



**Woodthorpe
Primary School**

Executive Principal: Mr James McGann

Head of School: Mrs Charlotte Grason-Taylor

Associate Head of School: Mrs Helen Elsworth

**Woodthorpe
Primary School**

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Newsletter

Wednesday 22nd October 25

What a busy half term we've had! Jam packed with learning, sports, school trips and so much more! I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our families for their ongoing support. Last week's parents' meetings were such a lovely way for us to be able to share your child's progress so far this year. Thank you so much for joining us.

We are busy making plans for the next half term, including a whole school advent calendar to keep us engaged during the festive countdown. Keep your eyes peeled to find out more! We are also inviting families into school for a 'tales and treats' session, 3:30-4:45pm on Monday 24th November. This will be a lovely opportunity to share a book and a sweet treat. We aim to promote a real love of reading within school and are keen for families to be involved! We hope that you can join us.

Finally, being ever conscious of our school facilities and our environment, we were wondering whether any members of our school community would like to volunteer, specifically helping to tidy up the front of school. This would involve some work such as sweeping, planting, weeding and generally keeping communal areas tidy. If this is something that you would be interested in doing, please speak to a member of the office team and we will register your interest. Although this is a volunteering role, we can promise a cup of tea and a biscuit will be provided! Thank you so much.

Class attendance this half term!

Cygnets	96.14%	Goslings	97.25%
Hummingbirds	94.64%	Kingfishers	95.91%
Finch	94.50%	Robins	★ 97.69% ★
Magpie	95.84%	Woodpeckers	95.20%
Owl	95.00%	Osprey	93.69%
Kite	96.21%	Falcon	96.68%
Hawk	97.00%	Eagle	96.61%
School average for this year		95.86%	

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.

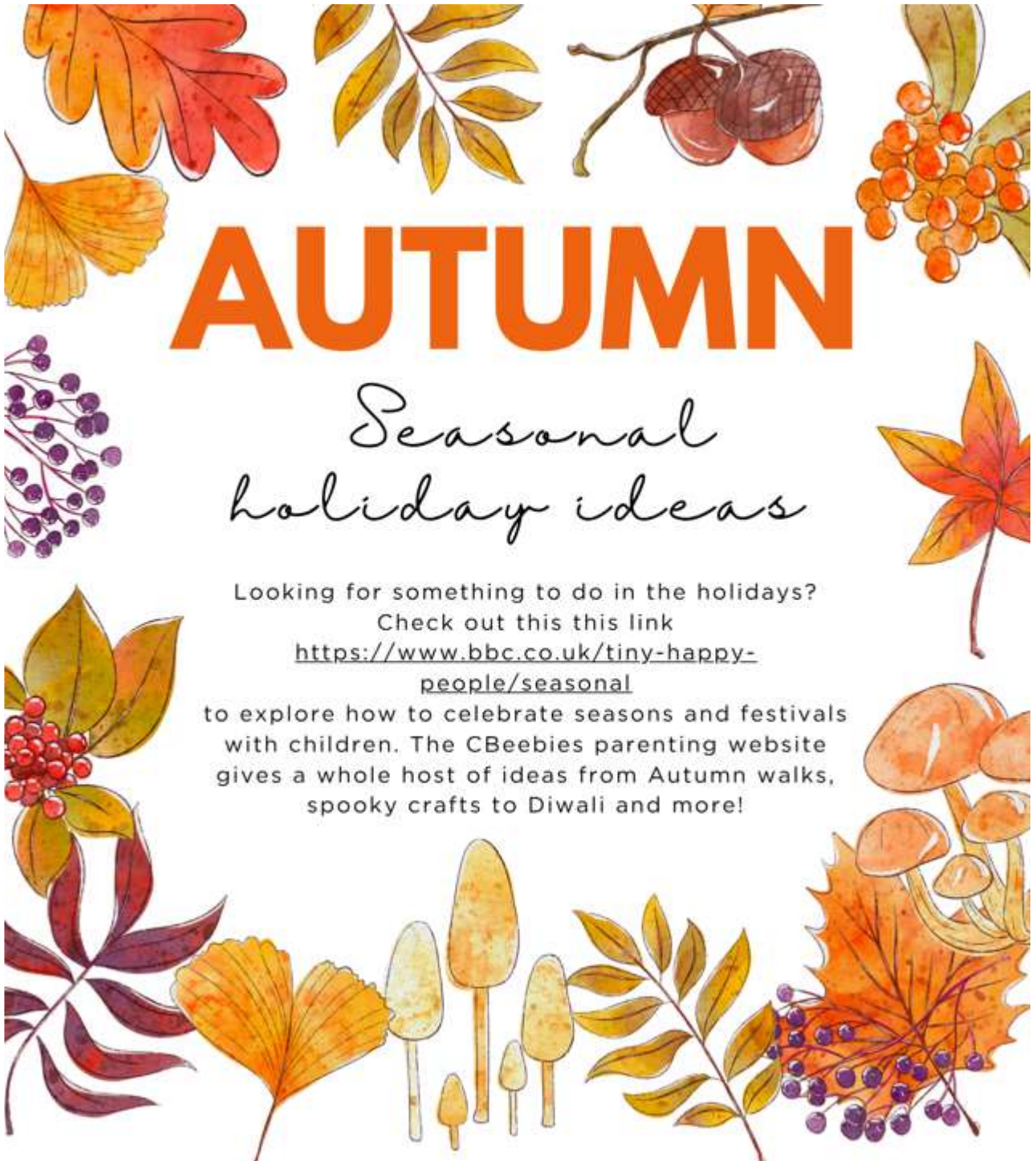
As a reminder, if your child is absent from school, please call 01904 806464, followed by option 1 to leave a voice mail, report the absence on parent mail or email admin@woodthorpe.elts.org.uk, thank you.

Random Acts of Kindness

Can you do something in the October half term to show kindness in our community? If so, we would love to hear about it! This could include helping a neighbour, a litter pick or giving up some of your free time to help a charity.

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 can't wait to hear how we are kind over our half term holiday!



WOODTHORPE WELCOMES YOU TO...

Tales and Treats

LET YOUR IMAGINATION TAKE FLIGHT – COME
AND ENJOY THE MAGIC OF BOOKS!

BRING YOUR FAVOURITE BOOK (OR CHOOSE ONE WHEN YOU ARRIVE), FIND A COMFY
SPOT ON OUR MATS, BEANBAGS OR TABLES AND ENJOY READING TOGETHER AS A
FAMILY.

EMBRACE IN MANY STORIES, SNUGGLES, AND SWEET TREATS!

Monday 24th November, 3:30–4:45pm

Key Stage 1 and 2 hall!



Nursery

All things Autumn!

We have loved all things Autumn in Nursery. We have loved watching this season start to unfold by brushing up the leaves and making leaf kebabs, collecting apples and making tasty apple crumble and bird feeders, plenty of Autumnal stories as well as thinking about what hedgehogs do at this time of the year including making some homes for them!



Nursery shout out!

A huge shout out this week to Chester for his enthusiasm for learning in Nursery! Each session Chester comes to Nursery ready to learn and play. We have been blown away by his wonderful attitude, amazing contributions and fantastic play. Well done Chester!

Ask us about...

Autumn! We can tell you what happens this time of year including the weather, what animals do and things we notice!



Reception

Our wonderful first half term.

Reception has completed their first half term in Reception and what a busy few weeks we have had! We have made new friends, played in different areas of provision, had special visitors into school and we have even started to read and write! Here are just some of our many wonderful memories from this half term.



Cygnets shout out!

Jessie- For your wonderful reading this half term. Jessie your blending and segmenting skills are amazing and you are starting to answer some comprehension skills in great detail. Well done.

River- For being a kind, caring and thoughtful member of our class. You always look out for other people and make sure they have a friend to play with during choosing time. Thank you for just being you. What a superstar!

Goslings shout out!

Erica - For making fantastic progress with your reading. You have a really positive attitude to learning and are confidently blending already! What a superstar!

Archie - For working really hard in handwriting sessions and for making super progress with your fine motor skills. Your handwriting patterns have been brilliant this week, well done!

Ask us about...

This week we have been learning all about exploring sounds in our environments as part of our music week. Ask us about the sounds we can hear in our local environment.



Year 1

Kingfisher

In Kingfisher class, we have been looking at addition and number sentences. We completed a practical maths activity in the forest, creating number bonds with woodland objects! We had to find the missing bond to numbers up to 10, hunting around the forest to find the correct number of objects!



Hummingbird

In R.E, Hummingbirds have done some fantastic work around how many Hindus believe that the world was created. We have learnt that many Hindu people believe that God has different names when completing different roles such as creating, caring and recreating. Have a look at our beautiful work!



Kingfisher shout out!

Winston - Thank you for all your wonderful work in phonics! You have really impressed me with your incredible knowledge of our new phase 5 phonemes! Keep it up; I am very proud of you!

Hummingbird shout out!

Sienna - For working so hard in English. You have been trying so hard with your letter formation, meaning that your work is becoming really neat - keep up the great work!

Henry - For your dedication to improving your writing. You are really thinking about how to apply phonics knowledge into your work and developing your independence - well done!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about creation stories from different religions. Ask us how many Christian and Jewish people believe that the world began.

Year 2

Finch - PE

In PE this week, we enjoyed adding challenges to the game 'Lions and Hyenas'. We started by recapping the game, before making some of the 'food' special so we could earn double points. We loved working in our teams to collect as much food as possible!



Robin - PSHE

We have reached the end of our PSHE unit on "Being Me in My World," and we had the opportunity to create our own jigsaw charter! We established some classroom rules that we believe are important to follow in order to ensure that both ourselves and our peers can learn effectively.



Finch shout out!

Primrose - A huge well done Prim for your brilliant work in your independent writing! You have carefully thought about what to include, and you have created some fantastic, detailed sentences. Your work was a pleasure to read. Keep up the great work!

Robin shout out!

Shout out to **William** this week for his independence in English. I have been so proud of the amount of enthusiasm and determination to create his story this week, all on his own! Well done William.

Ask us about...

This week, in RE, we have been learning about why we need to give thanks. Ask us about it!



Year 3

Magpies

This week Magpie class has been exploring the question 'What makes us human?' in our RE lessons. We have drawn what we think souls look like, compared what different religions' opinions are on souls, explored what spirituality means to us and had a go at some meditation.



Woodpeckers

We have been working super hard on our column addition and subtraction in maths. We have been making sure that the columns are lined up properly and also that the digits are in the correct column. We have also done brilliantly with our exchanging.



Magpie shout out!

Khalid - For writing an amazing motivational leaflet in English! You have worked incredibly hard this past week and I have been amazed by your outstanding ideas on the carpet and in your writing! Well done!

Woodpecker shout out!

Joshua - for incredible work in maths! I have been blown away with your amazing addition and subtraction over the last few weeks. Well done Joshua!

Hirut - For working really hard with your writing and being super helpful to the other children on your table in maths. Keep up the hard work!

Ask us about...

What a ballad is. We might even be able to sing you one!

Year 4

Owls



In RE, we learnt how to communicate well with partners through drawing and maze games to reflect how worldviews can be united through celebrating differences!

Osprey

This week, we have been publishing our tourism brochures that we wrote as part of our independent write. We have enjoyed being able to share them with everyone.



Owl shout out!

Amelia W - How hard have you worked this week?! You have tried your very best in all subjects. We have been especially impressed with your exciting writing. Thank you for also being a kind and considerate member of the class.

Osprey shout out!

Eva - I have been blown away by your effort throughout your independent writing! Your attitude and determination has been amazing! You should be extremely proud of yourself!

Ask us about...

This week, we are investigating what makes a text sacred in RE - ask us about the different scriptures and how one is actually treated like a real person and goes to bed at night! Can you remember which it is?



Year 5

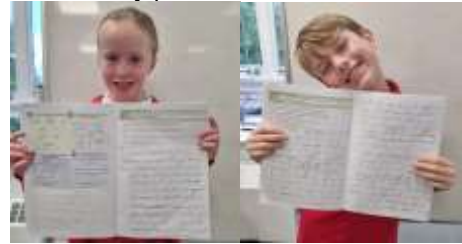
Kites

Our focus in RE has been freedom and what better way to celebrate this than learning about the life of Malala Yousafzai and her advocacy for girls' education. We all felt truly inspired after completing our work about her.



Falcons

This week, we have thoroughly enjoyed writing our own science-fiction narratives based on a robot of our design! We created exciting action sequences, describing how our robots began to glitch and, thus, needed to be destroyed - we were very proud of our work!



Kites shout out!

Hudson- I was so impressed with the level of focus you showed during our Computing lesson this week! You were able to use your excellent research skills and then presented your findings in an informative poster using Sketchpad- keep up the hard work! ☆

Falcons shout out!

April - For her commitment to improving her writing, which has resulted in her producing an excellent assessed write to end the half term - well done April! ☆

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning all about why people need to make a stand and what happens when individuals are denied their religious freedom. Ask us about Guy Fawkes' gunpowder plot and the Divine Right of Kings.

Year 6

Art: Artist Studies

Over the last two weeks, Year 6 have embraced their inner artists by creating a finished piece of artwork inspired by artists of our choice. After exploring and taking inspiration from their famous pieces, they created their own unique works. Some of our incredible pieces were inspired by Picasso and Van Gogh.



Computing: Cracking the Code

In computing, Year 6 have been learning about the importance of Bletchley Park during WW2. Using their code cracking skills, we were able to understand messages in a variety of different ciphers, while understanding the role this would have had in order to send encrypted messages during the war.



Eagle Shout Out!

A massive shout out to both Raheel and Alfie! You both showed incredible maturity and focus during our assessments. Your self-motivation has led to outstanding progress and we could not be more proud of your hard work and dedication.

Hawk Shout Out!

A big shout out to Mason for incredible effort during maths lessons. Your hard work has really paid off and you have made great progress in your assessments. Keep it up!

Ask us about...

Last week, we learned about classical music relating to oceans and Fingal's Cave on the Isle of Staffa! We have researched the composer Felix Mendelssohn and created our own music to depict waves. Please ask us about it!



School Information

Coming soon...

Wed 22nd Oct	Last day of term
Thurs 23rd Oct - Fri 31st Oct	October Half Term
Mon 3rd Nov	Back at school
Tues 4th Nov	Peat Rigg parent meeting 3:30pm
Wed 5th Nov	Flu Vaccinations
Thurs 6th Nov	School Photos - siblings & individual photos
Mon 10th Nov	Antibullying week
Thurs 13th Nov	Visit from Yorkshire Ambulance Service
Fri 14th Nov	Children in Need 2025 - More information to follow

FOOD FESTIVAL

SPARKLE SPECTACULAR

Top 14 Allergen Free Menu

5th November

ALLERGY FREE MENU

Bonfire Beef Chilli
with Sweet Potato Wedges
and Sweetcorn

Or

Bonfire Veggie Bean Chilli
with Sweet Potato Wedges
and Sweetcorn

And

Sparkle Cookies

FOOD FESTIVAL

SPARKLE SPECTACULAR

5th November

Bonfire Banger Hot Dogs
with Sweet Potato Wedges
and Rainbow Slaw

Or

Quorn Bonfire Banger Hot Dogs
with Sweet Potato Wedges
and Rainbow Slaw

And

Toffee Apple Sponge & Custard



As we approach our first half term holiday, here are the Woodthorpe Top Ten Tips to Stay Safe Online and information about Parental Controls.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this; filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

1 KNOW THE TYPES

While parental control software can apply to an entire device, it also pays to know about options on individual apps and websites. TikTok, for example, has Restricted Mode for limiting unsuitable videos, while Snapchat lets you keep an eye on who a child has been talking to. Check the settings of any new app young users want and review your options.

2 COVER ALL DEVICES

Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of 'blind spots' in the device's safety measures. Controls on a phone will apply whenever a child's on that device, for instance – but you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up across any laptops, tablets and potentially other phones, too. Remember, buying a new device may require you to set everything up again.

3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH

While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that's not a weak point in your safety measures. Parental controls for your router, that cover everything connected to your Wi-Fi, are one option – or you can just be thorough with each device and online account. Just ensure that unprotected laptops, phones and tablets are password locked.

4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS

Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess. Not only are certain apps addictive enough to distract from other duties, but late-night usage can badly disrupt sleep, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some kind of time limit – either blocking access at certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.

5 BLOCK APP SPENDING

Seemingly free apps can sometimes include microtransactions: purchases that can be made using real money. While plenty of developers implement these fairly, some companies attempt to manipulate children into paying for additional features or content, which can soon add up to hundreds of pounds if a child gets carried away. Thankfully, iOS and Android's settings allow you to block in-app purchases, preventing any huge bills.

6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT

Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unpleasant content can and unfortunately will slip through the net, so remember that setting up these measures isn't a substitute for taking an active interest in young people's digital lives. Talk to them, and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as its benefits.

7 MIND THE GAPS

There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you intend to be. For example, if you use router-level parental controls, bear in mind that these won't cover Wi-Fi outside the home. For that reason, it's important to keep an open dialogue with children about the many unpalatable aspects of social media and the web.

8 KEEP THINGS SECURE

Some children can react poorly to parental controls and feel tempted to circumvent them. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain unknown to children, otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.

9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY

Parental controls shouldn't be a 'set and forget' deal. Not only can parental summaries provide you with a frequent overview of a child's digital life – to let you spot any warning signs – but companies often add new features, and some of these may be useful to enable (or disable). Regularly checking in ensures that if a child has found a way to wiggle out of the controls, you'll be the first to know.

10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP

The parental controls you install on a computer for a seven-year-old probably wouldn't be appropriate for a child of 16 – and as young people approach adulthood, bubble wrapping the internet can do more harm than good. Consider relaxing parental controls as children get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without so many training wheels.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alphr. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including the New Statesman, CNET, the Evening Standard, Wired, Rock Paper Shotgun, Gizmodo, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, T3, PC Pro, Macworld, TechRadar and Trusted Reviews.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



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



Community board

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

 **TUESDAY TOTS**
EXTRA

**OCTOBER
HALF TERM**
9.30AM-12.30PM

St. James the Deacon Church,
Sherringham Drive, YO24 2SE
Children must be supervised at all times.

FREE

TUESDAY 28TH OCTOBER

- Toys, games & crafts for all ages
- Playgroup and baby area
- New and preloved school uniform
- Buffet Lunch
- Drinks & snacks
- Food parcels to take home

 **CIRCUS
SKILLS
— YORK —**

Circus Skills Workshops

Follow us on Facebook:
St James the Deacon Children and Families





STARTING Rite

A 5 week Baby Centred Course

TUESDAYS

10.45AM -

12.45PM

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!



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



Running from 04.11.25 -
02.12.25



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

