

# Newsletter

ISSUE 410

Of great merit, character & value



## English at Woldgate:

### Empowering every pupil to think deeply, communicate confidently, and love English for life

The English Department has had a fantastic start to the academic year. Classrooms are buzzing with discussion, creativity, and curiosity as pupils dive into new texts and ideas. Our team has been working hard to refresh the curriculum, strengthen support for all learners, and create exciting opportunities both inside and outside the classroom. From oracy development to enrichment trips, we're proud of the progress being made and the enthusiasm pupils are bringing to their English lessons.



We've also taken time as a team to define our shared vision and values. We are committed to our vision:

**Empowering every pupil to think deeply, communicate confidently, and love English for life.**

Our values of resilience, enthusiasm, open-mindedness, togetherness and empathy guide everything we do, and we're proud to be building a culture where every pupil feels welcome, valued and challenged.

## Speaking up, thinking deeply: oracy at Woldgate

We're rewriting our curriculum to place oracy at the heart of learning. Working in partnership with Voice 21, a national organisation dedicated to improving pupils' speaking skills, we are embedding opportunities for pupils to discuss, debate and develop their ideas in pairs and groups before committing them to paper. This approach builds confidence and strengthens critical thinking and writing fluency.

## Beyond the curriculum: cutaway tasks for high-attaining pupils

To stretch and challenge our most able learners, we've introduced cutaway tasks—a strategy designed to encourage pupils to think beyond the curriculum. These tasks offer opportunities for deeper analysis, independent thinking, and creative exploration, helping pupils to develop the kind of intellectual curiosity that leads to exceptional outcomes.

**Erika**: I agree that the witches form an "unholy trinity" because they act as a dark parody of the Christian Holy Trinity. Where the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are associated with truth, life, and salvation, the witches bring lies, death, and damnation.

**Karl**: While the idea of the witches as an "unholy trinity" is interesting, I don't think Shakespeare intended them to be a direct reversal of the Holy Trinity. Instead, the fact that there are three of them could be symbolic of ancient superstition — the number three often represents power in folklore.

**Tamana**: I disagree, because the witches aren't really connected to religion. The term "unholy trinity" doesn't make sense here because they don't talk about God or the devil directly. They're just supernatural beings who predict the future. It's Macbeth who chooses to kill Duncan — the witches don't make him do it, so calling them "unholy" seems too extreme.

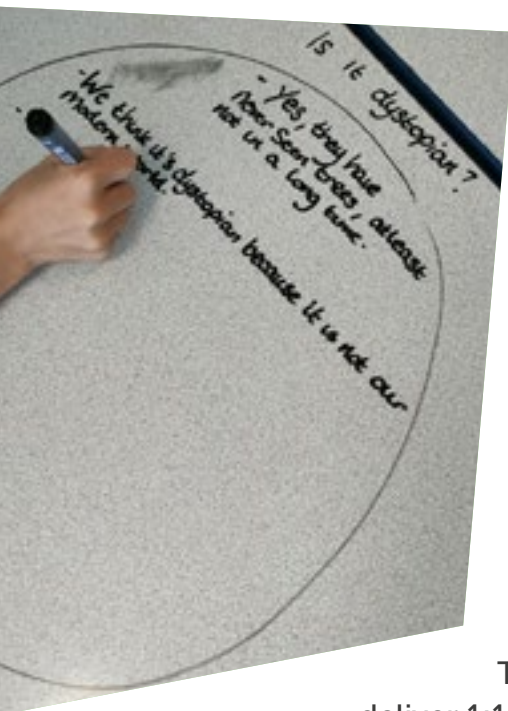
**Tom**: I don't fully agree with the idea of them being an "unholy trinity" because I don't think the witches are evil in themselves. They don't command Macbeth to act — they simply tell him what might happen. In that sense, they could represent fate or destiny rather than evil. Calling them an "unholy trinity" might shift too much responsibility away from him and onto them.

**Central Question**: The witches are sometimes described as an "unholy trinity". How far do you agree?

## Enrichment in action

We have mapped out the department's enrichment provision to ensure that every year group takes part in at least one trip every year.

Mrs Edgar is currently planning a Year 8 visit to the Ripon Workhouse Museum to support pupils' exploration of social class in literature. This immersive experience will help pupils connect historical realities with the texts they study, enriching their understanding and sparking thoughtful discussion. If your child is in Year 8, please make sure that you fill in the permission slip for the trip.



## KS4 writing: building strong foundations

At Key Stage 4, we're refining our approach to essay writing. Pupils are being supported through clear modelling of successful responses and given regular opportunities for extended writing. This helps them build stamina, structure, and sophistication in their written work—skills essential for success in GCSE English Language and Literature.

## Inclusive learning

This year, we the school has provided capacity for teachers to deliver 1:1 and small-group intervention to pupils who struggle to access lessons. Ms Miller, our SEN Lead for English, has developed targeted resources and delivered training to teachers that are used to.

The collaboration between the English department and the SEN team means that pupils with additional needs are supported with care, expertise, and consistency.



## A department of readers

Mrs Wellock has led a departmental vocabulary and reading strategy that is transforming how pupils engage with texts. Through paired and reciprocal reading, pupils are introduced to new information in ways that prioritise storytelling—because our brains are wired to remember stories. Pupils are reading more, reading independently, and building a rich vocabulary that supports both comprehension and expression.

It's an exciting time to be part of the English department. As we look forward to the move to the new build, we cannot wait to develop our approaches further and ensure that every lesson requires to think deeply and communicate confidently.

### Act 1, Scene 1 – The Witches' Opening

#### Core knowledge

- The witches reflect early modern beliefs about the supernatural.
- "weird" doesn't mean "strange", it comes from OE "wyrd", meaning to control fate.
- King James I was obsessed with witchcraft (he wrote *Daemonologie* in 1597 and presided over real witch trials).
- Witches were feared and seen as agents of the Devil who disrupted the natural order.
- The opening scene's brevity and stormy setting are intentionally unsettling to grab the audience's attention.
- The witches serve as a Greek-style chorus and are immediately coded as evil through language and weather.
- The witches embody unnatural forces and foreshadow events.
- "Fair is foul, and foul is fair" sets up the motif of deceptive appearances.
- The storm signals political and moral chaos.
- While Macbeth is not present, he is named, building anticipation. The witches' interest in him sets the plot in motion and positions him as the focus of dark forces.

This lesson should focus on analysing quotations, using **the rainbow analysis method**.

#### Things to reinforce:

1. A quotation can be a single word = model how to choose the most effective quotation to represent the witches
2. Develop the chain by asking pupils to consider what the quotation makes them think of. Reinforce that this must be **within the context of the play**. For example, thunder has many different connotations. What does it mean within the play?

1. What is the main function of the Inspector in *An Inspector Calls*?  
A) To defend the Birlings' capitalist values  
B) To punish the younger generation  
C) To act as Priestley's mouthpiece and expose social injustice  
D) To represent the legal justice system

2. Why are the witches described as "weird" in the opening scene of *Macbeth*?  
A) Because they act strangely and unpredictably  
B) Because "weird" meant "strange" in Shakespeare's time  
C) Because they wear odd clothing and use riddles  
D) Because the term comes from Old English, meaning "fate-controlling"

3. Which theme is most strongly shared by *Ozymandias* and *My Last Duchess*?  
A) The futility of war  
B) The fragility of human power  
C) Patriotism and loyalty  
D) The impact of natural forces

4. How does the stormy weather in the witches' scene function dramatically?  
A) It reflects Scotland's typical climate  
B) It introduces the audience to Macbeth's emotional state  
C) It creates a mood of unease and hints at moral and political chaos  
D) It highlights the witches' connection to the natural world





**Woldgate  
School**

Of great merit, character & value

Part of the Family



**Wonder**  
Learning Partnership  
Educate | Empower | Engage | Enrich

# 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<sup>†</sup>
- > 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](http://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.

<sup>†</sup> based on  
published 2024  
results

**KILNWICK PERCY**  
GOLF CLUB





## Headteacher's Welcome

**At Woldgate School, our motto is 'Everything we do should be worthy, of great merit, character and value'. Central to this motto and our School Code of Conduct are our British Values, which underpin everything we do.**

British values are the cornerstone of the United Kingdom's social, political, and cultural fabric. These values, which include democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs, play a crucial role in fostering a cohesive and inclusive society.



### Democracy

ensures that every citizen has a voice in the governance of the country. It promotes participation through free and fair elections, allowing people to influence decisions that affect their lives. This principle is deeply rooted in British history, dating back to the Magna Carta and the establishment of Parliament.

### The rule of law

is fundamental in maintaining order and justice. It ensures that everyone, including the government, is subject to the law. This principle protects individual rights and provides a framework for resolving disputes fairly.

### Individual liberty

supports the freedom of individuals to pursue their own paths, make personal choices, and express themselves without fear of oppression. This value is essential for personal development and innovation.

## Mutual respect and tolerance

are vital in a diverse society like the UK. These values encourage understanding and acceptance of different cultures, religions, and lifestyles, promoting social harmony and reducing discrimination.

Incorporating these values into daily school life, including lessons and assemblies, helps build a school community where everyone feels valued and respected. They are not just abstract concepts but practical principles that guide interactions and policies, ensuring a fair and just community for all.

At Woldgate School, pupils have a voice, both as individuals and as part of their form, year group and house. They can stand for election as Form Representatives, or School Councillors. Our Code of Conduct underscores the importance of respect, tolerance, kindness and responsibility.

Please speak to your child about these British Values, and encourage them to discuss their meaning, significance and importance in everyday life. If you would like to know about British Values, please contact us.

**Mr Sloman**  
**Headteacher**

## 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](http://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](mailto: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](#).

**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.





## PE News

### Results

#### **Monday 29th September @ Howden Year 7-10 Boys Football (3-5.15pm approx)**

Yr 7 Won 2 - 4 | Yr 8 Won 1 - 4 | Yr 9 Drew 2 - 2 | Yr 10 W 1 - 6

#### **Wednesday 1st October @ Queen Ethelburga's college U18s Girls Football**

Lost 9 - 0

#### **Wednesday 1st October @ home vs Malton School Year 9 Boys Football**

Lost 1 - 2

#### **Friday 3rd October @ Year 7-8 Cross Country (am during school)**

Some great performances with the Year 7-w8 boys coming second in the team event with Sidney B taking 3rd place individually.

#### **Monday 6th October @ St Mary's U16s Girls Football**

U16s Girls vs St Mary's drew 2-2 played extra time and penalties. Lost 4-1 in penalties.

The girls played amazingly and was a credit to the school. They were losing 2-0 with 10mins to go and never gave up fighting. Brought it back to 2-2. They then battled through extra time and into penalties. Unfortunately it wasn't Woldgate's day and we lost 4-1 in penalties.

#### **Monday 6th October @ South Hunsley Year 7 Girls Football**

Lost 5 - 0

#### **Monday 6th October @ South Hunsley U14s Girls Football**

Lost 8 - 0

### Upcoming fixtures

- Tuesday 14th October @ Driffield Year 11 Boys Football
- Wednesday 15th October @ Hessle U15s Girls Football
- Tuesday 21st October @ Cottingham, Cross Country, Years 7-13





## Personal Development

### What is Personal Development?

**Personal Development refers to the knowledge, concepts and skills that pupils need to learn to be able to navigate the world successfully and safely. Our Personal Development curriculum is thematic and has the following 4 themes:**

- Living in the Outside World
- RSE (Relationship and Sex Education)
- Health and wellbeing
- Careers and IAG

This half term, Year 7 are focusing on the 'Living in the Outside World' part of the PD curriculum. Pupils are exploring the meaning of democracy and how democracy works in school. This half term will culminate in year 7 choosing who they want to represent their form groups by electing their form reps. Democracy in action!

### Careers Update

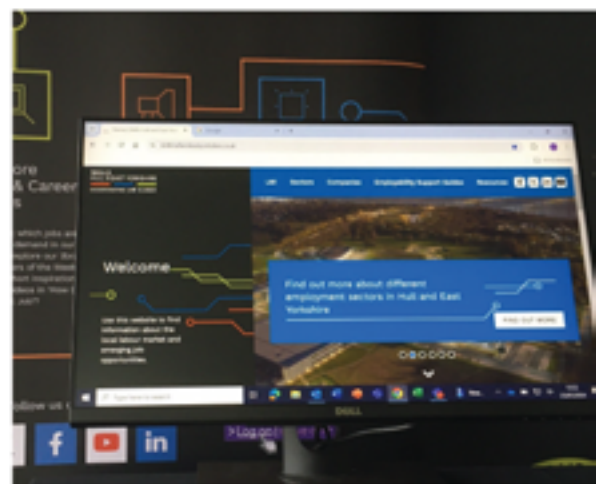
I would like to bring your attention to a website that is very useful for pupils as well as parents/ carers. [www.skillshullandeastyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.skillshullandeastyorkshire.co.uk) is a one stop shop for key information relating to careers information and opportunities in and around the Hull and East Yorkshire area. One of the particularly useful aspects of the website is its local market information. The website breaks down the region by town and city and gives details of the jobs market in those locations. This could help pupils plan which sectors they want to work in and the availability of opportunities in their locale. The website also has a great employability support section. This has great careers tools such as the 'careerometer' and the 'skillsometer', tools which can help pupils and students to see which are their dominant skills and which careers they might be suited to. We will continue to profile aspects of the website in future editions.

# SKILLS HULL & EAST YORKSHIRE

## INCORPORATING LMI HUMBER

## LOCAL CAREER INFORMATION WEBSITE

The Skills Hull and East Yorkshire website helps residents of the East Riding, especially young people and their families, to make more informed decisions about their career by providing FREE local employment and labour market information.



### Explore Job & Career Roles

- Find out which jobs are most in demand in our region.
- Explore our library of 'Careers of the Week'.
- Watch short inspirational career videos in 'How Did You Get That Job?'

### Informative & Inspirational Content

- Find out which of the region's employment sectors are growing.
- Discover local employers in our Company Profiles and interactive 'Businesses in Your Area' map.

### Free Tips & Advice at Your Fingertips

- Download the 'Shape Your Future in Hull and East Yorkshire' booklet.
- Get career tips and advice in our Employability Support Guides and careers blog.

skillshullandeastyorkshire.co.uk

Visit now



FOR MORE  
INFORMATION



# 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.

**61,387**

**MERIT**

**8,883**

**CHARACTER**

**4,068**

**VALUE**

**138,126**

**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.

**57,020**

**HOUSE TOTAL**



**30,529**



**29,198**



**29,137**



**26,687**



**24,464**



# 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:**

<b>Year 7:</b>	Martha Rushmer-Broome
<b>Year 8:</b>	Mabel Craggs
<b>Year 9:</b>	Evie Lyall
<b>Year 10:</b>	Laura Simpson
<b>Year 11:</b>	Evelyn Coulson
<b>Year 12:</b>	Toby Castle
<b>Year 13:</b>	Rebecca Horsley

## 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:**

<b>Year 7:</b>	Phoebe Bamford
<b>Year 8:</b>	Tillie Tinson
<b>Year 9:</b>	Evie Lyall
<b>Year 10:</b>	Edith Burkinshaw
<b>Year 11:</b>	Rebekah Coldbeck
<b>Year 12:</b>	Rhianna Watts
<b>Year 13:</b>	Emmie Smith

## 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:**

<b>Year 7:</b>	Jacob Hobman
<b>Year 8:</b>	Grace Wilford
<b>Year 9:</b>	Joni White
<b>Year 10:</b>	Eva Benson-Harrold
<b>Year 11:</b>	Kyle Barker
<b>Year 12:</b>	Will Parker
<b>Year 13:</b>	Adam Brown

## 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:**

<b>Year 7:</b>	Edie Melling
<b>Year 8:</b>	Violet Houston
<b>Year 9:</b>	Erin Jackson-Brooke
<b>Year 10:</b>	Matilda Curtis
<b>Year 11:</b>	Oli Alexieva
<b>Year 12:</b>	Chloe Burke
<b>Year 13:</b>	Annabel Broadbent

# 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



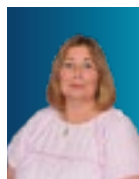
**Office Assistant**

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