

NEWSLETTER

DATE: 2nd February 2024

UP COMING DATES

5th – 11th February – Children's Mental Health Week
6th February – ISY and 5LS local walk
12th – 16th February – Half term
19th February – Back to school
20th and 21st – Parent meetings
27th February – Reception children health screening checks
28th February – Year 4 visit
29th February & 1st March – Year 5 visits to OGA for DT session
22nd March – Last day of term
8th April – All children back to school

Communication



A polite reminder that our main communication method is now through an app called Xpressions. If you have not downloaded the app and registered on it, please do so, and make sure that we have the email address you've registered with. If you need support with downloading or registering on the app, please come and see a member of staff in the office who will be happy to support with this.

Local Charity Fundraising

A huge thank you to everyone who donated or sponsored one of our amazing reindeer children on 13th December. Wakefield Hospice have informed us that an amazing 37 schools took place and, with funds still being processed, they are over the moon to announce that between the 37 schools who took part, the event has so far raised a staggering £25,312! We will let you know as soon as we have been notified of our schools' final amount.



Outwood Primary Diploma

This half term our diploma has focused on the theme: Protect and respect the environment. Many learning opportunities have been explored from EYFS where Nursery children made bird feeders; Year 2 children took part in the RSPB Great British Birdwatch; to Year 5 children who have accepted the challenge of the Woodlands Trust Green School Award. This has involved cross phase communication and learning both inside and outside of the classroom.

Enhanced curriculum

We love to enhance our classroom learning by inviting visitors into the academy or by taking the children off site. Our most recent visits saw Year 5 taking a coach to Sandal Castle to explore first hand the scene of the Battle of Wakefield in 1460! A favourite castle of Richard III that played its part in the War of the Roses. A perfect experience to enhance their learning about the Tudor period. Year 2 went underground at the National Coal Mining Museum to learn about and experience what it was like to work as a coal miner, and of course they met the horses and ponies!



Science Fair

All children in Years 1 to 6 have taken part in the Great Outwood Science Fair! The theme of 'flight' has seen groups of children creating their own scientific questions to investigate. A winning group from each class will showcase their investigation in a whole school fair before the winners of this compete against other Outwood schools in March 2024! Good luck team OPALL!



Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 5-11 February 2024. The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'. My Voice Matters is about empowering children by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. This year, we want to empower children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing. Our aim for Children's Mental Health Week is for all children to be able to say – and believe - "My Voice Matters."

We have attached a copy of 'Place2Be's Family Top Tips for supporting conversations with your child about mental health. Please follow this link <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/> to find practical advice and tried and tested tips for parents and carers.

Parking

We appreciate that parking around the academy at drop off and collection times can be challenging, therefore we encourage families to walk wherever possible. If you need to drive to school, we politely ask that you hold the safety of our children and families at the forefront of your decisions and also park respectfully to enable our neighbours to access their properties.

