# Dec 2023 OUTTLOODK THE NEWS MAGAZINE OF OUTWOOD ACADEMY DANUM





Dear Families,

Welcome to the spring edition of our Outwood academy Danum newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading about all the wonderful activities and learning opportunities our children and staff have been enjoying in the year so far.

We are really working hard to build a school community, where our pupils feel a sense of pride about their school, and about their progress as they work towards their own life goals. As such, you will have noticed that in the last year, there have been lots of many exciting opportunities that we've created for our students to get a chance to do something wonderful in school, in our community and across the country- even abroad. If you follow our social media accounts, you'll have seen this in plenty. We've recently taken students abroad to France on a trip to visit the Christmas markets; the career's fair held this term saw all students have the chance to speak to employers and prospective future employers; our history students got a chance to visit the Justice Museum in Nottingham; our sporting teams have been busy with fixtures across the country too.

We've also had lots of community events of late: our school parliament has organised for lots of food hampers to be made and donated in the local community, with students writing lovely Christmas messages. We held a MacMillan Coffee morning for parents and carers. This event was run by students, with our music performers putting on a show. You may have also seen the number of praise opportunities rise this year, especially if you're keeping an eye on the parent portal where you can see the praise points your child is getting. As I write, we are preparing for our Praising Stars release day assembly where pupils will be awarded subject prizes for their efforts this year. This is the first time we are inviting some parents in to see the prize giving, which we hope you enjoy.

School should be a place where students feel safe. This is why we always work on some key principles with students. That is to be safe at school; to be respectful; to be responsible, and lastly, to be extraordinary. This last part will look different for every child as they work towards their talents, and their skills. We are working hard to celebrate each individual, and are determined to ensure that 2024 is even better.





Scan me, give feedback and your child will be entered into a draw for a free cookie or drink!









# OAD Careers Fair 2023

On Wednesday 29th November, we were extremely honoured to welcome a number of organisations who came to speak to our students in Years 9-11 about their futures beyond Key Stage 4 as part of our annual Careers Fair. This was an opportunity for our students to gain valuable insight on apprenticeships and future careers from Post-16 providers and industry experts.

The day was a phenomenal success and feedback from our students was that the day was extremely useful in helping them understand what their options are for the future!

Year 11 Students were involved in a seminar where they were introduced to the application process for apprenticeships and preparation for job interviews. These were delivered by HETA and St Leger Homes, and provided valuable insight into how to be successful in taking the next steps in their education.



A number of Key Stage 3 and 4 students were selected to be involved in an aspirational talk delivered by the very prestigious Homerton College, part of Cambridge University. Students learned about university entry requirements and what life in Higher Education is all about.

A big congratulations to the below students who received the most praise

### Praise Heroes

Polina V - Y10 Nesho A-S - Y8 William B - Y11 Rose B - Y9 Mihaela- Gratiela L - Y7 Nicoleta R/- Y11

Kal Ş

Dagmara P - Y9 Ayrton B - Y8 Daisy K - Y10 Jacob M - Y10 Nissy J - Y7 Jessica M - Y7





OLLAGE Classreen Champions Period I Sabella Jess H AUA B Period 2 EUDY T Period 3 aylor Bet Proud Podium Gabrialla Nominated by Mrs Wheatley 

I am so proud of Gabby's hard work and dedication in Art. She has just started this oil painting of a giraffe, and even though she has only completed a small section, it is amazing! points last week

#### Praise Heroes

Every week the top students who receive the most praise are celebrated every Monday. We are extremely proud of every student who receives praise points across the week.

#### Golden Tickets

Each week, every student who has a praise point logged on Ocloud, goes into a random generator draw to win 2 golden tickets which entitles them to a free breaktime snack and drink for the winner, plus a ticket for one of their friends.

#### **Praise Stickers**

Every lesson students have the opportunity to collect praise stickers for their positive attitude to learning, collaboratively working well along with other positive attributes to learning.

#### Proud Podium

The Proud Podium is an opportunity for staff to nominate students for their excellent achievements, efforts and improvements within the classroom and beyond. Staff upload a picture of the student's work which is then generated into a QR code so parents and carers can see their child's work by scanning with a mobile device, via the camera mode. We highly encourage parents and carers to email a positive comment via proudparent@danum.outwood.com to enter their child into a further prize draw.



Every half term we celebrate students' success and achievements in their subjects via our Praising Stars day assemblies. Students receive a report which provides them with an effort grade and an attainment grade for each subject. This year we are inviting parents and carers into our assemblies if their child has been nominated for a special achievement award. Look out for your invite!







Y11 - ELLIOTT F ADMITS 1 PLUS A FRIEND | FREE BREAKTIME SNACK & A DRINK PLEASE COLLECT FROM PE OFFICE | VALID: 18/12/23 - 21/12/2023

We would love to hear from you if you would like to become involved in OAD praise culture. Do you have ideas or suggestions you would like to put forward? If so, we would love to hear from you, please email Mrs Saunders - I.saunders@danum.outwood.com

PRAISE

Maths of 1053

#### <u>Year 7</u>

Students have spent some time exploring the concepts of the unknown, and becoming more familiar with mathematical modelling. Proportion and ratio have also been explored, finding the best buys at the supermarket or the best deal on mobile phones. Representing data in its many forms from tables to scatter diagrams, histograms and pie charts (hmm delicious!) has also formed part of our learning for Y7.

#### **Enrichment**

After school Maths has been attended very well over the term and students are already seeing progress in their Mock exam scores and grades.

Homework club has been attended well and Sparx completion rate is up by 5% over last year.

#### <u>Year 8</u>

Students started the year looking at probability, hopefully now understanding why the bookmakers are the real winners at the St Leger. They looked at more complicated proportion and ratio and linked that to the concept of infinity. Then students studied algebra graphically, understanding the concepts of gradient and parallel, and for some students perpendicular, when exploring equations of lines.

#### <u>Year 9</u>

Students have spent time exploring shapes geometrically, starting with defining congruent and similarity, then moving on to reflecting, rotating and enlarging shapes and then learning to describe a transformation. Students then looked at proportional reasoning including "speed, distance and time", hopefully to help them with future journeys (traffic dependent).

#### <u>Year 10</u>

Students have been investigating relationships algebraically using index form to represent one or more multiplication steps. Then looking at the concepts of interpolation and extrapolation to see whether their mathematical models, created with scatter diagrams and lines of best fit, are appropriate to make estimations with and within what context.

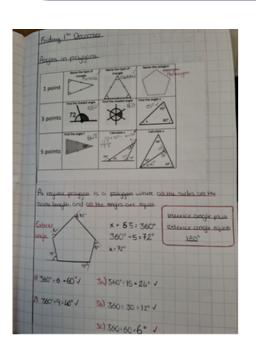
#### Year 12 & 13

Students started off looking at calculus introducing the concepts of differentiation and integration. Students also explored coordinate geometry, studying the equations of circles and magnitudes of lines.

Students delve further into calculus differentiating and integrating trigonometric functions and natural logs. Then looked in greater depth at trigonometric identities using double angle formulae small angle approximations.

#### Year 11

Students have been looking at numerous very specific topics in the run up to their mocks to help them be as successful as possible. Many of the students have improved upon their Year 10 end of year exams and are celebrating their improvement. Practice papers have been given to the students. Please encourage them to complete these over the holiday.



#### Year 7

In term 1, students have looked at a range of non-fiction texts based on real life heroes. Students then started looking at Gothic fiction in the Sinister Stories module before writing their own narrative. Finally, students have just begun looking at their first class novel Cirque Du Freak. As well as enjoying the text students will also look at how the writer creates tension and develops characters.

#### Year 9

Students have looked at non-fiction crime writing, looking at the way that writers communicate information. Following on from this students looked at extracts from dystopian fiction before starting to study the Woman In Black. They have looked at how characters are created, how the writer creates tension and atmosphere as well as studying the structure of texts.



Znglish

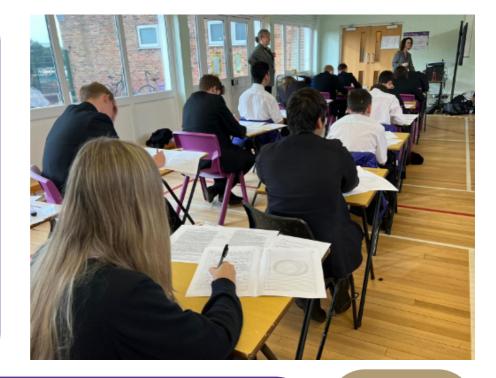
#### <u>Year 8</u>

Students began by looking at the fantasy genre through extracts and short stories. Students then completed their own piece of narrative writing. We then moved on to Ghost Boys, a novel about racial injustice. I was delighted with the thoughtful and perceptive comments students made. Finally, we ended the term looking at war and conflict poetry.

#### <u>Year 10</u>

In literature students have begun looking at the Anthology Poetry. They have already started to compare themes within poetry. In addition to this, we have been looking at our first examined novel - A Christmas Carol.

In English language we have taught a range of 'writer's craft' questions students are now getting very good at selecting quotations and explaining meaning. Students have also practised writing a newsletter and have written a full narrative.



#### <u>Year II</u>

The highlight of the term has definitely been the walk through mocks. Students loved the confidence it gave them and have performed much better in their mock exams from all the hard work.

In English language we have covered all aspects of both exam components and students are now experienced answering all question types.

In literature students have been taking part in the Anthology Challenge to help them revise the anthology poetry. We have also revised Romeo and Juliet and A Christmas Carol. Enrichment Journalism club, Y10 & Y11 additional English. Board game club

Deography

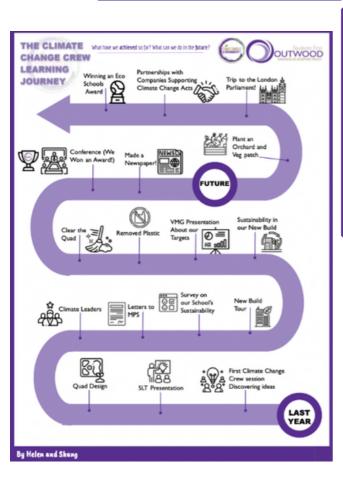


#### Year 7

Year 7 have started their secondary school journey exploring why our world is amazing! They have travelled to many continents such as North America, Europe, Asia and Oceania delving into big questions such as 'Would a Yellowstone eruption be the end of the world?' - starting the first term with a BANG! Year 7 have practised key skills such as locating continents and oceans, working out grid references and categorising human and physical geography. In this term's topic we are heading to the tropical rainforest, desert and the polar ecosystems! Bring your rucksack!

#### Year 8

Year 8 have been breaking down barriers and misconceptions learning about Africa. They have learnt about the Great Green Wall, inspirational individuals such as Wangari Maathai, the dangers of the guinea worm and why diamonds are so bloody! In the second topic of the term Year 8 have been on a journey down the world's major rivers, identifying their features such as waterfalls, meanders and oxbow lakes and learning about the effects of plastic pollution in the Mekong river.



#### <u>Year 9</u>

In this half term's topic Year 9 have being exploring our oceans. From investigating the lives of Somali pirates to exploring the trade route of the Northwest Passage - we've sailed the 7 seas; weaved through all our topics is the issue of climate change. In the oceans topic Year 9 have thought about the impact of single use plastic in our oceans. Did you know that in 1992, a cargo ship container tumbled into the North Pacific ocean dumping more than 28,800 rubber ducks which are still washing up on the beaches around the world today? Many of our Year 9 students are part of the Climate Change Crew enrichment and helped to ban single use plastic in our school lunch hall! They have been working hard to reduce plastic that could end up in the ocean! Did you know just one Outwood Academy blazer also saves 36 plastic bottles from landfill?



KS3 and KS4 revision resources and games: geography.outwood.com



#### Year 10

Year 10 have made a fantastic start to their GCSE in geography! Miss Parkhurst and the geography team are extremely proud of your hard work and resilience, with many of you changing teachers during this time. Year 10 started their GCSEs with Living World where they learnt about different ecosystems, their characteristics and the opportunities and challenges for people who live there! In the second topic the students have been looking at resource management analysing global issues with water, food and nergy and what we can do to reduce this! Our next topic is natural hazards - its going to rock!

Enrichment

We are delighted to be running Bronze Duke of Edinburgh this year with over 20 students signing up! So far the students have been practising their navigation and map skills along with some first aid training!

The Climate Change Crew have been working hard making Outwood Academy Danum a more sustainable school. Teaming up with the Personal Development Centre (PDC) the students have planted a school orchard consisting of apple, pear and plum trees. The students have also created the second edition of the schools' climate newspaper with some fabulous ideas for sustainable Christmas gifts! Check these out in the school reception!



school to r

- Find out about th
- at Ch



"Our aim for this newsletter is to keep you up to date with our latest projects and provide easy and sustainable gift ideas that are good for the environment."

SHA

#### Year 11

YII have been working hard this term learning about rivers and flooding - a very topical module at some points this term! Year 11 have been focusing on exam questions and detailed content to develop their answers further. In conjunction with this they have been practising the sequencing of formational features and learning the art of a good geography sketch. Year 11 have been focusing on their mocks, through starters, targeted interventions, homeworks and Friday enrichment, striving to do their best. Our next topic for Paper 2 is Changing Economic World. Keep up the hard work!

#### Enrichment

Four of our Year 9 and 10 students are representing Outwood Academy Danum in the OGAT Mock COP28. Here the students will debate against other schools in the Trust. This year OAD will be representing the Marshall Islands!

Our Year 11 students continue to work hard in afterschool enrichment on Friday 2:30-3:30pm. We have been practising our case studies and longer writing styles! #Humanitiesheroes

History E

#### <u>Year 7</u>

Students have been learning all about life in medieval England, who was in charge during this period and how they ruled.

Year 8 Students have been learning about the British empire and the history of colonialism in Africa.

#### Year 9

Are looking at race and women in Britain since the end of World War Two and asking how far Britain has progressed.

<u>Trips and Visits</u> In October Year 11 students had a virtual visit to the trenches, and on 30th November we took nearly 100 Year 7's to the Nottingham Justice Museum.

#### Year 7

In term 1, Y7 students have been developing skills to become good language learners such as how to approach new vocabulary, phonics and grammar both in French and Spanish. Pupils then applied those skills in the school unit in French which allowed them to understand people talking and writing about their school, what they study as well as speaking about it themselves. They also learned about how Christmas is celebrated in French and Spanish speaking countries.





#### Year 8

This year's learning started with the topic of technology. Students learned how to describe the technology/gadgets they have, what they use them for and how they feel about them. After that they developed their knowledge of opinions making them more complex this time by talking about French music and French films.

#### Year 9

For year 9 the year started with the description of a typical French/Spanish city including places of interest, what can be done there and giving opinions. They extended their work by adding the past and conditional tense. Following this, they talked about school, their school subjects and compared their current plans for the future to when they were younger.

#### Year 10/11

Year 10 students have been working on understanding and talking about free time activities, giving opinions about music and films as well as food and eating out. They have also talked about family and future plans and learned some more about exam skills. Year II have been working hard on the topics of Festivals and celebrations, jobs and future plans as well as diet and healthy lifestyle. They also completed mock exams to hone their exam techniques and skills.

#### Enrichment

The Culture Club has been running every Thursday after school and looked at the celebrations taking place in Mexico for Día de los Muertos as well as how Christmas is traditionally celebrated in France and Spain.

Year 11 students have a support/revision class running on Fridays both for French and Spanish after school. Some of our students went to France attending the Christmas Market in Arras and experiencing French language and culture for a few days.

Brama & Performing Arts

#### Year 7

In term 1, Y7 students have been developing skills such as still image, mime, physical theatre and audience awareness. Pupils then applied those skills in the spooky Haunted House/School scheme of work which allowed them to develop characters and build tension/atmosphere.

#### Year 8

We started the year exploring the Willy Russell classic Blood Brothers. Students acted out scenes, rehearsed playing characters from age 7 through to early twenties. Along the way, learners explored themes such as social class, adoption and moral decisions. In half term 2, students have learnt about different theatrical genres from horror to pantomime and everything in between. Each week has focussed on a different performance style to challenge learners to be more versatile actors.



#### Year 9

That's Bang Out of Order! Or so students thought when they studied a play of the same title. The play delves into the world of anti-social behaviour and has strong themes of criminal damage, peer pressure, gang culture and crime. Students used drama techniques such as flashback, mime to music and off text improvisation to both act out the script and devise their own scenes. After October half term, learners built on prior learning by participating in stage combat workshops in how to punch, slap, kick and strangle their peers - or so it looked after picking up all the tricks of the trade on stage fighting, just like they use on the stage and in the movies!

#### Year 10/11

Year 10 students have been learning about the work of a key practitioner and Yorkshire playwright, John Godber. They have explored stylistic features of his work such as direct address of the audience, social commentary, comedy and character narration. They have specifically looked at the play 'Teechers'. Year 11 have been working hard on their BTEC Performing Arts component I. Having watched the Frantic Assembly physical theatre adaptation of William Shakespeare's Othello, students have been analysing the theme of 'relationships' both in the play and in the roles and responsibilities of key personnel in the production as they enhance their knowledge of the performing arts industry.

#### **Enrichment**

You ain't never had a friend like me!

That's right, the Outwood Academy Danum production of Aladdin is well underway in the rehearsal room. Our very talented cast have been working extremely hard to learn lines, take direction, memorise choreography and tune their singing.

The production will take place in March and tickets will be available from the Drama and Music team. Please come along to support and marvel at our musical theatre magicians on stage!

#### <u>Year 7</u>

In term 1, year 7 students have been studying about local and active citizenship in order to develop their understanding of how society operates. They have been able to discuss what makes a good citizen and come up with ideas about what people can do to actively promote a positive change in a functioning society. They have also had opportunities to highlight key issues within society and think about ways to contribute towards resolving them. Part of this included learning how to write a letter and practising writing a letter to a member of parliament in an attempt to make a change within the local community. Year 7 students have also learned about identity and key topic areas that surround identity including British Values, Diversity, Multiculturalism, Racism, Prejudice and Discrimination which are all focal topics in modern society.

#### Year 9

In term 1, year 9 students have learned about mental health, relationships and sex education. They have been able to talk about mental health, promote awareness and understanding of it, and explain factors that contribute to mental health issues. Later in the term, students have been able to explore what constitutes a positive relationship and which types of relationships people can have. Students have learned about consent and the importance of consent in relationships. There have been opportunities for students to learn about contraception, including the different types of contraception and what the consequences can be of unprotected sex. Linking to the science curriculum, students have learned about sexually transmitted diseases, their symptoms and how they can be prevented. Students have also had opportunities to debate about the influence of the internet can be a tool for online grooming and how to stay safe online.

#### <u>Year 10</u>

In term 1, year 10 students have learned about politics and the law. They have been able to learn about where laws came from historically and how different countries have adopted different laws and approaches to politics. Students have been able to explore their own political standpoint and beliefs, and have developed an understanding of their human rights. Students have learned about British politics, voting and local councils. Later in the term, students linked their learning around human rights and politics to learning about crime and the law. They learned about different types of crimes, different types of punishments and strategies that can be adopted to reduce crime. They have had opportunities to analyse case studies and debate about what courses of action they think should be taken in given scenarios.

ij. Jife

#### <u>Year 8</u>

In term 1, year 8 students have been learning about Religious Studies. In the first half term they studied Judaism allowing them to gain a broader view of the religion, learning about key rules and values, places of worship, religious books and figures as well as Jewish ceremonies. They then went on to study Philosophy and Ethics in which they were able to establish key definitions for what morals and ethics are, and delve into thinking about their own morals and ethics. To explore this further, students have looked at various examples in society, including ethics in business and surrounding the environment and climate change, in order to consider their own morals and ethics. They have been able to debate about their standpoints on key topics and help each other develop empathy and understanding of other people's views.



Physical Education @

#### <u>Year 7</u>

In term 1, Y7 students have begun to build on the fundamental skills like throwing, catching, dribbling and shooting. Pupils have been applying these skills in small sided team games, such as football, basketball and rugby.

#### Year 8

Students have started the year by further developing their core techniques, as well as starting to develop their leadership and communication skills. Pupils have been implementing these skills into their team games by leading strategic discussions on how to outwit their opponents.

#### <u>Year 9</u>

Pupils have begun the school year by starting to develop their more advanced techniques in racket sports. They have made great use of the new sports hall for badminton and carried on redefining their skills in table tennis. Students have also started to consider how games are officiated/scored.





### <u>Year 10/11</u>

KS4 students have started the year by developing, implementing and refining attacking and defending strategies and the advanced techniques that can be used to aid their game play. They have also begun to look at how tournaments are officiated and scored with some students having the chance to work with our partners Active Fusion on one of their primary school events.

Outwood Academy Danum's sports teams are back in full swing with both the basketball and football teams having a term that was packed to the brim with fixtures.

PDE Enrichment

#### **Football**

GoallIIII! Danum Football is back! The Y8 boys football team kicked off our fixture list bagging their first win of the season against Laurel Academy. Mr Lambert was incredibly proud of the great teamwork our boys showed.

Our Y7 boys team were right behind them in the fixtures list having their first ever run out against Dewarenne. Mr Smith was blown away with how the boys fought to the very last minute.

Our Y9 boys kicked off their first game against our neighbours Armthorpe Academy. The boys wiped the dust off their boots and dug deep to play a very competitive entertaining game. Mr Pearson said he was especially proud of how the team worked extremely hard and showed that teamwork does make the dreamwork.

The girls football teams (Y7/8 & Y9/10) kicked off their season with a fixture against our friends at Outwood Academy Adwick.

Y7/Y8 bagged themselves a 1-1 draw after only playing together for a few weeks.

Y9/Y10 quickly found their rhythm after having a nice summer break to give Adwick a very competitive game. Mrs Saunders and Miss Wain were both thrilled at the great start both teams have made to their season and even more impressed with the beautiful goals scored.

The U13 girls then took a trip to the Eco-Power Stadium to represent the school in the Utilita Girls Cup where they narrowly missed out on advancing to the second round. Basketball Are you ready for tip off?

Our U16 basketball team kicked off the basketball fixtures against a very strong Firth Park Team. Mr Spence was beaming with pride as all of the boys involved acquitted themselves particularly well and represented our academy fantastically.

Our Y7/Y8 boys basketball team had their first tip off against Wales High School and Hall Cross Academy showcasing the great resilience and teamwork Team Danum live by. Mr Spence made sure the boys knew he was proud of the fact they never gave up, making sure to battle from tip off to the very end of the game.





Getting to know your Learning Managers



Miss Loosemore Lead Learning Manager r.loosemore@danum.outwood.com

> Miss Manoharan Y7 Learning Manager v.manoharan@danum.outwood.com





Mrs Hutchinson Y8 Learning Manager s.hutchinson@danum.outwood.com

> Mrs Mann Y9 Learning Manager a.mann@danum.outwood.com





Miss Roper Y10 Learning Manager j.roper@danum.outwood.com

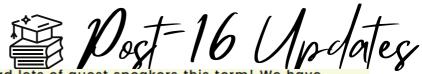
> Mrs Veal YII Learning Manager e.veal@danum.outwood.com





Mrs Corkan Post-16 Learning Manager s.corkan@danum.outwood.com Miss Chadwick Post-16 Learning Manager c.chadwick@danum.outwood.com







We have had lots of guest speakers this term! We have heard from various apprenticeship providers, Next Step York programme information, NCS, and many more!

# DRIVING AWARENESS ASSEMBLY

In November, all Year 12 had an emotional assembly on driving awareness. We welcomed Vicki, mother of Jordy, a Danum student who was killed in a car accident, along with 4 other Danum students.

Vicki spoke about the legacy left by Jordy, and emphasised the importance of driving safely, and explained how the consequences last a life-time. It was an incredibly moving assembly. Her final message to all Year 12 was to "stay safe" when driving.

Thankyou to Mrs Swiffen-Laing for organising.





Sheffield Hallam Sheffield Hallam Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair. For students who are not considering University, this was a fantastic opportunity to meet with employers who are offering full-time apprenticeships for Sixth Form Leavers.

> Students met with employers who are offering apprenticeships in various fields, including: Architecture and Chartered Planning, Creative and Digital, Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, and Leadership and Management.

Huge thanks to Mr Commander and Mrs South for organising attendance at such an informative event!



Some of our awesome A-Level Maths and Further Maths Year 13s competed in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge - a national contest. This is a tough exam paper involving 25 problems to solve. Every student attained a bronze or silver award! Well done to Poppy, John, Migle, Masha & Aymaan!

Community Engagement 898

# **Christmas Hampers and Community Messages**



Students have engaged in a seasonal community initiative, which has seen them working in their

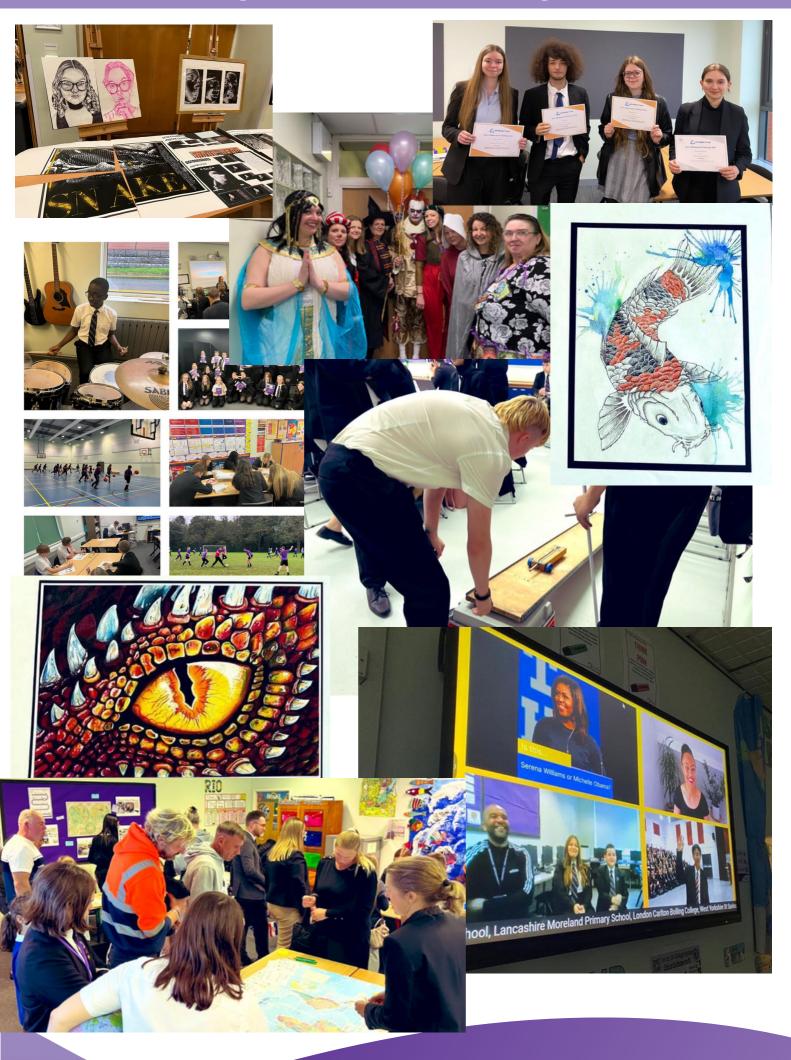
VMGs to produce hampers involving food, activities, Christmas cards and letters which have been distributed within the local community. We are proud to have shared these with The People Focused Group, The Old Rectory Care Home and The Beeches Care Home. In total, we produced and donated over 25 hampers to our community!





At Danum, we understand that reading, not only gives us the best opportunity to be successful academically, but also provides a fantastic chance to de-stress and improve our mental wellbeing. All Y7 and Y8 students participate in the Accelerated Reading programme in lessons and at home. Davina N, Yan Yan H and Jayke H are our first students to earn a chance to use our brand new reading vending machine as a reward for all of their hard work when it comes to reading! Well done to Davina, who has read over 1,000,000 words this term! In second and third place, we have Yan Yan H (over 600,000 words), and Jayke H (over 450,000 words). In the new year, students will be nominated by their English teachers for a chance to win a free book from our reading vending machine!









I Ith January - Year 9 Guided Pathway Evening
I 8th January - Year 9 & 11 Parents Evening
7th February - SEND coffee morning
7th February - Year 11 & 13 Revision Fayre
22nd February - Year 8 & 10 Parents Evening
26th & 27th March - Aladdin Jr

Year II revision n Monday - Englis Wednesday - Scie Thursday - Mat Friday - History, Geograp	sh ence hs
Sparx Maths Login     Sparx Maths Login     Student Login     You're logging in to Sparx at Outwood Academy Danum.     Net your school?     Use your Sparx login     Vername:     Password:     Show	View       View         View
Outwood Academy Danum Contact us at enquiries@danur	@OutwoodDanum

01302 831385