

Have a great
half term! School
returns Feb 19th.



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WOLDGATE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

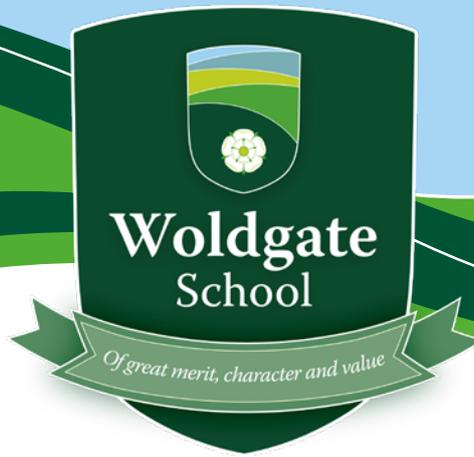
'EVERYTHING YOU DO SHOULD BE WORTHY, OF GREAT MERIT, CHARACTER AND VALUE'

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"MY LIFE IS MINE"

This week, Year 13 Drama and Theatre students performed their first examined piece of work which has been devised following the methodologies of Physical Theatre company Frantic Assembly. The students have been heavily influenced by current affairs, in particular the #metoo campaign which has gained an incredible amount of media attention. The students wanted to explore themes of gender equality and how this has changed

over generations, spending the last few months researching articles, gaining evidence through questionnaires watching documentaries and ground breaking speeches so that their piece could be created from a place of truth and reality to form the basis of an incredibly relevant and moving theatrical experience driven by a poignant and hard hitting message.



HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



Mr J BRITTON
HEADTEACHER

The joy of teaching and being part of this community is to see our pupils thrive as they develop in personality, character and intellect and become highly successful learners and individuals. The success of any school is, therefore, dependent upon many factors and ultimately the very best schools place the child at the heart of all they do, ensuring our children have the opportunity to learn and grow in personality, in a creative, safe and caring environment where every child is known and cared for as an individual.

Our decision to remain a 'small' school is an important part of being highly successful. We are, therefore, of a size of around 1000 pupils and students, with 200 pupils in each year, able to offer a broad curriculum, but of a number where we can know every pupil by name. Welcoming pupils into school by name, knowing each and every child in our classroom, is fundamental to who we are and ultimately, the opportunities we can provide for our pupils.

As I'm sure you're already aware, our Year 11 pupils achieved outstanding outcomes in their final exams. Half of our pupils achieved an A*-A grade. 71% of our pupils achieving a grade A*-C in English and Mathematics. English achieving a pass rate of 84% and Mathematics 74%. These measures have now being at their highest for the last three years and have established a strong trend demonstrating strong teaching and pupil outcomes. In fact, these achievements are also evident across our curriculum, with the average grade achieved by our pupils being a B at GCSE. We are exceptionally proud of our pupils, who have demonstrated dedication and hard work to achieve their desired outcomes.

The Sixth Form has also achieved its "best results ever" with 48% of all examination entries graded A*-A or equivalent. These outcomes are testament to the young people who make our Sixth Form such a great place to learn and to my colleagues, who have invested their time and energies to make our Sixth Form one of the very best in the country.

Knowing every child, maximising outcomes for our pupils at both GCSE and Sixth Form, are though, only part of what I believe makes this school special. Academic achievement is of course vitally important, but learning is also about growing as an individual, being inspired, fascinated, curious and broadening our perspectives, as we develop an understanding of the world around us.

This week our Berlin visit departed. A brilliant opportunity to bring learning to life, as our pupils walk around this historic city and witness for themselves the impact of the war and its legacy on a people and the city itself. Visits such as this an important part of our curriculum and provide our pupils with an insight, beyond the classroom, into the world around them. After half-term our Year 11 pupils depart on the High Adventure trip, another highlight for all who go and a great opportunity, once again, to experience and apply learning outside of the classroom. As this half-term ends, I am already looking forward to seeing our pupils depart for experiences far and wide that will provide them with unique insights and opportunities.

With your support we ensure our young people are cared for, supported and challenged to do their very best. With determined, committed and hardworking colleagues, we work collectively to do the very best for the children in our care, to maximise opportunity and nurture aspiration, as we create a lifelong love of learning. It is this partnership, between home and school that enables our children to excel in so many ways.

Do have a good half-term break.



'Everything you do should be worthy,

KEY DATES

2018

SPRING TERM

8TH JANUARY - 9TH FEBRUARY
19TH FEBRUARY - 23RD MARCH

SUMMER TERM

10TH APRIL - 25TH MAY
4TH JUNE - 20TH JULY

PARENTS' EVENINGS

YEAR 7 - 10TH JANUARY 2018
YEAR 8 - 19TH APRIL 2018
YEAR 9 - 20TH FEBRUARY 2018
YEAR 10 - 20TH MARCH 2018
YEAR 11 - 5TH FEBRUARY 2018

TRAINING DAYS

9TH APRIL 2018
23RD JULY 2018



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of great merit, character and value.'





LOWER SCHOOL

Mr Sloman Writes:



Mr L. SLOMAN
HEAD OF LOWER SCHOOL

As we approach the half term holidays, it is a good time to stop and reflect upon our Lower School pupils' achievements so far this year. In particular, this term has seen our Year 9 pupils take their first steps towards choosing their GCSE options for the next two years, culminating in our Key Stage 4 information evening last week. Our Year 9 Parents' Evening is on Tuesday 20th February; please contact us if you have any queries or help with booking appointments. With the support of both school and parents, our Year 9 pupils now know what they need to do to ensure they meet the challenges of GCSE study in the coming months.

Our Year 7 pupils continue to settle in well to life at secondary school. They have come a long way in a short space of time and it is great to watch them walk around the school with confidence, with new and old friends alike. I know Mrs Atkinson and all the Year 7 Form Tutors are very proud of how well our Year 7 pupils have settled in, and the valuable contributions they make to school life everyday.

On behalf of all our Lower School Heads of Care and Achievement and Form Tutors, I would like to say well done to all our Lower School pupils for a great half term. Enjoy your holiday and I look forward to seeing you next half term.

LOWER SCHOOL WEEKLY AWARDS

GREAT MERIT AWARDS

YEAR 7: WILLIAM CREE

YEAR 8: JAMES WOODWARD

YEAR 9: AMY JAMES

GREAT CHARACTER AWARDS

YEAR 7: ALICIA AMBURY

YEAR 8: EMMA WARNE

YEAR 9: THEO BEEDLE

GREAT VALUE AWARDS

YEAR 7: PHOEBE-SOPHIE WOOD

YEAR 8: JAMIE ABRATHAT

YEAR 9: LEON MAINPRIZE

FORM OF WEEK AWARD

YEAR 7: 7DRO

YEAR 8: 8VJE

YEAR 9: 9SJE





UPPER SCHOOL

Ms Longstaff Writes:



Ms A LONGSTAFF
HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

As the first half term of 2018 draws to a close, it is an ideal time to reflect on the many different activities that have happened within Upper School. For our Year 11 pupils, it has been an extremely busy few weeks with them sitting their GCSE Mock exams at the start of January then receiving their results last week. I have had many conversations with Year 11 pupils this week and in all those discussions, I have been impressed with the honesty in which they all acknowledge what worked well and what still needs to be improved. Parents' Evening this week had a very busy, purposeful atmosphere and was a true acknowledgement that the success of our young people is really enhanced by the strong partnership formed between home and school.

After our half term break, there will be a number of opportunities for Year 11 pupils to access further help and support. The first of these is our 'Kickstart' sessions which begin after school on Monday 26th February and run for four weeks. A letter will be sent home for pupils who have been invited to attend these sessions and then we will be inviting all pupils and parents to our Walking/Talking exam evening on 22nd March.

Our Year 10 pupils are busy sorting out their work experience placements and starting to think about possible options for their futures. They are well and truly immersed in their GCSE courses and we are fast approaching their second progress review of the year with their annual Parents' Evening on 20th March.

Within both year groups there are many things to celebrate and I am looking forward to holding our celebratory breakfasts shortly after half term.





THE GREAT
WOLDGATE FAMILY
QUIZ

FORM A TEAM OF UP TO EIGHT AND HAVE
A FUN FAMILY NIGHT RAISING FUNDS
FOR THE FRIENDS OF WOLDGATE.

LIVE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT
RAFFLE PRIZES TO BE WON
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

FRIDAY 16TH MARCH 2018
7:00PM START
WOLDGATE SCHOOL
TICKETS £3

TICKETS FROM WOLDGATE RECEPTION
CALL 01759 302395 (PRESS 8)

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ARE YOU UP TO THE CHALLENGE?





SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Mrs Lawson Writes:



MRS K LAWSON
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

It has certainly been a very focused week in the Sixth Form as Year 13 students have been preparing for their Mock Exams. These exams are an opportunity for students to accurately gauge how well they are doing in their subjects and make any necessary improvements prior to the 'real thing' in the summer. Mock Exams help to answer questions such as, do I know and understand the content I have been taught? Can I apply this in exam conditions? How well am I able to cope with the time constraints in my exams? Are there any gaps in my knowledge and understanding? What do I still need to do to make sure I achieve my target grades in the summer? For students to gain accurate answers to those questions, revision needs to have been thorough and I know that this can be a difficult balancing act. I have been very impressed by how our students have kept on top of their current class-work whilst making sure they set aside time to revise. As they move forward from their mocks, this will prove to be a vital study habit: in the lead up to their summer exams, students should be regularly reviewing and consolidating their work, completing practice exam papers and making revision a regular part of their independent studies. I am sure that we will see some excellent results in the mock exams and they will prove extremely useful helping our students to progress.





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with shared values

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