



ISSUE 2 | December 2023

# Welcome

## to Woldgate School

Primary School Newsletter



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



# Welcome

As we approach the Christmas break, it provides a fantastic opportunity for us to look back on the previous half term. Our transition programme provides pupils with an introduction to life at Woldgate School, allows them to make new friends and feel confident and settled well in advance of joining us in September 2024.

On Friday 10th November, a number of our local primary schools joined us for the first Woldgate Challenge of the year – our Maths Challenge hosted at the Kilnwick Percy Golf Resort. Working alongside Woldgate Sixth Form students and pupils from other primary schools, Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in a number of maths-based challenges to win as

many points as possible. The challenges included tangrams, logic puzzles and problem cards. A huge congratulations to all the pupils who attended the Challenge, and a special well done to the winning team!

On Friday 15th December, Mrs McDonough and I hosted our annual Woldgate Christmas Quiz for Year 5 and 6 pupils. Pupils competed in class teams to win as many points as possible, with rounds including maths, literacy, science, history, and geography. Congratulations to the team from Bishop Wilton, who came first with full marks – really impressive! We can't wait to visit in the New Year with your prizes.

We have recently launched our Year 6 Festive Photography Competition. This is an opportunity for pupils to show off their photography talents. Pupils can take a photograph summarising what the festive season means to them, a landscape or close-up shot of a winter wonderland, or a picture showing off family Christmas traditions. Parents/carers can enter by posting entries to X (formerly Twitter), tagging @WoldTransition along with #woldgatephotocomp2023, or emailing entries to [transition@woldgate.net](mailto:transition@woldgate.net). The Transition Team will judge each category and the winners will receive a selection of goodies from our Woldgate School Reward Shop. We can't wait to see all of the amazing festive photographs our Year 6 pupils take!



Looking to the next half term, our transition events continue with our Woldgate Challenges, online competitions and primary school visits. As always, our dedicated transition email address, [transition@woldgate.net](mailto:transition@woldgate.net), can be used by parents/carers for any transition-related questions or queries.

I hope you have a great Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to everything that 2024 holds.

**Mr Williams**  
Primary Transition Coordinator



## Newsletter Prize Draw

Sign up to our School Newsletter and be entered into a draw to win an Amazon Kindle Fire.

<https://forms.office.com/e/tfVe3Qhx9>

Entries close  
Monday 4 February 2024



# An introduction from Mrs McDonough:

I am the Year 7 Care and Achievement Coordinator and also work to support the successful transition of the Year 6 pupils to Woldgate.

These two roles go hand in hand as the pupils will see me as a familiar face through our year 6 transition events and into their first year at Woldgate School. I have a background in primary and understand the questions that pupils in Year 6 may have. Year 6 is an exciting year at primary school, and I hope the pupils take every opportunity to enjoy their final year at primary! I am looking forward to seeing the Year 6 pupils as we progress through this academic year and know that our programme of events will enthuse and support them on their journey to Woldgate.

Mrs McDonough | Care and Achievement Coordinator (Year 7 & Transition)

## Woldgate Year 6 Festive Photography Competition

Calling all you budding Year 6 photographers!

It's time for our Christmas competition where you can showcase your photography talents!

There are three categories in which you can enter and you can submit more than one photo in each.



**A Christmas Carol:** Scrooge found a love of Christmas in the end! Take a photo that shows what the festive season means to you.

**Christmas Curiosities:** Family traditions, quirky decorations and stunning celebratory food! Share a picture of your own Christmas customs.



**Winter Wonderland:** Fog, frost or freezing days! You could take a landscape shot or a close-up to enter this category.



The Transition Team will judge each category and the winners will receive a selection of goodies from our Woldgate School Reward Shop. Good luck everyone! We are eager to see your photographic masterpieces!

**Closing date: Friday 18 January 2024**

Please ask your Parents/Carers to tweet your entries. Please tag the @WoldTransition Twitter / X account with #woldgatephotocomp2023 and the category. Alternatively, email [transition@woldgate.net](mailto:transition@woldgate.net)

# Meet the Teacher:

## Miss Shepherd History Teacher

### What is your favourite thing about history?

I think it's the fact that history is one fascinating story. This quote from the historian Lucy Worsley perfectly sums it up: "History is a cacophony of voices, each of them fighting to tell their version of the story."

### What do Year 7 pupils learn about in history lessons at Woldgate School?

Our pupils begin by looking at what history is, and what it means to study history – what the role of an historian is, what skills they will develop, and how the groundwork for this has already been laid down in their primary school lessons. We start by looking at ancient Rome and how Rome was able to build an empire; we then move on to considering why people have historically chosen to migrate to Britain, leading us on to looking at the Norman Conquest in the build up to Christmas. Our Year 7 curriculum is chronological, so by the time our pupils are ready to move on to Year 8 they will have a broad knowledge base of England, Europe, and the medieval Middle East up until c.1400.

### What history visits do Woldgate Pupils get to go on?

We try to run as many trips as possible for pupils throughout their time studying history, including visits to Beamish Museum, the battlefields of France and Normandy, and Berlin.

### What is your favourite food?

A roast dinner with enough gravy to fill a small pond.

### Do you have any pets?

I have a one-year-old Golden Retriever who delights in sniffing any books or pieces of paper I bring home from school.

### What is your favourite book?

All the Light We Cannot See – its vivid portrayal of the war-torn years of the early 1940s is a beautiful demonstration of human resilience in the face of adversity and it represents everything I love about the complexities of people's experiences throughout history.





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“Wonder is the beginning of wisdom” Socrates

## Celebrating our Pupils’ Achievements

The Wonder Learning Partnership loves to celebrate the successes of pupils and people who work in our schools. We want your learning to be full of awe and wonder so you can achieve your dreams. We have lots of people who work really hard to make learning fun but also provide you with the knowledge and skills you will need to be successful.

We are always eager to hear the stories of pupils’ achievements both inside and outside the classroom. Here are a few stories from across our family of schools which we particularly enjoyed learning about, and which really embrace our Trust values of Educate, Empower, Engage and Enrich. We look forward to welcoming you to our family too.

## Celebrating Black History Month

Longcroft School and Sixth Form welcomed Kingsley Nebechi in as part of their Black History Month celebrations. Dynamic, dazzling, and distinct, Kingsley Nebechi’s art worked is packed with personality. Like the man himself, it also has drive.

The award-winning graphic designer and illustrator visited Longcroft as part of our Black History Month celebrations, to talk to GCSE and A level artists about what it means to be a creative.

Kingsley showed examples of his work, including some wonderfully drafted drawings, and explained how they evolved into the vibrant sophisticated photoshop images he’s known for.

His work with BuzzFeed for Black History Month is especially important to him and a true celebration of black culture. His posters and murals are incredibly distinctive, joyous, and unique and reflect his Nigerian heritage. He also enjoys working with authors, and recently collaborated with former children’s laureate Malorie Blackman on a Folio Society edition of her ground-breaking work *Noughts and Crosses*.



# Community Art Shows

Pupils and students at Woldgate School and Sixth Form College launched two art exhibitions in their local community this month.

GCSE and A Level pupils were artists in residence at the Pocklington Group Practice from 17th June 2023 to 24th May 2024 and artists in the 11-13 years age group displayed their work at Pocklington Arts Centre from 19th June to 17th July 2023.

The pupils and students worked incredibly hard on their portfolios and being able to showcase their amazing work in the local community was a privilege. We thank colleagues for bringing opportunities like this to fruition and for continually strengthening relationships between the school and the community. Community is at the heart of all our schools, and we hope you get the opportunity to visit these two exhibitions to see the fabulous artwork.



**POCKLINGTON  
ARTS  
CENTRE**

# Enrichment takes off to new heights!

It is commonly said, "It's not rocket Science". Well at Woldgate School in the Design & Technology department, that is exactly what it is! Whether your dream is to be an astronaut one day or you're looking for a new hobby, becoming a rocketeer is a fascinating and exciting activity for people of all ages. During the latest Design & Technology Club, a group of DT Subject Ambassadors, from Years 7 – 9, have built several rockets of various shapes and designs.



## Our Values

### Educate

We are committed to educating the whole child and believe every child should reach their potential.

### Empower

We will empower our whole school community through support, development, and value in the pursuit of excellence.

### Engage

We will engage in best practice to develop the personal qualities and aspirations of pupils and staff.

### Enrich

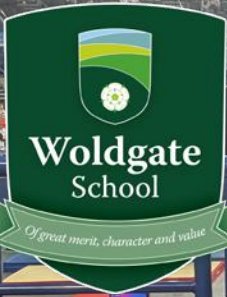
We will ensure our children are exposed to a wealth of experiences and opportunities.

"Wonder is the beginning of wisdom" Socrates



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# School News

## Well Done Elsa!

**We are always excited to hear about the achievements of our pupils in their chosen sports and so it was wonderful to learn of Elsa's recent successes on the trampoline.**

Recently, Elsa represented Yorkshire at the British Gymnastics Inter- regional Championships in Birmingham. She is a member of Tornadoes Trampoline Club in Pocklington and qualified for the Yorkshire squad earlier this year.

It was a huge event at the Utilita Arena. But despite this, Elsa completed her two routines with no deductions or faults. She thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Elsa told us that she was a little nervous when she saw how big the arena was and how many were watching, but she thoroughly enjoyed the experience. She is now training with a harness to practise even more complex routines.

Well done, Elsa; we are really proud of your achievements and look forward to hearing about your future successes!

## Year 7 cook up a storm in Food and Nutrition!

### Mrs Webster writes:

It has been lovely welcoming our new Year 7's to Food and Nutrition. They have worked with enthusiasm in every lesson, and it has been a pleasure to watch their skills develop along with their confidence whilst working independently in the food room.

They have had the opportunity to make a range of dishes, both sweet and savoury, including breakfast muffins, Bolognaise and Upside-down cake.

Being a part of the Design and Technology rotation, pupils get to explore new subjects each half term, and I am looking forward to teaching my next groups and the enthusiasm that they will bring with them.







# School News

## Enterprise Day activities

For Year 7 in September, one of the highlights was finding out which House they were going to belong to. The five Houses are all named after local areas: Millington Dale, Thixendale, Kirby Underdale, Great Givendale, and Warrendale. Each Form Group was allocated a House and this is represented by the colour of their tie.

Earlier this half term, our Year 7 pupils had the chance to meet the rest of their House as their House Captain gave an assembly explaining about the challenge for the day. The aim was to follow a Dragons' Den type activity and to design an app for a phone which would encourage healthy living or support local businesses.

Year 7 certainly rose to the challenge and worked in small groups to create innovative and imaginative solutions to concerns such as loneliness in older people, wasted resources and upcycling. They had to overcome issues together such as finances and marketing and develop successful advertising, brands and logos.

Finally, perhaps the hardest challenge of all was to "pitch" to their Form Group. The winners then had to stand up in assembly and deliver their ideas to the whole House: no mean feat for Year 7.

Yet, we are so proud of their courage and resilience and particularly well done to 7AWI who won the prize for Great Givendale House.

We look forward to hearing if any of them become successful entrepreneurs in the future!





# School News

## More success for Year 7!

**Yet more success for Year 7 pupils – a great win for the Year 7 Netball Team coached by Mrs Dearing; well done and we’re looking forward to continued success!**

Several of our pupils are keen trampolinists and it is wonderful to hear of how their commitment to training and their resilience is paying off in competitions.

Stan was awarded 1st place at the Yorkshire Championships on the 19th November 2023.

He has been training for three and a half years. The competition was held at John Charles’ Centre for Sport in Leeds with teams from the whole of Yorkshire, so to become champion in his 11–12-year category was testament to his hard work. Stan told us that when he started, he just found it fun, but now he is more competitive and enjoys the competitions. He trains three times per week and some of the routines sound difficult to pull off and require lots of practice.

He will be going onto along with all his team to try and qualify for the British Gymnastics Inter Regional Championships 2024. Stan really enjoys trampolining and along with lots of Year 7 pupils would definitely recommend it. We are proud of everything they have achieved so far!





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