

December 22nd 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Autumn Term - Thank you and Happy Christmas!

What a term it has been! I have thoroughly enjoyed the privilege of leading Outwood City through this first term and have been blown away by the talent, determination and warmth that runs through this building. We hope you have enjoyed seeing some of the amazing things that we have achieved over the past term. There have been so many highlights, and I have listed some below. I also hope you have been keeping up to date with these on our social media pages:

- Twitter/ X- @OutwoodCity
- Instagram- @outwood_academy_city
- Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61554137376721>

We are especially proud of the fact that we have a girls' basketball team for the first time in 15 years and, alongside this, our Year 10 Boys' Rugby team continues to go from strength to strength.

Christmas jumper day was a triumph and we raised over £250 for charity. We would like even more Christmas jumpers worn next year, so if you do have any that you are able to donate, please pop them in to visitors' reception and we will give this out next December.

More incredible charity work was done by our team in the Bridge who, at our Christmas fayre, raised nearly £600 for a local Animal Sanctuary. A superb achievement and a real testament to the quality of the work that goes on in our Bridge.

We are excited to announce that next year we will be performing 'High School Musical' and an incredible turnout for auditions means that the level of talent that will be on show will be immense. We can't wait!

This week also sees our Hallmark film screening to celebrate those young people with the highest amount of Hallmark rewards, and we also celebrate all those students who excelled in their praising stars by hosting our EI brunch, to say congratulations and well done to those students who achieved more than 7 EIs in their praising stars. Praising stars release day is this week, so look out for those reports!

We are also immensely proud of the work of our Year 11s who are here, every day, working their hardest to achieve amazing results in the summer. Attendance is the biggest barrier to success, so please support your young people in being here every day, on time, ready to learn. There are only around 75 school days until the real exams start and it is imperative that Year 11 are here for every single day. Our academic enrichment continues to run every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and we encourage Year 11 to attend as many as possible to help secure those grades.

These grades are important of course to excel in future careers, so we hope you enjoyed our recent careers event and feel confident to undertake those Sheffield Progress applications as soon as possible.

Well done also to all our attendance winners this term, of which there were many. Year 7 and 8 students will be rewarded with an invitation to the Christmas disco, and there are lots of different rewards planned for next term for the highest attendees.

We were also delighted to host our annual 'Community Christmas Lunch' and it was wonderful to see so many people from our local community attending.

I am also excited to announce that we will be hosting a 'Meet the Leadership Team' event early in the new year, so look out for an invite if you would like more insight into what we are doing here at the academy, and what our plans are for the coming year.

There are also some key dates coming up. Our Yr10 and 11 Praising Stars evening is on Tuesday 9th January from 4:30-6:30pm and our Yr 9 Guided Pathways Evening is on Thursday 9th December at 4-6pm and we really look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Before I sign off, I just wanted to clarify some key uniform and standards points for after Christmas to ensure we are able to get straight back into our learning on January 8th 2024.

Uniform - Trousers should not be skin-tight or stretchy but instead be a tailored material that doesn't cling. Please test the material if you are unsure. **Elasticated material is not permitted.** Trousers must not be rolled up or modified in any way, and must cover the ankle. Any belts must be fully black and not have decorative buttons, buckles or fashion belts.

Skirts should not be skin-tight or stretchy, or 'body-con' in style. We recommend wearing a skirt with a pleat to avoid this, and a minimum of 40 denier black tights must always be worn.

Borrowed ties

If your child has borrowed a tie (this will have a number on the reverse), please ensure that it is returned and a new one is ordered for the new term.

End of school - safe departure

We have recently been contacted by several members of the public advising us that some of our young people have been behaving dangerously on their way home. Please speak to your child about behaving safely at all points whilst travelling home as we don't want any of our fabulous young people getting hurt!

Many thanks again for your continued support of the academy and the work that we are doing. From my very short time here, I can tell you that everyone in this building is determined that every young person achieves great outcomes and goes on to do great things. If you do have any issues or concerns with what we're doing, please talk to us directly, and we will always try to support you as best we can, being that you are all an invaluable member of team #WeAreCity. You are also more than welcome to come and visit us and see what we do - please just contact the Principal's PA at l.shaton@city.outwood.com and we will arrange a visit.

We return to the academy on Monday 8th January, with students on site, as always, by 8.15am. I am sure you will support us in ensuring that students return for a positive new year, prepared and ready for learning.

Have a wonderful christmas and a happy new year from all of us at the academy

Yours faithfully,



Emily Rosaman

Principal