

Dear parents and carers,

As we draw to the end of the academic year, I wanted to showcase to you just some of the fantastic achievements of our students here at Outwood Academy Hemsworth, as well as explain the planned return for students in September 2023. Below are some of the highlights of recent weeks or you can follow this [link](#) to our summer celebrations video.

Firstly, the **Year 9 Graduations and KS3 Awards Evening** have been a huge success. For many parents and carers this was the first time they had visited the academy due to the Covid restrictions when Year 9 completed their transition in Year 6. Everyone was treated to an excellent afternoon of praise, celebration and



catering!



This week we have also had the **Key Stage 3 Reading Awards**, celebrating progress and engagement! The whoops and cheers from the Dome were epic and our award winners thoroughly deserving of their recognition. I know Ms Backhouse, Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Barry and Ms Sykes also enjoyed the celebrations and are very proud of the students they have worked with this year.



Next, on Wednesday 19 July, our **Elite Sports Students** returned triumphant from Dorothy Hyman Stadium having (quite honestly) smashed it against our friendly rivals at Outwood Academy Carlton and Shafton.

Students came off their coach punching the air - fantastic effort by all competitors 🏆🏆🏆

Last but not least ... our **Student Voice** representatives who have spearheaded the charge to improve Sustainability across the Trust. Our students attended a Trust Conference at Elland Road Stadium and walked away with the top award of **Certificate of Excellence** from OGAT Chief Executive for Secondary Julie Slater. The students presented on all of their initiatives, including their plans to regenerate the Quad in the Main Block into an 'Outdoor Safe Space' having secured £2500 from Wakefield District Housing. A huge thank you to all our Student Voice representatives who have inspired our students to be 'Extraordinary'.



### **September 2023 return to school**

You will have all received a separate letter detailing the uniform requirements for September 2023. Please ensure that students are fully equipped with the correct uniform and equipment ready for the new term. Please see below for the arrangements for the start of term:

**Monday 4 September and Tuesday 5 September 2023:** INSET training day for all staff, students are not expected to attend the academy.

**Wednesday 6 September 2023: Year 7 and Year 11 only.** Students should arrive at the academy by 8.15am ready for registration at 8.25am.

- **Year 7 students** will be completing their induction into the academy and working on our 'ACE' (Academy Conduct Expectations) programme modules.
- **Year 11 students** have their 'Post 16 and College experience' with taster lessons in Level 3 A level and BTEC courses or Level 2 vocational options. In addition, they will have guest speakers from Wakefield College, ASK Apprenticeships and the University of Leeds.

**Thursday 7 September 2023:** Academy reopens to all students.

### **Thank you to staff and some fond farewells**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my staff for their hard work this year. We have had so many achievements and look forward to welcoming new staff to the academy in September. We can't wait to see our students move into their new year group, with a fresh chance to work hard, make new friends and continue to strive to be at the top of the Outwood Pyramid.



I would like to take this opportunity to particularly thank the following colleagues who leave us after many years of service to the community. Mrs Vaughan our Catering Manager and Teaching Assistants Mr Wood and Mrs Bird all leave us after a combined service to Hemsworth of 54 years. I have been overwhelmed to see the gratitude from students to staff across the academy over the last few days. It really means a lot to staff who I know go above and beyond to support your children.

As we head into the summer break, should any families feel they need support over the holidays, the green button on the academy website signposts to some excellent organisations. Click the link [mental-wellbeing](#) here for more information.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable summer break.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzie Day'.

Suzie Day  
Principal