



NEWSLETTER

DATE 29th September 2023

UP COMING DATES

Week commencing 9th October –
Harvest Festival donations for St Catherine’s Food Bank

Tuesday 10th October - Hello Yellow Day. Everybody is invited to wear a yellow accessory and donate via ParentPay

Tuesday 7th November - Parent Consultations (more details to follow soon)

Wednesday 8th November - Parent Consultations (more details to follow soon)

Tuesday 24th October and Wednesday 25th October - Pumpkin competition (more details to follow soon)

Please see our website for this year’s term dates and INSET days:

<https://www.lofthousegate.outwood.com/term-dates-and-closures>

Mental Health & Wellbeing

As part of the Outwood Family and our Mental Wellbeing Strategy, we aim to create a supportive environment where children feel happy and able to flourish. As part of our drive to support the mental wellbeing of our children, the Outwood Mental Wellbeing website provides a comprehensive range of services available to both children and parents:

<https://www.lofthousegate.outwood.com/mental-wellbeing>

Please also follow the purple tabs below on our new website if you require external services or support:



Safeguarding

We have recently delivered an assembly on the NSPCC ‘Speak Out and Stay Safe’ programme and the PANTS rule. These both support our children to have the knowledge and understanding of consent and how to speak out to help keep themselves and others safe. Please have regular conversations at home to help keep your child/children safe. There is a wealth of information on the NSPCC website: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> Pantosaurus is a great video to share too: <https://youtu.be/LnroTxz7USI>



Unity Day

At the beginning of the month, we had a focus on the importance of protected characteristics. What an amazing collaboration with our local community, supporting our children to gain an understanding of the world they are growing up in and learn how to live alongside and show respect for a diverse range of people. We were joined by Vicky and Neil from Thornes Strikes (a disability football team), Aidan from CAMHS and Cora’s mum who works with Wakefield Council supporting refugees. Our learning experiences include decorating biscuits for the residents at Ashby Lodge Care home, organising a reading session with grandparents, writing welcome notes for refugees, reading books to celebrate love, being inspired by the book ‘Wonder’ and thought-provoking discussions with Aidan from CAMHS on self-worth, self-esteem and misogyny.



Roles and Responsibilities

Our first half term is always busy with applications and announcements of the children who have secured a role within the academy. There has been a real buzz across school with children talking passionately and enthusiastically about how they can make a difference to OPA Lofthouse Gate!

After a successful election day, we are proud to introduce our new School Parliament members and we’re looking forward to seeing their future plans with Mrs Carr.



Miss Park is very excited to work with our new Reading Ambassadors and help to promote a love for reading across the academy.



Miss Cleasby announced our new Mental Health and Wellbeing Champions and the team are already ready and raring to go with plans for their first event!



Our Year 5 children have started their lunchtime monitor roles (they are doing a fantastic job!) and Year 6 have the roles of Fitbods where they support active play, games and activities during social times.

