



**Brain teaser
competition!**

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ISSUE 3 | February 2024

Welcome to Woldgate School

Primary School Newsletter



Wonder
Learning Partnership
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Welcome

Throughout the Spring and Summer terms, there are many exciting transition-related events for us to look forward to. In September of this year, our new cohort of Year 7 pupils will begin their Woldgate journey. The aim of our transition programme, therefore, is to make this as happy and exciting as possible. At Woldgate School, we know and care for each child as an individual, and this begins before our pupils arrive in September.

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. Congratulations to the winning team from St. Martins, Fangfoss, and to everyone who took part. It was a really enjoyable afternoon, and we hope that you enjoyed the festive-themed questions!

In the next half-term, our primary school visits begin. With the help of Mrs McDonough, we will be visiting some of our local feeder primary schools, providing workshops and sessions for Year 5 and 6 pupils. Whilst focussing on skills such as team building and resilience, they provide an informal opportunity for pupils to ask any questions they may have, ahead of our more formal transition visits in the summer term.

In addition to this, later in the Spring Term, we will be launching another of our Transition Competitions. Keep an eye out on our Transition X (formerly Twitter) account, [@WoldTransition](#), for details of our Easter Competition. As with our Festive Photography Competition, the Transition Team will judge each category and the winners will receive a selection of goodies from our Woldgate School Reward Shop.

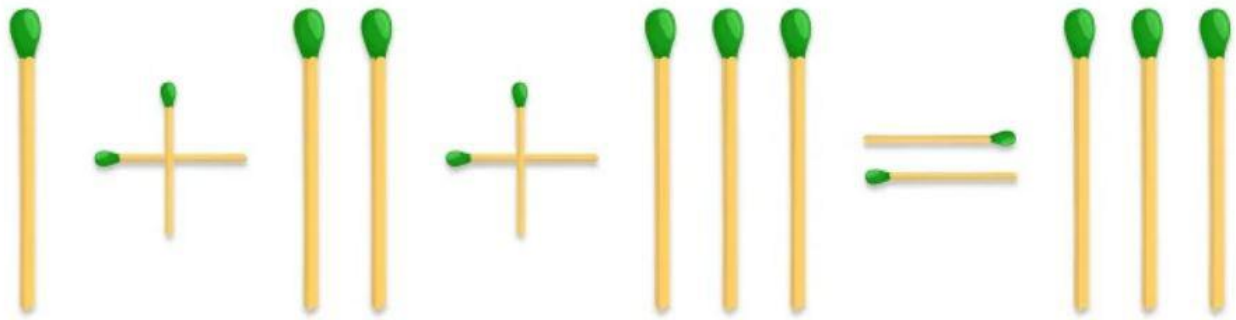
As always, our dedicated transition email address, transition@woldgate.net, can be used by parents/carers for any transition-related questions or queries.

In this issue of Welcome to Woldgate, you'll find our half-termly brainteaser competition, a Meet the Teacher interview, and a selection of news articles focusing on our current Year 7 pupils and their achievements.

Mr Williams
Primary Transition Coordinator



Correct the equation by moving 1 matchstick.



**Brainteaser competition:
Win an Amazon Kindle Fire!**

Have a look at the puzzle above. Can you work out how to make the equation correct by moving just one match stick?

Submit your entries here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/8Te4ZsNQjE>

Entries close
22 March 2024

Meet the Teacher:

**Mr Mahoney,
Head of Geography**

What is your favourite thing about geography?

It teaches me about the world and everything it, it inspires me to travel and visit as many wonderful places as I can.

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

The first unit is called How do geographers think followed by a topic on Weird Weather, in the spring term we look at our coasts and the importance of our environment, the last topic in the summer is all about population.

What geography visits do Woldgate Pupils get to go on?

We have lots of trips over your time here at Woldgate, with current trips planned to Yorkshire Wildlife Park, the Holderness Coast, York and to Iceland.

What is your favourite food?

Sushi

Do you have any pets?

I have two pets. A cocker spaniel named Chester and a cat called Dolly.

What is your favourite book?

The Beach by Alex Garland





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"Wonder is the beginning of wisdom" Socrates

Scientists Experience Virtual Reality!

Through the creation of immersive, interactive environments that improve learning, simulate real-world scenarios, and enhance empathy, virtual reality is poised to play a significant role in shaping the future.

It has the potential to transform how we work, communicate, and entertain ourselves. VR fires up pupils' imagination, builds their sense of wonder, and plays a part in developing a life-long love of learning and curiosity to explore. The Wonder Learning Partnership has a bank of Virtual Reality headsets which are used across our schools to enhance learning. The latest adventure was with some Sixth Form students using them for science.

Students had the opportunity to walk around a coral reef, to see animals in their natural habitats and be immersed in this underwater world. Students got to analyse methods of pollution and see the impacts of humans on our planet to help understand the need for renewables and conservation.



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.



School News

End of Term celebrations

There is no better way to end a school term, but with a celebration and the Autumn Term was no different. We invited our highest Merit winners to Breakfast of Champions once again to celebrate their hard work and achievements.


Year 7 also enjoyed our traditional visit to All Saints' Church, Pocklington for the first time which celebrates and showcases the talents of our pupils. The choir reprised their Christmas Song from Elf and there were readings from Lois and Lottie in Year 7 as well as older pupils and a beautiful rendition of Hark the Herald Angels sung by Evie Woods. Rev Dr Belder gave a short homily about the importance for remembering the Christmas story and all joined in the carols: O Little Town of Bethlehem and Once in Royal David's City. We were grateful that Mrs Berry kindly accompanied us, as she has done for many years on the recently refurbished church organ. Well done to Isobel who played the trumpet as part of the wind band ensemble, too.

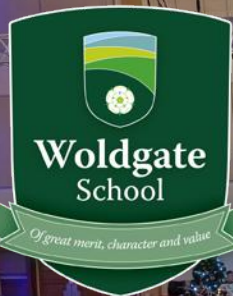
All year groups donated money to our chosen charity Save the Children who work in the UK and abroad particularly in war zones and the service incorporated the theme of how we need each other through the poem People Need People by the poet Benjamin Zephaniah who died recently.

Budding historians in KS3!

So far this term our Year 7 pupils have completed an introductory unit to find out what historians do and how they study the past. They have completed a study of the Roman Empire and the reasons why at one time the Roman army was unstoppable!

They have also embarked on their historical investigation into 1066 and the Norman Conquest. Our Year 8 pupils have been learning about how far life changed between 1500-1800, and investigating the religious changes sparked by Henry VIII's 'Break with Rome'. They have also delved into the reign of Elizabeth I and explored HERSTORY and how she solved the problems of her reign. Last, but not least, our Year 9 have been investigating the complex causes of World War One and also looking at the diverse experiences of the soldiers fighting in the war from Britain and the Empire.

All our KS3 groups have been developing their extended writing and essay skills. They have written some very in- depth and well evidenced pieces which have really demonstrated their core substantive knowledge and how far they have progressed in analysing and evaluating the key causes of historical events and developments. We have been really impressed by our Year 7s who have worked really hard on their first history essay on 'Why William won the Battle of Hastings?'.




School News

Year 7 musical talents!

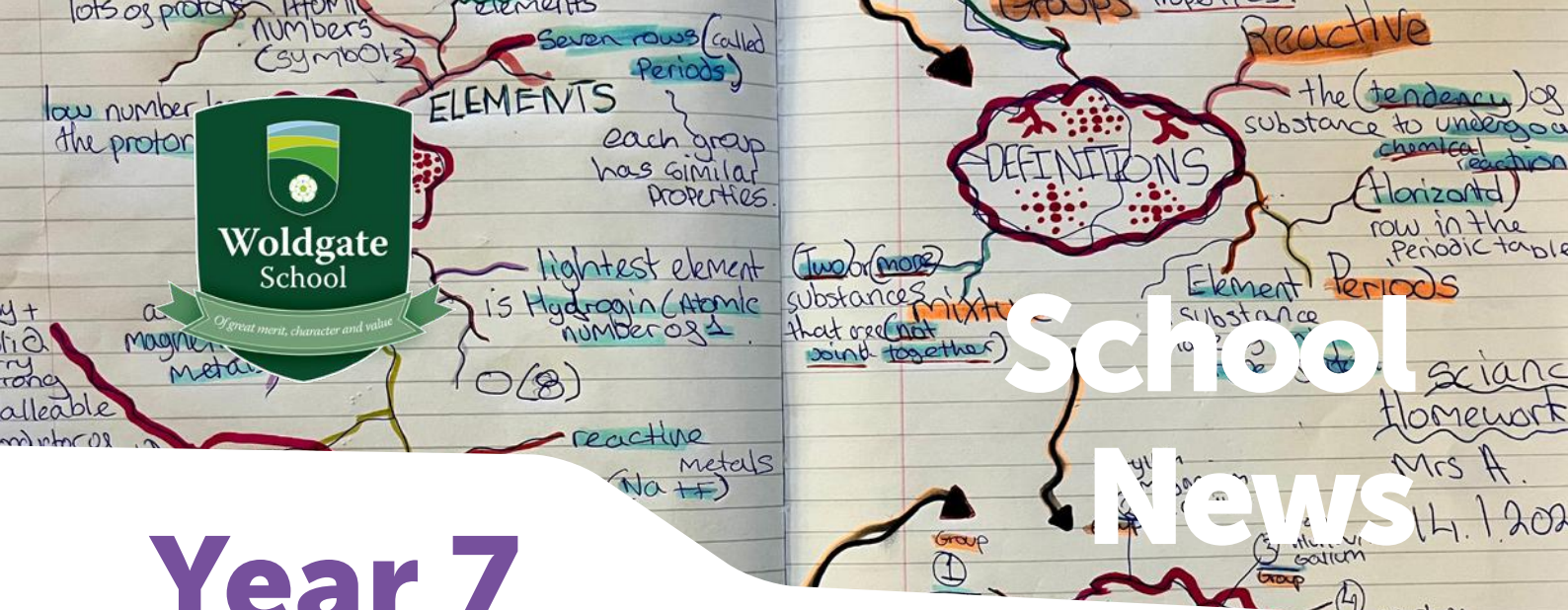
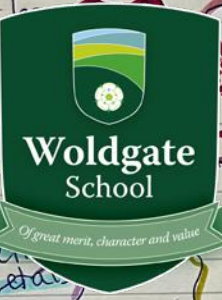
We are extremely proud of all our pupils who play musical instruments: we know that it is not easy to learn to read music and to commit to the practice which is required to be successful. Many pupils in Year 7 began a new instrument recently after hearing the Wind Band play in Assembly last term.



We are particularly proud of our trumpeter: Isobel. She began playing during the first lockdown, so certainly not an easy time to begin learning an instrument! She has taken her Grade 3 and working towards Grade 4 which is very impressive in such a short amount of time. She is also a keen member of our Wind Band in school where she has fitted in wonderfully amongst the Sixth Form pupils and other pupils. She has lessons with Janus Wadsworth, our Brass Peripatetic teacher and, having begun lessons with him before joining Woldgate it is great to have been able to continue this.

Isobel really enjoys playing the trumpet in a much larger ensemble, too: The East Riding Intermediate Wind Band. She recently played in a concert at Bridlington Spa and loved the pieces they performed and the fun they all had. Isobel definitely recommends playing an instrument as a way of learning new things, pushing yourself to achieve new goals and most of all making new friends whilst having fun.

We are proud of Isobel and wish her continued success in the future.



School News

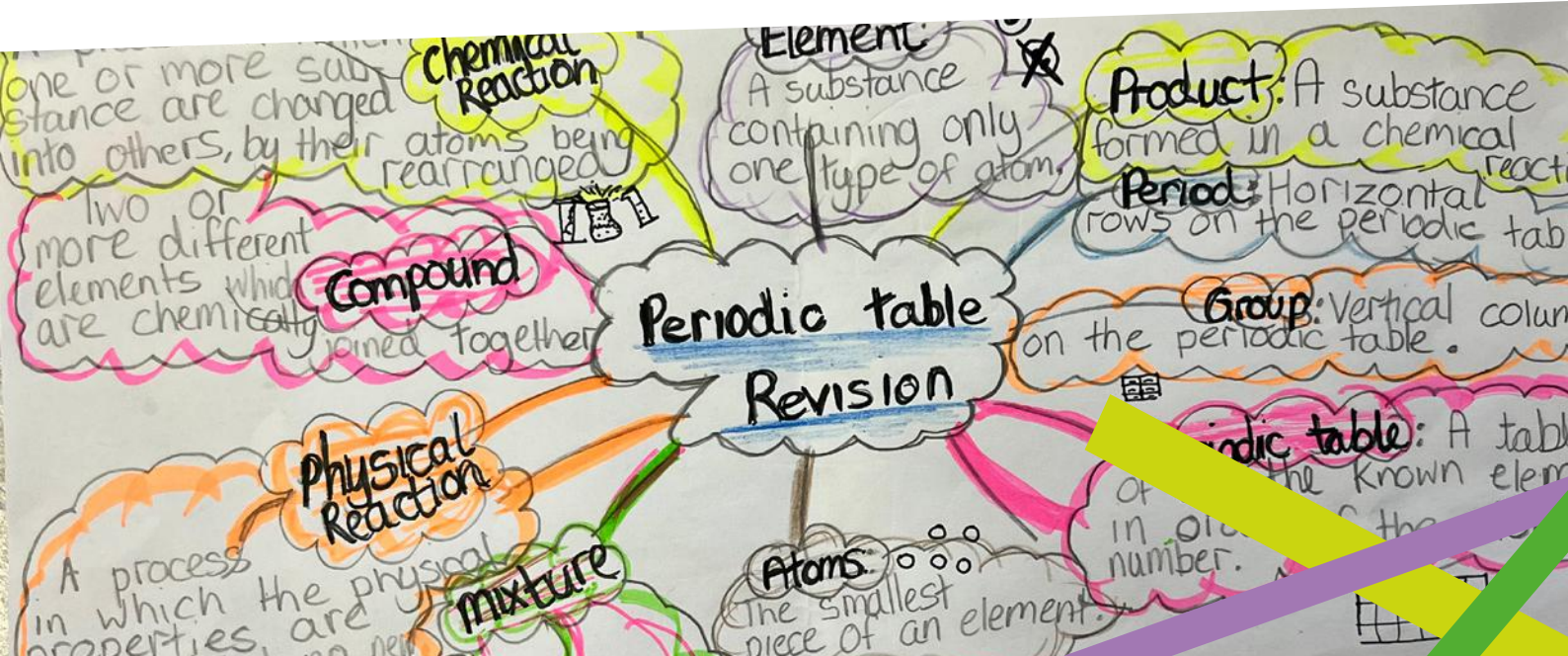
Year 7 develop excellent study habits

Year 7 are at the point now where they are facing a number of key assessments. In order to help them to do their best, they need to learn how to revise. Pupils learn and therefore revise in different ways: some pupils are visual learners, others auditory and others kinaesthetic learners. Some pupils prefer past paper questions to practise and others use images and videos.

Mrs Atkinson encouraged her Year 7 class to revise for an assessment on the Periodic Table by asking them to produce a revision resource.

She was so impressed with the creativity of what the pupils produced that she wanted to share it. She also found it particularly encouraging where whole families had become involved in the revision process with some parents helping to test pupils to make sure that they remembered what they had learnt. Mrs Atkinson, who grew up in Belize, commented that her own mum had not been able to help her as she had never learnt to read or write; she did not get the opportunity to go to school. However, she ensured that her own children, especially the girls, got the chance to have an education.

There are lots of different ways to revise: BBC Bitesize has some useful resources; some pupils find Mind Maps and flashcards helpful and others prefer to copy out notes which they then chunk down in key words. We are more than happy to offer suggestions to help pupils, but we certainly know that leaving revision to last minute is never a good idea!





School News

Getting creative in Design and Technology

Technology since September, within Mrs Wilson's classes:

Year 7 have been working hard on coming up with new ideas for inspiring and exciting board games. The board games and their packages are almost complete.

Check out some of the Year 7's Designing and Making:





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