

Newsletter

ISSUE 375

Of great merit, character & value



Celebrating Success

Welcome back! I want to share three wonderful stories about our Upper School pupils at Woldgate School who have achieved remarkable success.

We are incredibly proud of them all.



Mrs Atkinson
HEAD OF UPPER SCHOOL

Duke of Edinburgh Adventurers

**Mia Wood and Seren
Marsden write:**

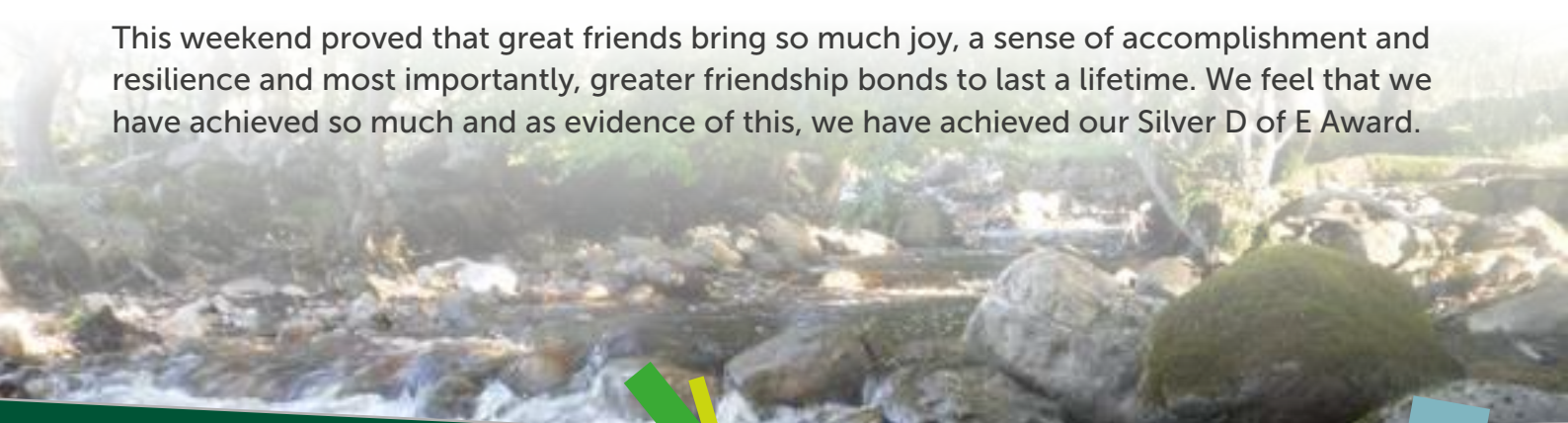
A year ago, we decided to give ourselves a challenge that would take us beyond the walls of Woldgate School. We therefore began to do some volunteer work with the Pocklington Rainbows and Brownies. We really enjoyed working and spending time with the young children teaching them skills such as how to safely cross the roads, how to care for each other and how to care for the environment.

We then went on to complete some physical activities – a minimum of an hour a week. We also had to practice a skill for a minimum of an hour a week. These activities included dance, violin and yoga.

This led us to our weekend expedition that took us to Middleham and Bolton Castle near Scarborough. Part of the challenge is to complete the entire 3-day weekend, with no outside support or technology. We had to use our navigational and teamwork skills to complete a 3-day trek, along hills, wasteland, moors, quarries and farmland animals like goats, cows, bulls and sheep. These animals tested our patience, but we knew that we had to show them respect as we were ‘temporarily invading’ their habitat. The scariest parts were when a bull and a ram made the decision to charge at us – we barely survived!

One of the best parts of our adventure was visiting and exploring the historical grounds of Bolton Castle, where we saw birds of prey, dungeons and battlements. We also saw the rooms where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned.

This weekend proved that great friends bring so much joy, a sense of accomplishment and resilience and most importantly, greater friendship bonds to last a lifetime. We feel that we have achieved so much and as evidence of this, we have achieved our Silver D of E Award.





A summer of golf success for Austin



Austin has done it again but now, with even more style! After his successes in last year's Northern Junior Golf Tour, Austin has had a very successful summer competing. He has yet again challenged himself and has done even better! He qualified for Finals Day at the PING Factory - Gainsborough Golf Club. Austin achieved this with 3 wins, to finish second in the Order of Merit. On this day, Austin was also fortunate enough to win the Net Competition in the Under 16's. This was such a great experience for Austin.

A few weeks ago, Austin and his dad also won the Pairs Knockout Final, having played in 5 matches across the summer. We congratulate you both.

On behalf of the Woldgate Community, we would like to thank you for allowing us to share in your success. To have achieved so much, for one so young, is much admired and we look forward to seeing you progress even further in your sport.

Alfie and his mum's swimming success

Alfie and his mum entered the Open Water Swimming Event at Grimwith Reservoir in North Yorkshire in September. Mum told us that these types of events are few and are far between for 14-year-olds, and so this was a great opportunity for Alfie to test his swimming skills in open water. It was time to see if his practice swims in the Allerthorpe Lake, 3-4 times a week during the summer holidays, would serve him well. Mum said that Alfie has been competing in the pool for a while now which he does enjoy, however, he is gradually becoming more interested in the open water side of things which is why he was encouraged to enter the race.

They had an excellent day, despite the camper van getting stuck in the mud at Masham and then nearly overheating on the way to the reservoir! Alfie did brilliantly and finished 5th Male and 6th Overall in his 1.2 - mile swim for his first ever Open Water Race.



The conditions were horrendous; it was so windy! Mum said that her race was shortened and unfortunately, a lot of people either didn't start or got out early. Alfie was fortunate to get a photo with Max Litchfield who won the longer event, which mum had entered. Max holds the British 400m IM Record!

What an incredible weekend for Alfie and of course, mum! Congratulations to you both! Thank you for sharing your amazing swimming experiences with us.





Headteacher's Welcome

As we returned from the half term, it has been lovely to visit lessons and to see our children thoroughly enjoying learning in engaging lessons and activities. It is also wonderful to see how many of our pupils are taking part in our Enrichment programme across activities at lunchtime, and Wednesday afternoons, including our Boardgames Club, PC Building Club, Art Club, Chess Club as well as a range of sports activities and many more. If your child is not yet taking part in Enrichment activities and they would like to do so, they should speak to the member of staff running the Enrichment activity.



It has been a busy week, with our first Personal Development Day of the year held on Wednesday. This year, our two Personal Development days will cover a range of core information that is appropriate for your child at their stage of development. These themes and content during are designed to secure, re-enforce and re-emphasise content from their Personal Development lessons. Throughout the day, we used a range of credible and experienced external providers to deliver talks to our pupils (such as the police, the NHS and Fire Service), including well established and recognisable charitable organizations such as HEY MIND – all of which have a successful track record of delivering talks in Schools, to similar age groups indicated below. Pupils and students found the day interesting, informative and useful, and I look forward to sharing the plans for our next Personal Development Day in the Spring Term.

Meanwhile, on Wednesday and Thursday our Year 11 pupils focussed on their Non-Examined Assessments in two of their GCSE subjects. Over both days, our Year 11 pupils worked in their subject classes to develop their coursework and practical elements of their courses in subjects such as Product Design, Food Technology and Art. Pupils will have more opportunities to work on their Non-Examined Assessments in January and February.

I really enjoy events like these, as they are an opportunity to see how our pupils adapt to different routines, activities and challenges. Most of all though, it is the opportunity for pupils to make friends with other pupils across year groups, which strengthens our school community.

Mr Sloman | HEADTEACHER



Key dates

To find out more about upcoming events and visits, please view the [Woldgate School Calendar](#).

Monday 11th November:..... Year 13 Parents' Evening (4:30pm to 7:00pm)

Thursday 21st November:..... Woldgate Sixth Form Open Evening (6:00pm to 8:00pm)

Tue 3rd to Thu 5th December:..... Little Shop of Horrors the Musical (7:00pm to 10:00pm)

Mon 9th to Thu 19th December:..... Year 11 and Year 13 Mock Exams

Friday 20th December:..... School Christmas Service at Pocklington All Saints Church (9am to 12:00pm)

..... Last Day of Term (school finishes at 12:15pm)

WOLDGATE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM PRESENTS

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Tickets available from — www.woldgate.net

Book and Lyrics by
HOWARD ASHMAN

Music by
ALAN MENKEN

BASED ON THE FILM BY ROGER CORMAN. SCREENPLAY BY CHARLES GRIFFITH

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY THE WPA THEATRE (KYLE RENICK, PRODUCING DIRECTOR)
ORIGINALLY PRODUCED AT THE ORPHEUM THEATRE, NEW YORK CITY BY THE WPA THEATRE,
DAVID GEFFEN, CAMERON MACKINTOSH AND THE SHUBERT ORGANIZATION

THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE
INTERNATIONAL ALL AUTHORISED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTI
WWW.MTISHOWS.CO.UK

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS WAS ORIGINALLY DIRECTED BY HOWARD ASHMAN
WITH MUSICAL STAGING BY EDIE CONAN

ADULTS £9 / PUPILS AND CONCESSIONS £6
TUES 3rd DEC / WEDS 4th DEC / THURS 5th DEC
7:30PM MAIN SCHOOL HALL



Accelerated Reader: Guide for parents/carers

Accelerated Reader is commonly used in many secondary schools to promote active and accurate reading.

Starting Out - the STAR Reading Test

The basis of the program is the STAR Reading Test which your child will do at school. This test sets a series of reading comprehension and vocabulary style questions for your child. As your child correctly answers the questions, the following questions become progressively more difficult. If your child answers a question incorrectly, the following question will be less challenging. In other words, the test program caters itself to the needs and abilities of your child as they progress through the questions.

At the end of the test your child will receive an estimate of their reading age in years and months.

Choosing Books - The ZPD

Your child will also receive a ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development) rating. This will be a range of reading material in which your child will best develop their reading. The Accelerated Reader website explains the need for the ZPD as follows: "Pupils develop reading skills most effectively when they read appropriately challenging books - difficult enough to keep them engaged but not so difficult that they become frustrated. This is their 'Zone of Proximal Development' (ZPD)"

The ZPD range will be based on the reading levels ascribed to fiction and non-fiction books by the Accelerated Reader group. Text complexity is determined by the ATOS formula, which uses the text of an entire book to inform the calculation. ATOS takes into account the most important predictors of text complexity- average sentence length, average word length, and word difficulty level.





Your child's ZPD range will look something like this: 4.6 -7.2

It gives a range of material in which your child will read most comfortably with a level of challenge. The levels move from 0.1 through to above 10. Most books within school associated with AR (Accelerated Reader) have levels (either on a coded label on the front page or on the spine of the book). We often use colour coded stickers on the spines of books so that pupils can easily see the level of the book they are considering.

Your child will be asked to choose books for Accelerated Reading that fall within the range of their ZPD. We do have a selection of books in our school library to borrow. **Personal books, gifts and public library books can be checked against the ATOS levelling by entering their title or ISBN into the AR BookFinder at www.arbookfind.co.uk.** This can be a useful tool for determining if a book is suitable for your child to read independently.

.....

The Quizzes

Once your child has chosen an appropriately levelled book, they will be expected to read it independently and then take an AR Quiz on that text. It is through the quizzing of books that measureable data is collected on whether your child is accessing and understanding the material they are reading. The quizzes contain between 5 and 10 questions about the book they have read. The expectation is that quizzes will be taken within shortly after finishing a text to ensure that retention of information is high. **A score of 90% or higher indicates a solid understanding of the text and your child will then be expected to choose a more difficult text (but still within their ZPD) for next time.**



Pupils should aim to complete a quiz every term and this will be set as a homework via classcharts. By clicking the logo to the left, they can access Accelerated Reader and quiz at home.

Their username is their lunchcode and the password: staR.

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

Subject Focus

Geography

Exciting Times in the Geography Department!

The Geography Department has had an incredible start to the academic year, with pupils across all year groups diving into fascinating topics that broaden their understanding of the world and its complexities.

Year 7 pupils have made an impressive transition into secondary school and are already showing an enthusiasm for their geography lessons. They've been learning all about "How Geographers Think," getting a strong foundation in key geographical concepts and skills that will guide them through their journey in the subject.

In **Year 8**, pupils have been exploring the topic of Development. This includes a unique look into how goats are making a big impact in Uganda, where they play a role in improving the quality of life for families. This has given pupils insight into the real-world applications of development projects and how even small changes can have a lasting effect on communities.



Year 9 pupils are tackling the big topic of globalisation and investigating the UK's significance on the world stage. They're exploring how interconnected our lives are with people, economies, and ecosystems around the globe—a topic that's especially relevant in our increasingly globalised world.

Our **Year 10** GCSE pupils have made a fantastic start to their studies, already completing their first topic on Hazards. From natural disasters to human-induced risks, pupils are delving into the causes and impacts of these hazards and learning strategies for managing them.

As for **Year 11**, they are beginning to look ahead to their December mock exams. They are busy revising and building on the knowledge they've accumulated so far, preparing to showcase their understanding in their upcoming assessments.

In our **Sixth Form**, a new cohort of **Year 12** student has embarked on their A Level journey. They're eager to deepen their geographical knowledge and hone their analytical skills. Meanwhile, **Year 13** students are in the final stages of completing their Non-Examined Assessments (NEA) and are also gearing up for their mock exams. They're focused and determined to excel as they prepare for their final year.

The Geography Department is proud of the hard work, curiosity, and resilience our pupils and students are showing this term. Below are a few quotes from pupils about what they've enjoyed learning so far:

Pupil Quotes

In Geography this year we have been learning about development and how we can help improve people lives. I have found this very interesting, and I have really enjoyed learning about different people in different parts of the world. **Ellie — Year 8**

I think geography is essential to learning as it affects people's everyday lives, and you can learn about the lives of people all around the world. This makes geography one of the most interesting subjects to study. **Hettie — Year 10**

In the most recent topics, we have been studying urbanisation in the UK and how Rio de Janeiro compares to Birmingham. I have found these topics interesting as I like to gain knowledge about places in the world. My teacher has done a good job at helping everyone understand the differences between these places. I'm really enjoying geography this year as the topics have been very interesting. **Sam — Year 10**

In Geography we are learning about Rio de Janeiro, its interesting history, bustling culture and conflict between the government and authorities and the residents of the favelas. I have found this eye-opening and informative, as we explore other cities and ways of life around the world. **Seth — Year 10**

With so much to look forward to, it's clear that this year promises to be one of exploration, learning, and growth for everyone involved in geography!



Safeguarding

Safeguarding at Woldgate School

Safeguarding refers to the process of protecting children to provide safe and effective care. This includes all procedures designed to prevent harm to a child, including:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

At Woldgate School, we recognise that listening to young people is an important and essential part of safeguarding. If a pupil is feeling upset or has concerns, they should tell someone they trust, such as their Form Tutor, teachers, Support staff, their Care & Achievement Coordinator, parents, carers or other family members.

Let people help to make things better - never do nothing. We want our pupils to remember they are never alone, and there are always people around who can help and support them.

All our staff receive regular training in effective safeguarding and understand how to identify and support pupils where concerns are raised. We place great emphasis on the mental health and wellbeing of our pupils, and we also have a team of Peer Mentors who can help pupils by being a friend and someone to talk to, supporter, advisor, role model or source of new ideas and opportunities. We can arrange for pupils to meet with Peer Mentors on a regular basis to support them whenever needed.



Our weekly pupil briefings and newsletters also regularly remind pupils and parents about how to stay safe, including online, how to manage their mental health and wellbeing. Weekly assemblies also remind pupils on how to be an effective and active member of our caring school community. Our Care & Achievement Coordinators are trained to identify and support pupils, to ensure pupils feel supported and looked after during the school day, and to contact parents and carers and work with other agencies where necessary.

If we have any concerns about a pupil, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Handley, and our Deputy Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Wright will work with Form Tutors, Care & Achievement Coordinators, other staff, pupils, parents and carers to ensure pupils receive the support they need, and to work with supporting agencies.

More information, including links to support organisations, can be found on our school website:

[Safeguarding | Woldgate School](#)

If your child has any concerns, they should speak to their Care & Achievement Coordinator or any member of staff as soon as possible so we can support them. If you have any questions or would like to know more, please do contact Mrs Handley or Mrs Wright for more information.

Humberside Police have asked us to share the following information regarding the Humber Violence Prevention Partnership's latest campaigns:

Breaking the Cycle: Addressing Knife Crime Together | Helping educational professionals and caregivers have impactful conversations with young people about the realities of knife crime. Includes video of lived experiences, practitioner training materials and educational resources for young people. | [>> Link to campaign page](#)

Listen to Us! (Trusted Adults) | Supporting trusted adults to talk to young people without judgment, agenda or expectation. Includes animated video, guide for professionals and useful advice for complex conversations. | [>> Link to campaign page](#)

Talk to Us! (Trusted Adults) | Encourages young people to reach out to a trusted adult for support. Includes animated video and links to support services. | [>> Link to campaign page](#)

Youth Connect | A website for 11-to-18-year-olds seeking to explore new interests, develop skills and contribute to their community. Includes downloadable promotional materials, e.g.: PowerPoint slides and digital flyer. | [>> Link to campaign page](#)

You can also access their social media channels here: <https://linktr.ee/humbervpp>

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*

**YOUR
ATTENDANCE
MATTERS**

Rewards

Rewards for the Week

Our school motto is **'Everything we 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.

109,172

MERIT

15,278

CHARACTER

7,722

VALUE

205,621

TOTAL

Our School Houses

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.

66,225

HOUSE TOTAL



39,235



44,534



43,848



36,486



35,624



Awards

Headteacher Awards

The Headteacher Award is given to those exceptional pupils and students who achieve the highest number of rewards in their year group each week.

The recipients of the Headteachers Awards last week were:

- Year 7:** Mia Lu
- Year 8:** Imogen Randles
- Year 9:** Freya Sanders
- Year 10:** Mia Baxter
- Year 11:** Alice Markham
- Year 12:** Emmie Smith
- Year 13:** Billy Harrison

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 most Great Character awards last week were:

- Year 7:** Finlay Brammall
- Year 8:** Dexter Leeman-Bratley
- Year 9:** Freya Brooks
- Year 10:** Matthew Golightly
- Year 11:** Logan Stanhope
- Year 12:** Sophie Davey
- Year 13:** Chloe Massey

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 most Great Merit awards last week were:

- Year 7:** Lexi Medforth
- Year 8:** James Mitchell
- Year 9:** Freddie Hammond
- Year 10:** Kyle Barker
- Year 11:** Niamh Bryan
- Year 12:** Tilly Jackson
- Year 13:** Emily Chantry

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 most Great Value awards last week were:

- Year 7:** Tyler Cox
- Year 8:** Ruslan Korchaha
- Year 9:** Aiden Walker
- Year 10:** Yuri Korchaha
- Year 11:** Freddie Hollingsworth
- Year 12:** Lily Staveley
- Year 13:** Oscar Rose

Meet our Pupil Care Team



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 7**

Mrs F McDonough

fmcdonough@woldgate.net



**Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead**

Mrs C Wright

cwright@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 8**

Mrs S Clark

sclark@woldgate.net



Attendance Officer

Mrs R O'Brien

robrien@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 9**

Mrs H Cross

hcross@woldgate.net



Inclusion Manager

Miss Parkin
01759 302395 Option 1
gparkin@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 10**

Mrs L Cavanagh

lcavanagh@woldgate.net



Office Manager

Mrs A Charlton
01759 302395
office@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Year 11**

Mrs S Oliver

soliver@woldgate.net



Office Assistant

Mrs V Mills
01759 302395
office@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement
Coordinator: Sixth Form**

Mrs E Fairhurst
07790 987137

efairhurst@woldgate.net



**Care & Achievement Coordinator:
Diabetic Care and First Aid.**

Mrs L Kendra

lkendra@woldgate.net

Teach with Wonder

Paid Teaching Internship Programme 2025

£1,275
Teaching
Internships
available
now!

After an extremely successful internship programme in 2024, we are delighted to once again be able to offer more young people an opportunity to find out why teaching is such an inspirational career choice.

Our internship programme combines professional development, talks from external speakers, a visit to one of our primary schools, planning a trip and of course an opportunity to teach our pupils. You receive dedicated mentorship, support, and training over the three-week period and in your final week, you can choose to teach your very first lesson. It is simply a privilege to see our interns flourish and utterly amazing to see them stand in front of their first class after just three weeks.

In addition to all the great opportunities you will receive during this three-week programme, you will also receive a payment of £1,275.00 funded by the Department for Education.

Our paid internships are available for people who:

- have a genuine interest in teaching
- have not already accepted a place on an Initial Teacher Training programme
- have not completed a paid internship before
- have (or are working towards completing) a degree or a related degree in mathematics, physics, chemistry, or modern foreign languages (French and Spanish)

We are recruiting for placements in maths, physics, chemistry and modern foreign languages starting on:

- 9th June 2025 to 27th June 2025
- 23rd June 2025 to 11th July 2025

Our internships are available at both:

Woldgate School and Sixth Form www.woldgate.net

and

Longcroft School and Sixth Form www.longcroftschoo.co.uk



Wonder
Institute of Education
Educate | Empower | Engage | Enrich

Recruitment now open!

To register and receive an application pack please contact:

Victoria Tomlinson

Wonder Institute of Education

IOE@WLP.education