

26 April 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Outwood Academy Bydales

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Principal: Mr Andrew Wappat

Year 9 History Enrichment – Every Thursday 2.30 – 3.30pm

As you will be aware, our Year 11 students in 2017 secured outstanding grades, and did particularly well in their history examinations. For example, 79% of students achieved between A* - C in history GCSE, and the number securing the highest A/A* also reached record levels in the history of the school. Within history alone, the progress students made from primary school was in the top 9% of schools nationally, and in terms of overall attainment second in the North East. This was no accident of course! Hard work and commitment between students, teacher and parents made all the difference. Students who experienced the most success did so by giving a good deal of effort in lessons, after-school and at home.

One of the most helpful ways for students to achieve or increase their highly aspirational target grades in history is by attending after-school Enrichment every Thursday with Mr Beacham in Room 108, between 2.30 and 3.30pm.

There are considerable demands of the completely new national qualification in history, which leads to 9-1 grades rather than A*-G grades. There is more content than ever before and more challenging questions. It is perhaps obvious that any extra support we can give to students will make a huge difference, particularly where the terminal exams are weighted more heavily.

An extra hour per week with a history specialist to work on past examination questions and also to consolidate learning, is something our leavers valued highly and said as much in their 2017 Leavers' Exit Surveys. The high attendance at history Enrichment sessions last year was one of the key reasons for fantastic results and why many students had individual successes.

I write to ensure you are aware that attendance to these sessions is designed for every student in Year 9, not just for particular students. For those who have been regularly attending, we encourage them to continue to do so, and thank them too!

Your support, as always, is greatly appreciated in helping encourage your son/daughter to attend on a Thursday after school in history.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Parker
Second in Humanities and MFL Faculty



Andrew Wappat
Principal