

# The Wolfreton Way Newsletter

Issue 9

With the end of January upon us we are pleased to share a round-up of activity across the last fortnight. This week's edition features the recent Year 11 History trip to Leeds and the latest fundraising update from 'Team Peru'. We've seen an abundance of attendance challenges and rewards, as well as Year 7 celebrations for the group with the most house points currently. Finally and importantly, a thank you to all families who attended the first of our two Year 8 parents' evenings; we look forward to seeing those attending our second evening shortly. This year, in response to your feedback we are trialling additional evenings at Key Stage 3 to create more appointment slots. We will review again once we hear how this has worked. Thank you for your ongoing support - have an enjoyable weekend.



This week, a group of year 11 history students embarked on an exciting trip to Leeds to deepen their understanding of medical history ahead of their upcoming GCSE exams.

The day's events were both educational and engaging, featuring a light-hearted reenactment of key medical figures in the 'Doctors Show' and a hands-on exploration of surgery and medical advancements at the Thackray Museum of Medicine.

The 'Doctors Show' offered a fascinating and interactive reenactment of some of the most influential individuals who have shaped the world of medicine over the past 1,000 years. Through fun, yet informative portrayals, students were introduced to pioneering figures who made

breakthroughs in everything from surgery to public health. Next, the students headed to the renowned Thackray Museum of Medicine, where they delved into the history of healthcare with an exciting hands-on experience.

The museum's exhibits also guided them through the progression of medicine, from the ancient healing methods to the scientific advancements that have transformed healthcare into what we know today.

Overall, the trip was a resounding success, combining entertainment with education in a way that made learning both fun and memorable. As the students continue to prepare for their GCSE exams, they will no doubt look back on this experience as a highlight of their history studies.

## Year 11 History Trip



## Contents

**A Sweet Treat for 7JWA**

**Page 2**

**Fundraising**

**Page 2**

**Attendance Matters**

**Page 3**

**Year 7 History Students Bring History to Life**

**Page 4**

**Canon Reading Recommendation**

**Page 4**

**Sport**

**Page 5**

**Curriculum Corner**

**Page 5/6**

**House Points**

**Page 6**

**Notices and Key Dates**

**Page 7**

**Safeguarding Tips**

**Page 8**

# The Wolfreton Way Newsletter



## A sweet treat for 7JWA

This week, 7JWA tutor group had a well-deserved treat to celebrate their amazing achievements.

As a reward for earning the most house points in their year group and maintaining a positive attitude, including no negative comments, they were given some special free time during their tutor period.

The students enjoyed a hot chocolate and biscuits all

shared with their friends. It was the perfect way to recognise their hard work and positive behaviour.

Mrs Bates and Mrs Reed reported that they are incredibly proud of these students and their efforts, and it was wonderful to spend time with them, celebrating their success.

Congratulations and keep up the great work!.....Who will be next?



## Fundraising Event

We're thrilled to share that our recent Chocolate Draw fundraising event was a huge success!

Thanks to the generous support of our students, staff, and community, we raised essential funds to support our upcoming project in **Peru**.

This event has not only been an incredible way to come together as a community but has also played a vital role in making a meaningful impact on the lives of those in need.

# The Wolfreton Way Newsletter

## Jump into January

At Wolfreton, we firmly believe *that attendance matters*. It is the cornerstone of success and a reflection of the dedication our students show towards their education.

We are incredibly proud of all our students for their unwavering commitment to their studies, which is evident in our outstanding attendance records. Every year group is performing above the national average, and our students continue to set a shining example for others to follow.

To celebrate this fantastic achievement, we recently rewarded our students for their efforts during our 'Jump into January' initiative.

We also want to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt thanks to our parents and carers for their ongoing support. Your partnership is invaluable in encouraging your children to attend school regularly and making education a priority.

Finally, we want to remind all parents and carers that we are here to help. If you ever need assistance or support in ensuring your child attends school, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Together, we can continue to build on this success and create even more opportunities for our students to thrive.



# The Wolfreton Way Newsletter

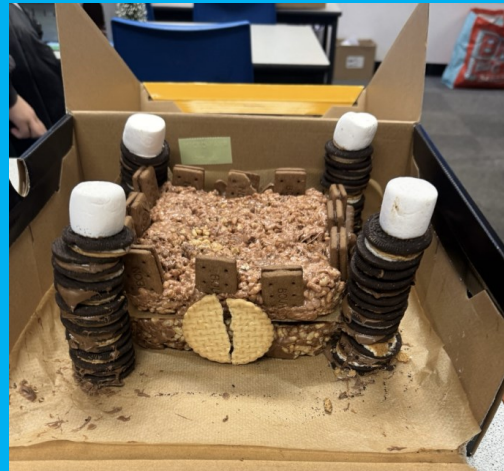
## Year 7 Students Bring History to Life

Year 7 students have truly outdone themselves by bringing history to life with their impressive castle models!

After studying the Norman Conquest, students were tasked with putting their creativity and knowledge to the test by designing and building detailed castles. The results were nothing short of amazing.

These fantastic creations showcase not only the students' artistic talents but also their deep understanding of medieval history. Each model reflects the unique features of castles built during the Norman period, from imposing walls to drawbridges and defensive towers. The attention to detail was exceptional, with students incorporating various elements that helped them understand the strategic and architectural importance of castles during this significant period in history.

A huge congratulations to all the Year 7 students for their hard work and dedication! Your efforts have truly brought the past to life, and we're excited to see how your creativity and passion for history continue to shine in future projects. Well done, everyone!



## Canon Reading Recommendation



One night on the heath, the brave and respected general Macbeth encounters three witches who foretell that he will become king of Scotland. At first sceptical, he's urged on by the ruthless, single-minded ambitions of Lady Macbeth, who suffers none of her husband's doubt. But seeing the prophecy through to the bloody end leads them both spiralling into paranoia, tyranny, madness, and murder.

This shocking tragedy - a violent caution to those seeking power for its own sake - is, to this day, one of Shakespeare's most popular and influential masterpieces.

A screening of Macbeth starring David Tennant and Cush Jumbo will be available in cinemas from 5 February for all Shakespeare fans, and would be a great study resource for any of our students currently revising for their GCSE English exams!

# The Wolfreton Way Newsletter



## Year 11 Football

**The Year 11 boys' football team put up an impressive fight in their latest match against Malet Lambert School.**

Mr Slater reported that the game was a true display of determination, enthusiasm, and teamwork, with the boys giving everything they had on the pitch. The match ended 1-1, forcing a penalty shootout to decide the winner. Despite the outcome, the team's effort and teamwork could not be faulted. Their resilience, energy, and sportsmanship throughout the match were commendable.

## Curriculum Corner

### Holocaust Memorial Day

Monday 27 January 2025 was international Holocaust Memorial Day, when events took place all over the world to commemorate the 6 million Jewish people and millions more from persecuted groups who were murdered by the Nazis.

Wolfreton has supported the important work of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust throughout the week by delivering age-appropriate Holocaust Education assemblies and tutor group activities to all students. History lessons for KS3 students this week have been dedicated to Holocaust Memorial, allowing our younger students to further develop their understanding of the themes of prejudice, discrimination and persecution.

We have been incredibly proud of the mature and thoughtful attitudes of our students this week during Holocaust Education sessions.

If you would like to find out more about the work of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, please visit their website by clicking on the following link [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust](#)

# The Wolfreton Way Newsletter

## Curriculum Corner

### Sparx Maths (KS3)

Thank you to all parents who have continued to work with us and give feedback regarding homework in math's throughout the Autumn Term.

We have reviewed math's homework provision, and the decision has been made to reintroduce Sparx Math's as our KS3 homework platform. We will continue to work with Pearson on improving their offer for KS3 students on the ActiveHub platform.

All parents of KS3 students received an email informing them of the change. For further clarification, please see instructions regarding login details below;

Click the link to take you to the login page;  
[Sparx Maths Student Login](#)

If a student has forgotten their username, they should see their math's teacher.

### Arbor and Homework

- The first point of call for students in terms of recording homework is their planner.
- Staff will also put homework instructions for **parental information** on Arbor. Please remember Arbor is not used to check off completed homework or to give feedback.
- Any documents uploaded to Arbor to support with homework can be viewed by parents through the **Arbor website** only.
- Link to **Arbor website**: [Log in to your School | Arbor](#)

### Year 11 Mock Exams

Monday 10 February—Friday 14 February 2025

Monday 24 February—Friday 28 February 2025

**Our Year 11 students are now preparing for their mock exam window in February.**

During the Year 11 Launch evening in September 2024, we shared some advice for parents in terms of supporting with healthy revision routines at home.

The information shared in the presentation is attached.

**During this half term, Year 11 students will continue to be supported with getting their revision and preparation for the summer exams.**

**Year 11 Tutor Time:** 3 mornings per week with a subject specialist tutor

**Access to online platforms:** GCSEPod and Tassomai

**Study Skills Programme: Steps to effective revision**

Step 1: WHAT to revise – RAG rating and prioritising

Step 2: HOW to revise – revision techniques and activities

Step 3: APPLYING revision – practice questions/tests.

Step 4: REVIEWING revision – did it work? Changes needed?

**After school and lunchtime intervention sessions:**

Students have received individual timetables for the sessions we would like them to attend.

Core subject revision is 3.10 - 4.00 pm after school and is scheduled as follows;

Monday: Maths, Tuesday: English , Wednesday: Science

## House Points

*All rewards earned by each House since the start of the year.*



**164,579**



**174,165**



**166,391**



**173,908**



**167,396**

**Total House  
Points  
846,439**

# The Wolfreton Way Newsletter

## Notices

### How Safe is WhatsApp for Children - NSPCC

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. All you need to set up a WhatsApp account is a phone number. However, children and young people can easily subvert the restrictions placed on its access. Although rated at 13, previously 16 up until April last year, all that is required is a phone number. All it takes is one child in a class to be on WhatsApp, and all the others will wish to join. This can lead to increased vulnerabilities for child users.

The NSPCC has released its own analysis about the dangers of the app. If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>

Further information regarding WhatsApp can also be found at the end of this newsletter.

## Key dates

**Thursday 6 February.....Year 7 Parents Evening (7M Band and N Band Classes)**

**Thursday 13 February .....Year 7 / 8 Parents Evening (7P Band and 8P Band Classes)**

**Friday 14 February .....School Closes for Half Term**

### Have your contact details changed?

If you have changed any contact details such as home address, mobile number, email etc. this must be updated on the Arbor Parent Portal so we can ensure our system is up to date and can remain in contact with you.



# The Wofreton Way Newsletter

At The National College, our WakeUp/Wednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency' – plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

#### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. Therefore, if a child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that the child might be added to a group chat or community (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

#### CHAT LOCK

In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. They subsequently developed an additional feature – 'Secret Code' – where users set a unique password for their locked chats. Unfortunately, this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

#### COMMUNITIES AND GROUPS

A community is a collection of related groups on WhatsApp. They can consist of thousands of users. Communities can often be used by scammers to target large groups, hoping someone clicks on their link or responds to their requests. In communities and groups, there are multiple ongoing conversations, which results in pressure to respond. Members – even if they are not each other's contacts – will be able to see any messages sent into the group.

#### VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing protection of privacy.

#### FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a 'Forwarded many times' label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

#### VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe while out, for example. However, anyone in a user's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

#### EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution; get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

#### ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if a child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

#### DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, in fact.

#### THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

#### CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any 'view once' content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College

Source: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/an-open-letter> | <https://faq.whatsapp.com/327769829532331> | [https://faq.whatsapp.com/329069086045?hl=en#hc\\_thay](https://faq.whatsapp.com/329069086045?hl=en#hc_thay) | <https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-contacts-approve-adding-you-to-groups-or-communities> | <https://www.dailymail.com/tech/whatsapp-scams>

[@wake\\_up\\_weds](https://www.instagram.com/wake_up_weds) [@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.facebook.com/wake.up.wednesday) [@wake.up.weds](https://www.tiktok.com/@wake.up.weds)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 20.09.2023 | last reviewed: 30.05.2024