

Our ref: JGT/VGY

19 December 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

### Year 9 – Praising Stars 2

Your son/daughter is now close to completing their first full term in Year 9 at Outwood Academy Danum, we hope it has been a positive one for them. Attendance in Year 9 is currently 92.8%, which is on average 25 hours of lost learning time and therefore is still an area we must improve. We must all work together to ensure your son/daughter attends whenever possible, as this is the foundation for their success.

We are thrilled to report that 95.8% of effort grades in Year 9 have been positive (E1-E3). This illustrates the positive atmosphere that we see in the classroom every day.

There have been lots of success stories outside of the classroom too. Many of our Year 9 students have been busy earning Pledges. Students have helped out at our Parents' Evening and 6<sup>th</sup> Form Open Evening, whilst many more participated in the wonderful Danum Pyramid Carol Concert held at Doncaster Minster.

As we are now at Praising Stars 2, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in your son/daughter's education and offer you some ideas on how we can work together to ensure your son/daughter achieves their potential.

**Maths** - Please log onto the Hegarty Maths with your son/daughter. This can be used as a revision tool and to support progress. Should you need the log on details please contact Mrs Raynsford (Head of Maths) at [n.raynsford@danum.outwood.com](mailto:n.raynsford@danum.outwood.com).

**English** – Reading of any kind including 19<sup>th</sup> century texts which can be found on the internet or in the library. Practise writing stories, then please check work for spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors. Students should be using their personal spelling log to practice their spellings.

**Science** – CGP science revision guides can be purchased to support the AQA triple science students. Most online retailers sell these books at approximately £5.00.

**Languages** – Please support your son/daughter with their vocabulary learning which is set as homework every few weeks. Test students by reading out the English work and asking for the word to be spoken or written in the target language. Websites Memorise and Quizlet are useful to assist with vocabulary revision.

**Sociology** - Your son/daughter is currently studying AQA GCSE Sociology (9-1, exams from 2019 onwards) and will sit their GCSE exams for this subject in Year 10. You can help them prepare for this by encouraging them to regularly read or watch the news so that they keep up-to-date with current affairs as many of the topics studied can be applied to world events. You could also look at purchasing a revision guide and/or textbook written for the AQA (9-1) GCSE Sociology course so that they have some support at home to help them when completing homework or revision. It is also useful for them to discuss what they are learning as most of their exam questions require them to create arguments and discussion in their written work and talking about what they know will help them to develop these skills.

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Registered office address: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF.

VAT number: 158 2720 04. Outwood Grange Academies Trust is an exempt charity.

A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.

**Geography** – Encourage students to use the following websites to assist in their revision:

- GCSE BBC Bitesize Geography AQA:  
<https://www.bbc.com/education/examspecs/zy3ptyc>
- Revision world: <https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/geography>
- SCool Revision: <https://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/geography>

The following revision guides can be purchased to assist students with their learning:

- New Grade 9-1 GCSE Geography AQA Complete Revision & Practice CGP
- Revise AQA GCSE Geography Revision Workbook: for the 9-1 exams
- Revise AQA GCSE Geography Revision Guide

**History** – Encourage students to use the following websites to assist in their revision:

- GCSE BBC Bitesize History: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z7svr82>
- <https://www.historyonthenet.com/>

The following revision guides can be purchased to assist students with their learning:

- Pearson Edexcel revision History

**Food Preparation and Nutrition** – Parents/carers can support students in the selection and organising of ingredients for practical sessions. Encourage students to go to the supermarkets with you, to review foods on offer, and what to look for when purchasing foods. Encourage students to become involved in preparing meals in the home. Visit large supermarkets, to review the types of organic, local and imported food ingredients.

Collect menus from restaurants/internet to review the types of dishes offered.

Research special dietary needs, e.g. vegetarianism, coeliac disease, diabetes, low fat diets, nut allergies, etc, on websites.

Use of BBC bitesize revision website for Food Technology, to revise nutritional concepts.

**Hair and Beauty** - Topic 201-discuss careers and job roles of family members/working patterns. Research and watch historical films/TV programmes that identify the key eras studied.

Topic 202-research hair and skin disorders/diseases; <https://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Pages/hub.aspx>

Encourage the use of hair and skin care products.

Topic 203-identify familiar logos/brand designs, for example 'Vidal Sassoon'-investigate and discuss how has the brand design evolved over time.

**Engineering** - Research and make notes on:

Engineering Sectors (name 6 and add a product that they produce).

Add a sector that also incorporates other sectors, for example the automotive sector will also use mechanical engineering to produce the engine.

Explain what a global company is and what a small-medium enterprise is (SME).

Explain what happens in the various departments within an organisation as shown below:

- Research
- Design
- Planning
- Making
- Quality
- Marketing

Explain the role definitions in an engineering workplace:

- Unskilled
- Skilled
- Technical
- Managerial

### Parents Evening

On Tuesday 23 January 2018 Outwood Academy Danum will be holding a parents' evening. Parental appointments can be made between 4:30pm to 7:30pm, either at visitor reception or via your son/daughter's subject teachers. This is an opportunity for you to meet with staff and discuss your son/daughter's progress, effort, behavior and successes. The academy's Inclusion Coordinator will also be available, alongside your son/daughter's Learning Manager. We look forward to seeing you on this evening. Please make appointments even if your son/daughter's teachers have not specifically asked to see you.

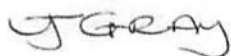
Can I please ask you to use our website and social media pages to ensure that you stay fully up to date with what is happening at Outwood Academy Danum. Find us on Facebook and follow @OutwoodDanum on Twitter.

### Upcoming events to note:

Thursday 21 December 2017	Last day for students – Christmas holidays
Monday 8 January 2018	All students return to Academy
W/C 8 January 2018	Mock exams
Tuesday 16 January 2018	Year 8 and Year 10 Guided pathway information evening
Tuesday 23 January 2018	Parents' evening
Friday 9 February 2018	Last day for students – Half term
Monday 19 February 2018	All students return to Academy
Monday 26 February 2018	Year 10 & Year 11 revision evening
Friday 23 March 2018	Last day for students – Easter holidays
Monday 9 April 2018	All students return to Academy

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs V Gray  
Vice Principal