



**Woldgate
School**
Of great merit, character & value

Part of the Family



Wonder
Learning Partnership
Educate | Empower | Engage | Enrich

Newsletter

ISSUE 426

Of great merit, character & value



Spring is on the way and with it growth of Creativity and Talent is bursting out of the Media and Drama Department!

In the professional theatre the period after the Christmas and New Years celebrations is known as a quiet time as actors and stage crew rest and recover. Lanterns are taken down and cleaned, sets are dismantled and only the keenest of the design staff make their way on to the stage to get inspired for the next big thing. Well, not at Woldgate!

Despite myself and Mr Schofield looking like a couple of lost souls in the Autumn term with no huge musical to produce and direct, we have been hard at work developing the immense talent of the drama pupils within the confines of their GCSE lessons. We are currently rehearsing three performances which are about to 'go live' in the next weeks and months.



Firstly, the GCSE Drama pupils hot on the heels of their Devising Performances in December, have been preparing their externally examined scripted sections. This performance is assessed by a visiting examiner and the mark contributes to their final GCSE grade. Each pupil must work to learn, interpret and perform two sections from a play of their own choosing. For me as their drama teacher, it is the culmination of three years of focused effort and training, allowing the young men and women of the Year 11 class freedom to choose their own texts and work as part of a team to rehearse and interpret, often complex plays. This year we have a wide selection of different content, from Macbeth 'murder(ing) sleep' all the way to Attempts on her Life and a few 'Bouncers' thrown in for good measure, it is always an honour to watch how much these performers have developed. I am sure we will see some amazing and moving performances on the examination day.

Not to be outdone the Year 10 pupils are in the process of rehearsing a chorus based verbatim-type play focused on young peoples experiences of mental health and how they navigate the modern world of 24 hour news and social media, 'The IT' is contemporary, highly emotive and full of physical theatre and movement. These pupils are so focused on maintaining the highest standards of performance, stretching themselves to create a piece of theatre they feel reflects their own attitudes and experiences accurately.



Finally, snapping at the heels of both are the Year 9 pupils, they may be new to the drama room, but they bring an energy and enthusiasm which as a teacher of 20 years is difficult to match! Their performance of 'Zero for the Young Dudes', a play about a day in a holiday camp which is anything but fun and happy is one of the best pieces of young theatre I've ever seen. Deeply emotional, funny and thought provoking, you won't want to miss this one!

In Media Studies as always the term after Christmas is filled with creativity and media studies pupils are to be spotted on corridors and beside walls posing for a photograph or writing the article for a new teen gossip magazine! Yes it's the Media Studies GCSE NEA! This year pupils have been tasked with creating a cover page and feature article for a new 'heat' style gossip magazine. Don't expect to see Posh Spice or Meghan Merkel on the cover though as all the photos need to be taken by the pupils. It is always a joy to watch the creativity flow out of pupils when they are given the freedom to produce something visual. In a world where so much of our lives are spent staring at a screen, seeing pupils look outwards for locations, lighting, narrative, I brings me hope for creativity in an age of AI created content. I can promise there was no AI used in the images you see here.





Headteacher's Welcome

As we return for the first week of the half term, it has been lovely to see the first signs of spring emerging and to enjoy the lighter evenings that this time of year brings. The change in season always brings a renewed sense of energy and optimism, and we look forward to a productive and successful half term ahead.

Thank you to all parents and carers who joined us for the Year 11 Every Minute Counts evening on Wednesday. I hope you found the session informative and supportive as we enter the final weeks of preparation for pupils in Year 11, alongside our students in Year 13. This is a crucial period, and we are incredibly proud of the focus and determination our examination groups are already showing.

A reminder that mock examinations in Maths, English and Science will take place next week for pupils in year 11. These papers will be externally marked, providing pupils with valuable, detailed feedback on their strengths and areas for development. This experience is an important step in helping every student feel fully prepared and confident as they approach their final examinations.

As shared in my letter before half term, maintaining high standards - particularly around uniform - remains a key priority for us. At Woldgate School, our uniform is far more than clothing; it reflects our shared values of great merit, character and value. Wearing uniform correctly shows pride, a commitment to excellence and a readiness to learn.

We ask that all pupils arrive each day in full and correct uniform and that it is worn properly throughout the school day. Uniform should not be modified in any way. Additional jewellery, including extra earrings, bracelets, necklaces and nose piercings, is not permitted. Only one small stud per earlobe is allowed.





We have been incredibly impressed with how our pupils have responded to this renewed focus. They have looked extremely smart in their uniforms throughout the week. In assemblies, we have been emphasising the importance of wearing the correct uniform and explaining the small adjustments we will be making to daily routines to support all pupils in meeting these expectations. If you have any questions about this, please don't hesitate to contact your child's Care and Achievement Coordinator or Head of School in the first instance.

There is much to look forward to this half term and the weeks ahead offer a wonderful opportunity for all pupils to flourish academically and personally. Thank you as always for your continued support.

Mrs Adams
Headteacher

Key dates

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

- Tuesday 3rd March:**..... Woldgate School Oracy Day
- Tuesday 3rd March:**..... UCAS Discovery Day
- Wednesday 4th March:** Year 11 Science Mock
- Thursday 5th March:**..... Year 8 Options Evening
- World Book Day
- Year 11 English Mock
- Wednesday 11th March :**..... New York Trip information meeting
- Friday 13th March:** Year 11 Mock Interviews Day
- GCSE Drama Scripted Performance
- Tuesday 17th March:**..... Year 6 English Challenge
- Year 11 Geography Fieldwork to Beverley
- Wednesday 18th March:** Year 11 Geography Fieldwork to Beverley
- Friday 20th March:**..... Year 11 Geography Fieldwork to Beverley
- Thursday 19th March:** Year 8 Parents' Evening
- Friday 20th March:**..... Learning Support Coffee Morning 10-11.30am
- Mon 23 to Fri 27th March:** Geography trip to Naples
- Monday 23rd March:** Pocklington Arts Centre Art Exhibition Launch
- Thursday 26th March:** Breakfast of Champions Rewards
- Friday 27th March:** Break up for Easter Holidays
- Year 8 Options Deadline



Safeguarding

What you share leaves a trace – Important safeguarding message from the Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP)

Counter Terrorism Policing has launched an important new Youth Campaign, designed to help protect young people from the growing risks and real-world consequences they face by sharing terrorist content online. In recent years, CTP have seen an increase in boys aged 13–17 accessing and sharing harmful extreme, terrorist content, often without realising it could be a criminal offence.

The 'What You Share Leaves A Trace' campaign aims to start to change that, by giving teenagers the information they need to make safer and smarter choices. The campaign has been shaped by extensive research including focus groups with teenage boys, who told CTP, clearly that they spend large amounts of their time on platforms including TikTok and YouTube, rarely see content from official sources, and are far more likely to listen to peers and creators than teachers, parents or the police.

To reach them effectively, the CTP have created two short, TikTok style videos – one for younger teens (13–15) and one for older teens (16–17). Each focus on the real world consequences of sharing terrorist content, such as losing their devices, travel restrictions, and long term impacts on education, jobs and family.

The campaign will run through February and March through targeted advertising on TikTok and YouTube. It will be supported by a dedicated ACT Early website page, offering clear guidance on what constitutes extremist or terrorist content, the law, and where young people can seek help or report concerns. See the link here to website and videos.

<https://actearly.uk/what-you-share-leaves-a-trace/>

We ask that parents please speak to your children about the dangers of sharing such content online and watch the video with them. As always be vigilant in monitoring your child's online activity in order to keep them safe. If you have any concerns, please contact school on safeguarding@woldgate.net.

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.*



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.

221,538

MERIT

36,588

CHARACTER

21,093

VALUE

584,644

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.

272,435

HOUSE TOTAL



132,044



124,446



118,721



112,546



109,454



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:** Martha Rushmer-Broome
- Year 8:** Ayesha Rowell
- Year 9:** Ellen Greenstead
- Year 10:** Harry Bennett
- Year 11:** Amelia Ellis
- 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:** Millie-Rae Genner
- Year 8:** Ledley Frankland
- Year 9:** Freddie Dunstan
- Year 10:** Martha Harris
- Year 11:** Michael Abbott
- Year 12:** Lucy Blackburn
- Year 13:** Martha Moore

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 Allen
- Year 8:** Alexa Speirs
- Year 9:** Tom Lee
- Year 10:** Max Hubbard
- Year 11:** Luke Wise
- Year 12:** Seth Watson
- Year 13:** Matthew Richardson

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:** Caitlin Cutress
- Year 8:** Edward Swales
- Year 9:** Jack Lancaster
- Year 10:** Archie Sissons
- Year 11:** Alicia Berger
- Year 12:** Najae Gordon
- Year 13:** Emmie Smith

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



Woldgate
School

www.woldgate.net

Part of the Family:



Wonder
Learning Partnership
Educate | Empower | Engage | Elevate

Cleaning vacancy available

15 hours per week, full year
Closing date 11th March 2026
Apply: www.wlp.education

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