



Newsletter

Of great merit, character and value

Have a fantastic Easter

Best wishes
from all of us at
Woldgate School

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Mr Sloman writes:

As we approach the Easter Holidays, it is a good opportunity to look back at our pupils' and students' experiences and celebrate their achievements over the term. Time moves quickly, and it is important that we, as a school community, take the time to reflect upon all of the events and achievements that have helped to shape our pupils and students over the months.

This issue of the Newsletter is an opportunity to give a review of the term, and the key events, visits and experiences that have taken place. Like last academic year, we continue to increase the number of visits and activities available to our young people, and this term has been no exception, with international visits to Berlin and Iceland as more local visits to universities and theatres.

We have also had the pleasure of welcoming visitors into school, including a published poet to visit our Year 10 pupils, local employers to provide practise interviews for our Year 11 pupils and representatives of a wide range of local religious communities to speak to our pupils. Alongside these opportunities, our pupils have also had a wealth of events and opportunities in school, including enrichment activities. All of these experiences will help to shape our pupils' and students' interests, and hopefully inspire them to pursue interests or careers into the future.

We hope you enjoy reflecting upon these experiences, and please do talk to your child about their experience if they took part. We do hope you have an enjoyable Easter whatever your plans, and we look forward to welcoming our pupils and students back into school on Monday 8th April.

Mr Sloman
Headteacher



Important Dates for your Diary

Monday 8th April:

First Day of Summer Term

Wednesday 10th April:

Year 11 Woldgate Tutorial:
Geography

Thursday 11th April:

Geography Ambassador Visit to
Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Wednesday 17th April:

Year 11 Woldgate Tutorial:
Option A Subjects

Monday 22nd April:

Year 10 Parents' Evening
(4pm to 7pm)

Wednesday 24th April:

Year 10 GCSE Visit to Yorkshire
Sculpture Park

Year 11 Woldgate Tutorial:
Option B Subjects

Monday 29th April:

Live Music & Art Exhibition
Evening at Pocklington Arts
Centre

Wednesday 1st May:

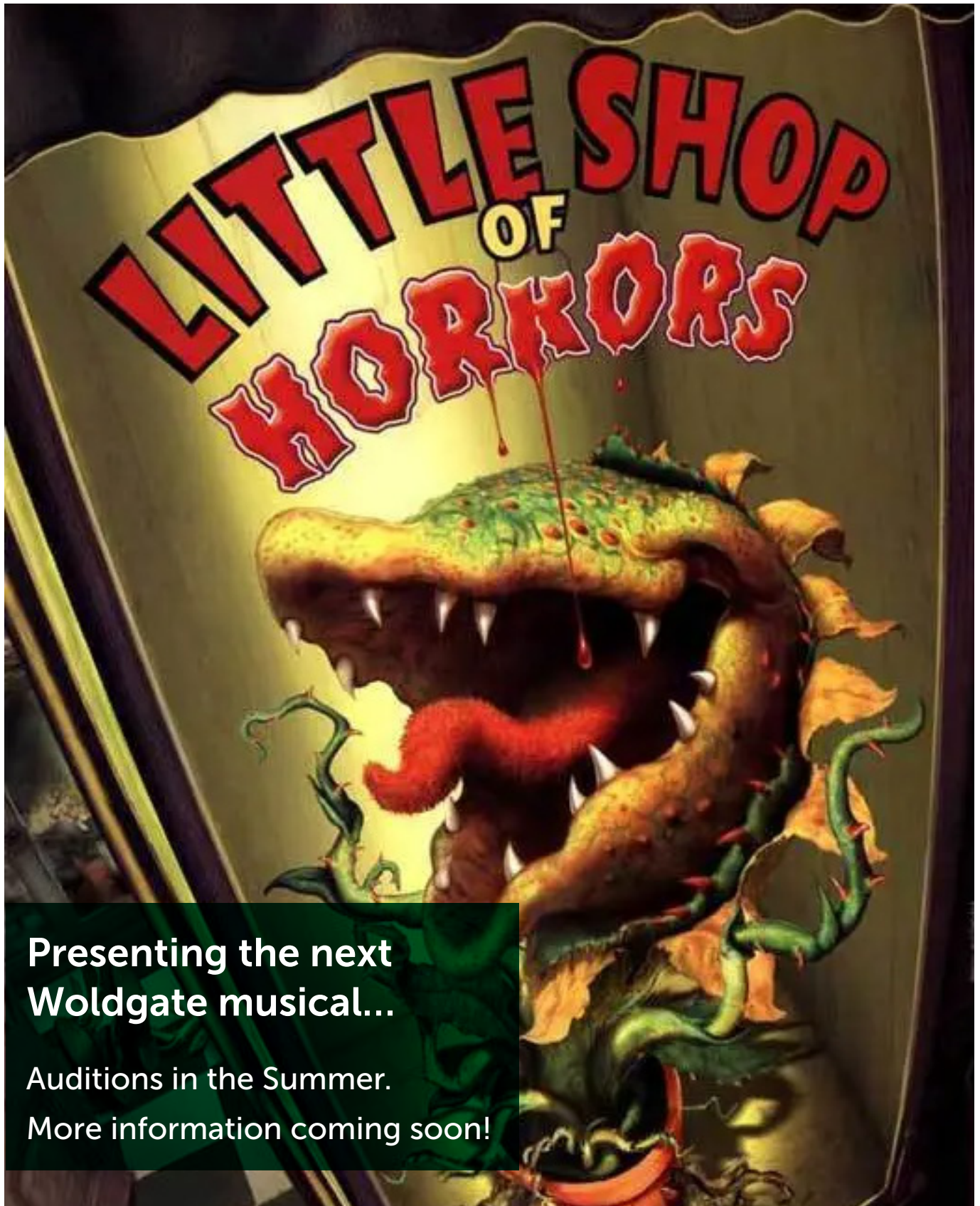
Year 11 Woldgate Tutorial:
Maths

Monday 6th May:

May Day Bank Holiday
(School closed)

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**Presenting the next
Woldgate musical...**

Auditions in the Summer.
More information coming soon!

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A few highlights from the Spring Term



Poetry in Motion



Woldgate Interfaith Day 9th February 2024

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Exciting News!



Woldgate School - DfE Schools Rebuild Programme Start Date – 11th March 2024

Exciting news! After 2 years in the planning, working with DfE and Wates Construction, the DfE Schools Rebuild Programme is starting at the school on Monday 11th March. The enabling works will be the first phase of the work and will consist of creating a haul road to give access to construction traffic so the main entrance and car park on the school grounds are not used by the contractors, hoarding and heras fencing will be erected to create the building site boundary and a new fire assembly area for the school to ensure safety is the top priority across the school grounds and throughout the construction site.

The demolition of I Block, Attenuation and MUGA are all part of this phase and will start following the enabling works so there will be regular updates and pictures as the project develops so watch this space!

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Mrs Wellock writes:



The Accelerated Reader form competition is back!

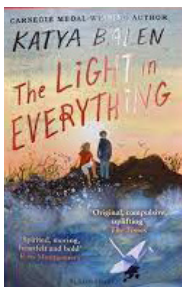
Reading for 20 minutes a day is proven to have the biggest impact on reading skill and have life-long benefits.

When your child completes a book, Accelerated Reader has over 220,000 quizzes which can be taken.

At the end of the year, there will be a reward for the winning form group in Year 7, 8 and 9, as well as any pupils who are millionaire readers (read and quizzed on more than 1,000,000 words).

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
1st	7KWA - 174,328	8TDW - 158,296	9RSC - 172,400
2nd	7SPA - 92,240	8HLR - 144,295	9NTE - 172,400
3rd	7RAA - 72,928	8CPO - 106,633	9SMS - 70,114

Starting after the Easter holidays, the Yoto Carnegie Book Club. On Tuesday lunchtimes, KS3 pupils can join the book club to read *The Light in Everything* and the shortlist for the Yoto Carnegie Award 2024.



The Light in Everything by Katya Balen

Tom is still quiet and timid, even though his dad has been gone for nearly two years now. Zofia has a raging storm that makes her want to fight the whole world until she gets what she wants. And what she wants is for scaredy-cat Tom to get out of her life. Tom hates loud, unpredictable Zofia just as much, but he's moving into Zofia's house. Because his mum and Zofia's dad are in love... and they're having a baby.

A story of learning to trust, trying to let go and diving into the unknown with hope in your heart.

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Woldgate School Year 6 Easter Egg Hunt!

Our next Year 6 challenge has an Easter theme! We are on the hunt for some incredible Easter eggs. Can you help us find them?

Here are a few ideas...

Take a photo of an egg.



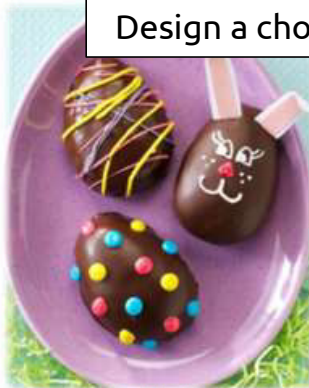
Decorate a real egg.



Design a pattern for an egg.



Design a chocolate egg.



There will be prizes for the winning entries. Good luck everyone!

Please ask your parents/carers to post your Easter Egg Hunt entry on X.



Please tag the **@WoldTransition** account.

Alternatively, email **transition@woldgate.net**

Entries close on Monday 8th April 2024

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Upper School



Mr Bell writes:

I just wanted to write a short letter thanking you all for your support since starting my role as Head of Upper School last September. It has been extremely rewarding working with Upper School pupils, and I know they are all a great credit to you.

However, after Easter I am leaving Woldgate School to take up a position at Wyke Sixth Form College teaching Business Studies.

Mrs Atkinson will be an excellent successor and we are already working on a smooth transition. Mr Joseph and Mrs Clark remain in post and will continue their excellent work with Year 10 and Year 11 pupils respectively.

I will keep a watchful eye out for GCSE results in 2024 and 2025, when I know pupils will be successful and their hard work will pay off.

Speaking of which, please do encourage your child to sign up for and attend the Easter School sessions. I know pupils found these incredibly reassuring last year. They also felt positive about their exams after the session, which helped their wellbeing.

We are planning to have revision sessions in the afternoon or morning before an examination again this year. These are incredibly reassuring for pupils.

Mr Bell
Head of Upper School

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Year 11 Revision - bringing revision to life.

On Tuesday 12th March, Rasha Ibrahim, who is the Deputy Director of Postgraduate Research and a lecturer in Cybersecurity at Newcastle University came to visit two groups of Year 11 pupils to help them get a good head start on their Islam revision for the first GCSE exam on the 9th May.

Pupils experienced a virtual reality headset, where they could experience what it was like to go on the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca. Rasha also talked to pupils that currently it is the holy month of Ramadan and explained what it meant to fast and why Ramadan is important to Muslims. During the session Rasha explained what the Six Beliefs were and also how Muslims practice the Five Pillars of Belief. Rasha was also able to ask their questions about what it was like to be a Muslim in the UK. Pupils were interested to hear about her experience of Hajj, how to pray and about wearing the hijab. Rasha is a member of the York Mosque and the York Interfaith group.



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Safeguarding at Woldgate School

Looking after your child's mental health over the holiday

Among all the fun, holidays can also be an overwhelming time for some people when they are out of routine and contact with their friends. Here is some advice on how to look after your child's mental health over the holidays.

Take time out

It's so important to take time out every day, not just during the holidays. Ensure your child has some time to just relax during the holidays, and some time to themselves away from social media. Try to make time to do things together as a family, including getting outside if the weather permits.

Sleep

A good night's sleep is so important when it comes to looking after mental health. Teenagers need an average of nine-and-a-half hours' sleep each night. When it comes to holidays, ensuring your child gets enough sleep can become difficult due to the absence of the school routines. To make sure your child gets back into their normal sleeping routine easily, suggest they go to bed at normal times as the holiday draws to a close. This'll make getting up for school a lot easier and, in turn, will help their mental health a lot.

Exercise

Physical activity releases a chemical called endorphins, which makes us feel good, so if your child is feeling a bit overwhelmed or low, why not suggest a walk? You could even suggest a bike ride or even a run.

As ever, please do contact us at Woldgate School if you have any concerns. We hope that you and your family have an enjoyable and restful holiday. We are looking forward to welcoming your child back to school on Monday 6th November.

Try to relax

It's easy to say "just relax", but the reality is that relaxing can be tricky. Suggest things like breathing exercises or meditation to help your child calm down if they are feeling a bit stressed.

Just because it's the holidays, it doesn't mean caring for your child's mental health has to be put on hold. Mental health and physical health are as equally important; if you fell over and grazed your knee, you would put a plaster on it. So if your child's mental health needs a plaster, you're allowed to do something about it.

For general help and advice, visit: www.nspcc.org.uk

Improving children's and young people's mental health – Place2Be

If you have specific concerns about a child, please contact the East Riding Safeguarding Hub on **01482 395500**. In the event of an emergency, please contact the police by dialling **999**.

Police StreetSafe Website

StreetSafe is a pilot web service for anyone to anonymously tell us about public places where you have felt or feel unsafe, because of environmental issues, eg street lighting, abandoned buildings or vandalism and/or because of some behaviours, eg being followed or verbally abused.

Please note 'StreetSafe' is not for reporting crime or incidents. If something has happened to you or someone you know (including in public spaces online) you can call the police on 999 for emergencies, or 101.

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Personal Development Update

Mr Barrett writes:

Careers Update

On Friday 15th March, we welcomed over twenty local employers and people from the world of work to help provide our Year 11 pupils with a mock interview.

The mock interview process is part of the wider Careers Programme at Woldgate and is designed to give pupils an insight into what can happen at an interview, the types of questions that can be asked, but above all else, give them an opportunity to practise selling themselves. Pupils were given a twenty-minute interview, after which pupils were provided with some verbal feedback at the time, and were given written feedback after the interviews. Hopefully, pupils will be able to use this feedback to ensure that when they are interviewed for real, they can stand out from the competition.

The feedback from the employers after the event was excellent. Employers commented on how polite, driven and mature many of the pupils were. There were some particularly outstanding comments given, see some examples below:

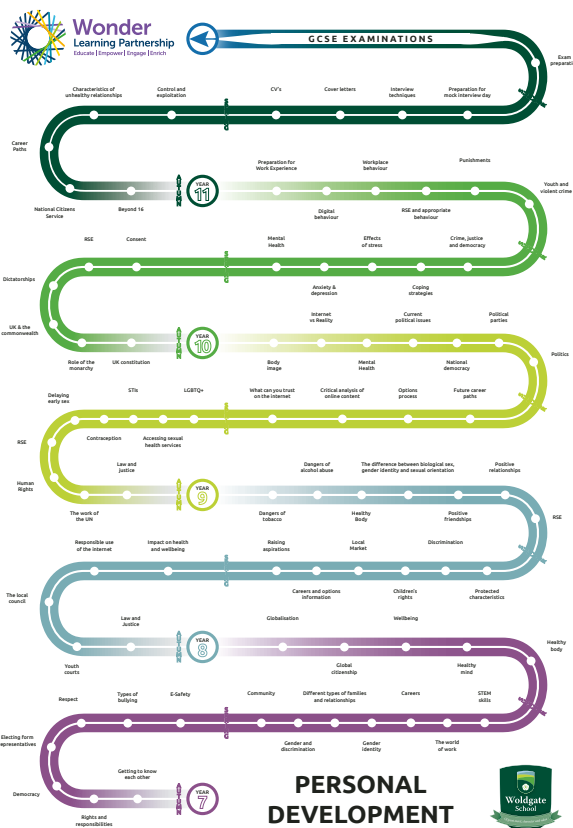
"(pupil) was polite, friendly and had great body language. It was great to learn the clubs and work experience that (pupil) had."

"(pupil) was an outstanding candidate. Came across very confident and presented well. It was very evident that (pupil) is driven and hardworking. They will be an asset to any company they join".

"(pupil) was very professional and could articulate very clearly the range of skills that they have developed and how they think they would be useful in the world of work".

"Excellent interview. Candidate was well prepared. Very confident, interesting to talk to, engaging and could give concrete examples from school and home life. I would employ (pupil) in a shot".

Thank you to all of the volunteers who gave up their time to help our pupils with this valuable experience.



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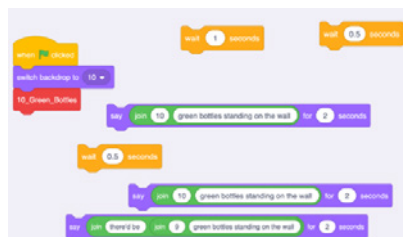
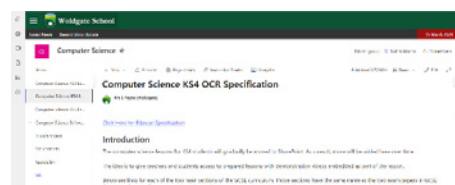
COMPUTER SCIENCE

During the last half term, Year 11 pupils completed the Computer Science GCSE Curriculum, and Year 13 students completed the A-Level curriculum. This fantastic achievement by both year groups means they are in the best possible position to prepare for their exams.



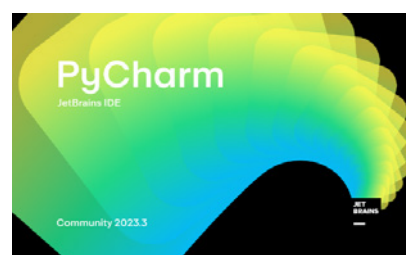
They can bring their personal and group revision priorities to the class between now and the exams. One of the fundamental principles within computer science is the ability to DECOMPOSE a problem, ABSTRACT relevant information, and use it systematically (algorithmic thinking). This process is crucial for their revision. The students need to abstract the areas they struggle with out of the curriculum. Then, use it to create a personalised revision plan.

The entire GCSE curriculum is available on the school's [GCSE Computer Science SharePoint site](#), which students can access at school and at home to support their revision. Each point on the specification has links to the original lesson materials.

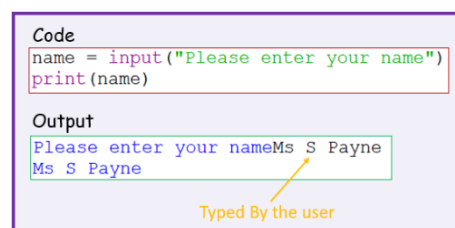


Year 7 has just completed programming using Scratch. This visual block-based version of programming teaches students fundamental skills that are ready for text-based programming later. Scratch is fun for the students as its very visual but also helps them learn the principles behind programming.

They start with professional software from day one and learn how to use development environments to help them learn. In true computer science style, it all begins with "Hello World!"



Year 8 students have just finished their first introduction to text-based programming.



Years 9 and 10 have moved to a new exam board that does on-screen assessments.

This is hugely advantageous in computer science. Students have always had to learn to code on the computer. Now, they will use the same software they are accustomed to in the GCSE.



EASTER HOLIDAYS

50%

MINI GOLF

USE CODE:
EGG50

CODE MUST BE USED FOR
BOOKINGS BEFORE 11:00

PUTTSTARS
MINI GOLF & GOOD TIMES



EASTER HOLIDAYS

50%

BOWLING

USE CODE:
EGG50

CODE MUST BE USED FOR
BOOKINGS BEFORE 11:00



hollywood
bowl

Good Attendance



*Means being in school at least
97% of the time**



90%

19 Days
Absence

BELOW MINIMUM

GOVERNMENT
THRESHOLD

93%

13 Days
Absence

VERY LOW

95%

9 Days
Absence

LOW

97%

6 Days
Absence

GOOD

100%

0 Days
Absence

PERFECT

**Across one academic year*



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Rewards

Our school motto is 'Everything you do should be worthy, of great merit, character and value', and every day our pupils' efforts, contributions and achievements are recognised with rewards that reflect these values. Our pupils understand these core values as being the foundation of successful learning, and a successful life, and each of the rewards holds a special significance:



Acts of Great

MERIT

288,153

CHARACTER

38,399

VALUE

31,413

**TOTAL
REWARD
POINTS:**

717,038

Headteacher Award

The following pupils earned the highest total number of Rewards in their respective year groups, and have won the Headteacher Award for this week:

Year 7:	Isobel Wood
Year 8:	Jonas Whittaker
Year 9:	Harry Kinsey
Year 10:	Louis Reynolds
Year 11:	Joe Heslop
Year 12:	Ella Wilkie
Year 13:	Jorja Thornett

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House Points

Every pupil belongs to one of our five Houses, representing our local countryside. Pupils can be awarded House points for exceptional contributions to school life, and for participating in House competitions and events, and all rewards contribute to each House reward total:

All rewards earned by each House since the start of the year:



138,845



179,088



157,853



135,628



133,301

TOTAL
HOUSE
POINTS:
326,134



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Acts of Great Merit

The quality of being particularly good or worthy, especially deserving of praise or reward. For example, the production of an outstanding piece of classwork, home learning or an outstanding assessment outcome.

The pupils with the highest Great Merit awards this week are:

Year 7:	Cooper Coulson
Year 8:	Freddie Browne
Year 9:	Tristan Andrews
Year 10:	Niamh Bryan
Year 11:	Michael Scott
Year 12:	Callum Glover
Year 13:	Corry Thornton

Acts of Great Value

The principles or standards of conduct we work to; those acts and skills that are valued by our wider society. For instance, the ability to demonstrate emotional intelligence, to communicate effectively or be a leader of a team.

The pupils with the highest Great Value awards this week are:

Year 7:	Melissa Athanasiou
Year 8:	Henry Best
Year 9:	Poppy Peacock
Year 10:	Lola Dyson
Year 11:	Charlotte Lamb
Year 12:	William Kennedy
Year 13:	Luci Dempster

Acts of Great Character

The moral qualities that define an individual. For example, demonstrating kindness, offering support or actively engaging with the wider community.

The pupils with the highest Great Character awards this week are:

Year 7:	Will O'Connell
Year 8:	Mary Thomson
Year 9:	Alfie Whitwell
Year 10:	Katie Moody
Year 11:	Jacob Winchester
Year 12:	Eva Harris
Year 13:	Imogen Bannister



Please discuss these values with your child, and do regularly look at your child's rewards on the ClassCharts Parents' App.

Every week, our Newsletter and weekly pupil briefing highlights examples of our pupils demonstrating each of these values, and we encourage all of our pupils to embody each of these values in everything they do.

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Care and Achievement Coordinators



Year 7

Mrs F McDonough

07980 702715

fmcdonough@woldgate.net



Year 8

Mrs H Cross

07790 987131

hcross@woldgate.net



Year 9

Mrs L Cavanagh

07790 987139

lcavanagh@woldgate.net



Year 10

Mr M Joseph

07790 987142

mjoseph@woldgate.net



Year 11

Mrs S Clark

07790 987009

sclark@woldgate.net



Sixth Form

Mrs E Fairhurst

07790 987137

efairhurst@woldgate.net



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs C Wright

07790 987007

cwright@woldgate.net



Attendance Officer

Mrs R O'Brien

01759 302395 Option 1

robrien@woldgate.net



Inclusion Manager

Miss Parkin

gparkin@woldgate.net