

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back! I hope you have had an enjoyable summer. The children have certainly had lots of exciting stories to share.

Welcome to our new children and their families who are settling in really well and to our existing families for this academic year. I know you will continue to work with us positively, so your child can grow in confidence, with a love of learning, and achieve the best that they can.

We are also delighted to welcome our Assistant Principal, Mr Neil Charlton who will also be teaching Year 6 this year. He is very much looking forward to meeting you all this year.

Can you ensure, that, as parents and carers you put a great value on school and education. Explain to your child that treating everyone with respect, being on time and in school every day, wearing the correct uniform and working hard in school is important to you. As you know, our school rules are to be safe, be respectful and be responsible. Please do remind your children of these and the behaviour expectations we have as an Academy.

This year, we look forward to continuing to develop and improve the good work of our Academy in the community. It is always lovely to hear about positive comments on social media and out in the community. Please continue to spread the word about the wonderful ways in which school is growing and changing. This year, ourselves and Outwood Academy Ripon have been shortlisted for an Community Hero Ripon Award and we thank you for your kind nominations. Please vote for us at www.riponawards.co.uk.

The expectations are high at OPAG and I thank you for your continued support with this. I look forward to meeting with you all throughout the next academic year.

Miss Victoria Kirkman, Academy Principal

Teaching and Learning

After working for several years in another successful Outwood Primary Academy, it's with a great deal of excitement and pride that I join the team here at Outwood Primary Academy Greystone. Over recent years – last year in particular - the children have shown a huge amount of progress in their abilities and confidence, both academically and socially. This amount of progress can only be achieved through dedicated teaching and learning by the staff and children with support from families. I am looking forward to working with the whole community of Outwood Primary Academy Greystone to continue this superb level of progress and transformation.

Each half-term there will be a different focus across the academy and each class will have their own topic to link with this theme. This half-term, our theme is **EXPLORE**. The topic for each class is as follows:

Nursery – Magical Me
Reception/ Year 1 – Magical Me
Year 1/2 – Frozen Kingdom
Year 2/3 – Frozen Kingdom
Year 4 – United Kingdom
Year 5 - The Great Barrier Reef
Year 6 – The Americas



I very much look forward to seeing all of the fantastic work and events for these exciting topics.

Mr Neil Charlton, Assistant Principal

Parent Pay £

Please ensure that your Parent Pay balance remains **in credit** at all times. Any outstanding payments must be paid **immediately** to ensure no further action is taken. If you have any issues please speak with Mrs Spedding in the school office.

OPAG Gallery

Welcome back to OPAG!

Nursery



Reception/ Year 1



Year 1/2



Year 2/3



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6



Changes to Lunchtime Provision

Behaviour at lunchtimes has improved a great deal since the beginning of the last academic year. The children continue to be safe, responsible and respectful at this time of the day. In order to improve this further, we are persisting with the 'banding' system, where your children are given a green (jacket potato), red (hot choice) and orange (sandwich) rubber wrist band as they go into lunch. This enables the kitchen staff to give your child the correct lunch quickly.

If you have not already done so, please complete the hot meal form with your child to ensure clarity of their meal choice.

Attendance

Towards the end of last academic year. The attendance for OPAG was 95%, just below the national average of 96% for primary schools! We must all play our part to raise and maintain higher figures.

Please support school with this push on attendance and really raise standards, consequently transforming the lives of our children at OPAG.

Teacher Meetings

On some occasions, you may need to speak with Class Teachers. This is absolutely fine, however we still ask that any meetings are scheduled for before school (8:30am) or after school (3:15pm). As you are aware, everything at OPAG is about putting children and their learning first and so Class Teachers will not be released for meetings during the school day.

Thank you for your support with this.

MATHLETICS and ACCELERATED READER

Please continue to work on Mathletics and reading daily with your children. The impact that these initiatives has on your child's learning cannot be underestimated!



Academy Autumn 1 Term Dates



8th September – Ripon Grammar School Selection Tests

15th September – Ripon Grammar School Selection Tests

26th September – Swimming gala

8th October – Learning week

16th October – Individual photographs

26th October – Harvest Festival (1pm), curriculum classroom afternoon & break-up for half-term

27th October – Ripon Awards 2018

5th November – Return to school (08:45)

Please see our website for additional or revised dates.

www.greystone.outwood.com