

30 March 2018

Dear Parent /Carer

Year 8 Graduation and Praising Stars

A unique feature about the Outwood Family of Schools is that Year 9 is the beginning of GCSE examination courses, allowing our students three years to achieve their full potential in higher national qualifications. The emphasis at Outwood Academy Bydales is very much on learning and this is a crucial time for our current Year 8 students to prove that they have the motivation and effort required to start their GCSE Options in Year 9.

Every year the vast majority of Year 8 students prove themselves to be hardworking and committed learners who are ready to graduate. They demonstrate that they have a positive attitude to learning which is important for them to succeed ultimately at GCSE at the end of Year 11.

We base our decisions regarding Graduation on each student's Praising Stars report, by looking carefully at effort grades. Successful graduates will attend a formal ceremony and presentation. Graduation is a critical point in your child's journey at Outwood Academy Bydales, to ensure the best possible outcomes by the end of Year 11.

We believe all students who prove that they are hard-working and committed deserve to be celebrated. As part of the celebration, we would like to invite you to join in these celebrations but understand that as this will take part during the school day it may be necessary for you to book time from work.

We will also invite the Year 5 and 6 intake students to Outwood Academy Bydales as guests at the Year 8 graduations and therefore the ceremonies have been timetabled in primary school order.

For example, if your son/daughter attended Westgarth Primary School, they will be graduating with all the other Year 8 students that attended the same primary school, with the current Year 5/6 students at Westgarth Primary as guests.

The graduations will take place at 10.50am – 12.30pm as per the attached schedule. Invitations and further details will be forwarded to you a couple of weeks prior to the event. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at d.hopwood@bydales.outwood.com or call me on 01642 474000

Yours faithfully



Diane Hopwood
Y8 Learning Manager

Graduation Ceremonies

Date	Primary School Graduation Time 10.50am – 12.30pm
Wednesday 4 July 2018	Errington Junior School Westgarth Primary School Wheatlands Primary School
Thursday 5 July 2018	New Marske Primary School John E Batty Primary School Ings Farm Primary School Others

Please note that if your child did not attend any of the partner primary schools stated above then they will be graduating as 'others' on Thursday 5 July 2018. If you wish to bring younger siblings, please can you notify school. Many thanks.