



Newsletter

Friday 30th January 2026

At Woodthorpe, we really do love to see our pupils shine and pupil leadership is just one example of this. Over the next few pages you will see what our ambassadors have been up to and I just wanted to share how proud I am of all of our pupil leaders within school.

At school we have been thinking about how we can spread the love in the local community and support others. Over the next few weeks, we will be collecting key items and donations for local causes - if you are interested in taking part, please see the poster on the next page. Donations can be brought into school up until Tuesday 3rd March and will be distributed to the Dog's Trust, Dementia Yorkshire & Amarna House Care Home. Thank you so much for your support with this.

This fortnight, pupils have been studying their history unit within school, from kings and queens to WW2, our children are absolutely buzzing with their latest knowledge - why not ask them about it?

We are delighted to share some incredible news with you all! Before Christmas, children were given the opportunity to take part in a competition with Portakabin to design their dream library. Entries from across the county were carefully judged by a dedicated Portakabin panel, who looked at effort, purpose, creativity, and imagination.

We are thrilled to announce that Archie from Year 4 has been chosen as the winner with his fantastic design which included a living wall, cloud lighting, grass flooring and much, much more. We are so proud of you, Archie! Your creativity has truly shone through, and we can't wait to see your design come to life. This is a wonderful achievement not only for Archie but for our entire school community.

Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	96.19	Goslings	95.71
Hummingbirds	85.19	Kingfishers	95.06
Finch	96.09	Robins	96.06
Magpie	95.40	Woodpeckers	90.31
Owl	94.42	Osprey	91.30
Kite	91.58	Falcon	96.88
Hawk	96.09	Eagle	★ 96.98 ★
School average for this year		94.07	

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.elc.org.uk, thank you.



SUPPORTING LOCAL CHARITIES & GROUPS

Sending our love

FROM MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY, WE WILL BE STARTING OUR 'SENDING THE LOVE' CAMPAIGN TO HELP SUPPORT LOCAL CHARITIES AND GROUPS, AS CHOSEN BY OUR SCHOOL AMBASSADOR TEAM.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT, SIMPLY TAKE A GIFT TAG FROM OUR TREE (LOCATED IN THE MAIN SCHOOL ENTRANCE), PURCHASE THE LISTED ITEM(S) AND THEN BRING THESE INTO SCHOOL BEFORE TUESDAY 3RD OF MARCH.

ALL OF THE ITEMS ARE UNDER £5 AND **MOST ONLY COST BETWEEN £1-£2.** WITH YOUR HELP, WE ARE HOPING TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE TO LOCAL GROUPS AND CAUSES.

WE ARE GOING TO BE SUPPORTING:

Amarna House
CARE HOME



Dementia
YORKSHIRE

THANK YOU **SO** MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



A visit from a local MP

Last week, the whole school took part in UK Parliament Week 2025. During this week, we learnt about what Parliament is, the key parts of Parliament (including The House of Commons, The House of Lords and The Monarchy) as well as learning about key roles in Parliament such as MPs. As part of our learning, classes came up with a range of questions they would like to ask an MP.

On Friday, we were delighted to host a visit from one of our local MPs, Luke Charters and Anna Baxter (Senior Communications Officer). Our wonderful Ambassadors led a school tour to share what it is like to come to Woodthorpe Primary. This was then followed with a question and answer session with our Ambassadors and Junior Ambassadors. Together, the ambassadors confidently discussed some of our key whole school issues with Luke. Afterwards, Luke wanted to hear some of our thoughts and opinions too. Our school representatives were wonderful! They were shining examples of our Woodthorpe character being polite, thoughtful, informative and very welcoming to our visitors.

Thank you Luke and Anna for visiting us. It was a wonderful experience for us to continue to work within our local community!



Nursery

A very long time ago...

We have loved exploring dinosaurs! We have been thinking about when people thought dinosaurs lived, how we know about them now and famous palaeontologists such as Mary Anning. We have enjoyed reading stories about dinosaurs as well as many non-fiction texts full of interesting facts!



Numbers!

Nursery have loved all things numbers recently. We have been busy matching amounts to quantities including representations in Numicon and numerals. In the playdough area we have loved making birthday cakes complete with the correct amount of candles for different ages!



Nursery shout out!

A massive shout out to Dion. Dion, you have blown us away with your amazing knowledge all about dinosaurs. You have told us all about your favourite dinosaurs, shared wonderful facts and used some fantastic words to explain your ideas too! Well done Dion!

Ask us about...

Dinosaurs! We can tell you when people thought they lived, why people don't think they are here anymore as well as our favourite ones too!



Reception

Adventures through time...

Reception have been learning about the different generations in families and had great fun drawing their family trees. They also spent some time talking about their special achievements and really enjoyed making their own rosettes to celebrate what they are good at. This week we have been learning about kings and queens and have enjoyed dressing up, making castles, painting portraits and making our own crowns. It's been so much fun!



Cygnets shout out!

Anne- For your amazing writing about Mr McGann and his beard in our writing area. Anne you certainly put a smile on Mr McGann's face with your perfect drawing of him and your incredible writing too.

Darcey- For your fantastic woodwork creation of a Queen. You listened really carefully to the story all about the Queen and could include some great detail in your woodwork. Well done Darcey!

Goslings shout out!

Kelia - For your fantastic writing about the king. You have been trying really hard to write independently and I am really proud of you. Well done Kelia!

Zain - For really trying hard with your letter formation and writing. You are making lovely progress Zain, keep up the good work!

Ask us about...

In maths we have been learning about capacity, weight and how some things are heavier and lighter. We have also looked at how much water different containers can hold by counting the number of cups into each container.



Year 1

Year 1 - Attendance Superstars!

In KS1, we are working hard to improve our attendance to ensure we all attend school every day! Each Friday, we now have an 'Attendance superstars' table for children to enjoy eating their lunch at! This week, we said well done to a group of KS1 children who have been in school every day! Well done! We wonder who will be our superstars next week...



Year 1 - Algorithms

In computing, we are looking at algorithms. We have discovered that an algorithm is when instructions are put in an exact order. We've learnt how to write clear algorithms and how to follow an algorithm. In this week's lesson, we had to follow an algorithm to draw a creature! We ended up making some very bizarre looking creatures with 6 heads, 3 arms and 8 ears! Take a look below!



Kingfisher shout out!

Billy-Joe - Well done, Billy-Joe, for your incredible writing in English! I was so impressed with your choice of exciting adjectives to extend your sentences further. You also used beautiful pre-cursive handwriting!

Hummingbird shout out!

Denny - You have been working so hard on your pre-cursive handwriting and this is evident in your English work. It is becoming so neat! You are also producing some fantastic sentences with excellent adjectives too - keep up the great work!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning how toys have changed through time. We have discussed our favourite toy using language related to the past, and we have made comparisons between toys in the past and present. Ask us to identify changes between teddy bears today and those from 100 years ago!

Year 2

History - The History of Flight

Year 2 have been enjoying their learning all about how we learnt to fly. In this lesson, we investigated why Bessie Coleman is historically significant by using photographs. We explained what we have learnt about her and what questions we still have about her life.



PE - Jump, Shape, Create

This week in PE, we concentrated on the concept of 'shape'. We had fun creating different balances to represent various objects and animals, using equipment to add an extra challenge to our balances.



We also challenged ourselves by partnering up to see how we could further enhance our balances.



Finch shout out!

Rosie - A huge well done Rosie for your amazing maths work this week! You have been showing amazing perseverance and determination and it has been brilliant to see you challenging yourself in our lessons. Keep up the great work!

Robin shout out!

Mila - A shout out to Mila this week for her kindness to others. It is always so wonderful to see the amount of patience and warmth you give to all of your classmates. Another shout out this week goes to **Mia**, as I am so proud of how hard you work and the perseverance you show within lessons.

Ask us about...

This week, in history, we have been learning about how we learnt to fly. We have learnt about historically significant people, such as the Wright Brothers and Bessie Coleman. Ask us about them!



Year 3

Magpies and Woodpeckers

Year 3 had a fantastic time at Howsham Mill! As part of our Rocks and Soils Science topic we investigated rocks to find out which were the hardest, looked at soil to see what it was made up of and especially enjoyed making S'Mores around the camp fire.



Magpie shout out!

Jacob - For fantastic enthusiasm in our history lessons! You have shown some great knowledge about the Romans and it was lovely to see you bring in your own Roman coin!

Woodpecker shout outs!

Esme - for trying extra hard with your handwriting - we are super impressed with the improvement, well done :)
Ayla - for fantastic work in English writing sentences with embedded clauses - great work!

Ask us about...

This week in History we have been learning about the Romans and why they were so successful in battles. Why not ask us about the different tactics they used like 'The Wedge' and 'The Testudo'.

Year 4

Owls

In computing lessons, we have been creating a times table game using variables in our coding to personalise the games!



Osprey

This week, we have been practising our handwriting - ensuring our pencil grip and posture is correct! We are making amazing improvements which is great to see!



Owl shout out!

George - Well done for your outstanding work in history when we were investigating artefacts from Sutton Hoo in our Anglo-Saxon unit. Keep up the enthusiasm as we have a budding historian!

Osprey shout out!

Harley - He has made outstanding progress with his handwriting this week - in every lesson he has been considering his presentation. He has also been pushing himself to reach the challenge in most lessons! Well done Harley! ★

Ask us about...

This week, Owl and Osprey class are having a TT battle in preparation for the MTC test. We will be battling all week to collect points and improve our scores and speed. Good luck everyone!



Year 5

Kites

To support our writing of a narrative, Kites enjoyed investigating the features of dialogue through a true or false quiz. We worked in pairs to read each statement carefully and decide whether they were correct or not. There were also prizes for the most correct answers!



Falcons

Ahead of our school trip next week, we have been learning all about the Tudors! We've been working as historians to investigate the reliability of various historical sources and to make deductions from them to help us learn more about the lives of some of the most famous figures from the period!



Kites shout out!

Michael- your setting description based on our class book was outstanding. I loved the way you used a range of powerful, descriptive language whilst still creating an air of suspense to keep your reader hooked- well done ☆.

Falcons shout out!

Charlie - The effort that you have applied to your maths work this week has been fantastic! I have been extremely impressed with your growing independence and resilience! Well done Charlie - keep it up! ☆

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about the Tudors! Did you know that historians used inventories from the Tudor period to discover important information about what life was like then?

Year 6

History: Why did Britain go to war in 1939?

As part of our History topic based on WWII, we were tasked to create a to-scale timeline mapping out the run up to the war. Using correctly measured increments and our understanding of chronology, we were able to plot the events that may have played a part in causing WWII. We even had some genuine artefacts from WWII brought in for us to share, including the diary of a soldier in Egypt, ration books and photos!



Writing: The Three Little Pigs

Our writing this half term has focused on the story of The Three Little Pigs. This week we have been writing formal letters in role, to be read out at the pigs' court trial. We had to decide if they were guilty or not guilty of murdering the Big Bad Wolf, considering evidence to argue their case.



Eagle shout out!

A massive shout out to Dan and Stan! You have both blown me away with your enthusiasm and understanding of WWII!

Not only has your use of vocabulary around it been phenomenal, you have also shared so many interesting facts with the class too! Well done, both of you!

Hawk shout out!

A huge shoutout to Izzy and Sylvie for bringing artefacts from home to support our understanding of WWII. It was amazing to see our learning come to life and find out about the amazing stories associated with these precious items. Thank you girls for sharing them with us!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about World War II. Did you know that 1.5 million people were evacuated in England during 1939 and that school teachers went with the evacuees? Ask us about it!



School Information

Coming soon...

Wednesday 4th February	Year 5 trip to Merchant Adventurers Hall
Tuesday 10th February	Young Voices
Wednesday 11th February	Year 6 trip to Lotherton Hall
Wednesday 11th February	Last day of term for children
Thursday 12th February	Training Day- No children in school
Friday 13th February	Training Day- No children in school
Monday 16th - Friday 20th February	Half Term
Monday 23rd February	Back to school
Wednesday 4th March	Parents Evening
Thursday 5th March	Parents Evening

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.elc.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





FEB HALF TERM MULTI-SPORT CLUB



ACOMB

MONDAY 16TH - FRIDAY 20TH FEB



WILBERFOSS

TUESDAY 17TH FEB



HEMPLAND

THURSDAY 19TH FEB



**25%
SIBLING DISCOUNT**

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED!

BOOK HERE - [IGNITESPORTSCACHING.CO.UK](https://www.ignitesportscaching.co.uk)



**Are you a young
person aged 7 - 25
with a special
educational need
or disability
(SEND)?**



The SEND Youth Forum meets fortnightly at SEND Central to:

- Take part in fun activities, discussions and events
- Meet other young people with SEND
- Help improve SEND services York
- Share their views and ideas



We also meet once a month online.

Have your say and make a difference!

For more information:

✉ **Jointpartnership@york.gov.uk**

🌐 **[www.yorksend.org/get-
involved/send-youth-forum](http://www.yorksend.org/get-involved/send-youth-forum)**



**York SEND
Local Offer**



CITY OF
YORK
COUNCIL



Supporting Children & Young People with Mental Wellbeing

This free 5 week introductory course explores Mental Health and ways to help you support your child at home with their mental well-being.

There will be an opportunity to understand which services are available to support you at home and school.

Following this course there will be an opportunity for you to take a Level 2 qualification.

Who: Parents and Carers

Dates: 25 February 2026 - 25 March 2026

When: Wednesday Afternoons, 12:45 - 2:45

Where: SEND CENTRAL,

Clifton Green Children's Centre, YO30 6JA





Raise York
Your Family Hub Network



York Parents' Survey

Your Voice Matters

If you're a parent or carer in York we want to hear from you.

Your feedback will help shape services and support for families across the city.

Complete the survey and enter our prize draw for the chance to
Win a £50 Love2Shop voucher!

**Have your say
before 31 March**

- Visit www.york.gov.uk/YorkParentsSurvey
- Scan the QR code
- Visit your local Explore library for a paper copy

