

Happy Hanukkah, Pancha Ganapati, Bodhi day and Merry Christmas

City Fields Newsletter 2 2022-23



We have made it to the end of term one as I seem to say every year, what a September to December it has been. I continue to be impressed with the resilience and determination of the young people. There have been many great opportunities some of which we have shared in this newsletter and there are many more to come over the following weeks. Students will have received their Praising Stars(c) this week indicating their current working level for KS3 and predicted attainment for the end of KS4. Please read the information on the back of the report which highlights the nature of each section. The next Parents Evening is for Year 7 - 9 and is on the 17 of January. We will continue to use the online school cloud system, however this does not stop parents and carers contacting school at anytime to speak to staff.

Thank you to our wonderful catering team for cooking the students and staff a delicious Christmas dinner on the last week of term.

Student Voice elections 22-23, I would like to take this opportunity, to thank all the students who took part in the election campaign. We had over 500 votes during the election and this led to Khalid Al-Ameed (Year 8) and Vicky Blacker (9) becoming our Student Voice Prime Minister and Deputy.

Message from Student Voice Prime Minister

Greetings, my name is Khalid Al Ameen (year 8) and it is an honour to serve as your Prime Minister this school year.

Student Voice activities:

On 12th December 2022 five members of the Student Voice Leadership Team attended OAGT Student Voice Conference. This year's theme was sustainability and the environment. We have come back with some great ideas to implement within the school over the next few months.

There will be regular updates on this page about recent events that Student Voice have planned, and upcoming events that the team are currently working on. The team also organised Christmas Jumper Day, where both staff and students participated on the last day of term before the Christmas holidays. Rather than a monetary donation we asked students to bring in a donation for the St Swithuns Food Bank. We had competitions running throughout the day for the funniest and the most unique Christmas jumper.



A special thank you goes to the donations from Morgan Sindall, our contractors on site, who made a massive donation to the food bank appeal and OGAT who organised vouchers which have all been delivered to St Swithuns.



Would you like to make a difference whilst carrying out an extremely rewarding role?

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is seeking to appoint Governors to join its Academy Councils.

The Outwood Family covers a large geographical area across the North of England from the Tees Valley in the North to the North West in North Yorkshire, including primary and secondary schools, an alternative provision and Trust Academies. Under the Outwood Family ultimate responsibility for our schools rests with the Board of Trustees, however some of the work of the Board is delegated to the Academy Councils, who are the Governors of the school.

Applications from parents and carers are welcome too. Through being a Parent Governor you will have the chance to influence all the areas that matter to both you and your child. Not only will you be able to support the school, but you'll be perfectly placed to challenge it and hold it to account. You can truly have a positive impact on your child's education.

The Trust is seeking individuals that can offer expertise and experience in any of the following areas:

- Finance and Accounting
- Business and Marketing
- Leading in the Education Sector
- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- HR
- Health and Safety
- Special Educational Needs
- Careers and Employability

Academy Councils are a sub-committee of the Outwood Board and their role is to carry out the Outwood vision, vision, policies and priorities forward while providing internal assurance and, in addition, to develop and strengthen the school's links with the local community.

Academy Councils are made up of Governors who are expected to question, challenge and support the school's leadership. Some Governors are appointed by the Trust and others are elected by parents or carers of children who attend the school.

If you are interested in this role, or would like any further information, please visit: outwood.link/be-a-governor

A colleague will contact you directly to discuss any questions you may have, provide additional details and arrange a visit to the school.

Academy Council recruitment

We currently have two Parent Governor Vacancies at the school, as well as a vacant Trustee. If you are interested in joining, please register your interest on the link or email:

s.middleley-davies@cityfields.outwood.com

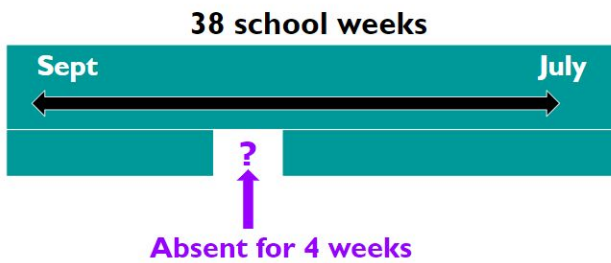
Praise

ACE PROGRAMME

Year 7 students have been completing the ACE programme throughout the first term of this academic year. Students have been getting signatures from staff to confirm they have been safe, respectful and responsible since starting at Outwood Academy City Fields.

Mr Dadvar ran a celebration assembly with year 7 students who have achieved the bronze badge, they can wear this with pride on their blazer. All students that received the bronze badge have also received a certificate for their achievement.

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons MISSED!!!



During the run up to Christmas we have had a focus on attendance to school. There have been a number of rewards for students with good attendance, including selection boxes for every student that attended every day in December. Students also had the opportunity to work £10 Love2Shop vouchers and £25 Amazon Vouchers.

Did you know, having below 90% attendance means you are classed as persistently absent. 90% attendance means you miss 4 weeks of school a year, over 5 years it is over half a year of school!

We have also been running a competition praising those displaying positive behaviour in school. The competition was called **Are you a Christmas Cracker?** All students that have shown effort in their lessons and worked to change their behaviour had their names go into a hat and ten students were drawn at random and received a £10 Love2Shop voucher.



Students have been rewarded for the outstanding work with praise stickers and nominations for Super Star student.

Plenty of smiles for our winners but also for everyone that has worked so hard this year. Watch out for more prizes this coming term including Amazon Echo, Smart watches, retro games consoles and many more.



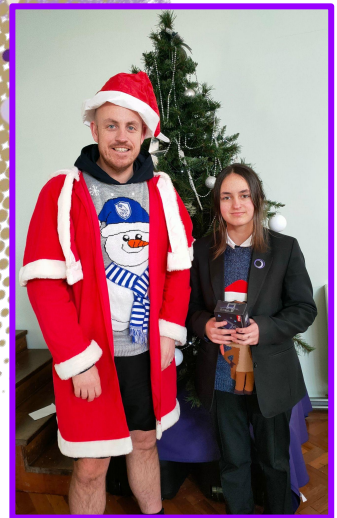
Christmas Praise Card!

'Tis the season to celebrate everything good in the world - including you!

Starting Monday 5th December we challenge you to complete your praise tree with signatures or stickers from staff. You can get praise from anybody at any point during the day.

Once you have filled your tree, make sure your name is on it and hand post it into the Christmas praise box in the Bistro. Last entries will be collected at lunch time on Thursday 15th with winners and prizes announced on Friday 16th.

Lot of prizes up for grabs!



Four of our Dancers from enrichment entered a Solo competition for the great big dance off! Their solos were recorded and sent off to the judges on Wednesday 23rd of November and await their results!

The girls involved were:

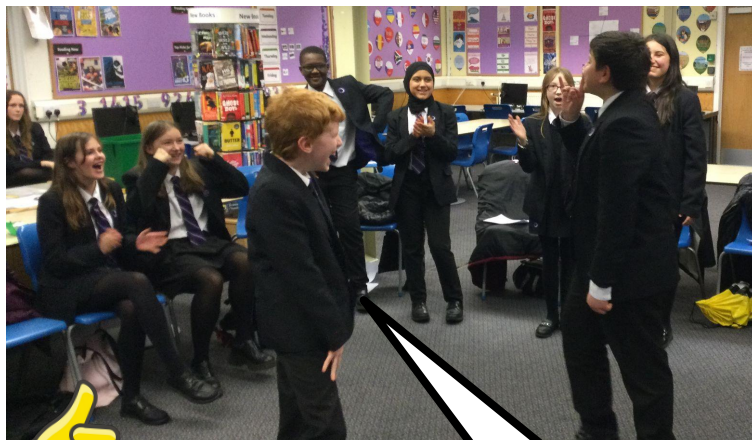
- Lacey
- Victoria
- Lexi
- Anastazja

I would like to say a huge well done to the girls for their confidence and excellent solo performances. Miss Meakes.



Enrichment Update

So many students have taken the opportunity to learn a new skill and enjoy themselves in their free time. Here are some highlights from this term.



The Tree Planting Society is really helping me get outdoors. Our group are really fun and we can spend time outside the classroom with teachers that we like. I can't wait to see how our trees grow!

Speak Up is my favourite Enrichment! We do a lot of things, like play games and do confidence building activities. The games are so funny- it's much better than just going home to play on my phone by myself.



Our football and netball fixtures have been a huge success with several wins and lots of fun. We have cricket tournaments coming up in the new term along with other exciting opportunities.



Short story club on Thursdays stretches my capability as a reader and gives me access to really interesting higher-level texts that I might not find on my own.



Smoothies and movies has been a really fun place to hang out with other girls and watch a fun film. I love making smoothies and trying out different fruit combinations. The berries and banana was the best so far!

I go to ukulele club because it can be really expensive to learn an instrument, but Mrs. Le Page gives us lessons for free!

It's great to learn new skills that I can put on my CV and grow my confidence. I also learn keyboard on Mondays after school, which is great fun!

In December, we all gathered in the library to watch the National Theatre's production of War Horse. It was beautiful! I never knew puppets could be so big!

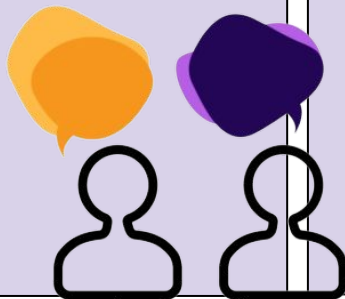


Cyber Safety

As we approach Christmas and a two week break it is important to remember the dangers of the online world and ways in which you can create healthy relationships with your child about how technology can be used. Over Christmas they may get new technology, it is important you are aware what they have access to.

What are the risks?

- **Age inappropriate content** - do you know what they can view on different apps that they are using?
- **Dangerous Challenges** - on social media, sometimes people complete a dangerous challenge and encourage others to do the same so it can go viral.
- **In-App Spending** - Do you have a debit/credit card linked to your child's account. Do you know that most apps allow in app purchases that cost, what restrictions do you have set on this?
- **Addictive Nature** - Apps are designed to be addictive, do you limit your child's screen time? What do you do as a family that involves no screen time?
- **Contact with strangers** - Do you know who they are communicating with online? Not everyone is who they say they are online.
- **Trusting people with private content** - Do you know that someone will not share messages and images?



What can you do?

- **Be a good role model** - young people will get confused if you are encouraging them to act responsibly on social media and they see you not following your own advice.
- **Use Parental Controls** - setup parental controls so that you can monitor and restrict what they can access, see guide from the NSPCC on how to do this [here](#).
- **Speak to them about what they like to do online** - the online world moves very fast, speaking to your child about what they do online might teach you a thing or two whilst staying up-to-date on what is available online.
- **Have difficult conversations** - if you feel your child has been accessing something they shouldn't have, you should always have that difficult conversation, try not to be too forceful though otherwise they may close down.

With Christmas around the corner, many young people will receive new technology. Without the proper knowledge and safety parameters set in place, children could be at risk of being targeted by people spreading false news, misinformation, and harmful, extreme beliefs. Below are some links you can use as a reference point to minimise the risk. <https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/GiveSafeGifts>

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/community/prevent-in-wakefield>



NSPCC

The National Online Safety organisation have a number of different guides available for a range of games and apps. They provide useful information for parents about their use, you can sign up for free using the link [here](#).

The NSPCC have released a handy online safety family agreement. This is a great way to have an open conversation with your child about their online activity and agree on how everyone will act online. The agreement can be found [here](#).



Did you know there is a service with childline where you can report an image or video to be removed from the internet? Scan the QR code for a link:

Safeguarding & Wellbeing

Being safe, being responsible and being respectful is at the heart of our community. We want to make sure everyone has everything they need when they need it. This section of the newsletter will showcase key safeguarding and wellbeing events we have had in school, but also share important links and activities people can get involved with. All the icons are interactive and will take you to the resources provided.



The School Nursing team support students each week with appointments and a drop in service. Wednesday 12-1.30pm.



Healthier together this winter

Find lots of useful information and advice for families with babies and children at www.wyhealthiertogether.nhs.uk

TOGETHER WE CAN CHOOSE WELL



There is lots of useful information about:

- Vaccinations
- Sleep
- Being Active
- Healthy Eating

Kooth is an online mental health and wellbeing community that students can access. Students can chat anonymously with their online team for anything that may be bothering them. There are also other features to set goals and track mood. This can be accessed by visiting www.kooth.com

If you're a parent or carer you can find local online information and advice to help keep your family safe and healthy this winter.

<https://wyhealthiertogether.nhs.uk/>



In school we have a service called iSpace that works with us. Students can be referred to this service and will receive appointments to support with attendance, attainment and student wellbeing through a mentoring programme.

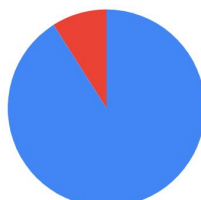
A recent article has stated that there is more work to be done in schools around healthy relationships, you can read the article [here](#). At City Fields we promote healthy relationships through Life and our personal development programme and work with other agencies such as Spectrum to support the development of our students.

A recent survey completed by our students showed that 85% of our students stated that our lessons around relationships and behaviour are useful. 84% of responses also said that our teachers would take time in lessons to discuss relationships, safety and behaviour if required. Other interesting results can be seen below and the results are positive compared to other schools, but we will continue to try to improve this further.

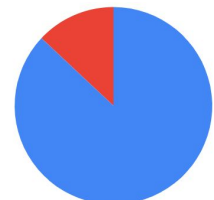
Do you know what to do if someone makes you feel unsafe at school?

Do you know what to do if someone makes you feel unsafe outside of school?

Yes 91%
No 9%



Yes 87%
No 13%



[Recent newsletter](#)

OACf - New staff

As we grow as a school we are able to employ some amazing new staff. These teachers and support staff have very varied backgrounds but they have a passion to work in education and support opportunities for young people.



Mr Toby Rutter-Associate Executive Principal

I am currently the Principal at Outwood Academy Hemsworth and I am also working as the Associate Executive Principal for the Wakefield Outwood schools. I have worked for Outwood Grange Academies Trust for 17 years, having started at as a PE Teacher. I am a sports fanatic, who enjoys all sports and exercise. I played semi professional football for many years, including representing Wakefield FC, Bridlington FC and Nostell Miners Welfare. Outside of school I enjoy spending time with my young family, keeping fit and travelling. I am delighted to be working with City Fields.

Rebecca Hutchinson-Bridge Co-ordinator

Hello! I'm Mrs Hutchinson - I am Bridge Co-ordinator on Thurs / Fri and I can't wait to get to know all the students and staff. Outside of work I enjoy being out in nature, learning new things, spending time with my family and doing my bit to be kind to the environment. I'm very creative so I love getting stuck into a good project but, given the opportunity, I can't say no to a chilled evening binge-watching TV shows, movies and playing games.

Some interesting facts about me: I am a Registered Nurse and I ate fried tarantulas on my honeymoon - YUM!



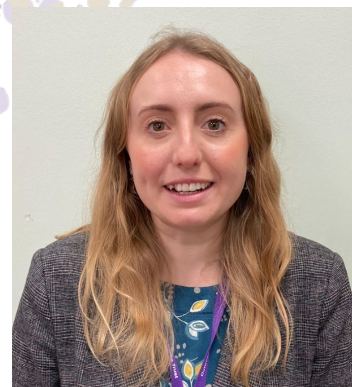
Mandy Dunwell-Teaching Assistant

Hi

My name is Mandy Dunwell, and for the past several years I worked as a level 3 Teaching Assistant within a secondary school, this is where I have gained my knowledge and experience, I chose to work at Outwood Academy and use what I have learnt to enable students to fulfill their potential and assist them with their learning.

Catherine Hooley-Teacher of MFL

Bonjour! I'm the new languages teacher and I teach French and Spanish. I have travelled around a bit, I'm originally from Cornwall, studied in Manchester, lived in France and Spain, and have ended up in teaching in Yorkshire after doing my PGCE at the University of York a few years ago. In my free time I like to explore new places, bake cakes and pasties and grow lots of flowers and veg in my garden.

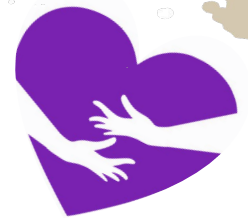


Saika Hanif-Teaching Assistant

Hi, I'm Miss Hanif. I've joined the Inclusion team as a TA. I've previously worked in a Primary School for over 17 years as a TA/HLTA. I enjoy reading, sewing and doing different crafts when I'm not busy with my four children. I'm fluent in Urdu and Punjabi and am excited about my journey ahead at City Fields.

Welcome To
The Team

Community Update



This section of the newsletter promotes what is happening in our community. If you would like to showcase something for the community please let enquiries know.

Opportunity to gain a driver's license

At the Youth Hub, we are excited to be able to offer a programme to support a number of young people to work towards gaining their provisional driving licence.

This opportunity is available to young people across the Wakefield district aged 15 years 9 months to 24, able to read a number plate from 20 metres away, must have legally lived in the UK for at least 185 days in the past 12 months.

Young people will be expected to engage in a range of activities, sessions and events to increase their understanding around driver theory and road safety. Sessions will include:

- Group work/1 to 1 sessions around road safety and mock theory tests
- Attendance at safety sessions delivered by partner agencies
- An expectation to pass 3 mock theory tests.

Once the young person has engaged and completed the above, they will be supported to apply for a provisional driving licence.

The group sessions will run weekly on Mondays 4-5pm.

These group sessions are also accessible to young people who may already have a provisional licence and would benefit from some additional driver theory support.

Please contact us at the Youth Hub on youthhubthehut@wakefield.gov.uk or 01977 727622 for further information or to book a place.

The Council's Money Smart service are working with WDH Cash Wise to provide a 'one-stop-shop' that can offer advice in a number of areas, including:

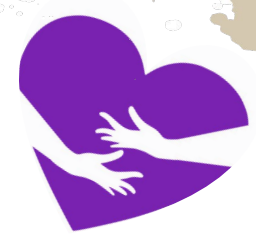
- Any state benefits you are claiming or may be entitled to, and, in particular, Universal Credit
- Mortgage payments
- Rent payments
- Payment of bills
- Debt
- Effective personal budgeting

This service is available to both homeowners and tenants.

To find out more, contact WDH's Cash Wise team by calling 01977 724651, emailing cashwise@wdh.co.uk or visiting the website here.

Call 08088082008 or visit myh.org.uk to live chat

Community Update



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THE DANGERS OF FROZEN WATER

Every year children are at risk when they are tempted to play on the ice formed on open waters and adults find themselves at risk as they attempt to save them. Over 50% of ice related drowning involved an attempted rescue of another person or a dog.

Areas with frozen waters can be beautiful to look at but they are also extremely dangerous. Here are some useful tips to help you enjoy these areas safely.

TOP TIPS TO STAY SAFE

NEVER GO ON THE ICE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

This includes attempting to rescue another person or animal who may have fallen through the ice.

ONLY USE WELL LIT AREAS

Try to take walks in the daylight but if you must walk in the evening, only use well lit areas and avoid anywhere with water.

KEEP AWAY FROM THE EDGE OF THE WATER

Never go close to the edge or lean over to touch the ice. You may over balance or trip and fall in.

ALWAYS WALK WITH AN ADULT OR A GROUP OF FRIENDS

Look out for each other and if someone does fall through the ice there will be others around to raise the alarm and get help.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Keep calm and shout 'help'

Spread your arms across the surface of the ice in front of you

Try to kick your legs and pull yourself out of the water and on to the ice

Lie flat, spreading your weight across the surface and pull yourself to the bank, you may find it easier to roll

If you can't climb out, wait for help and keep still as possible. Keep your head above the water, press your arms by your side and keep your legs together

Once you are safe, it is important that you go to hospital, immediately for a check up

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE SOMEONE FALL THROUGH THE ICE

Shout for 'HELP' and dial **999** or **112** if you can

DO NOT walk on to the ice to attempt a rescue

Shout to the person to '**KEEP STILL**' and offer reassurance.

If they are close enough, **LIE DOWN TO AVOID OVERBALANCING** and falling onto the ice, and try to reach them with a tree branch clothing tied together or anything else which can extend your reach.

If you cannot reach them, **SLIDE SOMETHING** which floats across the ice, such as a plastic bottle or a football, so that they can hold on to it to stay afloat whilst help is on the way.

If they are too far away, **WAIT FOR THE EMERGENCY SERVICES** and reassure the casualty from the safety of the bank.




Christmas Fun at Eastmoor

brings 3 days of festive activities for children aged 5-16.

Children will have the chance to put their design skills to the test and develop their computer knowledge by creating and making their very own Christmas T-Shirt to take home.

Sports activities designed to build teamwork and self-esteem will be delivered by the fantastic Andy bringing all the festive excitement!

This year features 2 amazing opportunities for children to experience the sites that Wakefield has to offer with a trip to Wakefield Theatre Royal's Dick Whittington and X-scape Ten-Pin Bowling.

Lunches are provided free every day from our happy and healthy community café with a chance for children to get their hands stuck into a cooking activity and develop their knowledge of new and exciting balanced recipes!

Wakefield Talking Therapies

Free Emotional Wellbeing Workshops
December 2022

GRIEF & DEPRESSION Sun 4th Dec: 10:30am - 12:00pm	COPING WITH THE FESTIVE PERIOD Sun 11th Dec: 1pm - 2:30pm
MANAGING ANXIETY & WORRY Sun 4th Dec: 1pm - 2:30pm	KEEP MOVING FORWARD Sun 12th Dec: 10am - 11:30am
SUPPORTING NEW PARENTS Tue 6th Dec: 1:30pm - 3pm	COMBATING LOW MOOD Address: Samaritans, 37-39A Charlotte St, Wakefield WF1 1UL Wed 14th Dec: 11:30am - 1pm
MANAGING ANXIETY & WORRY Address: Samaritans, 37-39A Charlotte St, Wakefield WF1 1UL Wed 7th Dec: 11:30am - 1pm	MINDFULNESS Sun 18th Dec: 10:30am - 12pm
MINDFUL PREGNANCY SESSION 1 Fri 9th Dec: 10am - 12pm	COMBATING LOW MOOD Sun 18th Dec: 1pm - 2:30pm
ANGER & IRRITABILITY Sun 11th Dec: 10:30am - 12pm	MINDFUL PREGNANCY SESSION 2 Tue 20th Dec: 1pm - 3pm

Secure your free spot here:
talking.turning-point.co.uk/wakefield/



Looking for a new challenge?

Looking for a rewarding new challenge where you can make a difference to children's lives and your community?

Our academy has a number of exciting vacancies. With a wide range of roles available, there's something for everyone!

Join the Outwood Family and get started in a role that suits you, with flexible working and family friendly policies.

Head to www.outwood.com/vacancies for more information.



Thinking about becoming a teacher? Train to teach with the National Institute of Teaching...

- Innovative, high-impact, immersive teacher training
- Train in schools for first hand experience
- Help children realise their potential

Visit www.niot.org.uk to start your teaching journey!

