

## Congratulations!

MADLINE GRAY  
ABRSM PIANO  
GRADE 2  
PASS

SOPHIE BURN  
ABRSM PIANO  
GRADE 5  
PASS



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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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## EXPEDITION TRAINING WEEKEND

Last weekend nineteen of our Sixth Form students headed to the Peak district for their expedition training weekend. The weekend is used to help prepare them for their expedition to Tanzania this summer.

Before the weekend even started they had to organise a meal plan and a shopping list and go and purchase all the food the group would need for the weekend. The first shopping

trip is always a long one but the team did amazingly well with the food. They had excellent meals planned, lots of shopping bags and managed to come in well under budget.

We left school on Friday, with full rucksacks and high spirits. We arrived at the campsite in Hope with the sun still shining. The team organised themselves well, pitched their tents and quickly began cooking. They managed to serve up a delicious chili

which left staff and our expedition leader particularly impressed.

On the Saturday the team woke with a thick frost on their tents. The cold night had meant a few looked very tired. As they set out on their trek for the day, the sun had started to shine and those that had opted for shorts seemed particularly

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## HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



Mr. J. BRITTON  
HEADTEACHER

Today, muskets and canons could be heard across the school, as the Sealed Knot Society brought history alive. Wearing period costume, they fought battles on our school playing field and spoke to our children about the lives of those who lived through this time. Events such as these really do make learning exciting and real. The reactions on faces is plain to see, as pupils become engrossed in each of the activities and start to reflect on how life would have been so different, for all concerned. It is, of course, an important lesson and ensures that our pupils can truly empathise and understand the motivations of those individuals involved and learn about an important time in our history as a country.

We have also had our Drama moderation this week. Our Year 11 pupils have worked extremely hard, using their lunchtimes and lessons to refine their pieces in time for the final performance and grading. Drama is most certainly one of those subjects that not only engages young people, but helps them develop confidence as they perform to an audience and also through the different roles they play, aids pupils in developing an understanding for others, as they also empathise with the different characters they must play.

It has also been a pleasure to visit lessons this week and speak to pupils about their learning. It is simply great to go into lessons, to see pupils actively engaged in well planned activities, as they learn about new ideas and work collectively to achieve their lesson goals. It's especially evident when pupils are working through the Prove element of the lesson – as they apply their learning from the lesson to a specific context or problem. In this part of the lesson, it is common to see pupils working collectively to support each other, practise their skills and making their learning real.

I also met with pupils who have recently joined the school this week to find out how they are settling into Woldgate School and to gather their first impressions. As part of these discussions, it was a pleasure to hear the word 'community' repeated many times, and to hear that pupils had quickly felt part of the school and felt valued. They had also made new friends in their own year group and beyond, due to our House Enrichment Days.

This was especially evident in Citizenship this week. Our Year 10 pupils were engaged in a range of activities. I had the pleasure of joining Miss Barham to see a large number of pupils learning the art of crochet. Pupils were completely focused as they crocheted the decorations to adorn the trees of Pocklington, on behalf of the community, in preparation for the Tour de Yorkshire. The silence was only broken briefly as pupils helped each other to master their technique.

Whether our pupils are learning about the Civil War, applying their knowledge and understanding in lessons, becoming a character in a play, taking part in our enrichment day or learning to crochet, the breadth and range of opportunities available to our pupils which allow them to work collectively, support each other and learn new skills, is impressive.

Do have a good weekend.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

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*'Everything you do should be worthy,*

# KEY DATES

2017

## SPRING TERM

3<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY - 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY  
27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY - 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

## SUMMER TERM

24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE - 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY

## PARENTS' EVENINGS

YEAR 10  
25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017

YEAR 8  
5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017

YEAR 7  
11<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017

## STAFF TRAINING DAYS

24<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017  
25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017

## HOUSE RANKING

1	THIXENDALE
2	KIRBY UNDERDALE
3	MILLINGTON DALE
4	WARRENDALE
5	GREAT GIVENDALE

## ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

CAN BE HANDED IN AT  
RECEPTION OR THE PE OFFICE

VOUCHERS CAN BE EXCHANGED  
FOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

# 22 WEEKS UNTIL THE NEW UNIFORM

*of great merit, character and value.'*





## LOWER SCHOOL

*Mr Sloman Writes:*



Mr L SLOMAN  
HEAD OF LOWER SCHOOL

**A**t Woldgate School, our motto is that 'everything you do should be worthy of great merit, character and value'. As part of this, our pupils are encouraged to recognise when other pupils need help and to offer support. Pupils are encouraged to do this in all aspects of school life, and to help out in their local community. Our Sixth Form students regularly support younger pupils with weekly mentoring and support, offering advice and helping pupils organise their work. Sixth Form students also spend at least one hour each week supporting younger pupils in lessons. Furthermore, many of pupils have volunteered to become 'Subject Ambassadors' for subject departments. These pupils will help to organise and run events, activities and clubs.

Another aspect of our ethos is pride in our school and its achievements. This week, our Year 7 pupils welcomed Year 6 teachers from our local primary schools and took them on a tour of the school. It was clear that our Year 7 pupils are immensely proud of their school. Finally, during my meeting with our Lower School Pupil Counsellors this week, I was struck at the pride they feel in belonging to Woldgate School and the real sense of community that is a recognised part of everyday life at the school. They enjoy hearing about and celebrating the achievements of others during weekly assemblies, and our school newsletter is shared with the pupils every week. I am sure we will be celebrating our pupils' volunteering achievements, both in school and in the community, in the months to come.

### ATTENDANCE, ACHIEVEMENT & CARE CO-ORDINATORS



Mr S BUTCHER

LOWER SCHOOL

07790 351283



Mrs C WRIGHT

UPPER SCHOOL

07790 351281



Mrs R BOURNE

SIXTH FORM

07790 351276





## UPPER SCHOOL

*Ms Longstaff Writes:*



Ms A LONGSTAFF  
HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

This week, the highlight for me was being fortunate enough to be able to see the final GCSE Drama performance by a group of five Year 11 pupils after school on Wednesday as they undertook their formal practical assessment. Much to the delight of the large audience there to support them, the pupils launched into a comedy performance which had us all laughing out loud very quickly. I came away finding it incredible that our Year 11 pupils could deliver such a professional performance and it was fantastic to see them so confident. Well done to everyone involved, including the staff!

Over the next few weeks I will be working closely with Mr Sloman as Year 9 make the transition into Upper School. I have already had the pleasure of calling in on a number of Year 9 lessons as they have started their GCSE work in both English and Maths and have been impressed with the start they have made. With this transition in mind, I would like to invite Year 9 parents and pupils to a 'Welcome to Upper School' evening to be held on Wednesday 10th May. Further details will be sent out by letter nearer the time but I thought it would be helpful for you to book this date on your calendars as it would be lovely to see as many of you there as possible.



## LITERACY SPOTLIGHT

ON: THE FACTS

*76% of adults said that reading improves their life, and the same number said it helps to make them feel good.*

*76% of adults preferred to read physical books, only 10% preferred e-books.*

*"Books are the purest form of entertainment. There is no middle man, just the reader and the author. In films there are many people involved as middle men, but not in books."  
(S2: Male, 18-29 years)*

*Booktrust Reading Habits Survey, 2013*



**TONIGHT!**

THE  
WOLDGATE EASTER

**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 31ST MARCH 2017  
7:00PM START  
WOLDGATE SCHOOL

**TICKETS £3**

TICKETS FROM WOLDGATE RECEPTION  
CALL 01759 302395 (PRESS 8)

ORGANISED BY



**ARE YOU UP TO THE CHALLENGE?**





## SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

*Mrs Lawson Writes:*



Mrs K LAWSON  
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

As we draw nearer to the summer exams it is a real joy to speak to our Year 13 students about their plans for next year. Many of our students are now in a position where they have selected their firm and insurance choice courses for university. We are also delighted that a number of our students have secured apprenticeships while others are finalising plans for a gap year. For students who are going to university, the deadline for accepting firm and insurance choices is 4th May. Students also need to make sure that they have completed their application for accommodation and for student finance.

The deadline for applying for student finance is 27th May and all of the information about how to apply is on the Student Finance England website: [www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance)

*...from front page.*

pleased with themselves. The walking was split up with bits of training that might help them on expedition including some basic first aid. When they returned from their walk they set about starting the evening meal. After another very good meal the team went to their tents to get some well-earned rest.

The team returned home on the Sunday and seem well equipped to face the challenges that await them in Tanzania this summer.





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 with shared values

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