



# The Ongar Academy

The Ongar Academy  
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19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a sensational term here at The Ongar Academy. It has been a privilege to work in this school with the students; staff and parents this half term to create a harmonious partnership.

As you may be aware I was appointed as the substantive Headteacher on Wednesday and I look forward to continuing to develop the school so we are an outstanding provider of education for our children.

In just one half term we have seen our students at their very best. TOA has participated in over 40 tournaments in football; rugby and netball – winning nearly all our matches, culminating in us becoming the Runners Up for the District Rugby competition. Our netball teams are going from strength to strength with our Year 9 team remaining unbeaten. I am so proud of their achievements and long may this continue.

Our enrichment programme is so extensive and this term we have added debating; drama; art and computing to our offer. The students are flourishing with these amazing opportunities and I look forward to seeing them participate in Shakespeare for Schools Festivals and The Jack Petchey Speak Out competition in the future.

Enriching student's education is one of my key strategies' this term and I am happy to report that the amount of trips on offer to the theatre; to sporting games; to countries abroad has risen dramatically.

The Year 7 "Settling in" Parents Evening was attended by 97% of parents and was exceptionally positive. It was very clear from the reactions that parents and students were happy that TOA was their school of choice.

The views of our parents is so important to me. I have consulted with every one on the new school day timetable. I will write to you in due course with how this will look and be implemented.

The positivity surrounding our school has not gone unnoticed on social media and the PTA have been working so incredibly hard to ensure that TOA students have access to so many opportunities. The work of these volunteers is simply outstanding and I feel very fortunate to be supported by them.

The new reward system is now fully underway and students are achieving so many "R" points. We now have students of the week, students of the term and a full complement of student leaders and Form Captains. This area of work on student voice has been superb and they really do feel they have a say in the running of their school and further improvements they can help make.

I am exceptionally pleased to report that attendance has dramatically improved and is now way over the national average; behaviour is exemplary and manners of our students are impeccable.

Our Open Evening was a huge success with over 800 families visiting us and countless tours over the past week. We had 75% of our school community helping out by being tour guides and subject helpers. It was awe inspiring to see how proud they are of their school.

Headteacher: Mr. A. Osborne

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE





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I have been very clear that this is a #ASchoolForTheCommunity and that the #FutureIsBright for our students and I would welcome you to follow the schools Twitter account to see all of the amazing work of our students and staff.

Our school website from this September has all dates for your diary and I have also sent a letter with key dates so you all feel fully involved in the school and can attend our events.

Please find enclosed a parental questionnaire. Again, I would like to hear your views, as to how we can further improve this good school. If you could send this back with your child and hand this in to reception, I would be most appreciative.

I have loved welcoming students at the gate in the morning and saying goodbye to them at the end of the school day; it makes my job so worthwhile.

May I take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for the support you have given us as a school and I look forward to seeing how they have done in their Autumn One Term Assessments.

Have a wonderful half term.

Kind Regards

Mr. A. Osborne  
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mr. A. Osborne

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