



**Woodthorpe
Primary School**

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Primary School**
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Newsletter

Friday 6th March 2026

We can hardly believe we are already halfway through this academic year! The children have made a fantastic start to this half term, and our school has been buzzing with exciting activities and events. It has been lovely to witness the signs of Spring, especially with a delightful visit from Farmer Karl, who brought along his lamb and chicken. We've also enjoyed some glimmers of sunshine and have seen the flowers blossoming beautifully around the school.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 5 and Year 6 students who recently represented Woodthorpe in a Panathlon competition. They displayed remarkable determination, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm, and we are thrilled to announce that they came in 1st and 2nd place—what a fantastic achievement!

It has also been wonderful to see so many parents in school this past week for Parents Evening. We hope you enjoyed your conversations with the teachers and gained valuable insights into your child's achievements, as well as ways you can support their learning at home.

Lastly, Thursday was World Book Day, and it was heartwarming to see the children come to school dressed as characters from their favourite books, or in their comfy clothes and pyjamas—perfect for a day of reading! Throughout the day, the children engaged in a variety of activities centred around reading. The highlight for me was witnessing some of our older students reading with the younger ones across the school; it truly showcased the joy of sharing stories.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community.

Class attendance this fortnight

Cygnets	99.1%	Goslings	98.2%
Hummingbirds	95.7%	Kingfishers	94.5%
Finch	★ 99.3% ★	Robins	97.9%
Magpie	96.3%	Woodpeckers	92.6%
Owl	97.1%	Osprey	95.9%
Kite	93.9%	Falcon	95.9%
Hawk	96.4%	Eagle	97.5%
School average for this year		95.71%	

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 Week 2026

What a wonderful response to our Random Acts of Kindness Week 2026! We have been blown away with all the incredible things our children have been doing in the half term. The jars full of kindness were full to the brim!

It has been a pleasure to hear all about how kind our children are. Children have donated toys, helped do the shopping, helped neighbours, conducted litter picks, told others they are wonderful, bought something and donated to our 'sending our love' campaign, held the door for others, made positive cards to share, helped wash the car, set the table, washed up, drew a picture for a friend, given someone flowers and the more!

In addition to many, many sheets returned to school, here are a few photo highlights that have been shared too. A huge well done to all those children and families who took the time to share random acts of kindness throughout the half term!



Logan in Reception chose to buy some treats for the dogs at the RSPCA. With his family they dropped them off directly and they were very grateful. He felt very happy! We are so proud of you Logan, well done!

Jacob in Year 2 and Isaac in Year 4 have a great understanding of the importance of recycling and the need to bin rubbish. Isaac is very helpful with separating and putting in the recycling in the correct bin. Jacob loves nothing more than taking his litter picker and collecting litter. They recently went on a bike ride and he picked up any litter he found in Rowntree Park. Well done boys, what a super way to help our environment!



During half term, Marie in Year 6 had 12 inches of her hair cut off to donate to Little Princess Trust to be made into a wig for a child who has lost their own hair through illness or treatment. She has also raised an amazing £440 towards the cost of making and fitting the wig. Marie what a very generous and kind gift to give. We are very proud of you for your selfless act!



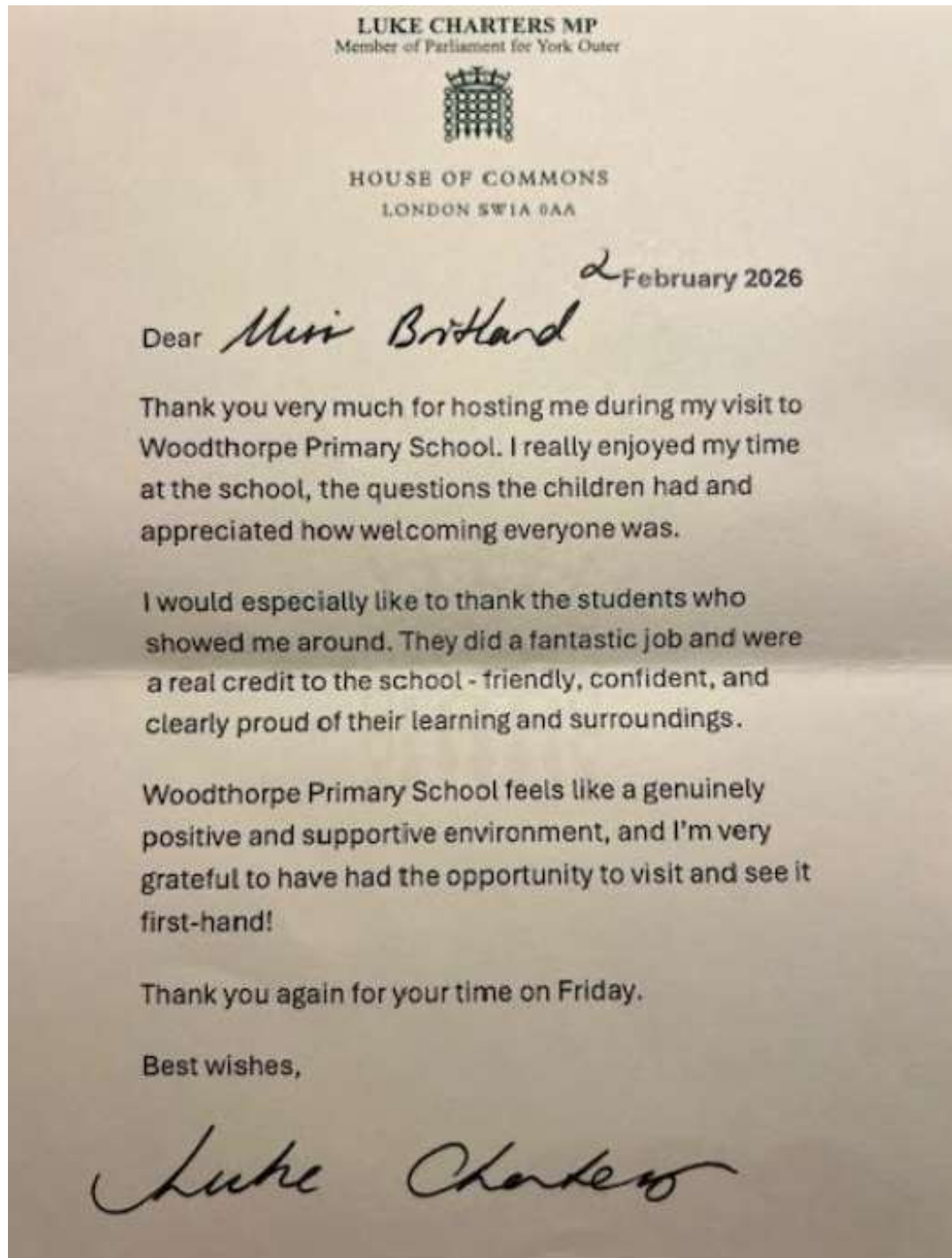
Has your child recently done a random act of kindness? If so we would love to hear all about it! If you would like to nominate your child at any point, please email the school office with the subject 'Random Act of Kindness', the name of your child, a description of what they did and a photo (where possible). 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.



UK Parliament Week - Visit from a local MP

As shared in a previous newsletter, we recently hosted a visit from a local MP, Luke Charters. During the morning our amazing 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.

We were thrilled to receive this letter from Luke. As previously highlighted, we too are very proud of our school Ambassadors who facilitated his visit. It was fantastic to hear that Luke enjoyed his visit and recognised the wonderful place our school is!



Young Voices 2026

What an incredible Young Voices 2026! A group of very talented, enthusiastic and amazing children took part in this year's event. The children have been wonderful at taking the time to learn the words, actions and tunes to so many songs. Below shows just a snapshot of the event! We are very proud of all the children who took part. It was a pleasure to see you not only being fantastic representatives from our school but also having the best time ever!

Well done Young Voices 2026!



Panathlon

We are extremely proud of all the children who took part in the Panathlon, representing our school with enthusiasm and determination. Our Year 5 and 6 team achieved an amazing result, coming first and second overall, which is a fantastic accomplishment. The children challenged themselves by taking part in activities they hadn't tried before, such as curling and archery, and approached each one with a positive attitude. Throughout the event they showed outstanding teamwork and resilience, supporting one another and never giving up. Every child was awarded a certificate and medal in recognition of their efforts and achievements, and they should all be very proud of what they accomplished.



A special shout out...

We were incredibly proud to hear that Ella in Year 3 had recently won an art competition! Ella was selected as the winner of 'The Subtle Art of Family' competition at Clarendon Fine Art York. Ella is a budding artist and loves anything related to art! For her piece of art, Ella drew herself in a love heart surrounded by jigsaw pieces of her family. Not only did Ella's beautiful work get displayed in the gallery, she also won an art set including paint, colouring pencils, oil pastels and more! Should you be passing the art gallery in York city centre, keep your eyes open for her amazing piece of art. Well done Ella!



Nursery

In Nursery we have launched this half term learning all about life cycles. One life cycle we have been looking at is the life cycle of a plant. We have learnt the different stages within the life cycle. Together we have had so much fun starting the life cycle of a bean. We have all planted our own beans and we can't wait to see what happens next!



In Ducklings we have been using our super gross motor skills to balance and move. Together we have carefully walked along the balance beams holding our hands out to steady us or asking a friend to help as well as having lots of fun on the seesaw!



Nursery shout out!

A huge shout out this week to Alfie! You have been amazing at learning all about life cycles and can confidently explain the different stages for the life cycle of a plant or even an animal (chicken). It has been wonderful to hear you using some amazing vocabulary when describing the different parts. Well done Alfie!

Ask us about...

The life cycle of plants. We can tell you the different stages and even act this out!



Reception

Changing Seasons

Reception have been embracing the beauty of nature as they learn about the changing seasons from winter to spring! The children have been busy drawing vibrant flowers, creating stunning pieces in the transient art area, and writing about the different seasons. To top it all off, we had a delightful visit from Farmer Carl, who brought along his adorable lamb and a friendly hen for the children to stroke! We are so proud of their creativity and enthusiasm for learning!



Cygnets shout out!

Anne- For your wonderful writing this week about all things Spring. You blew me away with your use of tricky words in your writing and used lots of your knowledge from our key knowledge sessions and applied it into your writing. Well done!

George- For your great reading this week. George you tried really hard segmenting and blending your words in your reading book and it was a pleasure to hear you read. Well done.

Goslings shout out!

Sebastian - For your fantastic writing this week. You have worked really hard to get your writing smaller and it has been a pleasure to see your enthusiasm and enjoyment. Well done Sebastian!

Pippa - For your fantastic behaviour. You are absolutely brilliant at listening and joining in during phonics and you are always ready to learn new things. Keep up the good work Pippa!

Ask us about...

This week it is World Book Day. Ask us about your favourite books and characters...



Year 1

Kingfisher - Smoothie Recipe

We have been learning how to write a set of instructions. We began by exploring the key grammatical features that make instructions easy to follow, including verbs and adverbs. We have worked hard writing our instructions, making sure we ordered correctly and have written precisely. To make our learning even more meaningful, we linked this to our previous DT unit by writing instructions for making a smoothie.



Hummingbird

We loved our DT puppet topic, where we designed and created our own puppets based on characters from the story *Little Red Riding Hood*. Can you guess which characters we made?



Kingfisher shout out!

Hussain - A huge well done for settling into Kingfisher class so beautifully. We are all so proud of how well you have adapted to your new classroom, and you have already made some wonderful friendships! We are so pleased to welcome you into Kingfisher class.

Hummingbird shout out!

Effie - For planning a fantastic story for our computing unit. I was blown away by your super ideas and the detail that you added. Great work!

Oliver - For your exceptional behaviour. You are a wonderful role model to your peers in Hummingbird class and you always have beautiful manners too. Thank you Oliver!

Ask us about...

This week, we have been learning about comparing and grouping animals. We have been learning about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. Ask us what our favourite animal is and what they like to eat!

Year 2

Forest School

In our first forest school session of the year, we enjoyed learning all about birds by completing a bird identification challenge. In the lesson, we looked at a range of pictures hidden around the forest and used an identification sheet to help us discover the name of each bird.



Spinning the Wheel!

In Year 2, we had a wonderful opportunity to enhance our sewing DT skills by spinning thread on an old spinning wheel! We learnt about where wool and yarn has come from and how they are used to make wonderful clothes and accessories!



Finch shout out!

Kobi - A huge well done Kobi for your amazing handwriting! In all of our lessons, you work extremely hard to present your work to the highest standard. Keep up the great work!

Myla - A massive well done Myla for your growing confidence and independence in maths. You are putting in 100% effort and you always aim to challenge yourself. Well done!

Robin shout out!

Rosie - Shout out to Rosie this week for being brave and confident and winning a trampoline competition outside of school but also for the determination and hard work you show within school too! Well done Rosie!

Omari - I have been so proud of you and your exceptional behaviour within school. Also for the brilliant improvement with your handwriting and independence in our English lessons!

Ask us about...

In science, we have been learning about life cycles and health. We have explored human and animal life cycles and we have measured growth in humans. Ask us about it!



Year 3

Magpies

This week, in our fitness session we have been looking at different yoga poses. We did the chair pose, rainbow pose, three-legged dog, tree pose and the cobra! We found that yoga helped us to feel really calm.



Woodpeckers

This week in Science, we have been looking at how shadows change throughout the day. We carried out our own observations and observed how the shadow changes position and size as the sun moves in the sky.



Magpie shout out!

Ben - For writing some fantastic sentences in English about making your own 'Marvellous Medicine'. You have really thought about each of your sentences carefully and made sure you are using the key features in your writing. Well done!

Woodpecker shout out!

Declan - For fantastic work in English. You have written some fantastic sentences and tried hard to include all of the features we are looking for, always challenging yourself to do your very best!

Elijah - For super work in our science lessons. You worked really well with your group to carry out your observations and could explain your findings really clearly. Well done :)

Ask us about...

This week in Science we have been finding out about shadows. Why not ask us about how shadows are formed and the differences between shadows in the morning and shadows at midday.

Year 4

Owls



In science this week we have been exploring sound and vibrations. By measuring the pitch and the volume of instruments we can work out how to change the pitch or volume by playing them differently.

Osprey

In fitness, Osprey have been practicing their accuracy skills by throwing a ball into a target. Their partner put a hoop around them and the children had to get their beanbag through the hoop.



Owl shout out!

Bobby and Thomas - You have gone above and beyond in your independent writing this week and we are so proud to see how far you've come. Bobby - your sentence openers were brilliant for your panda leaflet. Thomas - your flair and humour always shines through. Super work! ★

Osprey shout out!

Darcy and Lara - I have been extremely impressed with your amazing attitudes this week. You have shown outstanding presentation with all of your work and tried your best in every lesson. I could use your book as an example everyday - you are superstars! ★

Ask us about...

Linked to our science, ask us how to increase or decrease the volume of an instrument and also how to change the pitch! We will also be making our own instruments to see what volumes and pitch of sounds we can make.



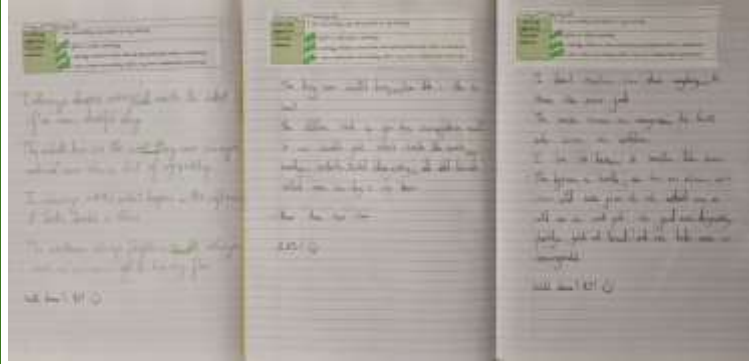
Year 5

Kites - We thoroughly enjoyed investigating the purpose, audience and function of a 'Doodler' as part of our DT topic. We spent time unpicking the different electrical components of a Doodler, then designed and created our own.



Falcons

Our new writing unit is based around the story *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. We used Jim's description of the workhouse to produce some powerful, emotive writing, and learnt how to use colons to introduce explanations.



Kites shout out!

George- you created a fantastic diagram showing the life cycle of a blue whale and shared some brilliant facts which supported our understanding further - well done ★!

Falcons shout out!

Ajay - you have made some excellent contributions to our science lessons this week. We have been very impressed with your knowledge of animal life cycles - well done! ★

Ask us about...

This week, in science, we have been learning about life cycles and reproduction. Ask us about the similarities and differences in the life cycles of mammals, amphibians and insects.

Year 6

Science: Electrical Circuits

This week, we have been drawing electrical circuits using the correct symbols and predicting whether or not the completed circuits would work. We were incredibly impressed when we were able to make working circuits and think about how to challenge ourselves and draw parallel circuits!



WWII Trip: Lotherton Hall

Before the holidays, we had a wonderful visit to Lotherton Hall, where we explored Wildlife World and enjoyed seeing a range of animals. We also stepped back in time for a WWII evacuation experience: learning morse code, taking part in wartime first aid and even experiencing a stimulated air raid.



Shout outs- Eagle

A massive shout out to **Immy** and **Annie**! You have shown an incredible understanding of circuits during our science lessons this week. You have both also been incredibly supportive of your peers too!

Hawk shout out!

A big shoutout to **Stanley** for always thinking outside the box, especially in science this week. You have challenged yourself by asking thought proving questions, and supported your group well to make a range of circuits!

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!



School Information

Coming soon...

Tuesday 10th March	Photograph Day - class photos
Tuesday 10th - Monday 16th March	Book Fair
Wednesday 11th March	Y4 School Trip to Dalby Forest
Friday 13th March	Reception- Geography walk around local area
Wednesday 18th March	Yr 6 trip to York High to see Annie performance
Tuesday 24th March	Family Easter Activity 3:30 - 5:00pm
Friday 27th March	Y2 School Trip to Elvington Air Museum
Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April	Easter Holidays
Monday 13th April	Back to school
Monday 13th - Wednesday 15th April	Y5 & Y6 Residential at Peat Rigg

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



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FOOTBALL FUN CAMP

AT ENERGISE LEISURE CENTRE(YORK HIGH SCHOOL)

CORNLANDS ROAD, ACOMB, YORK, YO24 3DX.

MONDAY 30TH MARCH – THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 2026

10:00am – 3:00pm (FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 4 -14)



Dear Parents,

I am pleased to inform you that following the outstanding success of previous courses and the weekly coaching sessions, we are organising the easter 2026 football fun camp.

The children will be coached by CRB POLICE CHECKED and F.A. QUALIFIED COACHES INCLUDING EX-PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS who are used to working with and bringing the best out in children. The coaches will develop self-confidence and self esteem through encouragement and positive reinforcements. **FOOTBALL IS NOT JUST FOR THE STAR PLAYERS!**

The camp is tightly structured with the players fully supervised at all times. All children are catered for from the absolute beginner to the more experienced players. Players are grouped together according to age, ability and experience. We have fantastic facilities including the outdoor 3-G pitch.

The camp is for 4 days from 10:00am – 3:00pm with lunch from 12:15 – 1:00pm where the children can eat a packed lunch brought from home. The camp is fully supervised so children may be left in our care, however parents are welcome to stay and watch if they wish to. On Thursday at 2:00pm there is a presentation when parents and friends are most encouraged to come and see the players receive their awards.

The cost of the camp is £80 (We also offer **£20 DISCOUNT(£60)** for the second and subsequent children in the same family), which covers all coaching, referees, trophies, certificates and many other awards presented. Single days will be charged at £25 per day if a child is attending less than 4 days. **ALL CHILDREN ARE GUARANTEED TO RECEIVE AT LEAST ONE TROPHY AND CERTIFICATE.**

Steven Nugent(Course Co-ordinator)

**TO BOOK A PLACE PLEASE TEXT 'YORK CAMP'
+ CHILD'S NAME + AGE to 07846 770 250**

(YOU WILL RECEIVE CONFORMATION BY TEXT THEN REGISTRATION AND
PAYMENT IS MADE ON THE FIRST MORNING OF THE COURSE)

