

29 March 2017

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 our GCSE examination courses, allowing our students three years to work towards the highest possible grades. The emphasis at Outwood Academy Bydales is very much on the 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 effectively.

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 at Key Stage 4.

We base our decisions regarding Graduation on each student's Praising Stars report, by looking carefully at effort grades. Successful graduates will have a formal presentation, and it is a fantastic occasion for family members to join and celebrate too. Graduation is a really critical point in your child's journey at Outwood Academy Bydales, and we believe is linked to strongly to successful future GCSE outcomes.

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 Graduation celebrations 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 or Year 6 students at Westgarth Primary as guests.

The graduations will take place at 10.50am – 12.30pm as per the attached. Invitations and further details will be forwarded to you a couple of weeks prior to the event.

If you have any questions at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact me using the school number above or via f.reid@bydales.outwood.com

Yours faithfully



Frances Reid
Y8 Learning Manager

GRADUATION CEREMONIES 2017

Date	Primary School Graduation Time 10:50am – 12:30pm
Wednesday 28 June 2017	New Marske Primary School Westgarth Primary School
Thursday 29 June 2017	Errington Junior School John E Batty Primary School Ings Farm Primary School Wheatlands 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 29 June 2017. If you wish to bring younger siblings please notify school via f.reid@bydales.outwood.com