



Newsletter

Friday 25th April 2025

Welcome Back!

We hope everyone had a lovely Easter break, enjoyed some well-deserved rest, and of course, we hope you all got some chocolate eggs! It's been wonderful to see the children back in school, ready for the exciting term ahead.

With warmer weather on the way, please remember to apply sunscreen before your child comes to school. Children are welcome to bring sunscreen to reapply during the day—just make sure it's clearly labelled. Sunhats are encouraged for outdoor play, and sunglasses may also be worn.

A huge thank you to our fantastic school community for supporting the **Sponsored Pea Hunt** before the Easter holidays! We had so much fun, and Mrs Elsworth and I thoroughly enjoyed watching all the excitement. We were absolutely blown away by the generous amount of money raised. We can't wait to start planning the **Woodthorpe Colour Run**—more information will be shared later this term.



Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	95.96%	Goslings	94.89%
Hummingbirds	96.42%	Kingfishers	93.73%
Finch	★ 96.59% ★	Robins	96.22%
Magpie	92.70%	Woodpeckers	94.12%
Owl	92.92%	Osprey	97.75%
Kite	93.75%	Falcon	96.30%
Hawk	94.76%	Eagle	95.55%
School Average for this fortnight		95.09%	

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.uk.

Random Acts of Kindness

We have loved celebrating so many random acts of kindness so far this year! We have had such a variety of things, from making tasty meals for family and friends to being kind to our neighbours.

We have had fantastic examples of how we can be kind in lots of ways!

As we start our final 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 happened over our recent school holidays or something in the summer term.

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! !

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 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 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

Our emotions

This week in Ducklings we have been thinking about our emotions. We have read lots of stories linked to feelings as well as talking about how different emotions may look and feel. One of our favourite stories has been The Colour Monster. We have loved creating our own different emotion monsters including 'happy', 'sad', 'angry' and 'loved'.



Easter

Before breaking up for our holidays, Nursery loved learning all about Easter! Together we had many an Easter egg hunt in our nursery garden as well as making our own hanging Easter egg decorations. We were also lucky enough to have a visit from our local church to learn a little more about why Easter is an important time for Christians.



Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to all of our wonderful Ducklings!

Firstly, we have loved welcoming our new nursery starters to our class who have all made a super start. Secondly, to our fantastic nursery returners who have been amazing friends welcoming our new Ducklings. Great job everyone!

Ask us about...

Our feelings!

We can tell you how we feel and why. For example happy and excited when I ride my bike.

RECEPTION

Woodwork has started!

Reception are loving their brand new Woodwork area. This week we are learning how to use a hammer. It's a perfect space for little hands to build big ideas! A huge thank you to everyone for voting for us in Tesco stores and also to Howarth Timber Mills for supplying us with all the wood.



Cricket Workshop

Reception were lucky to have a cricket workshop with Joe from All Stars Cricket. We learnt how to throw and catch a tennis ball and played some cool games too!



Plants

In Science this week, we have been looking at the different parts of a plant. We have loved drawing flowers and making flowers and plants in our transient art area.



Shout outs - Gosling

Harry - For making a fantastic robot in the junk modelling area this week. I loved that you spent two days working on it, adding more detail and thinking of different things to add.

Francesca - For making a gorgeous bunny rabbit with the junk modelling resources. It was lovely to see you playing with it and what a great idea to make a home for it in the construction area!

Shout outs - Cygnets

Ellie- For making an amazing flower using the loose parts in our transient art area. I loved how you challenged yourself and even labelled all the parts of your flower.

Pippa- For super reading in guided reading this week. You are becoming a fluent reader and it is lovely to see your confidence grow in your reading. Keep it up superstar!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning all about what a plant needs to grow. Can you name two things that a plant needs?

Year 1

Trip to church

Year 1 loved their visit to the church before the easter holidays. They did a super job finding and learning all about the important parts of the church, thank you to St James the Deacon for having us!



Cricket

Before the half term break, the children had a fantastic opportunity to practice their cricket skills with a specialised coach. The session was full of energy, teamwork and lots of fun.



Forest schools

Year 1 have been very patient waiting for their turn for Mrs Banham's forest school lessons! This half term is finally our time to explore our very own forest and learn lots of new wilderness skills and knowledge! We had an amazing time this week learning how to stay safe around fire and we are really looking forward to our sessions with Mrs. Banham in the future!



Shout outs - Hummingbird

Ethan - I am so proud of your great work in writing! You are trying so hard to write longer and more detailed sentences and applying your phonics knowledge well. Keep up the super work! 😊

Rosie - Thank you for always being such a star! You are such a kind, caring member of the class and have beautiful manners. Your behaviour is impeccable, what a super role model for your peers! Well done Rosie! 🌟

Shout outs - Kingfisher

Jacob- Well done for showing such lovely manners during our school trip! You were so polite and respectful to everyone we met and it made the whole group shine. Keep it up 😊🌟

Cruz- For you hard work recently, it is have been wonderful to see the effort you are putting into your work. Keep up the fantastic attitude! 💖

Ask us about...

As part of our church visit, Year 1 learnt all about the important features inside a church, ask us to tell you about some of the different parts we found and why they are important!

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

. DT - Creating our final castle design

We really enjoyed building our castles and seeing our designs come to life. First we made the initial structure then we moved onto creating the facade to make it fit for a king or queen!



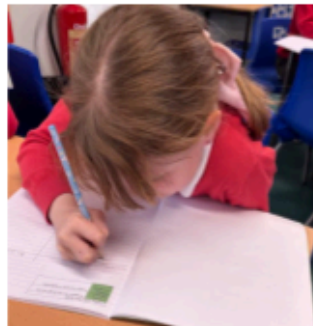
Cricket

Just before half term we had a visit from Yorkshire Cricket. We loved testing out our skills and having a go at batting and fielding!



Science - Light and shadows

In science, we have been learning about energy: light and shadows. In this lesson, we looked for luminous objects that are sources of light and non- luminous objects that do not give out light around school. We drew our own results table to present our findings!



Shout outs - Magpie

Theo - A massive well done Theo for your hard work and determination in writing. You have been aiming to include lots of detail in your work and it is always a pleasure to read!

Noah - For always being a kind, friendly and positive member of Magpie class. You always approach each lesson with enthusiasm and you always put in 100% effort. Well done!

Shout outs - Woodpecker

Emily - for working super hard on her writing. She is always striving to improve and to write wonderful, interesting sentences, well done!

Annabelle - for her amazing teamwork when creating her castle and for always putting 100% effort into everything she does. Well done Annabelle - you are a super star!

Ask us about...

In science, we have been learning all about light and shadows...Why don't you ask us about it?

Year 4

DT - Slingshot cars:

We have been designing and making slingshot cars - they needed to be colourful, strong and air resistant. We raced them on the playground to see who's car was the fastest.



PE - Cricket Engagement:

A local cricket coach came in and taught us how to play quick cricket.



Music - Rivers:

We have created music and sang a capella to represent the different courses in a river.



Shout outs - Owl

Robyn - I have been incredibly impressed with the effort she has put in to learning her times tables. Every morning, she comes in and completes her flashcards without prompting which is increasing her speed of recall.

Shout outs - Osprey

Lily - I have been blown away by her outstanding effort in every lesson! She is always trying her best and giving everything 100% effort!

Ask us about...

In year 4, We are learning about sounds and vibrations. This week we are focusing on how different instruments make sound. Ask us about it!

Year 5

Cricket was a hit! 🏏

Year 5 loved our cricket session with Joe from Yorkshire Cricket. We were able to put our skills to use during our Kwik Cricket game. There are lots of clubs around York to join if it is something you enjoy - please visit the Chance to Shine cricket website or speak to Mrs Atkinson or Miss Davis for more information.



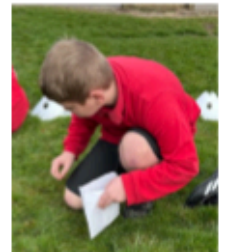
Exploring animation!

To start our new computing unit, we made thaumatropes and flipbooks to learn how a series of still images, which are subtly changed, create the illusion of movement when played back rapidly.



● Pea Hunt Fun ●

The eagerly anticipated pea hunt finally arrived for Kites class and we could not wait to see who topped the leaderboard. Thank you to everyone who sponsored us 😊.



Shout outs - Kites

Alfie- for some great quizzing last half term. Your reading quiz scores remained consistently high throughout and it was a joy to see your passion and enthusiasm for the books you were reading. Well done, Alfie!

Shout outs - Falcons

Darcy - For her incredible commitment to home reading over the holidays! In addition to completing the reading challenge, she has also continued to read avidly every night on our first week back. What an amazing start to the summer term Darcy - keep it up! ★

Ask us about...

- What is the difference between sexual and asexual reproduction in plants?
 - What is pollination?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of sexual and asexual reproduction in plants?

Year 6

PE: Athletics

In athletics this week, we have begun to develop our sprinting starts. We have learnt that sprinters use a crouched stance at the start of a race to maximise force, enhance stability and reduce reaction time.



Science: Scientific Circuit Diagrams

This week, we have been drawing electrical circuits using the correct symbols and predicting whether or not the completed circuits would work. In order to do this, we used our knowledge of circuits having to be one continuous loop and we have had to think carefully about which way the battery is drawn too. We were incredibly impressed when we were able to make working circuits and think about how to challenge ourselves and draw parallel circuits!



French: Transport

In French this week, we have been expanding our knowledge of cognates (words that have similar root words in French and English). We have learned how to say several forms of transport in French including train, bus, hot air balloon and submarine.



Shout outs - Eagle

A massive shout out to Phoebe! I have been so impressed with your attitude in every single lesson. You continually strive to be the best that you can be in every subject area and you have made so much progress, particularly in SPaG and maths. I am so proud of you; keep shining.

Shout outs - Hawk

A massive shout out to Teddy this week, who has returned to school with so much enthusiasm and determination. I have been so proud of his resilience during challenging tasks and his positive attitude to learning. Well done you!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about electricity and circuits. Did you know that in a circuit, electrons flow from negative to positive? Ask us about it!

Diary Dates

Thurs 1st May	NSPCC Parent talk at school (KS2 Hall)
Mon 5th May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Mon 12th - Thurs 15th	Year 6 SATs Week
Mon 16th May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
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 - WhatsApp

As our children increasingly embrace digital communication, it is essential to ensure that they engage with these platforms safely. A significant number of young people now use WhatsApp, a popular messaging application that allows users to send texts, voice messages, and images instantly. However, it is crucial to note that **the legal age for using WhatsApp is 13**. This regulation aims to protect young users from potential online risks, such as:

1. **Privacy and Data Security:** WhatsApp collects personal information, including phone numbers and location data. While the app is encrypted, there's always a risk of data being exposed in the event of a security breach.
2. **Inappropriate Content:** Children might be exposed to harmful content, including explicit images, cyberbullying, or messages that are unsuitable for their age.
3. **Cyberbullying:** With messaging apps like WhatsApp, children may face bullying through texts, images, or voice notes. Since WhatsApp is a private platform, this can make it harder for parents to monitor conversations.
4. **Addiction and Screen Time:** Excessive screen time can negatively affect children's health, including disrupted sleep patterns, eye strain, and poor posture. Constant use of messaging apps can also lead to dependency.
5. **Stranger Danger:** WhatsApp does not have the same level of monitoring as social media platforms. This means that children may be more vulnerable to contact from strangers or online predators.

These are just some of the reasons that, according to the regulations, children of primary school age should not have WhatsApp on their devices. That being said, we understand that many families allow their children to have WhatsApp on their devices at a younger age than 13, so we would ask that if this is the case in your household, that you support your child in using it safely.

We urge you to have open discussions with your children about the importance of online safety. Encourage them to think critically about the content they share and the interactions they have on platforms like WhatsApp. Remind them to keep personal information private and to report any suspicious activities or contacts.

Additionally, consider setting guidelines for their use of technology at home. Monitoring their online interactions and establishing healthy boundaries can significantly enhance their safety.

Together, we can foster a safe digital environment for our children while they navigate the online world.

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.



Events in the Local Community



**YORKSHIRE
CRICKET BOARD**

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