



**Woodthorpe
Primary School**

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Newsletter

- Friday 26th September 2025

Welcome back to another super busy fortnight at Woodthorpe. It has been so lovely seeing our first trips and visits of the year taking place, as ever, we have an exciting year of enrichment opportunities available for our children, so keep your eyes peeled!

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the school community for their understanding whilst we 'iron out' a few admin glitches. We appreciate that this is not ideal and are working hard to ensure that this doesn't happen again. We have also taken the time to reflect on some of the conversations that we have had with families and have taken this on board. We are so grateful for the patience shown by the school community and hopefully you will start to see prompt improvements.

We have loved our 'Good Work' assemblies so far this year, we have celebrated everything from handwriting, to sport, times tables and everything in between! The children have loved their end of day rewards and we hope that you have enjoyed hearing all about it.

Please can we remind everybody about road safety in and around school, this is in the interests of everybody's welfare and we very much appreciate the support with this. This week, it has been reported that members of the school community have been parking on the school drive (between Summerfield Road and the school gates) and I am keen to remind everybody about the fact that this is crucial emergency access that could be required at any time (even after normal school hours).

We hope that everybody has a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	95.08%	Goslings	96.99%
Hummingbirds	95.96%	Kingfishers	95.98%
Finch	95.08%	Robins	★ 98.36% ★
Magpie	94.10%	Woodpeckers	94.43%
Owl	95.71%	Osprey	91.90%
Kite	95.07%	Falcon	93.65%
Hawk	96.60%	Eagle	95.40%
School average for this year		95.31%	

Thank you to all those parents who manage to get their child to school on time each day, it really does make a difference. Missed days really add up - if you have any queries about attendance, or would like any support with getting your child into school, please speak to a member of our attendance team who would be glad to help.

As a reminder, if your child is absent from school, please call 01904 806464, followed by option 1 to leave a voice mail, report the absence on parent mail or email admin@woodthorpe.elts.org.uk, thank you.

Random Acts of Kindness

We are delighted to share another super random act of kindness in our Woodthorpe Community!

Recently, Thomas (Year 3) and Oliver (Year 2) spent one of their Saturdays raising money for the

Fangfoss St Martin's church by running a lucky dip stall. They wrapped up all the prizes over the summer holidays with their Granny, and then ran the stall themselves (11am - 4pm) on the Saturday.

They sold all of the 'dips' and raised a total of £82!



It was wonderful to hear that Thomas and Oliver spent a weekend raising money for something in our community. Not only did they work extremely hard on the day but it sounds like they were very busy preparing over the summer holidays too! What super teamwork and also generosity - you are really embracing our Woodthorpe Character!

Has your child recently done a random act of kindness? If so we would love to hear all about it! 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.

As a reminder - here is our Woodthorpe Character below, a random act of kindness may display one or more of the key words, traits and attributes that, at Woodthorpe we want our children to strive for and build during their school journey.



World Mental Health Day 2025

Friday 10th October marks this year's Young Minds 'Hello Yellow' World Mental Health Day 2025!



At Woodthorpe, we often talk about the importance of looking after our health both physically and mentally. We do this throughout our day to day activities in school, including during assemblies, daily circles, PSHE lessons, our mental health toolkit and more!

On Friday 10th October, we would like to invite the school community to wear something yellow if they would like to. This could be a yellow pair of socks, a yellow top or even a yellow hair clip! Class teachers will also have some yellow stickers to hand should your child wish to wear one on the day instead of something from home.

During the day, we will continue to raise awareness of positive mental health across our school. Please look out in our next newsletter for supportive links and information for our families to support mental health further.



Nursery

Ducklings get their fingers moving!

A day wouldn't go by in Ducklings where we weren't busy getting our fingers moving! Over the last week, during play, nursery have enjoyed lots of opportunities to strengthen our fine motor skills. This has included using a super grip on the tweezers to sort pompoms, roll out the playdough and use cutters to make biscuits, explore a variety of scissors to make marks as well as starting to think about some of the letters in our name!



Nursery shout out!

A huge shout out this week to Bebe! Bebe since returning this year, you have continued to blow us away with your amazing behaviour and excitement to learn. You have been a wonderful role model to our new Ducklings and through your kind and caring nature you are such a considerate friend. Well done Bebe!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning some of our special nursery rhymes from Little Wandle rhyme time. Ask us to sing which ones we have learnt so far!



Reception

▢ Adventures in the Woodland! ▢

Reception had an absolutely delightful time exploring the wonders of the forest! From playing an exciting game of hide and seek to uncovering the treasures that nature has to offer, every moment was filled with laughter and discovery.

We even had a fantastic time learning our catchy 1,2,3 recall song, which made our outdoor adventures even more enjoyable! And what's more delightful than settling down to listen to Mrs Banham as she enchanted us with a captivating woodland story?



Cygnets shout out!

Ethan- For coming into school confidently all week. We have loved seeing your beautiful smile every morning and you have tried exceptionally hard in all of your lessons. Well done Ethan!

Nolan- For your wonderful writing last week. You challenged yourself in every phonics lesson and I loved it when you went into provision and practised writing the sound of the day. What a superstar!!

Goslings shout out!

Henry - For always trying your best with everything that you do and for your fantastic behaviour. You are very polite and have a fantastic attitude to learning. Well done Henry!

Lukah - For trying really hard with your handwriting this week and for making great progress with drawing circles and spirals. Well done Lukah!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning how to sort objects into different sets based on attributes such as colour, size or shape. Ask us about it!



Year 1

Kingfisher

Kingfishers had a fantastic maths lesson using concrete resources to create their very own less than, greater than, and equal to number sentences.



Hummingbird



Last week, Hummingbirds really enjoyed combining their science learning about the seasons and the weather by becoming weather reporters. We were excellent at explaining what the weather was going to be like and suggesting what we might need to wear too!

Kingfisher shout out!

Olivia - For your incredible reading! It is a joy to listen to you read. You read with fluency and confidence. You use your phonics understanding to segment and blend unfamiliar words!

Hummingbird shout out!

Alexander - For your fantastic independent sentence writing in English. You are working so hard with your writing and always remember our sentence of the day - keep up the super work!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about the greater than and less than symbols in Maths. Ask us to show you which type of numbers Charlie the crocodile likes to eat!

Year 2

Finch

In Finch class, we have been enjoying learning all about what a computer is. In this lesson, we identified the purpose of different parts of a computer. We labelled a computer and then matched the correct definitions!



Robin

This week in PE, we have been showcasing our football skills by practising dribbling a ball. We focused on stopping the ball and passing it directly to our partners. It required a lot of control, resilience, and patience, and our confidence has grown!



Finch shout out!

Ariana - A massive well done Ari for your amazing writing this week! You have included lots of detail and produced a fantastic information leaflet all about wolves. Your positive attitude towards your work is brilliant. Keep up the great work!

Robin shout out!

Shout out to **Theo** for his wonderful history work this week. He thought of some wonderful questions that we could ask adults about their experience at primary schools! Well done Theo!

Ask us about...



This week in history, we have been learning all about schools! We have looked at the similarities and differences between schools from the past (in our living memory) and the schools in the present.

Year 3

Toilet Roll Timelines

This week in Magpie class we created timelines of key events in history. We spoke about how much has happened before today and realised how long ago the Stone Age people lived by rolling out our toilet rolls.



Woodpeckers - Yoga

This week in our physical activity session we learnt some new yoga moves. We concentrated on our breathing and were really good at the chair pose, the rainbow pose and the three legged dog pose.



Magpie shout out!

Willow-Rose - A big shout out to Willow-Rose for writing an incredible version of Nen and the Lonely Fisherman in our independent writing in English. You have thought really carefully about the different words you wanted to use and written an excellent creative story. Well done!

Woodpecker shout out!

Lenny - for fantastic work in lessons. You are putting in 100% effort and trying extra hard to get ticks on the reading chart! Great work Lenny ☐

Aurora - for being a fantastic role model in Woodpecker class! You are always listening carefully, working hard and being kind and helpful.

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about the Stone Age. Why not ask us about the different periods in the Stone Age to see if we can remember their names!

Year 4

Forest School - Obstacle course!



Owls had a great time building an obstacle course and guiding their partners over logs, through tunnels and along planks!



PE - Football Fun:



Osprey had loads of fun in PE this week, showing off their skills in exciting and fast paced 1v1 football games.



Everyone had the opportunity to dribble, defend, cheer and score plenty of goals!

Owl shout out!

Osprey shout out!



Caoimhe - She has been working hard and challenging herself in her learning. This week her story writing has been imaginative and a joy to read. Caoimhe has also been a kind and helpful class member. Thank you Caoimhe!

Lilly - She has been a kind and supportive classmate, always willing to lend a helping hand and show care toward others. Her thoughtful nature and willingness to assist her peers have made a positive impact on the class! □

Ask us about...

This week and next, we are asking: How have children's lives changed throughout time? Ask us about the working conditions for children in the Tudor and Victorian period and we'll have some fascinating facts to share!

Year 5

Falcons: Our Viking board games!

We had a fantastic afternoon learning about the importance of Viking trade routes by creating our own Viking board games! We used our newly-acquired knowledge to create the question cards for our games and had great fun playing in our teams!



Kites: Dissolving investigation. Our class thoroughly enjoyed investigating how temperature impacts the speed in which a sugar cube dissolves. It was important that we kept our control variables (amount of water, stirring speed and size of sugar cube) the same to allow for a fair test. We found that the hotter the temperature, the quicker the sugar cube dissolved.



Falcon shout out!

Phoebe - for her resilient attitude and determination, which has enabled her to make a great improvement to her arithmetic score this week! Excellent job, Phoebe - keep up the great work! ★

Kite shout out!

Bella- for your shining spelling score! It was clear you had thoroughly practised your spellings this week which resulted in a 10/10 score. We are so proud, keep up the hard work! ★

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about the Vikings. Did you know that the Vikings were more than just raiders? They were also farmers, settlers, traders, craftsmen and explorers. Please ask us about it!

Year 6



French: Komodo Dragons

Year 6 have loved diving into our new French topic this term. We have been fully immersed and challenged by translating an information report about Komodo dragons, using our skills to spot cognates and near cognates.



History: Census Information

In history, we have been exploring the importance of censuses in understanding communities and our history. Taking on the role of enumerators, we designed our own census (using historically accurate information) and gathered information from the class to see how data can tell a bigger story.



Hawk shout out!

A big shout out to **Aden!** You have been working so hard in English, asking lots of questions and giving 100% effort in every lesson; your independent writing has been fantastic!

Eagle shout out!

A massive shout out to both **Gracie and Olivia!** I have been blown away with your creative ideas in our independent writing this week: you have been supporting others and showed great resilience. Well done and keep shining brightly!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning about census information. Did you know that the census information from 1931 was destroyed in a fire and there was no census in 1941 due to the war? Please ask us about it!

School Information

Coming soon...

Mon 6th Oct	Year 6 Parents Information meeting 3:30pm
Thu 9th Oct	Parent drop in session - anxiety 2 - 3pm
Fri 10th Oct	Hello Yellow - World Mental Health Day
Wed 15th & Thurs 16th Oct	Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
Wed 22nd Oct	Last day of term
Thurs 23rd Oct - Fri 31st Oct	October Half Term
Mon 3rd Nov	Back at school
Thurs 6th Nov	School Photos - Siblings & single shots



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) £4.70/session £3.70/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) £10.00/session £8.40/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 email the school office.

Childminders

Within our local area there is 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.

Your child may be entitled to additional funding!

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

Excel Learning Trust



Exciting Opportunity: Become a Committee Member for Inspire Alternative Provision

Are you passionate about supporting vulnerable young people and making a difference in their education? Excel Learning Trust's alternative provision Inspire is looking for dedicated and committed individuals to join its first-ever academy committee (a sub-committee of the trust board).

About Us

Inspire provides tailored education to vulnerable students, offering them the opportunity to thrive in an environment that understands their unique needs. We are proud to have recently been registered with Ofsted, and we are now seeking forward-thinking individuals to shape the future of our provision and ensure the highest standards of education for our students.

Why Join Us?

- Be part of something new and exciting – as a founding member of our academy committee, you will have the opportunity to support the direction and development of Inspire from the ground up
- Make a lasting impact – by supporting vulnerable students in overcoming barriers to education and helping them unlock their full potential
- Work collaboratively with a dedicated leadership team and passionate educators to provide the best possible educational experience
- Play a key role in the governance of a newly established, Ofsted-registered provision

What We Are Looking For

We are seeking individuals who are passionate about education and the wellbeing of young people. As a committee member, you will be expected to attend regular meetings, contribute to strategic decision-making, and help ensure that the provision continues to meet the highest standards.

This is your chance to make a meaningful contribution to the lives of vulnerable students and help shape the future of Inspire.

If you are ready to make a difference, we want to hear from you!

For further details on how to apply, please contact Sophie Triffitt, Governance Advisor on s.triffitt@elt.org.uk

For more information about the provision and to arrange a visit, please contact Rickie Wilson, Head of Centre, on r.wilson@inspire.elt.org.uk

- Closing date for applications: 12 October 2025
- Interview date: to be confirmed



Community board

ST JAMES THE DEACON CHURCH
sjdc

STARTING Rite

A 5 week Baby Centred Course

TUESDAYS
10.45AM - 12.45PM

In each session, we share a book, sing songs, chat and get a handout to keep!

- Week 1 - Peekaboo!
- Week 2 - Guess how much I love you
- Week 3 - Splash!
- Week 4 - Bubble talk
- Week 5 - Storytime

Why this group?
You may be asking what church can offer you and your family. You may be wondering about what values you would like your child to grow up with. Starting Rite helps you to think through and answer these, as well as giving lots of time for your own questions, while having lots of play and bonding with your baby!

Running from
23.09.25-21.10.25

For more information or to book, contact:
nicola@stjamesthedeacon@gmail.com



ST JAMES THE DEACON CHURCH
sjdc

St. James the Deacon Community Cafe

Parent Hub

Drop off, drop in!

Thursdays term time
at 8.50am

Free hot and cold drinks and cake!



**SAVE
THE DATE**

**SATURDAY
11TH OCTOBER
12pm - 3pm**

Free Signposting Event for Parents, Families & Carers

Come along to York Explore Library (City Centre), where a range of local support services will be on hand to offer advice and information on mental health, neurodiversity, legal matters, early parenting challenges, and much more.



**ASK THE
MIDWIFE**

explore
Libraries and Archives

OT4me

**Pave
theWay
Families**

For more information email:
Ewarren@theretreatclinics.org.uk

