Outwood Academy City Fields 2023–24

Newsletter 3



Praising Stars

Praising Stars will be released Friday 22 March at 2:30 to students and parents. Year 11 will receive a hard copy which they can use for any P16 interviews they have.

What is Praising Stars(c)?

Praising Stars cycles foster an academy-wide focus on celebration, achievement and pride - creating a positive drive towards constant self-improvement. Praising Stars cycles provides short-term goals that recognise effort and achievement, building both better habits and a stronger self-belief.

Happy Easter everyone and Ramadan Mubarak. It has been a great half term with lots to share. I am very proud of the achievements of so many students. Y10 & Y11 received their mock results and it was a privilege to see so many happy faces proud of what they have achieved. Speaking exams begin in April and the written exams begin week commencing 9 May. Please join with me in wishing them success and confidence as they take this big step.

Shelly Colledge-Smith

Praising Star(c) will identify: Effort grades Target grades - these are based on KS2 results Progress since last cycle

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.

Geography

Current Grade Exceeding

Difference from Targe +2 Target Grade from KS2 Developing Change from Previous Cycle GCSE Targe 3 Effort E1

Level	Definition	Links to GCSEs	Ef	Effort levels	
Exceeding	You are working well above age related expectation in the subject	GCSE grade 8 to 9	EI	Star Student	
Excelling	You are working beyond age related expectation in the subject	GCSE grade 6 to 7	E2	Promising Student	
Achieving	You are working at age related expectation in the subject	GCSE grade 4 to 5	E3	Working Student	
Developing		GCSE grade	E4	Wake-up Call	
Developing	You are working towards age related expectation in the subject	2 to 3	E5	Negative Attitude	
Emerging	You are working below age related expectation in the subject	GCSE grade U to I	E6	Extremely Negative	

New Staff Welcome

Juan Coronil Martinez -Teacher of MFL

Hola! I am from Spain and I am a French and Spanish teacher at City Fields Academy. Before starting at City Fields Academy, I was a Languages and PE teacher at a school in the North of Leeds where I really enjoyed teaching and starting a basketball club that won the Leeds league several times. When I lived In Spain, I studied for my Law Degree alongside working as a professional basketball coach. When I moved to England after meeting my wife who is from Castleford. I found my calling in education, and I trained to be a teacher. Although I love sport, I realise that whether it be in my different careers as a lawyer, in basketball, in education or in my life, languages have played a very important role in my success and enjoyment, and I would love to transmit the value of foreign language learning to the entire City Fields community. Oh, I forgot something... I am a fan of the Real Madrid football and basketball teams, the best teams in the world!

<u>Pavandeep Singh -</u> <u>Head of Maths</u>

Hello! I'm Mr Singh, the new Head of Maths. I have previously worked as a Head of Maths for a few years in Wakefield and before that worked as a Regional Lead Practitioner for Maths in the South. I have also had the pleasure of teaching Maths abroad in Kenya and Togo. I am excited to bring my passion for Maths to Outwood Academy City Fields. Outside of school, I have recently started to learn how to play the piano as a new personal challenge and during the holidays I like to travel as much as possible.

<u>Elodie Thompson -</u> Pastoral Support Officer

Hi, I'm Miss Thompson I have recently joined Outwood City Fields as a Pastoral support officer I have worked in a SEN school before and I have a huge passion and focus for mental health and wellbeing. I will be studying to become a counsellor this year and hope this education can help me support students in my pastoral role. I enjoy spending time with my friends I often travel down south to see them and I play competitive video games with them too. I'm a huge animal lover and spend as much time as I can outdoors with my puppy and when I can I also love scuba diving.

Hannah Nicholson -<u>Teacher of Maths</u>

Hi, I'm Mrs Nicholson and I am here teaching Maths! I previously worked at Outwood Academy Freeston for around 5 years. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family, swimming and baking!

Kehinde Oduwole -Teacher of Maths

I'm Mrs Kehinde Oduwole and I've joined Outwood Academy City Fields as a teacher of Mathematics. I started my teaching career in one of the schools in Huddersfield. I enjoy teaching and am very passionate about teaching Mathematics. I enjoy working and relating with young people giving them the right support for growth and development in whatever they do. I love spending time with my family, especially playing board games with my two boys.

<u>Sarah Mills -</u> Teaching Assistant

Hello I am Sarah Mills, Teaching Assistant at City Fields. I also work as an exam invigliator here and at Outwood Grange. Outside of work when I'm not racing around after my 3 children I enjoy spending time with family & friends. If eating out can be classed as a hobby, then yes that's my hobby! I love food and eat out at any opportunity as I openly admit I am a terrible cook.

Student Voice and Speak Up



Members of the Student Voice Leadership team visited St Swithuns Community Centre to visit the food bank and support the Simply Leisure Easter activities.



Year 9 members of Student Voice had the opportunity to watch a modern day take on Jekyll and Hyde.

Students in Year 7 and Year 9 have taken part in the Local Authority Health and Wellbeing survey.

Our Student Voice research visit York St John's University and presented their research and findings.

Speak Up! Have performed at the Student Voice Conference at Elland Road. This years conference focus was Mental Health and Wellbeing.



Student Voice held their first Disco in February 2024. We had a great evening dancing, playing games and having fun!



A group of students supported Park Hill Primary this term by helping with the painting of the Warm Hub.



It has been a really busy term for Student Voice and the Speak-Up team. If you have any ideas for events for next term, please let us know.





As parents and carers you can access an online course that you can work through at home in your own time. The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program[®] gives you tips and ideas to help you bring out the best in your children, to help them be resilient, confident, and have the self-discipline to succeed. Learn how to positively manage the behaviour you don't like and encourage more of the behaviour that will help them get along with others.

Parents/carers find out how to access your code to get started at home: <u>Free in Wakefield | Triple P – Positive Parenting Program | Online Parenting</u> <u>Programm</u>e

Teen Triple P:Teen Triple P Online – for parents of pre-teens and teens, approx. 10-16 years

- Boost your child's or teenager's development
- Tailor strategies to suit your child you know them best!
- Positive parenting has proven benefits for children, now and in the future
- Tips to help your whole family's emotional wellbeing including yours
- Raise happier, more confident and capable kids
- Improve your relationship with your child or teenager
- Enjoy being a parent more!

Fearless Triple P: Help your child or teenager learn to manage and reduce anxious feelings, now and in the future.

- Online support for parents of anxious kids (6-14 years)
- Find out the 'why' and 'how' of child and teen anxiety
- Learn more about what's helpful and what can accidentally add to anxiety
- Start applying new strategies immediately
- New online programme based on proven principles
- Reduce your own stress, too!

Other recent strategies to safeguard at City Fields



Lumi Nova Discovery Session for Parents - Thursday 7th March 24, 10:30-11:00am, and the first Thursday of every month (times vary see link)

Free 30-minute webinar, parents can learn how Lumi Nova can support their child / young person aged 7-12 to tackle their fears and worries and build lifelong skills.

Parents / Carers will be guided through how their family can access Lumi Nova for free.

How to book: Parents / Carers can use the link to secure a place today: Book your place here!

As parents/ carers - what can we do to support our children?

Whether your child is about to do their year 6 SATS or their exams at secondary school or college, it can be stressful not only for your child but also for you as a parent / carer.

Here's some tips on how you can best support your child through this time:

- No. I be there for your child. Be available and make time for your child. Encourage your child to come to you if they need you.
- Ask your child "What, if anything, would you like me to do to help you during your exams?" Allow your child to tell you what would help them rather than assuming you know.
- Support them with planning. (If this is something that they say they would find useful)
- Reduce the pressure! putting pressure on your child to do well may increase their stress levels.
- Reward and encourage their efforts.
- Provide regular drinks, meals and snacks
- Prompt your child to take breaks when they are revising, encourage some down time too.
- Spot the signs of exam or assessment stress. Look out for changes in mood, complaining of physical symptoms, changes in eating or sleeping patterns.
- And very importantly... Look after yourself as a parent / carer. When we look after ourselves we are more able to take care of others, including our children. Not only that, but it's also great to modal to our children the importance of self-care.

For further information: Exam and assessment stress (mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk)







There is more help and support for Year 11 on the Year 11 Support Site. there is also a section for parents here to help you.

We have given them revision plans to complete so they can plan to do well. Happy Revising!

Exam Time & Exam Stress <u>Parents Guide To Support</u> <u>YoungMinds</u>

Mental Wellbeing

ATTENDANCE MATTERS OUTWOOD GRANGE ACADEMIES TRUST Did you ≥96% >90% Attendance **≤90%** know that <93% <100% 00% PERSISTENTLY ABSENT affects your attendance impacts upon learning. achievement? Attendance Every minute of Employers want a workforce that is Employers want a workforce that is committed and punctual. Studies show there is a clear link between poor attendance and Iow academic achievement. Employees who have 8 good GCSEs earn on average £150 per week more than those who do not. every lesson affects your counts future. LATENESS = LOST LEARNING 5 minutes 10 minutes 15 minutes 20 minutes 30 minutes

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 need both now and in the future.

Days per school year lost 3 days 6.5 days

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

Good and Improved Attendance is something we like to reward at City Fields and this time we have given out over 400 Easter Eggs as a reward for this half term. The students have done extremely well and we are super proud of the effort they have made to improve their attendance. Please

continue to support this at home.





Since September there has been a fantastic effort show by students across the academy, acquiring over 60000 praise points and 2000 Super Star Student nominations.

Students have participated in an end of year Praise Hunt and Easter/ Eid Praise Hunt with 20 lucky students winning prizes including an Amazon Echo, chocolates, and love2shop vouchers.

Well done everyone. We look forward to the Summer praise hunt and more fantastic effort and work in the final term. 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.

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London Youth Rowing have been leading enrichment sessions for our students to prepare them for the NJIRC rowing championships in Leeds. The students have built a close relationships with Tom who delivers the sessions every week for our students! Well done to the students who took part in the championships!

Music have been very busy this half term with Ukulele club, Band club and Speak up. Some of our students attended a Speak up research group at York St John University where they presented their work and were followed by a film crew for the day!

Students in dance enrichment have been working really hard for their performance at The Great Big Dance Off. They will be competing against a number of secondary schools at the Victoria Theatre Halifax.



"Dance enrichment has improved my confidence skills"

Encichment "Rowing has given me the chance to learn a new skill"













As a reward for the dance enrichment students, the Northern Contemporary School of Dance came into school to teach a dance workshop. This gave students a taste of contemporary dance and a chance to build their confidence in dance.



This term students have had the privilege of a number of different people from a range of different career backgrounds coming into the academy.



Our Careers cafe was centred around construction and we were fortunate to have representatives from Morgan Sindall. They were able to answer questions from students across all year groups. Older students questions were more specifically related to construction and jobs related to this field. Younger students were more curious to find out more about Morgan Sindall.



We celebrated National Apprenticeship week, 5th-11th February 2024. A representative from the RAF, Danielle Sthilaire, came into the academy to deliver assemblies to our students in year 9-11. Danielle spoke to our students about her apprenticeship route into the RAF and what students can expect from an RAF apprenticeship today.

We also had a key apprenticeship provider speak to our students in Year 11.ASK Apprenticeships by West Yorkshire Learning Providers, spoke to Year 11 about applying for an apprenticeship, what a typical apprenticeship looks like, what they can expect and what employers are looking for. Many of our Year 11's are still looking to get into an apprenticeship when they leave us or in the next couple of years. This assembly provided them with lots key information to help them make those informed choices about their futures.

Live Science Event

The Royal Institution came into the Academy on Wednesday 24 January to showcase a live event all centred around 'Energy'.

The Royal Institution is an independent charity dedicated to connecting people with the world of science, inspiring them to think more deeply about science and the world that we all live in. They create spaces for scientists and the public to explore science together. They inspire students to see a future with science and empower people to explore and get involved. The Royal Institute offer charitable support to those, such as young people in disadvantaged communities, who might otherwise not be able to engage with science. They have been doing this work for well over 200 years, with an international reach, working with world-leading scientists, from Hannah Fry to Carlo Rovelli and Dame Sue Black to Sean Carroll.

We as an academy were very fortunate to have succeeded in a grant bid, which meant that the Royal Institute came to Wakefield and presented to year 7, year 8 and Outwood Academy Parkhill students in year 5 and 6.

Students were able to see an array of different demonstrations all related to energy. Some demonstrations went off with a bang, others made students gasp and some completely stunned students.



Central Science Fair

The primary and secondary schools in the central region all completed projects with a theme of flight. Students could investigate or research any topic of their choice as long as it was related to the theme of flight.

We held a school science fair with 14 finalists from key stage 3 to choose an overall school winner who would go on to compete in the regional grand final at Outwood Grange. Ethan and Diamond were our school winners with their project about how bees fly.

Secondary 3rd

Place

City Ei O

Congratulations to Ethan and Diamond who won third place for their project at the regional fair. They presented with enthusiasm and everyone was keen to hear the science about how bees fly.







At InspirED Cafe, we believe in the transformative power of food, community, and education. Our mission is to create a welcoming space where young minds can flourish and acquire valuable skills in baking, cooking, and front-of-house operations.

Join us on this inspiring journey of empowerment, sustainability, and community support. Explore the boundless possibilities, make a meaningful difference, and relish the distinct flavors of InspirED Cafe — where every bite tells a story, and every cup brews a brighter future for young individuals with additional needs.

In addition, we extend our commitment to community involvement by organizing special events for educators, council members, and vulnerable individuals. Discover how we bring people together through inclusive initiatives, furthering our mission of creating a positive impact in the lives of those we serve.

For more information visit inspired-pd.co.uk

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