

December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that this letter finds you well and that your preparations for Christmas are well underway. I would like to confirm that the school will close for the Christmas break on Thursday 21st December at 14:30.

Since the academy Christmas tree went up at the start of this month we've enjoyed an array of festive themed events. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers joining us for the Christmas concert where we were entertained by some extremely talented students. On Wednesday, our students and staff look forward to the academy Christmas dinner!

It has been a busy but brilliant term with many highlights across all year groups. I hope that you have been following our academy X account (previously known as Twitter) @OutwoodFoxhills, with almost daily updates of the fantastic achievements of our students and their learning experiences.

All year groups continue to make fabulous progress with their own priorities. Year 7 students have settled into the academy and have earned their bronze awards in the ACE programme and are now ready to complete their silver accreditation next term. Year 8 students are preparing for their journey to graduation starting in January. Year 9 students are in the process of selecting their key stage 4 GCSE subjects and vocational pathways and Year 10 students have made a fantastic start to their GCSEs and vocational qualifications.

We have been extremely proud of how Year 11 students completed their mock exams and we are really pleased with their ongoing commitment to GCSE preparation and revision. With just 71 days from January until the Summer examinations, students are working very hard in their lessons and engaging with additional study and revision associated with exceptional outcomes.

On the final day we will be hosting our Praising Stars rewards assemblies where students are rewarded for all their efforts.

I expect next term will be as equally busy and rewarding as last term and I look forward to again welcoming parents and carers into the academy to share the progress of students. Next term we'll be hosting the year 9 guided pathways evening on Tuesday 16th January 2024 and parents evening on Tuesday 6th February 2024.

The Christmas break for many is time to relax and spend time with family and friends, but we also want to ensure everyone has access to support services should anyone have concerns for a young person. Support can be accessed via our academy website at <https://mentalwellbeing.outwood.com/>.

We return to the academy on Monday 8th January 2024, with students as always on site 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 us all at the academy.

Yours faithfully



Tracy Motson
Head of School