

The Wolfreton Way Newsletter

Issue 39

Have a Wonderful Summer



The Wolfreton Way Newsletter

A look back at 2025/26

September

We began the year by celebrating the remarkable achievements of the Class of 2025.

Over the summer, students, families and staff came together for two memorable results days, marking outstanding GCSE, vocational and A Level successes. It was a pleasure to share in so many moments of pride and excitement as students received the rewards of their hard work and determination. Most importantly, it was wonderful to see them securing their next steps and setting off on new and exciting journeys.



September also saw our newest students settle quickly into life at Wolfreton.

Year 7 made an exceptional start, impressing staff with their enthusiasm, confidence and positive attitudes. Their willingness to get involved was clear from the outset, with over 60 students attending football trials and another fantastic turnout for Netball Club, demonstrating the strong sense of community and opportunity that defines life at Wolfreton.



As our Year 11 students began the most important year, we were delighted to host the Year 11 Launch Event.

The evening provided students and families with practical advice, guidance and reassurance as they look ahead to GCSE examinations. Through expert support from staff, students were encouraged to develop effective study habits, plan their revision and maintain a healthy balance throughout the year.



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October

October provided one of the most memorable moments of the year as students and staff gathered for our whole-school photograph.

Capturing our entire school community in one image was a powerful reminder of the sense of belonging, pride and togetherness that exists across Wolfreton. The excitement and positivity throughout the day made it a truly special occasion.



We were also delighted to welcome Year 11 students, families and visitors to our Sixth Form Open Evening and Careers Fair.

The event offered an excellent opportunity for prospective students to learn more about the exciting academic pathways, enrichment opportunities and support available through our Consortium Sixth Form. Mrs Taylor's presentation gave valuable insight into the many opportunities that help our students thrive and succeed beyond Year 11.



As part of The Wolfreton Experience Personal Development Curriculum, we were pleased to welcome back Prison Me No Way.

Through a series of engaging and thought-provoking workshops, Year 9 students explored important issues including road and rail safety, online risks, domestic violence and knife crime. The sessions encouraged students to think carefully about the choices they make and the impact those decisions can have on their future.



November

November began with our annual Remembrance event, where students and staff came together to commemorate Armistice Day.

During the service, Mr Thornham read the 'Ode of Remembrance' from Laurence Binyon's poem *For the Fallen*, followed by Mr O'Brien's moving performance of the 'Last Post'.

The respectful atmosphere demonstrated the maturity and compassion of our school community as we paused to remember those who have served and sacrificed in conflicts past and present.



The month also showcased the tremendous talent within our school as students from Years 7 to 13 took to the stage for our production of *Grease*.

Audiences were treated to a spectacular show filled with energy, humour and memorable performances.

From the impressive choreography and costumes to the outstanding musical numbers, every aspect reflected months of dedication and hard work from both students and staff.

Meanwhile, our Year 8 students took part in The Real Game Enrichment Day.

This engaging experience encouraged students to think about future careers, finances and the choices they may make as adults. As an important element of The Wolfreton Experience, the day helped students gain a greater appreciation of the skills and knowledge required for life beyond school.



December

December was packed with exciting opportunities beyond the classroom.

A group of students travelled to Tottenham Hotspur Stadium to witness a UEFA Champions League fixture between Tottenham Hotspur and Sparta Prague.

Experiencing the atmosphere of one of Europe's premier football competitions first-hand was an unforgettable opportunity and one that students will remember for years to come.



Year 7 students truly embodied our school value of Respect.

With enthusiasm and a strong sense of community spirit, they delivered hundreds of Christmas cards to our local neighbours.

This thoughtful gesture was warmly received, with many neighbours expressing their appreciation for the kindness shown. It was heartwarming to see how such a simple act can brighten someone's day and help build meaningful connections within our community.



Moments like these remind us of the positive impact our students can have—and how small actions, rooted in respect and care, can make a big difference.

The festive season also provided an opportunity for our choir to spread joy within the local community.

Their visit to Willersley House Care Home brought residents and students together through the power of music, creating a heartwarming experience for everyone involved and highlighting the importance of community connections.



Students from Years 7 to 13 also enjoyed a trip to Hull Truck Theatre to watch *Oliver Twist*.

The lively and colourful performance offered an inspiring theatre experience, supporting students' understanding of the performing arts while providing a fitting start to the festive season.

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January

The new year began with one of the highlights of the school calendar, our annual Awards Evening.

This special occasion celebrated not only academic achievement but also the personal qualities that make our students exceptional.

Awards recognised excellence, resilience, leadership and contribution to school life, showcasing the very best of the Wolfreton community.



January also provided valuable academic support for Year 11 students through specialist GCSE Maths and English sessions at the University of Hull.

Students took part in interactive workshops designed to strengthen key skills, deepen subject knowledge and build confidence as they prepared for the months ahead.

Our Key Stage 3 Boys Bowling Team delivered an outstanding performance to secure 2nd place in the UK Panathlon Humberside Final!

Huge congratulations also went to Oliver, who achieved the highest individual score on the day, with an impressive 115 points!



Students in Year 9 stepped into the world of construction as part of a Construction Boosting Skills Programme.

Students were welcomed by Phil Mudd, who kicked off the morning with an engaging health and safety induction.



February

February saw Sixth Form students from History, Politics and Law enjoy an educational visit to London.

Visits to the Imperial War Museum and the Palace of Westminster brought classroom learning to life, while the opportunity to witness Chancellor Rachel Reeves speaking in the House of Commons provided a fascinating insight into British politics in action.

The learning continued with a hands on workshop where students designed their own political policies and manifestos before competing in a lively mock election. This interactive experience deepened their understanding of how ideas become political action.

The day continued with a visit to the UK Supreme Court, where students observed two live hearings, before concluding with a visit to Buckingham Palace, the home of the British monarchy.



Students across Years 7 to 13 also participated in the UK Youth Parliament elections, gaining first-hand experience of democracy and the electoral process.

We were particularly proud that two Wolfreton students stood as candidates, demonstrating leadership and a commitment to ensuring young people's voices are heard.

We also welcomed Year 11 applicants to receive their Sixth Form offer letters.

This important milestone marked the beginning of the next stage in their Wolfreton journey and was celebrated with hot chocolate, luxury muffins and plenty of excitement about the future.



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March



March brought sporting success as our Year 7 and 8 football team were crowned Tigers Trust Champions.

Their achievement reflected the dedication, effort and teamwork they displayed throughout the competition and was a source of great pride for the school.

Every member of the team contributed, whether through scoring goals, providing defensive strength or showing relentless effort and commitment. It was a fantastic achievement.

As part of The Wolfreton Experience our Year 7 geography students enjoyed an exciting visit to Tropical World, where they explored a range of ecosystems and environments linked to their studies.

Meeting animals such as meerkats and crocodiles helped bring classroom learning to life in a memorable and engaging way. The day didn't end there. Our students also explored Roundhay Park, where they put their fieldwork skills into action. Working in teams, they assessed different areas of the park, gathering primary data on environmental quality and the effects of human activity.

Their thoughtful observations and teamwork shone throughout the task.



The term ended on a high with our Golden Ticket Spring Rewards Event.

More than 800 students from Years 7 to 11 were recognised for excellent behaviour and attendance, enjoying a well-deserved ice cream and the opportunity to celebrate with friends.



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April

April brought a wealth of memorable experiences for students.

Year 7 students enjoyed a memorable visit to Lincoln Cathedral, where they explored history through a Magna Carta workshop, interactive exhibits in the Discovery Centre.

In the afternoon, the group enjoyed a guided tour of the cathedral itself. Led by expert staff, students were captivated by the breathtaking stained glass, the sheer scale of the nave, and the intricate craftsmanship woven throughout the building. Their curiosity shone through as they asked thoughtful questions and engaged enthusiastically with the cathedral's rich history. The beautiful weather made an already enjoyable day even more special.



We also reflected on another successful ski trip to Ponte di Legno, Italy.

Students challenged themselves on the slopes, developed new skills and built lasting friendships.

Alongside skiing, they enjoyed a packed programme of evening activities that ensured the trip was filled with fun, laughter and unforgettable memories.



Another significant moment came with the announcement of our new Sixth Form Head Students.

Eve, Maura, Lily, Max, Amelia, Charlotte, Chloe, Hattie, Muhmeen and Libby.

This talented group has already demonstrated great enthusiasm and leadership and will play an important role in supporting both the Sixth Form and wider school community in the year ahead.



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May

May offered students a range of exciting opportunities.

A group of Year 9 and 10 students worked alongside professionals from the British Fashion Council, gaining a valuable insight into careers within the fashion industry. Former student Hattie Crowther's inspiring presentation was a particular highlight.



We were proud to share quotes from our Ofsted report.



Our Year 7 football team achieved an extraordinary success by becoming Humberside Schools FA Large Schools Cup Champions.

Their thrilling victory demonstrated resilience, determination and teamwork, securing their place in Wolfreton sporting history.



Meanwhile, Year 9 students took part in a valuable three-day programme at Clough Road Fire Station.

Through practical activities, safety workshops and station tours, students developed confidence, teamwork and important life skills while gaining a deeper understanding of the work carried out by emergency services.



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June



June was a month of reflection and celebration for our Year 11 students as they returned for their final assembly.

Looking back through photographs spanning their five years at Wolfreton was a fitting way to celebrate their achievements and the memories they had created together before the traditional group photograph and shirt signing.

Year 9 geographers travelled to Dalby Forest for a day of fieldwork and adventure.

Students took part in an exciting session at Go Ape, where students tackled high ropes and zipped through the treetops, all while taking in the stunning forest scenery. Students also turned their attention to fieldwork along the river. Using specialist equipment, they measured river depth, flow speed and sediment size. This practical fieldwork brought their classroom learning to life and helped them develop a deeper understanding of how rivers shape the landscape.



Students in Years 7 and 8 enjoyed water-based activities at Welton Waters, where they tested their teamwork and resilience through raft building, kayaking and paddleboarding activities.

The raft-building challenge proved especially popular and provided plenty of memorable moments.

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July

July provided a fitting conclusion to the academic year as our Year 11 students celebrated their prom at Beverley Barn.

Dressed elegantly and arriving in style, students enjoyed a memorable evening with staff and friends as they marked the end of their secondary school journey. It was a wonderful celebration of everything they had achieved during their time at Wolfreton.



One of the highlights of the month was our annual Sports Days, where students proudly represented their Houses in a series of competitive challenges.

Throughout the events, students demonstrated outstanding determination, teamwork and sportsmanship while competing in a wide range of activities, from track and field events to team challenges, all aiming to secure the coveted House Cup. The atmosphere was fantastic, with students supporting and encouraging one another every step of the way. After an exciting competition, we were delighted to announce this year's champions - Nightingale House!



We also welcomed our new Year 6 students for an exciting three-day Transition Week.

Throughout the week they embraced new experiences, met their teachers and began forming friendships ahead of September. The annual Colour Run was, as always, a highlight, creating plenty of laughter and colourful memories as we welcomed the newest members of our Wolfreton community.

House Points

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



46,6357



47,1849



43,2366



43,5099



50,1251

**Total House
Points
2,306,922**

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At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday 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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SKIN BETTING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

'Skin betting' is the term used when players gamble using virtual in-game items, such as weapon 'skins' or character cosmetics. Although these items appear purely decorative, some can hold significant real-world value. Research suggests that children as young as 13 have engaged in this type of betting, often on sites with limited age checks or safeguards, blurring the line between gaming and gambling.

UNREGULATED PLATFORMS

Skin gambling typically takes place on third-party websites that are not licensed or regulated. These platforms often lack age verification, making them easily accessible to children. By linking their gaming accounts, users can deposit skins, place bets, and withdraw winnings as cash or higher-value items – often without adults being aware these activities are happening.

REAL-WORLD VALUE

Skins may look like simple cosmetic upgrades to in-game items and characters, but some are worth hundreds or even thousands of pounds. They can be traded or sold on online marketplaces, meaning they function much like real money. When young people bet with skins, they are risking items of genuine financial value, even if no physical cash is exchanged directly.

INFLUENCER PROMOTION

Some gaming influencers and streamers have promoted skin betting sites in their content. This can make the behaviour appear normal or even desirable, potentially encouraging younger audiences to engage in these activities without fully understanding the risks involved.

SOCIAL STATUS PRESSURE

In games such as Counter-Strike: Global Offensive (CS:GO) and Fortnite, rare skins can act as status symbols. Young players may feel the pressure to own high-value items to fit in with peers. This can lead them to take risks – such as using gambling sites – to obtain desirable skins, similar to how branded goods can influence behaviour offline.

LIMITED OVERSIGHT

Skin betting can take place both in-game and on external websites that parents and educators may not be familiar with. Because skin betting does not always resemble traditional gambling, it can go unnoticed until significant losses have occurred, in both items or money.

GATEWAY BEHAVIOURS

Skin betting mirrors many aspects of traditional gambling, including chance-based outcomes, reward systems and excitement. Early exposure to these mechanics can normalise betting behaviours before children and young people even reach legal gambling age. Research indicates that this may increase the likelihood of developing unhealthy habits later, particularly if early wins create a false sense of control or skill.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UNDERSTAND IN-GAME ITEMS

Familiarise yourself with the games young people are playing and learn whether they include tradable or sellable items. Titles like CS:GO and Rust are known for skin marketplaces, but similar systems are increasingly common across games.



LOOK FOR WARNING SIGNS

Be alert to changes in behaviour, such as secrecy around gaming, a strong focus on acquiring specific skins, or a sudden loss of in-game items. These could indicate involvement in skin gambling and provide an opportunity to start a conversation about it.



DISCUSS VALUE AND RISK

Help children and young people understand that cosmetic items like skins can carry real-world value. Explain that losing them through betting is comparable to losing money, therefore reinforcing the connection between in-game actions and real financial consequences.



USE CONTROLS AND SAFEGUARDS

Make use of parental controls and platform settings to restrict trading, purchases, and access to external websites. Where possible, disable marketplace features on games and monitor young people's account activity to reduce the risk of unauthorised transactions.



Meet Our Expert

Nathan David is Head of Foundation and Programme Lead for Esports Coaching at the University Campus of Esports.

Bubba Goedert is a Senior Lecturer and Head of Events at the University Campus of Esports, as well as President and Co-Founder of the Videogames and Esports Foundation.



The National College

See full reference list on our website

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Key dates

Thursday 13 August A Level Results Day

Thursday 20 AugustGCSE Results Day

Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 SeptemberStaff Training Days

Wednesday 9 SeptemberSchool starts for students in Year 7 and 12 with Year 13 returning the same afternoon

Thursday 10 SeptemberSchool starts for Years 8—11

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.

Wolfreton
SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

