

13 July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the end of term approaches, students are still busy in their lessons, ensuring the end of the term is a productive one. In the final week of term, we have a program of exciting events. The aim of this letter is to keep you informed of some of the exciting things that will be happening next week:

Monday 18 July: Anti-Bullying Awareness Day

There are a series of events throughout the day, culminating in an 'ipledge' where the work of our anti-bullying ambassadors will be highlighted throughout the day. There will also be an extended tutor time focused on anti-bullying. As part of the day, to raise awareness of our anti-bullying message, students can wear a brightly coloured additional item/accessory, such as: different coloured socks, sun glasses, wrist band, pin badge or similar.

Tuesday 19 July: Celebration Events

We will hold our end of term 'ACE awards' and 'Sports Personality of the Year' in school. Members of the NHS will also be in the Academy to hold a Careers talk with our Year 8 Students.

Wednesday 20 July: Sports Festival

Students will be participating in various sporting activities throughout the day. The start and finish times of the Academy day remain the same, with students required to be on site at 8:15am lined up in their tutor group lines. The usual teaching timetable will be collapsed to accommodate the schedule of events, which will form the basis of the Sports Festival.

All students are expected to attend the Academy as normal and we would encourage 100% attendance from students to help make the day a success. Any absence will be recorded in line with the Academy's attendance policy. All students are directed to attend the Academy wearing their full PE kit, including shorts, polo shirt tracksuit bottoms and rugby top, to ensure they are suitably dressed to take part in the Sports Festival whatever their role may be on the day. In line with the Academy's Uniform policy, no other items of clothing outside of the policy are allowed to be worn on the school site. This year a variety of sports and activities will be available to students including some inflatables and other fun activities along with more traditional sports such as football, netball, cricket and rounders.

All students will be provided with lunch, in the form of a packed lunch, to allow the day to run with as little interruption as possible. Students will also be issued with water throughout the day but we highly recommend your child to bring a reusable water bottle. Students do not need to bring a bag to school on this day and if they do they will be required to leave this locked in their tutor room throughout the day. Due to the current warm weather please also ensure that your child applies sun cream. Unfortunately, due to health and safety implications, parents are unable to attend the Sports Festival. I trust that you will understand the potential safeguarding difficulties, when making provisions for large numbers of parents coming on to the Academy site during the day.

Thursday 21 July: Culture Day

We will be celebrating all cultures of the world, especially focussing on the cultures represented by students and their families that attend Outwood Academy Acklam. This will include a change of menu representing a sample of food from various countries; music from various cultures played in the Dining Hall throughout the day; students wearing clothes that best represent their culture. Examples of clothes that students may choose to wear may include (but is not exhaustive to): different coloured headscarves, saris or thobes. Students who represent cadets outside of school may also choose to wear their armed forces uniform, in addition to sporting tops (football/cricket tops).

Please note that as a part of this cultural wear there are a few simple rules that students will be expected to adhere too, to embrace and take part in the Culture Day in the spirit it is intended:

- The clothing worn should best represent their own culture (students shouldn't be dressing in clothing from a culture that isn't their own)
- The clothing worn should be appropriate for a school day in the culture they're representing. In addition we please ask, irrespective of culture, for no bare midriffs, no skirts or shorts above the knee, and no tops that leave the shoulders exposed.
- Students who don't wish to partake can, of course, wear their school uniform (as this is an accurate representation of British culture!)
- Students are encouraged to bring in a voluntary £1 donation to the Great North Air Ambulance Service

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at the academy, or via email p.baines@acklam.outwood.com.

Yours sincerely,



Mr P. L. Baines,

Associate Vice Principal (Deep Experience)

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