

Tuesday 20 February 2024

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to provide a Year 11 update as we head into this final half term before the summer exams. It was wonderful to see so many students attending the booster sessions in the academy over the half-term break, and to see parents and carers with students at our revision evening just before the holidays. It is wonderful to see our community coming together to do the very best for our young people to ensure they are well prepared for their exams and the bright future that awaits them.

I hope that you have reviewed your child's Praising Stars 3 certificate that was shared just before the end of the half-term. Your child received their certificate detailing their effort and predicted grades in each of their subjects, the certificate can also be found on the Outwood portal via your mobile device. [Portal.outwood.com](http://Portal.outwood.com) What they do from now onwards can really make a difference.

Over the next two weeks, Year 11 students will complete their mock examinations. This is an important milestone in experiencing how exams will operate and importantly for us to review their performance and target our final weeks of teaching and intervention to their personal needs. There is an overview of the mock exam timetable at the end of this letter, but all students also have their own personalised version, which has been shared with them.

**With now only 46 school days** until the first whole year group exam it is vital that we support students in forming good habits that evidence success:

- 100% attendance - as every second of teaching and learning counts
- Punctual arrival to the Academy; on site by 8.15am every day - exams cannot wait
- Absolute focus in every lesson
- Attend targeted after school sessions; they have been designed to fill the gaps students are missing and reinforce topics that students need
- Complete the weekly out of school tasks - Mathswatch, Science GCSE-Pod, English daily questions, and many more activities across their examined subjects
- Have a revision plan - timetable revision at home as well as the sessions in school; we will support building a revision timetable in school.

Outwood Grange Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 06995649.

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

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

After school, there are targeted sessions for students to attend to help them revise key content, and help close any learning gaps. In the exams, every mark matters so we hope to see the students really capitalise on this time. We are also rewarding attendance at after school enrichment with weekly prize draws of £10 vouchers. There have already been over 50 pupils who have won a £10 voucher by being in the prize draws: all they need to do is to come to intervention to be in with a chance to win.

Students also have access to our online Outwood masterclasses and revision resources at; <https://www.outwood.com/revision-masterclasses>

We want all students to have a vision of their next-steps; students have been working with specialist careers advisors looking at their career pathways in applying for 6th form, apprenticeships and college places. We recognise that places are limited in certain areas and we want to ensure your children are well prepared with applications and clear next steps.

Our sixth form has more applications than ever, with the introduction of T-Levels in health, students are already studying and working directly in the industry from the beginning. The next cohort will have the opportunity to study in our unique half-a-million pound Health education facility, opening September 2024. One of the first of its kind in the country and one of the most direct routes to working in the health industry. This is just one area of sixth form, alongside a range of A-Level and vocational courses. For more information, please visit <https://www.post16doncaster.outwood.com/>

For many, a key part of the Year 11 vision is their prom, a rite of passage following their exams with the year group coming together to celebrate their hard work. The venue and the date have been set and our student prom committee are busy planning the decor and other arrangements. With this rite of passage comes an agreement that students are rewarded with their prom for their efforts in Year 11, with a set criteria they must meet to be able to purchase their prom ticket.

Importantly the prom criteria is set purely upon the qualities and expectations that will support them in forming good habits and being successful in their summer exams. This is detailed in their prom passport, which records their progress against the criteria and celebrates their hard work. The prom passport and criteria to attend prom includes:

- Maintain good attendance to school
- Punctuality to school and all lessons
- Good behaviour and attitude to learning and social times
- Attendance to targeted sessions- breakfast and lunch clubs, after school enrichment activities and holiday boosters.

Students will understandably be nervous over the coming weeks and we want to support, reassure and prepare them the very best that we can. There is a list of key colleagues below for if you need to make contact with the academy at any time by telephone or email.

Mrs Godfrey (Vice Principal & Year 11 senior lead link)	<a href="mailto:d.godfrey@danum.outwood.com">d.godfrey@danum.outwood.com</a>
Mrs Veal (Year 11 Learning Manager)	<a href="mailto:e.veal@danum.outwood.com">e.veal@danum.outwood.com</a>
Mrs Loosemore (Lead Learning Manager)	<a href="mailto:r.loosemore@danum.outwood.com">r.loosemore@danum.outwood.com</a>
Miss Harle (Safeguarding Officer)	<a href="mailto:l.harle@danum.outwood.com">l.harle@danum.outwood.com</a>
Mrs Reilly (SENCO)	<a href="mailto:h.reilly@danum.outwood.com">h.reilly@danum.outwood.com</a>
Miss Reading (Attendance Manager)	<a href="mailto:e.reading@danum.outwood.com">e.reading@danum.outwood.com</a>
Mrs Arnold (Head of Department: English)	<a href="mailto:h.arnold@danum.outwood.com">h.arnold@danum.outwood.com</a>
Mr Slater (Head of Department: Maths)	<a href="mailto:b.slater@danum.outwood.com">b.slater@danum.outwood.com</a>
Miss Rai (Head of Department: Science)	<a href="mailto:n.raai@danum.outwood.com">n.raai@danum.outwood.com</a>

It has been a privilege to work with this year group, and like you we're committed to ensuring they can attain their potential, achieve fantastic results in the summer and go on to their chosen next steps.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns, and we look forward to celebrating as a community on results day in the summer.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs A Crane  
Principal

Date	AM Session	PM Session
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Wed 21/2/24	Science Biology Combined Science Biology Separate	Further Maths Paper 1
Thurs 22/2/24	English Language Component 2	Geography Paper 1
Fri 23/2/24	Maths Paper 2	French Listening French Reading Music
Mon 26/2/24	English Literature Component 1	Home Languages Listening Home Languages Reading
Tues 27/2/24	Science Chemistry Combined Science Chemistry Separate	History Paper 2
Wed 28/2/24	English Literature Component 2	Geography Paper 2
Thurs 29/2/24	Maths Paper 3	French Writing Spanish Writing Chinese Writing
Fri 1/3/24	Science Physics Combined Science Physics Separate	Home Languages writing Further Maths Paper 2