unexplained changes** are usually an indication that something's wrong
- Consider what's **age-appropriate** for your child

A child's experience online

- **Remember to focus on what your children are doing online**, not how long they spend online
- The apps and games they're using can be **multi-use** and the risks can lie in these features, eg a game can have chat features and chat apps can have games
- **The things children like to do offline are the same as online**, and the same can be applied in keeping them safe

Top tips for staying safe online

- **Talk with your child** about online safety
- **Explore their favourite apps, sites and games**, and look at the safety features, together
- Make **going online a family activity** where you support each other

Practical advice

- Keeping **younger children** safe online:
 - Supervise what they're doing
 - Check games and videos before they watch and play
 - Turn off autoplay settings
 - Put safety settings on their apps and games
 - Agree rules and boundaries together using the NSPCC family agreement
- Keeping **older children** safe online
 - Ask them what they like to use online and set these things up safely together
 - Use the latest app challenges, like TikTok dances, as a chance to explore together
 - Watch the Childline's YouTube channel films
 - Be realistic with rules, setting ones which you could follow as well
 - Remind them where they can go for support if something worries or upsets them

Getting support for you and your child

- Share **knowledge** with other parents/carers
 - What apps and games young people use
- Share **tips**
 - How do other parents keep their child safe online?
- Share **supervision**
 - Take turns supervising and supporting your child and their friends when they're online, just like you would if they were at each other's houses

Top tips for talking with your child:

1. Always **start with the positives**. Ask your child to show you what they like doing online as this will show your child that you care about what they enjoy and don't always focus on the risks
2. Make sure **they know the basics** to stay safe online, eg how to **report and block**
3. **Explore apps and games together** so you understand the apps they like to use and can make them safe to use, together
4. Remind them **they can always come to you or Childline** for support about anything

NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

Events in the Local Community



GIRLS ONLY

SOFTBALL

SUMMER CAMP



NORTH YORKSHIRE
28th & 29th May at Heslington CC. 10:00-15:00 with registration at 9:30am.

Price:
£25 per day.
Both days: £40.

- Learn through playing with fun competitions and skills based activities.
- Led by Yorkshire Cricket Board Coaches.
- Available for ages 8-11.
- Single and multi-day places available to book.

For more information and to book please visit our website www.yorkshirecb.com/news



where faith and family come together

Interactive Worship

+ *Upcoming Dates*

Every other Saturday 3.00-5.00pm

MAY 03	Good News!
MAY 17	Spreading Love
MAY 31	The Promise
JUNE 14	Sowing Seeds
JUNE 28	Good Samaritan
JULY 12	Treasure Hunt!

crafts
Test
Games
Songs
Stories



Strawberry Tea
Saturday 5th
Only more info and booking details to come!



Contact Nicola for further information:
nicola.stjamesthedeacon@gmail.com

Follow us
[@stjamesthedeaconchildrenandfamilies](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesthedeaconchildrenandfamilies)

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