



Executive Principal: Mr James McGann

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Woodthorpe **Primary School** York YO24 2RU

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Friday 11th July 2025

Hello,

As we come to the end of another fantastic year at Woodthorpe Primary, I want to take a moment to reflect on some of the recent highlights and to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone in our school community.

Firstly, a huge well done to all our children and staff who took part in the Colour Run (aka Rainbow Dash) to raise money for the WWF. Thanks to their energy and enthusiasm, we have raised over £1000 to support this important cause, a real achievement that we can all be proud of. It was a really fun event, and to see everyone enjoying themselves was a real delight.

We're also incredibly proud of the excellent results achieved by our Year 6 pupils in their SATs this year. Their hard work, resilience, and determination have truly paid off, and it's been wonderful to be able to celebrate their success.

It has also been lovely to see the children meeting their new class teachers and preparing for an exciting year ahead. The positivity around school as we approach the summer break has been truly uplifting.

We are delighted to be able to announce the following staffing updates from September 2025. We have a number of changes to our team, but rest assured we continue to strive for the absolute best for our Woodthorpe community.

First of all we are delighted to welcome back Mrs Grason-Taylor from maternity leave.

Head of School - Mrs Grason-Taylor (Monday-Wednesday)

Associate Head of School/Vice Principal - Mrs Elsworth

Assistant Principal - Miss Britland

New to Year 3 - Mrs Martin (Woodpecker) & Miss Telfer (Magpie)

New to Year 4 - Mrs Jennings (Thursday & Friday)

New to Year 5 - Miss MacKenzie (Thursday & Friday)

New to Year 6 - Miss Neale

We are also bidding a fond farewell to some members of our staff, who are off to enjoy pastures new and will be very missed within school. We wish Miss Bedda, Mrs Percy, Miss Lee-Phillips, Mr Pemberton, Mrs Lester and Mrs Schofield all the best with their exciting new adventures. Finally, we say goodbye to Mrs Arya, as she leaves us to begin her maternity.

On a more personal note, having had the privilege to serve as Head of School here at Woodthorpe on maternity cover this year has been an incredible experience. I want to sincerely thank every member of the school community for making me feel so welcome from day one. Your warmth, support, and dedication have made this year truly special for me.

As the school year draws to a close, I want to wish everyone a restful and joyful summer holiday. It has been a privilege to be part of the Woodthorpe family, and I look forward to seeing all the wonderful things this school continues to achieve.





Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	93.87%	Goslings	97.96% 🜟
Hummingbirds	93.88%	Kingfishers	96.56%
Finch	95.24%	Robins	96.94%
Magpie	96.98%	Woodpeckers	95.09%
Owl	95.07%	Osprey	97.63%
Kite	94.29%	Falcon	94.04%
Hawk	94.40%	Eagle	95.58%
School Average for this fortnight		95.54%	

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 3 This week's winner was the parent of a child in Year 5 Congratulations on winning a £10 Amazon voucher!





Random Acts of Kindness			
Has your child recently done a random act of kindness? If so we would love to hear all about it!			
A huge thank you to our school community who have taken the time to send through nominations for random acts of kindness so far this year. We have been amazed with the wonderful, kind things our children do!			
We are looking forward to seeing what random acts of kindness we hear about on our return to school for the final half term this academic year!			
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.			

Random Acts of Kindness

This week we would like to celebrate Harley's random act of kindness. Recently, Harley in Year 4 completed a 5K fun run with his Dad. Together they ran in fancy dress and raised an amazing £115 for York Against Cancer!

A huge well done for Harley and his Dad for taking part in this event and raising so much money for the charity. Harley, we are so proud of your achievement and continuing to spread kindness. You have truly captured our Woodthorpe Character!







A massive thank you to our school community who have been exceptionally kind this year. We have been blown away by hearing so many fantastic things our children do in school and beyond! A huge shout out to our families too who have taken the time and effort to email in!

We are looking forward to seeing what random acts of kindness we see on our return in September.

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.

NURSERY

Art - Paper chains

Nursery have enjoyed all things paper chains. Together we have learnt how to create paper chains, decorate our paper chains as well as make some wonderful creatures!









What a way to end the year!

Ducklings have had a wonderful end to this year! Together we have enjoyed trips to the school forest toasting marshmallows, taken part in the colour run, enjoyed time spent together in our outdoor area as well as go on our park and picnic trip when learning about our local area. What a fabulous time spent together!





















Shout outs - Ducklings

A huge shout out to all of our Ducklings! What a super year we have had! It has been magical to share so many learning experiences together and of course, lots of play! We wish our nursery leavers all the best for their next chapter in Reception and we are looking forward to welcoming nursery returners and new Ducklings in September 2025. Well done everyone. We are so proud of you!

Ask us about...

How to make a paper chain - we can show you! We may even show you how to decorate this or make a creature!

RECEPTION

Our Year in Reception.

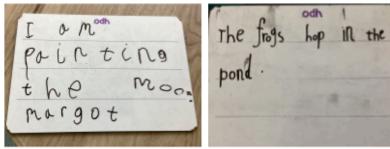
This year has truly been a special year for all of our pupils in Cygnets and Goslings! We have learnt how to read and write and have made lots of new friends! Throughout the year, we have made some lovely memories together and we look forward to watching the children develop throughout their time in Year One and as they progress through school.

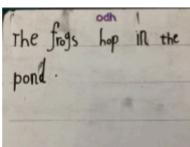




Writing

Reception have worked so hard on their handwriting and have been writing some super sentences for their morning challenge and in phonics!





Colour Run





We loved taking part in the colour run event last week. We got completely covered in powder paint and even managed to get Mrs Goodall and Miss Wheeler messy too!

Shout outs - Gosling

A **HUGE** congratulations to everyone in Gosling class this year. You have all worked exceptionally hard all year and I am incredibly proud of all of you. Have a lovely Summer.

Shout outs - Cygnets

A **HUGE** congratulations to everyone in Cygnet class this year. You have all worked exceptionally hard all year and I am incredibly proud of all of you. Have a lovely Summer.

Ask us about...

We have been learning all about databases in Computing. We learnt how to make a pictagram using different pictures and how a computer can sort things into different groups. Can you make your own pictagram at home?

Three Workshop

Year 1 had a fantastic workshop from Three Discovery. We learnt all about how to use different apps on an iPad. Then, we got creative and made our very own posters!









Music

This week, we started our exciting new music topic:
Superheroes! The children have loved getting into
character and exploring what makes someone
super.We went on a mission to discover the word
"pitch". Using our glockenspiels, we explored high and
low sounds and showed off our superhero listening
skills!





Colour Run

Last week, we had the best afternoon completing our colour run with all of our friends and raising money for The World Wildlife Fund. We all looked fantastic!





Shout outs - Hummingbird

Ezmae - For always having exceptional behaviour and being such a role model in our class. You are so kind, caring and helpful and you always try your very best - thank you!

Albie- For your wonderful progress in your reading and writing this year. You have worked so hard and I could not be prouder of what you have achieved - keep up the amazing work!

Shout outs - Kingfisher

Everlyn- You always show beautiful manners and put a big smile on my face every day! You are such a pleasure to teach, and I'm so proud of you. Keep being your wonderful self!

Alex -For your amazing work in English this week! It's been amazing to see how much you're enjoying our new book, Astro Girl. Keep up the fantastic work – I'm so proud of you!

Ask us about...

As part of our English unit we have been learning and writing about the story 'Astro Girl', ask us to retell the story; we might even know some facts about space too!

Woodthorpe's Summer Colour Run!

This week, Year 2 took part in a fun and colourful Colour Run! The sun was shining as the children ran around the field with their friends, getting sprayed with powder paint and ending up covered in all the colours of the rainbow. There were lots of smiles and laughter as they enjoyed this exciting activity together. It was a great way to celebrate the end of term and make some happy memories!









Music - Boomwhackers

Friday, Year 2 was very fortunate to have an additional session with our music specialist, Mrs. Lester. We recalled everything we learned earlier in the year about playing boomwhackers, and together as a class, we created some wonderful music!

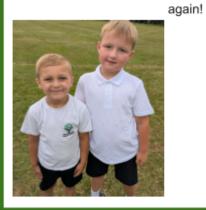






Finch - Football Rounders

In Finch, we were very lucky to have an ex-student join us for his work experience week! Jack was an exceptional student and taught us a very special lesson in PE! Jack taught us how to play football rounders, which was so much fun! We had to try and kick the ball as far as we could and run around the different posts before the fielders returned the ball. We enjoyed discovering a new game and can't wait to play it





Shout outs - Robin

Thomas and Arlo - Well done to the both of you for being the first golden children in Robin class this year. You have shown a huge dedication to our learning all year and the golden star badge is well and truly deserved! Keep it up boys.

Shout outs - Finch

Ben - A big thank you for your continued positive work attitude and exceptional behaviour! You demonstrate outstanding behaviour every single day and are a brilliant role model for those children around you. Keep it up, Ben!

Ask us about...

This week we are starting our new geography topic, 'What is it like to live by the coast?'. In this topic, we will learn the names and locate the seas and oceans surrounding the UK in an atlas. We will also identify human features in a coastal town and describe how people use the coast. Ask us to name different local coasts!

Colour Run

Year 3 loved taking part in the colour run last week - we all had the best time!







English - Tea apprentices

In English, we have been enjoying immersing ourselves in the book Cloud Tea Monkeys. In this lesson, we became tea apprentices. We used our sense of smell to describe a range of different teas.





French - language detectives

We used our language detective skills in our French lesson to work out what sentences about life cycles might mean in Swedish!





Shout outs - Magpie

A massive well done to EVERYONE in Magpie class. You have all made amazing progress this year and produced some fantastic pieces of work. Throughout the year, everyone has shown brilliant determination, resilience and perseverance and you should all be incredibly proud of yourselves! Good luck Magpie class as you enter Year 4!

Shout outs - Woodpecker

This week, for our final newsletter of the school year, our shout outs go to the whole of Woodpecker Class. We are so proud of each and every one of you! You have all worked super hard every day and we are incredibly pleased of the progress you have made. We have loved being your teachers this year and know you will be amazing in Year 4!

Ask us about...

This week, in music, we have been learning about traditional instruments and improvisation. Why don't you ask us about it!

Art - Fabric of Nature:

This week, we created rainforest themed mood boards with drawings, fabric and parts of

magazines. We have also drawn four areas of an animal using a viewfinder while focusing on colour palettes, pattern and line.









Computing - Three workshop

Our visitors from Three helped us to make amazing comics on iPads using photos, speech bubbles and sounds!









RE - Oral scripture

In RE, we learnt about oral scripture. One person in each group listened to a story and they needed to try and remember as much as they could to retell it to their group.





Shout outs - Owl

<u>Lacie</u> - A HUGE well done to Lacie who represented Yorkshire in her gymnastics competition this half term and won her category! This is just one example of how her determination to succeed shines through - an amazing role model.

Shout outs - Osprey

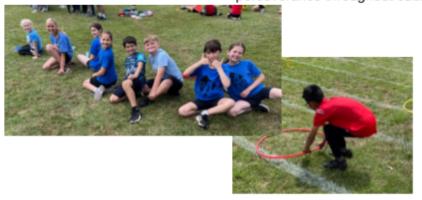
Leo - He has shown incredible determination this week, tackling every challenge with focus and resilience. His independent write was a genuine pleasure to read, showcasing his creativity and hard work.

Ask us about...

We are finishing our incredible batik artworks inspired by artists such as William Morris. Using mood boards, we created a pattern and have applied glue and paint to fabric!

Sports Day!

Year 5 loved taking part in Sports Day last week. We were so proud of their teamwork, sportsmanship and perseverance throughout each activity.







French Cafe Day!

We thoroughly enjoyed visiting York High to create our own French Cafes this week. In addition to learning the key phrases necessary for selling our delicious products, we also had great fun decorating our stalls. A huge merci to all our parents who attended!



Installation Art

This week, we have been learning about installation art and how it aims to transform a specific space, using large scale mixed media. We enjoyed creating our own class piece, experimenting with Cai Guo-Qiang's explosion techniques.







Shout outs - Kites

Olivia - For your brilliant attitude in English this week. You have faced every piece of writing with a positive mindset and, as a result, have produced some wonderful pieces of work. Keep it up! **

Shout outs - Falcons

Theo - For your outstanding efforts that have enabled you to achieve your gold award this week!
Theo, you are a wonderful role model for your classmates - you should be very proud of yourself!
Well done!

Ask us about...

- What does interactive artwork involve?
- What is the name of the Chinese artist who creates installations that often use explosions?

 What is performance art?

KS2 Colour Run

In Year 6, we have celebrated the end of primary school in one of the most vibrant ways possible- with a colour run! Busting with colour, energy and laughter, the event was a joyful celebration and a fantastic way to fundraise for the World Wildlife Fund. Head-to-toe in paint, we ran, danced and cheered our way through a fantastic afternoon that we will definitely not forget.























French- Food Chains

This week, Year 6 have put their knowledge of animals, habitats and diets to the test- en français! Using our understanding of carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, we created imaginative and scientifically accurate food chains, all while practising our French vocabulary.



Forest School

In forest school, we had the chance to cook delicious pancakes using Trangia stoves and had a go at wet felting using soapy water and wool to make felt. Surrounded by nature, we had a fantastic time creating delicious food and beautiful materials.



Shout out - Year 6

A huge, heartfelt shout out to all of our amazing Year 6s. You have filled our days with curiosity, laughter and incredible moments of growth. From the first day of primary school to this special leavers' week, watching you transform into the remarkable individuals you are today has been a privilege. Your determination, perseverance and wisdom have inspired us daily. Keep shining brightly, Year 6- everyone here at Woodthorpe is so proud of you!

Ask us about...

We have made so many incredible memories during our time at Woodthorpe Primary School. Ask us about our favourites!

Diary Dates

Mon 14th - Fri 18th July	Year 6 Leavers Week
Tue 15th July	Year 6 Crucial Crew
Fri 18th July	Last Day of Term
Mon 1st Sep	Teacher Training Day
Tue 2nd Sep	First Day back at 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 5:45 pm 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

Parental controls

The online world provides children with such a range of information and services but a significant amount of this information is inappropriate for children. Parental controls allow upsetting or inappropriate content to be blocked or filtered, which can work across a WiFi or phone network or on individual apps and devices.

Home Broadband and Wifi: Home internet providers allow you to use a filter in order to control the content that your whole family sees. Some providers even allow different settings for each user.

Game consoles: The majority of consoles have internet access, which opens them up to chat features or in-game purchasing options. On your devices, you may be able to turn off chat functions, restrict games based on age and turn off in-game purchases. You should be able to find all of this information on the website for your child's console under a 'parent section'. Some devices even allow for a family manager account. Mobiles, tablets and computers: Again, these devices all have parental control settings that allow you to disallow in-app purchases, consider location settings and manage screen time.

Promoting Physical Wellbeing: Ten Top Tips

As the summer holidays approach, we are aware that our children's use of devices may increase. When promoting their physical wellbeing, here are a few top tips to consider:



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:

- 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
- 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



EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

Events in the Local Community





