

# Children's University Newsletter

[www.wakefield.ac.uk/about-us/childrens-university](http://www.wakefield.ac.uk/about-us/childrens-university)



## Welcome

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to the Winter update of the Wakefield Children's University.

It's been an unusual first term for all of us, but we have been so impressed with how well our schools and CU members have adapted their learning both in and out of school. We've seen lots of challenge evidence being sent into us this term and our members are taking part in virtual classes and groups in place of the usual face to face activities. Well done to everyone for their resilience and positivity.

We've included a selection of Learning Destinations in this newsletter. A full list is available on our website in the documents section. Finally, I'd like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and I hope you enjoy taking part in our Winter challenge

I hope you enjoy our latest CU newsletter.

**James Pennington**  
*Wakefield CU Manager*



## Winter Challenge

The Winter Challenge is available now on our social media pages and from your school. Take part in the activities to gain extra Learning Hours in your Passport. Don't forget to send all evidence in to us to claim your stamp code!

We've enjoyed looking through all the challenge evidence from October and reading your spooky stories. Well done to everyone who took part. We've included some photos below and if you'd like to see yours in the next newsletter, or in our Facebook album then don't forget to send in the signed permission form your evidence.



## Christmas Card Competition

Well done to everyone who took part in our annual Christmas card competition. We received so many entries it was hard to choose just one winner! Everyone who took part will receive a stamp code for 1 Learning Hour.

**Congratulations to our winner Honey Tate-Heppele from Holy Family & St Michael's Catholic Primary School** who was chosen from over 30 entries by CU Manager James Pennington. Honey will receive an Amazon gift voucher and a pack of Christmas cards with her design to send out to friends and family.



## Learning Destinations

Below is a list of some of the Learning Destinations we work with in the Wakefield district. If you have somewhere you would like to recommend as a Learning Destination, you can email us on [childrensuniversity@wakefield.ac.uk](mailto:childrensuniversity@wakefield.ac.uk) or ask them to visit [www.childrensuniversity.co.uk/get-involved/learning-providers](http://www.childrensuniversity.co.uk/get-involved/learning-providers) and complete the short form.

### Sports & Recreation

5Sport Coaching  
Normanton Knights RLFC  
Wakefield School of Tennis

### Dance, Theatre & Music

412 Dance Theatre  
JP Baker School of Dance  
Vibe Dance Academy  
Zest Dance

### Nature & Outdoors

Anglers Country Park  
Diggerland  
Fairburn Ings & St Aidan's Nature Reserve RSPB  
Farmer Copleys  
KL Falconry

### Art, Crafts & Languages

Crafty Owls Pottery  
Rachel Byass Ceramics  
Lingotots  
Riverside Paint A Pot

### STEM

Little Learners Education  
Renewi Recycling Education Centre  
Think Forensic!  
West Yorkshire Fire Service

### Museums, Galleries, History & Heritage

Castleford Heritage Trust  
Wakefield Castles & Museums  
Ghousia Mosque & Education Centre  
National Coal Mining Museum

## Learning Destination Activities

Winter is the perfect time to get outdoors and see what changes have happened in nature since Autumn. Have the trees changed? Can you see different animals now? There's plenty of places to visit in Wakefield and beyond so wrap up warm and head outside!

*Please note that all information below was correct at time of publication. Please double check with each Learning Destination before setting off.*

### Yorkshire Sculpture Park

[www.ysp.org.uk](http://www.ysp.org.uk)

Visit Yorkshire Sculpture Park and get some fresh air. Be inspired by famous local artists like Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth. Take flask of hot chocolate and a sketch book to sketch some of the sculptures in the park. Collect twigs and leaves to take home to create your own works of art and maybe even do some salt dough sculptures based on what you saw. Check opening times before visiting and entry is £6 per person, bookable in advance.

### Nostell Priory

Enjoy some fresh air at the local National Trust. Seek out nature and maybe even create a nature spotting book of what you find. Research mini beasts and write a profile on the creatures you find. You could take a crayon and some paper and find some interesting textures and do some rubbings. Make sure to book a parking space and check opening times via the National Trust Nostell Priory website before visiting. Prices start at £5 for non-members.

### The Hepworth Wakefield

What is the weather like? Is it sunny outside? Enjoy the winter sun in the gardens at The Hepworth Wakefield. Look at the shadows cast by the plants and sculptures and how the shadows enhance the textures of the plants. Notice your shadow is taller than you.... why is that? Has it been raining? What does the sun look like on the raindrops? Or is it cold and frosty? Look closely at the frost on the plants or the spiders' web. The garden is free to enter but car parking charges may apply.

### Pontefract Castle

Have you ever tried Pontefract Cakes? You can buy them from a sweet shop. They are made of liquorice and were first used as medicine. They have a small, embossed image of Pontefract Castle. Why not visit the castle for inspiration to design your own castle? You could even make it into a stamp and try it out on some homemade playdough. Pontefract Castle grounds are open and refreshments are available from the café for take away. Please check the website before visiting.

### RSPB Fairburn Ings

With the changing seasons why not enjoy some of the wonderful colours of nature. Take a flask of hot chocolate and some snacks to the nature reserve. Take time to listen to the birds sing, see if you can spot the heron by the water. If you are lucky, you might catch a glimpse of a red breasted robin! The nature trails are open as usual as well as parking and toilets however the shop, hides and takeaway refreshments are closed at this time.

You can find more activities on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

