



**Woldgate
School**

Of great merit, character & value

Part of the Family



Wonder
Learning Partnership
Educate | Empower | Engage | Enrich

Newsletter

ISSUE 409

Of great merit, character & value

Middle School Update

Welcome back to another fabulous year! The start of the school year is always a moment of great anticipation and excitement.



Mr R Askoolum
HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

We are thrilled to see our Year 8 and Year 9 pupils back in school, ready to embrace new challenges, opportunities, and friendships. Our classrooms are buzzing with energy as pupils settle into their new timetables and subjects.

I am delighted to take on the new role of Head of Middle School and look forward to working with you over the course of the year so that your child's educational experience is as positive, productive, and worthwhile as possible.

As we settle into the new term, we are placing a strong emphasis on pupil wellbeing—starting with a healthy breakfast and smart food choices throughout the day. Here's how we are supporting your child's physical and mental readiness for learning:

Breakfast club from 8.30 am. No booking is required, pupils can simply turn up and tuck in. We encourage regular attendance, especially for those who may skip breakfast at home.

We are committed to promoting healthy habits that fuel learning and support emotional well-being. We'll also be reinforcing these messages in tutor time and PSHE lessons, helping pupils understand the link between food, mood, and focus.

Exciting New Clubs and Activities for Years 8 and 9

We are thrilled to announce the launch of a vibrant new programme of clubs and activities for our Year 8 and Year 9 pupils this term. Designed to enrich learning, build confidence, and spark creativity, these clubs are running daily, both at lunchtime and after school.

Pupils have already been introduced to the wide range of opportunities available, and the response has been fantastic. From sports and science to creative writing and coding, there's something for everyone.

A personal favourite is the Choir and Musical Theatre group, which meets every Thursday after school. This talented group is already busy preparing for a number of exciting performances, including the end-of-year awards, public showcases, and Christmas services. It's always a joy to support and listen to their work — their energy and enthusiasm are truly inspiring.

We encourage all pupils to get involved, try something new, and make the most of these enriching experiences. Whether it's discovering a hidden talent or making new friends, our clubs offer a fantastic way to grow both in and out of the classroom.

Our sporting trampolinist

Young Trampolinist Shines at Cardiff Championship

Twelve-year-old trampolinist Layla S has made a remarkable impression at the Cardiff Wales Championship this past July, placing 24th out of over 400 competitors — a proud moment for both her and her family.

Layla, who trains four days a week with sessions lasting between two to three hours, was thrilled to see her name highlighted on the event screens. "I'm really proud of what I achieved," she said. "My mum and sister were so proud too — it was such a special moment."

Her journey into trampolining began thanks to her best friend Miah, whom Layla credits for introducing her to the sport. "I do trampolining because it brings out the true me," she shared.

Layla's routine at the championship showcased her skill and dedication, featuring a sequence of moves including:

Straight back, straight barani, straddle, pike back, pike barani, tuck jump, back barani, pike jump, and finishing with a pike front.

Looking ahead, Layla has her sights set on the National Finals in Birmingham following the upcoming Cardiff 2026 event and then possibly the Olympics. With her passion, discipline, and support from her team, she's determined to reach new heights.





Woldgate School Pupils Step Up to Support Fangfest Festival and Raise Vital Funds

Two of our pupils have been praised for their outstanding community spirit after volunteering at the annual Fangfest festival during the final weekend of their summer holidays.

Lexie (Year 10) and Evelyn (Year 9) generously gave up their time to support the event, which draws thousands of visitors to the village of Fangfoss to celebrate local artists and makers. The festival also raises funds for several important causes, including the local church, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, and St Martins School PTA.

As Chair of the Fangfoss School PTA, the festival's parking coordinator expressed deep gratitude for the pupils' help. "We were really struggling for volunteers this year," she said. "Lexie and Evelyn stepped in at the last minute and were absolutely brilliant. They were sensible, organised, polite, and welcoming — a real credit to their school."

The pair helped manage parking logistics, ensuring the safety of visitors, and also assisted in selling programmes throughout the day. Their efforts contributed to raising over **£900 for St Martins School** and more than **£200 for Hearing Dogs for Deaf People**.

Organisers have asked that their thanks and appreciation be passed on to the pupils and their school, highlighting the positive impact young people can have in their communities.

Curriculum

Budding Bakers Rise to the Challenge in Year 8 Design and Technology Lessons

As the new academic year gets underway, our Year 8 pupils are rolling up their sleeves and diving into the delicious world of food preparation as part of their Design and Technology curriculum. With a focus on cooking skills and baking techniques, this term's lessons have already proven to be a recipe for success.

This half-term, our pupils have rolled up their sleeves and risen to the challenge—quite literally—as baking takes the spotlight in Food Preparation lessons. Under the expert guidance of Mrs Saltmer, pupils are mastering notoriously tricky techniques with impressive precision and enthusiasm.

From the science of shortcrust to the puff of perfect pastry, each session breaks down the process step-by-step, making complex skills accessible and enjoyable. The kitchen has been buzzing with delicious creations, including:

- Dough Balls
- Jam Tarts
- Macaroni Cheese (with roux sauce)
- Bean Chilli
- Chicken Fajitas
- Chocolate Crinkle Cookies

Whether kneading, whisking, or folding, pupils are gaining confidence and culinary flair—proof that learning is best served with a pinch of challenge and a generous helping of fun. “Pastry is a brilliant way to introduce pupils to the fundamentals of baking,” said Mrs Saltmer, “It teaches patience, precision, and the importance of technique—all while allowing room for creativity.”



This term's scheme of work includes hygiene and safety, knife skills, measuring ingredients, and understanding the function of fats and flours in pastry. Pupils are encouraged to reflect on their outcomes, evaluate their methods, and suggest improvements—developing critical thinking alongside culinary competence.

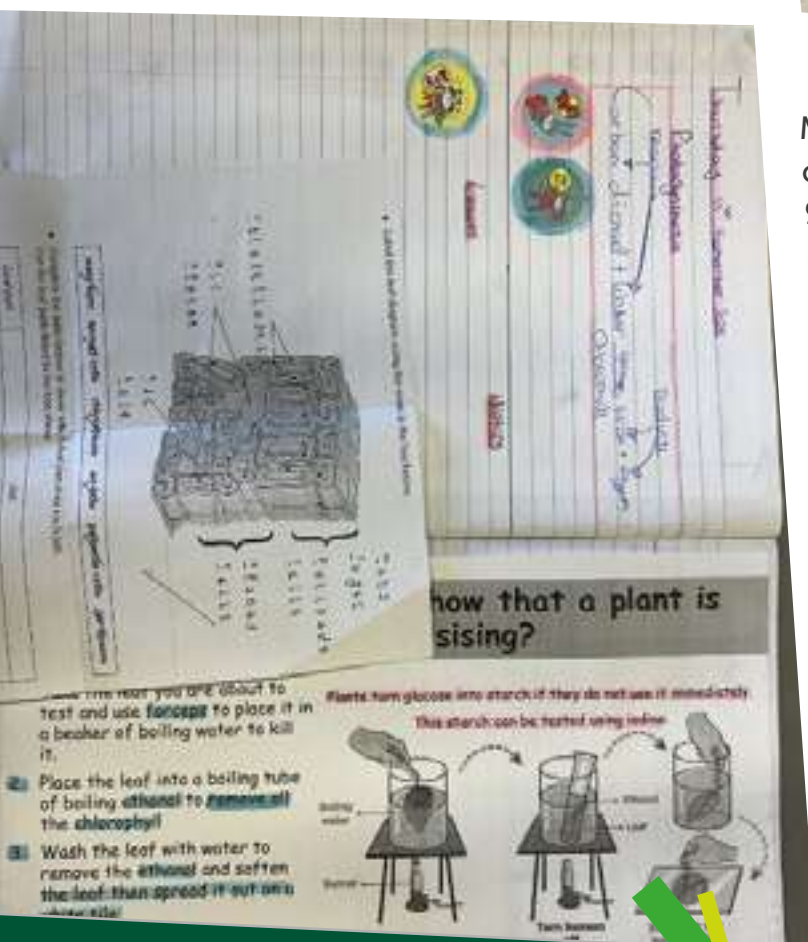
Classrooms have been buzzing with energy as pupils take turns mixing, rolling, and baking. “I didn't think I'd enjoy cooking this much,” said Finley, a Year 8 pupil. “Making my own jam tarts and seeing them come out of the oven golden—it's really satisfying.”

Year 9 Science Update:

Investigating Photosynthesis and Ecology

Year 9 pupils have made an energetic start in Science, diving into the fascinating world of photosynthesis and ecology. This term's focus is all about understanding how plants produce food, the role they play in ecosystems, and how scientific investigation helps us uncover the processes behind life on Earth.

One of the highlights so far has been a practical experiment where pupils tested leaves for the presence of starch—a key indicator that photosynthesis has taken place. Using iodine solution and a step-by-step method involving boiling and decolourising the leaf, pupils were able to observe a colour change that revealed whether starch was present.



Ms Reid has been impressed by the curiosity and enthusiasm shown by Year 9 so far. Whether discussing the role of chlorophyll or debating the effects of deforestation, pupils are demonstrating a growing confidence in applying scientific concepts to real-world issues.

In the coming weeks, pupils will continue to build on their understanding of ecosystems, including adaptations, competition, and the carbon cycle. There will be further opportunities for practical work and group discussion, helping pupils to develop both their scientific literacy and teamwork skills.



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Open Evenings

Tue 14 Oct Wed 15 Oct Thu 16 Oct

Attend 6pm-7pm or 7pm-8pm

Kilnwick Percy Golf Club, Pocklington*

- > Every child is known and cared for as an individual
- > A top three school for pupil progress in the East Riding[†]
- > New state-of-the-art DfE school rebuild

Everything we do should be worthy, of great merit, character and value



**Book your place
by visiting
www.woldgate.net**

*This year, as the main learning block of our new build reaches completion, we are hosting our opening evenings at the Kilnwick Percy Golf Club in Pocklington.

[†] based on
published 2024
results

KILNWICK PERCY
GOLF CLUB

Headteacher's Welcome

I will be moving to a new role as Chief Operating Officer of the Wonder Learning Partnership from January 2026. In this role, I will be responsible for the day to day running of the Wonder Learning Partnership under the strategic leadership of the CEO and Trustees.

A new headteacher of Woldgate School will be appointed from January 2026 and the recruitment process will commence shortly. In my new role, I will support the new headteacher throughout the remainder of the academic year,

and beyond. I will also continue to teach at Woldgate School, work with colleagues, pupils and parents on an ongoing basis. Although my role will change, I will remain a part of the school community.

Being headteacher of Woldgate School for the last three years has been a tremendous privilege. Woldgate School is treasured by the local community it has served for nearly seventy years. As such, I have always felt the sense of responsibility in the role of headteacher, and I have enjoyed the role immensely. I am so proud of the achievements of our pupils, students and colleagues over the last three years and I will have the honour of leading our school into our new school building in October. I know the future is exciting with even more building developments on the horizon as the school rebuild programme looks towards the third and fourth phases.



For myself and on behalf of all of my colleagues, I would like to thank parents and carers for their ongoing support. In particular, I would like to thank our governors and parent working parties, all of whom have gone out of their way to work with us to continually improve the educational experience for our young people. Working within education is always rewarding but sometimes challenging. However, the unwavering support and goodwill of parents, carers and the wider school community is essential in ensuring my colleagues can do their very best, every day, to support and educate your children. I know that the new headteacher and my colleagues will continue to count on your support.

Many thanks again

Mr Sloman
Headteacher

Congratulations

to the winner
of Woldgate
School's quiz to
celebrate the European
Day of Languages:

Lucas Litten 7BSC

Flu Vaccinations — Years 7-11

Vaccination UK are visiting Woldgate School for the flu vaccinations this term on October 22nd and 27th November 2025.

If you would like your child to receive their Nasal flu vaccination in school, please complete a **YES** consent form online ASAP.

If for any reason your child **cannot** have the Nasal spray vaccine, the **injectable NON PORCINE** flu vaccine is available, and you will be able to choose that method on the consent form.

If you **DO NOT** wish your child to receive a flu vaccination, please complete a **NO** consent via the same link.

<https://humber.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/eastriding>

The Flu information leaflet has been sent out on ClassCharts and also contains the consent link and other useful information regarding flu vaccinations.

You can also complete a consent form via the website www.schoolvaccination.uk

If you have any queries or are unable to complete the consent form online, please don't hesitate to contact The Immunisation Team, Email: hullandeastriding@v-uk.co.uk Tel. 01482 453690

Key dates

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

Thursday 9th October:	Year 11 Study Skills Evening (5.30pm to 7:30pm)
Friday 10th October:	Learning Support Coffee Morning (10am to 12pm)
Tuesday 14th October:	Open Evening (Kilnwick Percy Golf Club 6pm to 8pm)
	Year 7 Form Tutor Parents Evening (4pm to 7pm)
Wednesday 15th October:	Open Evening (Kilnwick Percy Golf Club 6pm to 8pm)
Thursday 16th October:	Open Evening (Kilnwick Percy Golf Club 6pm to 8pm)
	Restart a Heart Day
Wednesday 22nd October:	Personal Development Day
	Year 11 NEA Day 1 (Block A)
Thursday 23rd October:	Year 11 NEA Day 1 (Block B)
Friday 24th October:	End of half term
Monday 3rd November:	Training Day due to school move (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 4th November:	First day of half term for pupils and students

Choir/Musical Theatre Group

Thursday after school

3:25pm-4:25pm in T1

Learning songs in a range of styles including pop, jazz & musical theatre. Preparing for performances for the Christmas Concert, Christmas Services, the end of year awards ceremony and other public performances.





WORLD OF RHYTHM SAMBA WORKSHOP

11AM SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER - POCKLINGTON ARTS CENTRE

JOIN US FOR A ONE HOUR SAMBA WORKSHOP TASTER

LEARN THE DIFFERENT INSTRUMENTS OF A TYPICAL SAMBA BAND
AND LEARN HOW TO PERFORM LAYERED RHYTHMS AS AN ENSEMBLE.

NO MUSICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. ALL AGES WELCOME.

BOOKING RECOMMENDED TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT
CONTACT POCKLINGTON ARTS CENTRE - £8 PER PERSON



A.L. SCHOFIELD MUSIC

PE News

Results

Monday 22nd September @Home Y8 &10 Boys Football

Yr 8 W 10 – 0 against Selby | Yr 10 L 3 - 0

Tuesday 23rd September @Hornsea Y7-10 Boys Football

Yr 7 W, 6 – 4 | Yr8 W, 7 – 1 | Yr 9 W, 8 – 1 | Yr 10 L 2 - 1

Tuesday 23rd September @Longcroft Y7&8 Girls Football

Yr 7 L 9 - 1

Upcoming fixtures

- Monday 6th October @ St Mary's U16s Girls Football
- Monday 6th October @ South Hunsley Y7 Girls Football
- Monday 6th October @ South Hunsley U14s Girls Football

Primary School events at Woldgate

- Wed 08 Oct: Three in a Bucket (LKS2)

Well done to:

Alex Collins - Played Cricket for Woodhouse Grange first team. Who play in the ECB Premier division.

Poppy Peacock – selected for York Development Rugby League.

Evelyn Coulson – ran in the English School Athletics in the summer.



SEND & Attendance

October 10th 2025 is World Mental Health Day

The Mental Health Foundation has advice when talking to children about world events.

News is everywhere. In the digital age, it is no longer possible to control the news we are exposed to or shield children from upsetting information.

What we can do is help to minimise the negative impact it has on ourselves and pupils. In school, we can help pupils to navigate difficult situations in a changing world and this can be done too through open and honest conversations at home.

Keeping the right balance:

The important thing here is balance. Making children watch the news or going to great lengths to shield them from it can be unhelpful. Avoid turning the television off or closing web pages when they come into the room. This can pique their interest to find out what's really going on – and that is when their imagination can take over.

Children are very likely to get a sense of the uncertainty or fear around what's going on, even if they're not old enough to understand or hear about exactly what's happening. Be careful that you are honest about your concerns, but keep them in proportion. Children pick up more than we realise and may misinterpret or keep their feelings hidden from us.



Let them know the facts

Children may feel overwhelmed by things they've heard on the news, on social media or from their friends. If they are given clear and honest explanations of what is happening and know that it is okay to talk about worrying or tricky subjects, it can give them the confidence to ask about them. Encourage your children to come to you with questions about what's happening.

If you don't have the answers, be honest. Try reading or watching news sources together that you have already looked at or share the news by explaining what is happening verbally in an unbiased way.

Give children practical tips on looking after themselves and others, explaining the importance of open communication, healthy relationships, and ways to cope with stress. It's also a good opportunity to talk about the benefits of kindness.

Discourage overexposure

Small doses of real-life news are helpful. Large doses can have a negative effect as children can become fixated on a news story and repeatedly look at news coverage relating to it. To avoid overexposure, encourage them to discuss the news story with you once they have read about it. This provides a safe space for all of their questions.

Let children know they are safe

All children, even teenagers, want to know their parents and carers can keep them safe. The best way to communicate safety is by talking about worrying news with open, confident, clear and truthful facts. Go through all the reasons that mean they are in a safe place rather than well-meaningly dismissing their feelings by telling them everything is fine.

Reassure them that you will do your best to keep them safe.

Let them know that it is normal to be concerned

Try telling them that you also find events like this worrying. Let them know that you can balance these worries with the reality of them coming true. You would want them to leave this conversation realising that although bad things can happen, they don't happen very often, so they do not need to be scared.

Explain to your child what it means to be vulnerable. Vulnerability is not weakness. It's a natural response to experiencing uncertainty and risk and being emotionally exposed. You may feel vulnerable as a parent or carer in this conversation with your child. Try to acknowledge this and offer them lots of time for discussion and support from you.



You can also use this as an opportunity to teach children to grow into responsible citizens. Abiding by restrictions and laws means understanding that there is something bigger than individuals and that we should protect each other.

Tailor the conversation to their age

All children have different temperaments and sensitivities. Their ability to understand the world and take in and react to bad news will depend on their age. If you have more than one child, you might want to talk about the news with them individually and tailor what you say to their needs and level.

Find the right time to talk about it

It may be that your child starts asking questions about a news event at an inconvenient time. In this case, let them know you have heard them and think what they are asking is important. Tell them that you would like to talk with them about it later and invite them to remind you, so they know you really are interested.

Be as truthful as possible

When children ask a direct or tricky question, it can be tempting to avoid it by bending the truth. This can be unhelpful when they are talking to others about what happened. It's often more helpful to be as honest as possible. This is also true of questions when you don't know the answer. Remember that it is okay not to know or to go away and find out and get back to them.

If you are concerned about your child's mental health, please contact your GP or the Care and Achievement Team at school. The School Nurse also can be contacted on 07507 33289. This is a confidential service which offers advice and support for young people aged 11-19 years. You can text anytime, the Nurses will reply Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.

Support can also be found on the Young Minds' website.

How does your attendance impact your future?



Data released by the UK Department for Education shows that the lower your attendance the less likely you are to achieve in your GCSEs.

100%

82%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

OVER 95%

77%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

92%-93%

53%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

BELOW 90%

43%

Achieved 5 GCSEs
Grade 5+

(inc. Maths and English)

Research shows that for every 17 days you miss across your school career, your GCSE results go down by one whole grade!



Achieving 5 or more GCSEs at Grade 5+ has shown to increase your lifetime earnings by **41%**

There are
365 DAYS
in a year

175
are not spent
in school!

**That gives you plenty of time for holidays, TV, shopping and video games.*

A-LEVEL & GCSE ART EXHIBITION

On display at Pocklington GP Surgery
From 15 Nov 2025 To 31 Oct 2026



PREVIEW EVENT
Sat 15 Nov 2025 —
10am to 12pm

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.

47,544

MERIT

7,035

CHARACTER

3,276

VALUE

92,928

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.

31,310

HOUSE TOTAL



20,628



20,052



19,394



18,175



15,945

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:	Albie Browne
Year 8:	Ayesha Rowell
Year 9:	Sapphyre Rowe
Year 10:	Myriam Jarry
Year 11:	Michael Abbott
Year 12:	Jack Irvin
Year 13:	Adam Brown

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:	Georgia Ewens
Year 8:	Harry Watson
Year 9:	Lily Ballantyne
Year 10:	Leighton Pease
Year 11:	Callum Jackson
Year 12:	Benjamin Gwilliam
Year 13:	Adam Brown

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:	Holly Allan
Year 8:	Bissie Griffin
Year 9:	Ava Hill
Year 10:	Megan Knott
Year 11:	Leon Cook
Year 12:	Janek Scrowston
Year 13:	Matthew Chapman

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:	Esme Christy
Year 8:	Maisie Richardson
Year 9:	Elsie-Boe Moore
Year 10:	Hermione Senior
Year 11:	Jake Booth
Year 12:	Ollie Bailey
Year 13:	Ewan Higson

Meet our Pupil Care Team



Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 7

Mrs F McDonough

year7@woldgate.net



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs C Wright

safeguarding@woldgate.net



Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 8

Mrs S Oliver

year8@woldgate.net



Attendance Officer

Mrs R O'Brien

attendance@woldgate.net



Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 9

Mrs S Clark

year9@woldgate.net



Attendance and Wellbeing

Mr J Marks
01759 302395 Option 1
attendance@woldgate.net



Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 10

Mrs R Marsden

year10@woldgate.net



Office Manager

Mrs A Charlton
01759 302395
office@woldgate.net



Care & Achievement Coordinator: Year 11

Mrs L Cavanagh

year11@woldgate.net



Office Assistant

Mrs V Mills
01759 302395
office@woldgate.net



Care & Achievement Coordinator: Sixth Form

Mrs E Fairhurst
07790 987137
sixthform@woldgate.net



Care & Achievement Coordinator: Diabetic Care and First Aid.

Mrs L Kendra
lkendra@woldgate.net