

Outwood Academy City Fields 2023-24 Newsletter 2



Seasons greetings to everyone. Thank you for your continued support and your charitable donations. The Shoe Box appeal and the Noodle drive have been especially successful this year. The generosity of spirit and kindness our young people and families show makes us all very proud to work in this community.

Student & Parent Portal

It has been great to see so many students and parents/carers using the portal to check on PRAISE and ATTENDANCE. At this time of the year the students Praising Stars(c) will be released via the portal. If you have not accessed this there is guidance on the last page of the newsletter.

Praising Star(c) will identify:

Geography

Current Grade
Exceeding

Difference from Target
+2

Target grade based on
Key Stage 2 data

Target Grade from KS2
Developing

Change from Previous Cycle
↑

Key Stage 3 links
to GCSE grades

GCSE Target
3

Effort
E1

Year 7-9 - The attainment that the student is working at currently.
Year 10 - 11 - The predicted attainment by the end of the key stage.

Effort levels

Level	Definition	Links to GCSEs
Exceeding	You are working well above age related expectation in the subject	GCSE grade 8 to 9
Excelling	You are working beyond age related expectation in the subject	GCSE grade 6 to 7
Achieving	You are working at age related expectation in the subject	GCSE grade 4 to 5
Developing	You are working towards age related expectation in the subject	GCSE grade 2 to 3
Emerging	You are working below age related expectation in the subject	GCSE grade U to 1

E1	Star Student
E2	Promising Student
E3	Working Student
E4	Wake-up Call
E5	Negative Attitude
E6	Extremely Negative

Student Voice

FESTIVE SHOE BOX APPEAL



Charity Drive

We collected shoe boxes for St Swithuns which will be given to children in the local area aged from babies all the way up to teenagers. We have also started a new collection for St Swithuns collecting food items which can be cooked using minimal appliance for example kettles. If you have food items or unwanted present over the festive period, please bring them in to the LRC and we will take them to St Swithuns in the New Year.

Christmas Jumper Day 21st December 2023

Thank you to all students and staff who took part in Christmas Jumper day and for all the donations to St Swithuns we have taken over four car loads of donations in the past two weeks. Santa even came and gave out the rewards that students have been working towards.

Landmarks

In Student Voice we have also been working on a task to identify four landmarks for the local area, these landmarks will be incorporated in graphics used within school. The landmarks we identified for Eastmoor include Mining Wheel and the Pinder Man statue.



Safeguarding

Scan me

Wakefield Families Together



Wakefield Safeguarding Children Partnership



As we continue our constant focus on all students being safe, respectful and responsible students this half term have had assemblies regarding....

- Bullying
- Domestic Violence
- Healthy minds and motives
- Mental Health
- Student Voice
- Remembrance
- Heart Restart



25th November was White Ribbon Day in support of ending violence against women. Students were encouraged to challenge problematic behaviours towards women and girls. In addition to the assemblies we have had learning points in Tutor time, workshops for students to attend to learn how they can advocate for change and support others. In March there will also be sessions in school for victims and witnesses of domestic violence.

Home Office data shows 18% of all crime recorded by West Yorkshire Police involved domestic abuse in the year to March 2020, with 52,696 such crimes recorded. Of those, 14,182 involved stalking and harassment, while 2,115 coercive control incidents were reported.

Support



[Wakefield Domestic Abuse Service](#)



During November students were encouraged to 'make a noise' exploring how we can unite to address bullying both online and offline.

Staying Safe Online

Being online can be a brilliant place to keep in touch with friends, be creative and discover new things.

Most people use the internet daily for things like going on social media, game, watch videos, work and study.



Talking to people online that you know 'offline' is something many people do, people that you don't know can also use social media and follow you.

As brilliant as the internet is, it can be used by those who want to cause harm to a child. So you may find it useful to read through the information linked to the image above for top tips.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

OUTWOOD GRANGE ACADEMIES TRUST

Attendance affects your learning.

Attendance affects your future.



Did you know that attendance impacts upon achievement?

Employers want a workforce that is committed and punctual. Studies show there is a clear link between poor attendance and low academic achievement. Employees who have 8 good GCSEs earn on average £150 per week more than those who do not.

Thank you to all the families that continue to support our students in attending school every single day. You are helping to ensure that they progress both academically and socially, and increasing their chances of leading happy, healthy and successful lives. Your role is vital in promoting the good attitudes towards attendance that will be needed both now and in the future.

Together, it is important we ensure that children are:

- present everyday
- arrive on time
- are not being taken out of the academy without authorisation
- Communicating the reason for absence

Celebrating Attendance

Over the December, we have celebrated student attendance in the 12 Days of Christmas Attendance Challenge. All students that have attended during this period have been entered into a prize draw to win prizes that have included Wakefield Trinity tickets, Love to Shop vouchers, Lush gift box and cinema tickets. Well done to the winners of these amazing prizes.

Leading up to the end of the first half term, we have over 250 students that have 100% Attendance, over 400 students that have 98+% attendance and many other students that have really improved their attendance from last year. A huge well done to all of these students. All 100% students received a selection box, and those who were most improved were also treated. What will it be next half term?

If there are any concerns or issues regarding attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the academy to discuss them.

More information about working together to improve attendance can be found here. [Working Together to Improve School Attendance](#)

Arrive by 8:15 am

Lessons begin at 8:25 am

8:55 am close of the AM register

If your child arrives after 8:20am you will receive a late text and students arriving after 8:25am will receive a 30 minute after school detention for that afternoon.

When your child's attendance record moves below 95%, we will contact you, to discuss ways in which we can support.

Attendance in Schools

The [School Attendance Matters and Legal Support](#) page on the Wakefield Council website provides useful information and support to parents in understanding the importance of regular school attendance, together with contact details for the Education Welfare Service.



PE Activities



Wow!! What a great term for PE enrichment and lessons. Well done everyone. 26 Netball and Football fixtures this term.

The highlight of our football games was a whopping 7-2 victory for Year 9 against Cathedral. All students have played exceptionally well and we are all proud of each student that has represented the academy.

7 More Netball and Football fixtures pencilled in for the 2024 with more to arrange.

Watch this space for Athletics and Basketball fixtures being announced too.

We have hosted 2 Primary events so far (both football) and have 4 more Primary events to host including tennis, hockey and rugby before April. There will be more of these for our fantastic sports scholars to lead.

Please encourage your child to attend the many enrichment sessions after school.



Congratulations to Ellis England!
On Friday 27th October Ellis became a world champion in kickboxing at the WKC world championships in Orlando, Florida. Well done Ellis on this huge achievement. Congratulations!

Upcoming Fixtures:
22.01.24 - Y7&8 Netball @Becketts
24.01.24 - Y10 Netball @Home
07.02.24 - Y7 & Y10 Netball @Woodkirk
08.02.24 - Y7 Netball @Home
28.02.24 - Y7 & Y10 Netball @Woodkirk
29.02.24 - Y9 Football @Airdale
13.03.24 - Y9 Football @STAB

Physical Wellbeing

Vaping

Smoking is the single most entirely preventable cause of ill health, disability, and death in the UK. It is responsible for around 80,000 deaths a year

The Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) report [Use of e-cigarettes among young people in Great Britain](#) shows that the number of children using vapes has tripled in the past 3 years and a staggering 20.5% of children in Great Britain had tried vaping in 2023.

Due to nicotine content and the unknown long-term harms, vaping carries risks to health and lifelong addiction for children. The health advice is clear: young people and people who have never smoked should not vape.

The UK Government and devolved administrations have a duty to protect our children from the potential harms associated with underage vaping, while their lungs and brains are still developing.

Where children get vape products

We asked where children are accessing vape products. Of the respondents who identified where they thought children could get vapes:

- 32% of responses said it was corner shops and convenience stores
- 27% said friends or family
- 10% said online sources

Some respondents said that children are selling vapes and that there is a link to organised crime and illicit products.

What vape products children are accessing?

When asked what type of products children are accessing, 47% of responses stated that disposable vapes (single-use products) are the most popular type of device for children to use. Very few responses (2%) said that children are accessing refillable devices.

Information received from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/calls-for-evidence/youth-vaping-call-for-evidence/outcome/youth-vaping-call-for-evidence-analysis>



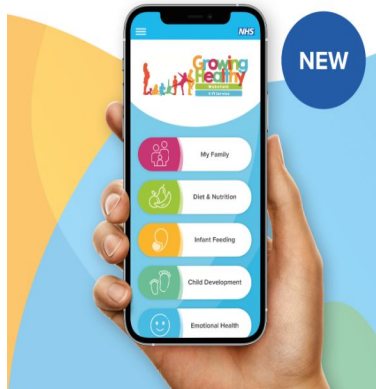
[How Dangerous is Vaping for Children?](#)

Article from Medscape UK



Download the NEW

**Growing Healthy
Wakefield 0-19 App**



Scan the QR code or search for
'Children's Health Service HDT App'
www.hdt.hk@nhs.uk



Growing Healthy Wakefield

Parents, grandparents, carers and young people in the Wakefield district can now download the new Growing Healthy 0-19 Service App, designed to support the health development and wellbeing of children, young people and their families.

Mental Wellbeing

At the end of November we met with our Wellbeing Ambassadors and began to plan some Tutor time activities to begin in January, to encourage positive wellbeing for all students. The ambassadors are going to be available at break times in the new year for anyone who would like to share any concerns about themselves or anyone else.

During Tutor time in December the students have been given time to engage in fun activities like Wellbeing Bingo, this enables students to chat and discuss certain issues they or their friends may be facing.

ImpactEd

As a Trust, we have recently taken part in an ImpactEd survey where every student at OACF had the opportunity to answer questions about school community.

We are very proud of some of the things that the students had to say:

The average score for sense of school safety was 3.66 (3% above the national average) and for wellbeing was 3.36 (2% above the national average) meaning that students felt safe while they were in school and that their wellbeing was good.

An area for improvement was students felt they didn't know how we dealt with reported bullying. At OACF we:

- encourage all students to be safe, respectful and responsible and teach this across our curriculum including LIFE lessons and Tutor time activities
- regular focus on praise of kindness across the school
- if any hurtful or unkind behaviour is reported, the Learning Manager team investigate this thoroughly and appropriate intervention and sanctions are given
- restorative conversations between parties, if appropriate

If any student has any concerns, we ask they report them to any member of staff. If any family has any concerns, we ask that you please contact the relevant Learning Manager.



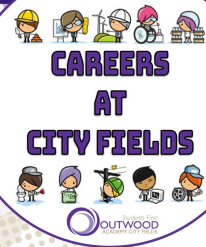
Giving
disabled children
a brighter future

Changing Our Direction has been set up to support families who have young people who present with self-harm behaviours. KIDS work with parents and carers to help them support their young people. Changing Our Direction looks to support families through the FLASH program. What is FLASH? FLASH is Families Learning about self-harm. The course aims to create better communication and personal relationships between parent/carers and young people. FLASH allows parents the opportunity to discuss the problem with people who understand and learn how to manage the concerns within your home. The FLASH program is delivered in a group session with other families and is a 10 week workshop. If you would like more information please contact the Changing Our Direction team on 01924 926263

 Mental Wellbeing

Click the link above
to find advice and
support.

Careers



This half-term students have had their 1st careers assembly. The aim of the assembly was to introduce careers and get students in years 7-10 thinking about what a career is and what they may be interested in doing in the future.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines the word "career" as a person's "course or progress through life". This definition relates "career" to a range of aspects of an individual's life, learning, and work. We are hoping that students will take advantage of all the resources, learning and opportunities we provide for them in the academy and add these to their own journey helping them to make those key decisions about their post 16 qualifications and life beyond 18.

Wednesday the 8th November was the academy's first careers cafe this year. We succeeded in welcoming 4 different employers who were all very keen on sharing with students how their workplace deals with issues relating to climate change.



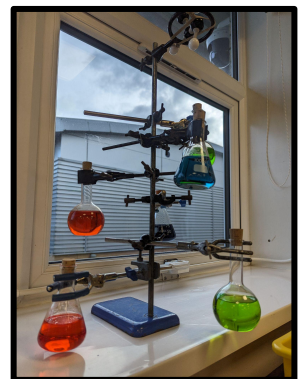
Careers cafes allow students to have a much wider interaction with employers and training providers from a variety of different backgrounds. These cafes provide opportunities for our students to ask questions, gain an insight into the employers career journey and give them some inspiration for their own future journey.

Our next careers cafe will be in January. We have a number of post 16 providers coming in. They will be available for students to ask questions in regards to what they can do once they are 16 and have completed their journey here at OACF.



Lots of the activities in school link to careers and future opportunities. The Science department always bring a new twist to lessons and enrichments to encourage students to pursue careers in STEM.

This week saw some Physics busking and Christmas Science crafting. The winner was Khalid, and what a great example he is to his peers.



Community Update

WF Happy Healthy Holidays

Nutritious Food and Refreshments Provided

5-11 Years

Happy Healthy Holidays is back this Winter!

Activities will be taking place at St Swithun's Community Centre between 3rd January and 5th January.

Happy Healthy Holidays offers a range of exciting activities that are **FREE** to children and young people who are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals.

Come and join us this school holiday:

Parent Participation Hepworth Gallery Visit Games Team-Building	Cooking Sessions Sports Activities Christmas Crafts New Year Decorations
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Find and book **FREE** local activities by visiting:
<https://www.wakefieldamstogether.co.uk/community/susdoot/2020/02/healthy-holidays/>
 or scan the QR Code

Please note, activities are for families in receipt of free school meals.

10AM – 3PM
3RD–5TH JANUARY
5–11 YEARS
WINTER FUN

WF Happy Healthy Holidays

THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

WINTER AT EASTMOOR | HEPWORTH GALLERY TRIP
 COOKING LESSONS
 WINTER CRAFTS
 SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Find Us At:
<https://eastmoorcommunityprojectlimited.coordinate.cloud/rst>

Happy Healthy Holidays
January 2024

with **Lighthoves & Next Generation** at **Lighthoves Leisure & Community Centre** Lower York Street, Wakefield, WF1 5LJ

for **young people aged 8 to 16 years old**

Refreshments and Lunch Provided
12 noon to 4pm
Wednesday 3 January 2024
 to
Saturday 6 January 2024

UNDERSTANDING OUR COMMUNITY - Cultures & Identities

Using Food, Arts & Crafts, Music, Sports, and Gardening to understand and participate in (your) our community

All activities are **FREE** to children & young people who are in receipt of and eligible for benefits-related free school meals and low income families. If unsure please contact us

Places are limited, please reserve your place by calling 01924 360158 and leave a message with the team

WF Happy Healthy Holidays

WAKEFIELD TRINITY HAPPY HEALTHY HOLIDAYS

DATES
TUESDAY 2ND – FRIDAY 5TH JANUARY 2024

TIMES
5 – 11 YRS | 10AM – 2PM | 11 – 16 YRS | 2:30 – 5PM

CAMP 1 SPORTING ACTIVITIES ARTS & CRAFTS SESSIONS NUTRITION WORKSHOP HEALTHY LUNCH PROVIDED	CAMP 2 OUTDOOR GAMES INDOOR ACTIVITIES PS& & TABLE TENNIS SNACKS & DRINKS PROVIDED
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Find and book **FREE** activities by visiting
www.wakefieldamstogether.co.uk/community-support/happy-healthy-holidays/
 or scan the QR Code

If you would like to alert us to any community events or want to share anything please let us know - enquiries@cityfields.outwood.com

For current vacancies within the Academy, please click the following link : [Vacancies](#). If you are interested in applying and would like to visit the academy first, please contact enquiries@cityfields.outwood.com

Reading Club



Outwood Holiday Reading Club
 Christmas Holiday:

A Winter Book

KS3 Recommendations:

Outwood Holiday Reading Club
 Christmas Holiday:

A Winter Book

KS4 Recommendations:

Outwood Holiday Reading Club
 Christmas Holiday:

A Winter Book

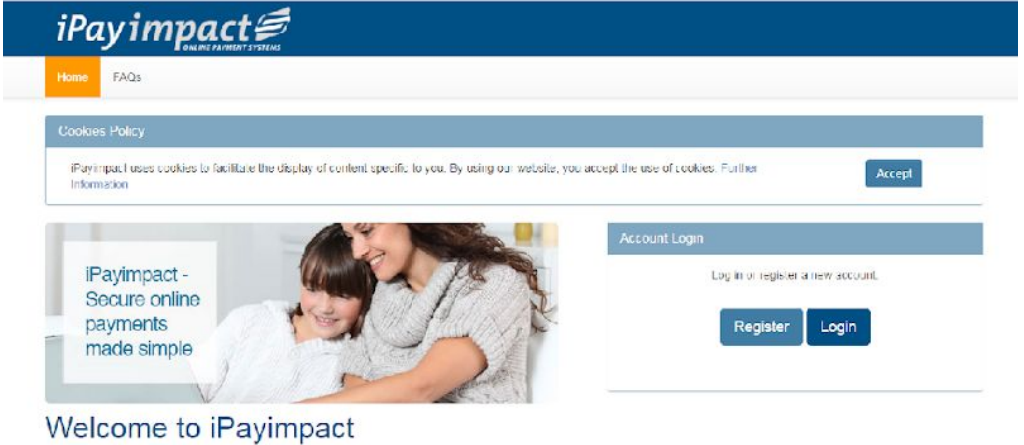
KS5/Staff Recommendations:

iPay System

A reminder that we are a cashless school and all payments must be made via iPay. All purchases - including food/drinks, uniform and equipment - are made through the iPay system. This means, even if your child is eligible for Free School Meals, all parents/carers need to ensure they are registered to use the system.

If you have not done so already, please contact school for child's unique account number and register via www.ipayimpact.co.uk

Please keep the account topped up with money so your child is able to make purchases if needed. Uniform and equipment can be purchased from SID during registration and social times.



The screenshot shows the iPayimpact website homepage. At the top is the iPayimpact logo with the tagline 'ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEMS'. Below the logo are navigation links for 'Home' and 'FAQs'. A 'Cookies Policy' banner is visible, stating that iPayimpact uses cookies to facilitate content display and that users accept the use of cookies. Below this is a 'Welcome to iPayimpact' message accompanied by a photo of a smiling woman hugging a child. To the right, there is an 'Account Login' section with the text 'Log in or register a new account.' and buttons for 'Register' and 'Login'.

Student & Parent Portal

Parents/carers visit portal.outwood.com (linked from the academy website). You are then sent a “magic link” by email to securely sign in once in you can then explore lots of different pieces of information.

The sections which have a daily update are:

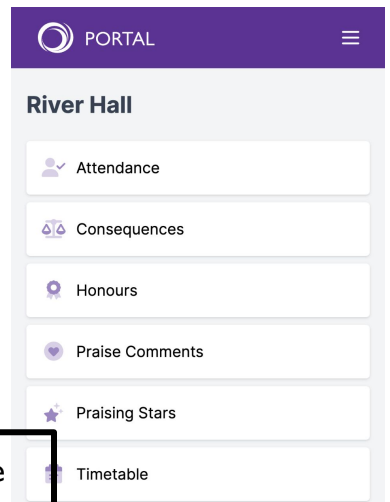
Praise

Attendance

Consequences

Honours

Praising Stars becomes live at the end of a term for Y7-9 and at the end of each half term for Y10-11.



The screenshot shows the Student & Parent Portal interface. The header is purple with the word 'PORTAL' and a hamburger menu icon. Below the header, the page title is 'River Hall'. A list of menu items is displayed, each with a small icon: 'Attendance' (person icon), 'Consequences' (scales icon), 'Honours' (crown icon), 'Praise Comments' (heart icon), 'Praising Stars' (star icon), and 'Timetable' (calendar icon).