

Year 8 Options  
Evening 13th June  
(see page 4)



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# WOLDGATE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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## ARCHBISHOP OF YORK - YOUNG LEADERS AWARD

Volunteer's week is a chance to celebrate and say thank you for the fantastic contribution millions of volunteers make across the UK. It takes place 1st to 7th June every year and is an opportunity to celebrate volunteering in all its diversity.

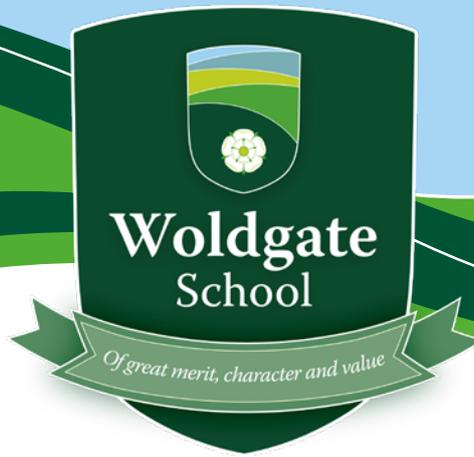
Year 9 pupils have fully completed their Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award in their Religious Studies lessons and have taken part in many volunteering opportunities both in and outside of school. At Woldgate, pupils have volunteered their time and enthusiasm to show many future pupils and their families around our school during Open Evenings. Many of our pupils are Subject Ambassadors, take part in drama and musical productions and concerts, help mentor younger pupils, lead Enrichment activities, act as Form Representatives and help teachers prepare for lessons, sports days and literacy and numeracy days. Many are involved in activities and fund raising events for local and national charities.

Outside school, pupils are very busy too. Pupils have taken part in sporting events and mentoring and coaching younger children, Scouts and Guides, dance shows, village pantomimes, Cancer UK events, taking part and helping out in drama and music events, helping older people in the community and helping around the home too!

A big well done to all our pupils and students who give their time to volunteer.

Mrs Shearing





## HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



Mr J BRITTON  
HEADTEACHER

It was wonderful to walk around school this week and to see our pupils quickly settling back into school and enjoying learning. School had a very calm and purposeful feel.

Examinations were also well underway and I've been impressed by how our pupils and students have prepared for and managed the tests on a daily basis. It is a difficult few weeks for pupils and Sixth Form students, for however carefully they prepare or how well the examinations go, it is undoubtedly a challenging few weeks. It is, therefore, impressive to see our young people doing their very best.

This final half-term of the academic year also provides our pupils, students and parents with many opportunities to support children in their education and to actively seek to support the school and our community with our work.

This can take many forms, from supporting the schools leadership by seeking to support our Charitable Trust in its work to help provide the very best education for our children, to attending our Year 8 Options Evening to learn more about our new curriculum and options process or to attend our Post-16 Progression Evening for pupils considering the next steps in their career. Our Sixth Form students will also have the opportunity to attend the UCAS convention in Sheffield to meet representatives from the leading universities across the country, as those considering further formal education start the process of making applications. We will also, be running numerous transition events for those children who will be joining us in September, to ensure both pastorally and academically, they are supported as they make the step from primary to secondary school. This also includes, those Year 11 pupils, joined by external applicants, who intend to continue their studies post-16 at our very successful Sixth Form. All of these events, are about ensuring both parents, pupils and Sixth Form students have access to the relevant information and expertise to make informed decisions about their future. I am, therefore, very grateful to colleagues who are giving of their time to provide such a wealth of information.

This half-term, we also have our Sixth Form Prom and our Year 11 Prom. These are two events I thoroughly enjoy, although I do find the joy of celebrating a transition from school to further or higher education wonderful, I also know I will miss those pupils who are not returning. It is a vocation and ultimately a privilege to work with children and young people throughout their formative years and over that time, we see them grow and change as you do as parents. It is, therefore, not unexpected that we will deeply miss these wonderful young people who have been part of our community for seven years. I do wish them the very best on the next stage of the journey, as I know foundations will have been laid that will ultimately allow these children and adults to thrive.

It is, therefore, an exciting half-term that awaits us. For although I've focused on those moments of change and celebration, we also have our sports fixtures, National Leadership training, our Big Sing for Year 7 and our fabulous Summer Soirée at the end of the year. We will also be saying goodbye to our Sixth Form students who are departing on their expedition to Vietnam. These events and many others will be mentioned in the newsletter as the term progresses.

I do, therefore, look forward to meeting parents at all of these events and to being part of the exciting journey that awaits us all and especially your child.

Do have a good weekend.



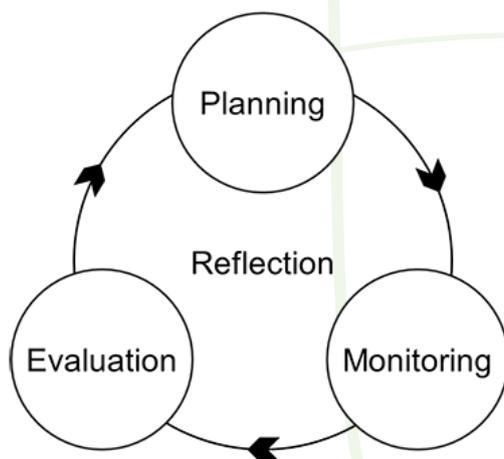
*Everything you do should be worthy,*

# love LEARNING

Before half-term we started to look at Metacognition. Today we continue the series looking at how we learn. Hopefully these articles may be helpful in a discussion with your child about their approach to learning and the strategies they use, as children can assume they learn by osmosis rather than through the use of clearly defined strategies and techniques. This is, therefore, an important conversation to ensure your son or daughter is considering how to learn.

Metacognitive regulation refers to what pupils do about learning. It describes how learners monitor and control their cognitive processes. For example, a learner might realise that a particular strategy is not achieving the results they want, so they decide to try a different strategy.

## Metacognition phases



During the planning phase, pupils should think about the learning goal the teacher has set and consider how they will approach the task and which strategies they will use. At this stage, it is helpful for learners to ask themselves:

'What am I being asked to do?'

'Which strategies will I use?'

'Are there any strategies that I have used before that might be useful?'

During the monitoring phase, pupils implement their plan and monitor the progress they are making towards their learning goal.

Pupils might decide to make changes to the strategies they are using if these are not working. As children work through the task, it will help them to ask themselves:

'Is the strategy that I am using working?'

'Do I need to try something different?'

During the evaluation phase, pupils determine how successful the strategy they used was in helping them to achieve their learning goal. To promote evaluation, pupils could consider:

'How well did I do?'

'What didn't go well? 'What could I do differently next time?'

'What went well? 'What other types of problem can I use this strategy for?'

Next week we start to explore the different types of learner and how we can adapt our learning to suit our approach.

*of our merit, character and value.*





# LOWER SCHOOL



MR L. SLOMAN  
HEAD OF LOWER SCHOOL

**R**espect for others is one of the fundamental values of Woldgate School, and this is evident in the everyday school lives of our Lower School pupils. Pupils frequently hold open doors for other pupils as well as staff, and are always polite and courteous to staff and other pupils. These values are embedded into every lesson, form registration and assembly across all year groups and pupils are frequently reminded of the school ethos and expectations through our BeeKind posters around school. However, respect for others is not only taught through assemblies, form registration and lessons; it is modelled by our staff and older pupils who are role models for our younger pupils.

Respect for others plays a crucial part in the learning, progress and wellbeing of all our pupils. Pupils are able to work with others, share ideas and discuss their differences openly and reasonably. Our pupils are rewarded for showing respect to others, with the award of 'Great Value', in their contribution to the school community. With an understanding of the importance of respect, pupils are aware of the impact of their actions not only upon their own learning, but the learning of others. Most of all, pupils and teachers are able to work together most effectively to ensure our pupils reach their full potential, each and every day.

## Year 8 Options Evening

We are looking forward to welcoming Year 8 Parents, Carers, and Pupils to our Year 8 Technical and Performance Options Evening on the 13th of June.

There will be two option talks taking place on the evening and to ensure we have capacity in the main hall, we will organise this into two sittings.

At 6.30pm a talk will take place for DRO, KMC, NTE.

At 7.00pm a talk will take place for ECW, HAS, BSC and KSF.

During the evening you will be able to speak to current pupils about their experiences of studying each subject as well as meeting staff to ask any key questions.

## LOWER SCHOOL HALF TERM AWARDS

### GREAT MERIT AWARDS

YEAR 7: HATTIE ELLA AND CHLOE MASSEY

YEAR 8: FREYA WALES, LILY FOSTER  
AND ISABELLE WRIGHT

YEAR 9: CALEB OLIVER AND EMILY KNOWLSON

### GREAT CHARACTER AWARDS

YEAR 7: CHELSEA HALL AND  
MATTHEW BRIGHTON

YEAR 8: LILY FOSTER AND BEN ROSCOE

YEAR 9: MAX BROWN AND DANIEL LISTER

### GREAT VALUE AWARDS

YEAR 7: JAMES NEWBOUND AND MIA HINER

YEAR 8: IMOGEN BANNISTER AND IVO MORLEY

YEAR 9: MIRREN DAVIES AND  
JESSICA HARDCASTLE

### FORM OF THE TERM AWARD

YEAR 7: 7MHO

YEAR 8: 8KSF

YEAR 9: 9ALS



## UPPER SCHOOL

In the last two weeks of the summer term our Year 10 will be taking part in Work Experience, getting a first-hand insight into the world of work. Some of the placements pupils have sourced themselves sound fascinating – as well as leisure, agricultural, and equestrian workplaces, we have pupils working in industries such as aviation, web-design and medicine.

We have received requests from some parents and carers to bring their children into their own place of work and while an entirely unfamiliar environment will offer a fresh experience for pupils, we are equally happy to support you in welcoming your child to your workplace.

As placements for pupils who have not yet found a venue for their work experience will be allocated by our partners in the coming weeks, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Gemma Murray who will be supporting us with work experience placements this half term. She will be based in school on Mondays and Wednesdays and will be visiting pupils in tutor time and will be available for your child to speak to with any questions in the Independent Learning Centre at breaktimes and lunchtimes on those days.

### Year 11 Revision Sessions

I would like to congratulate Year 11 on another impressive week of study and exams. Next week is the last week of GCSE exams and revision sessions will take place as follows:

*Monday 10th June* P1 - Media Studies in preparation for Monday afternoon

*Monday 10th June* P4-5 Mathematics in preparation for Tuesday morning

*Tuesday 11th June* P4-5 Chemistry in preparation for Wednesday morning

*Wednesday 12th June* P3-5 Geography in preparation for Thursday morning

*Thursday 13th June* P4-5 Physics in preparation for Friday morning

We wish your child the very best for this final week.

Mr Davies

Deputy Headteacher





*Bee Kind is about showing kindness.*

*The act of being friendly, generous and considerate of others. It is a key part of our Safeguarding and mental health strategy and is about keeping our children safe and well.*

## Mental Health and Wellbeing - How can I look after my mental health?

### See rest as valuable for revision

Charlotte says: Guilt is a common feeling shared by many throughout the exam season, and a feeling I know all too well. Many people feel guilty when they are doing activities other than revising. As hard as it can feel to do, letting go and relaxing is an important part of the process. After all, having a clear and rejuvenated mind is important.

### Write your worries down

Gareth says: Write down the things that are stressing you out. This way you can visualise them better. Then, categorise them into things you can solve yourself, and things that may take time or are affected by external factors. This will help you to recognise that some things can be solved relatively easily, and this will take a massive weight off your shoulders.

### Get outside

Martha says: I am a great supporter of cosy pyjama days-in, but I am also a great supporter of getting fresh air and sunlight. Nature is surprisingly reviving on those days when you're feeling a bit urch. Trust me with this one, it's a game changer. Zombifying in your room may feel comfortable at the time but it can actually sink you into a really negative headspace without you realising it. Whether you're into sport or not, endorphins are great things and really do work; get yourself moving whenever you feel you can.

### Plan in your breaks

Seth says: Plan your revision around activities, meeting up with friends, and relaxing - not the other way around. When making a revision timetable, firstly begin by filling in fun things which YOU want to do. You can then work your revision schedule around that. Having things to look forward to acts as a motivator to revise, with the knowledge that something enjoyable is coming up.

### Stay realistic

Helen says: We all have those days where revision just feels impossible and that is totally okay - listen to your body/mind and look after yourself first and foremost. Doing something small is better than doing nothing. All the little bits add up in the end.

### Quality over quantity

Matthew says: It is far too easy to get trapped into a vicious circle of comparing yourself to your peers. Comparing the number of hours you have worked is meaningless. It is more than possible to work for a shorter amount of time, but more effectively.

### Get enough sleep

Lucy says: It is really important to get enough sleep and stay in a regular pattern. If you are tired all day, your mental health might suffer and you'll also find it hard to concentrate properly. It can be tempting to stay up past midnight to finish off that last section, but you're more likely to remember it if you wait until the morning to finish, rather than depriving yourself of sleep.





## SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

*Mrs Lawson Writes:*



Mrs K LAWSON  
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

**Y**ear 12 students received their Year 12 exam results this week. This is an opportunity for students to reflect on how they have approached their qualifications so far and to make plans as they go forward. Over the coming weeks we will be mentoring students and providing additional support where required.

This half-term we will also be focusing on progression and students will be beginning to make their long-term plans, be that university, apprenticeships or employment. This is an important time for Year 12 students as they consider their longer term options. The progress they have made this year along with their Year 12 exam results will help to form the basis of the predicted grades that are submitted to their chosen universities. Students may wish to attend university Open Days or Careers Days over the next half term. Where possible these should be attended at the weekend, however, students are permitted to attend up to three separate days during school time if necessary. Students should aim to avoid missing any key assessment dates when attending Open Days and Careers Days. In order to aid this process, we are holding a Post-Woldgate Progression Evening on Wednesday 19th June at 6:30pm in the Main Hall. Students have this week received a letter regarding this event which should be returned to school by Friday 14th June.



Finally, we are delighted that Mr Hardie will be taking on the role of Head of Sixth Form during Mrs Lawson's maternity leave. Mr Hardie will begin working with the Sixth Form over the coming half-term and is very much looking forward to supporting students in their Sixth Form journey.





MRS S GEARY  
HEAD OF INCLUSION

As most of our older pupils will know from their History lessons, 6th June is a significant date in the history of our country. In June 1944, plans were drawn up to land hundreds of soldiers on the beaches of Normandy France, in what was the biggest seaborne invasion in history. Many of the men involved were only 18, the same age of most of our Year 13. They had little training for what lay ahead and many had never travelled beyond their own counties.

One of the young men on that day was Ken (Cookey) Cook. He is one of the last surviving veterans of the D Day landings and the great uncle of Zach Amers in Year 11. Ken's experiences, along with those of four other comrades, have been retold in a new play "Bomb Happy" written by local writer Helena Fox which is being performed at the York Army Museum in June.

Ken was just 18 when he was called up for service in December 1943. He left his parents' home in York and after six weeks initial training joined the Green Howards.

He had no inkling during his training of the daunting task that lay ahead. "We did no training as regards to D-Day. Some people went up to Scotland where the beaches were similar to those in Normandy, but we didn't have any of that. The only beach I'd been to before was in Skegness where I went as a child with my family."

He vividly remembers the moments before they landed. "There were rockets and explosions going off and I was just watching it all. I was an 18 year-old and at the time it felt like an adventure. I'd never seen anything like it before". Ken survived that harrowing first day but many didn't. Although the British lost many men on their beaches, codenamed Sword and Gold, it was the American soldiers at Omaha who bore the brunt of the casualties on the first day.

It's now 75 years since Ken took part in the D-Day landings but he still makes the pilgrimage back to the Normandy beaches and war cemeteries to mark the June anniversary and to pay his respects to his fallen comrades. "If it wasn't for D-Day we wouldn't be here now. We don't know what would have happened," he says.

It's one of the reasons why he hopes this new play reaches as wide an audience as possible. "It's an important part of our history and if our stories can help get the younger generation interested and make them want to find out more, then I think that has got to be a good thing."

Zach commented on the upcoming performance and said "I am very proud of my Great Uncle Ken and the sacrifice men like him made. It is so important that we don't forget what they did." The school hopes to screen a performance of the play later in the year.



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with shared values

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