

Our ref: JGT/VGY

19 December 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 – Praising Stars 2

Your son/daughter is now close to completing their first full term in Year 10 at Outwood Academy Danum, we hope it has been a positive one for them. Attendance in Year 10 is currently 91.8%, which is on average 29 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 96.4% of effort grades in Year 10 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 6th 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 in their exams this year.

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.

English – Reading of any kind including 19th century texts which can be found on the internet or in the library. BBC Bitesize is good for revising the literature texts including Anthology Poetry. Please support with revision of all of the texts; Romeo and Juliet, A Christmas Carol and Blood Brothers. 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 the book at approximately £5.00.

Languages – All students have a personal 'Vocab Express' account which can be accessed from home and is useful for vocabulary revision. All students also have vocabulary lists/booklets of 'Go To Verb Phrases' which they are expected to learn on a frequent basis. We recommend that students practice vocal little and often e.g. 10 minutes per day.

Sociology - Your son/daughter is currently studying AQA GCSE Sociology (exams from 2014 onwards) and will sit their GCSE exams for this subject at the end of 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 buying a revision guide and/or textbook written for the AQA GCSE Sociology course (make sure this is NOT for the new 9-1 GCSE Sociology course from 2019 onwards) 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. As Year 10 students will be completing their exams this year they should be encouraged to regularly revise the material they have already covered, and they can contact Mr O'Keeffe or Mr Grant for extra exam questions to work on at home. These can also be found on the AQA website under GCSE Sociology:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/gcse/specification-4190/past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

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 supermarket 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 the BBC bitesize revision website for Food Technology to revise nutritional concepts.

Hair and Beauty - Topic 201-discuss careers and job roles. Research and watch historical films/TV programmes and identify the styles in the 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.

Photograph all hairstyling and make-up designs practiced.

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.

Please note that mock exams will be taking place from week commencing 8th January 2018. Details regarding these exams have been sent out separately.

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