



The
Ongar
Academy

Parental Bulletin – 30th November 2018
Week Commencing Monday 3rd December 2018 will be B Week.

WORD OF THE WEEK

Next week, the word of the week will be: Fastidious – Very attentive to and concerned about accuracy and detail.

Synonyms: scrupulous, punctilious, painstaking, meticulous, assiduous, sedulous, perfectionist, fussy, finicky, dainty, over-particular; critical, overcritical, hypercritical.

We encourage you to discuss this word with your son/daughter.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

strength DOESN'T COME FROM WHAT
YOU CAN DO, IT COMES FROM *overcoming*
THE THINGS YOU THOUGHT YOU COULDN'T

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Year 7 – Abbie Marsden
Year 8 – Daniel Wright
Year 9 – Grace Chandler
Year 10 – Michelina Marigliano

CHANGE TO THE SCHOOL DAY

We would like to remind parents, carers and students, that as of January 2019, our school day will be changing. Further information was sent out in a letter, which is available on our website under Parents Zone – Letters Sent Home. We encourage and welcome feedback from you.

JOURNALISM CLUB – TUESDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2018

Due to our Carols by Candlelight event in London, on Tuesday 11th of December, Journalism Club will be cancelled. Students are welcome to stay on at homelearning club until 4:30pm.

GIRLS FOOTBALL – MESSAGE FROM MRS BOLWERK

The girls football team played amazingly at a friendly tournament at Passmores against many local schools. They represented the school really well with fantastic results. They won 3, drew 1 and lost 1.

Results:

3-1 win against Mark Hall
1-0 win against St. Marks
0-2 loss against Stewards
0-0 draw against Burnt Mill
1-0 win against Passmores

I look forward to returning on the 17th of January for a full tournament. Well done girls, I am so proud of you all.

Mrs Bolwerk

STUDENT ABSENCES

We would like to remind parents and carers to ensure that they are reporting student absences before 8:45am each day, using our student absence line and leaving a detailed message regarding the reasons for the absence. If your son/daughter has an appointment, please communicate this with our school office and make sure that the student knows to come down to reception to meet you. If you would like your son/daughter to meet you in our car park, we require verbal or written consent from you, before the student is allowed to leave the premises. We also need consent if someone other than an acknowledged contact of the student is collecting them during the school day. Regular absences will be monitored, may not be authorised, and can result in a fine. If you need help or advice regarding this, please contact Mrs Penberthy via 01277 500990, or admin@theongaracademy.org.

CAR PARK – ROAD SAFETY DURING WINTER

During these dark winter evenings, we encourage parents and carers to educate their children on road safety. Please find attached some valuable resources for bus, bicycle and general pedestrian safety. We encourage students to wear reflective clothing, to ensure they are using marked crossings - not walking in between parked cars - and to stay on marked pathways. We have had some feedback from parents and carers using our car park, that students often step out in between cars, and don't use the footpaths, which could result in injury. We ask that our students respect this valuable space and put their safety first.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

TOA is getting into the Christmas spirit this year with a generous amount of events and fundraisers. If you can assist our PTA with any of these events, please get in touch with them. Please see further information below: -

LAST DAY OF TERM

The last day of term is Wednesday December 19th, and school will close at 12:10pm.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

We are proud to present our first Christmas Performance and Creative Arts Showcase at The Ongar Academy on Thursday 13th December at 7:00pm. Parents and carers are welcomed, and encouraged to attend and support this event. Our lovely PTA will have refreshments available for you. Please find attached the original letter sent, if your son/daughter is interested in taking part or you would like to attend, please return your reply slips to the school office as soon as possible.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

We are thrilled that our school choir have been invited to take part in a candlelit carol service, held in St Mary and St Michael's Church in London, on Tuesday 11th December 2018. This is a free event, if parents and carers would like to spectate.

ONGAR CAROL FESTIVAL

This evening, our choir will also be taking part in The Ongar Carol Festival at St. Martins C of E Church. This is on the evening of the Ongar Christmas Lights event, and if parents and carers are in the area, we encourage them to pop along and support our students. Our students will be performing first, at 5:15pm. We are so happy and privileged to be able to take part in this festive event with our community.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY/CHRISTMAS DINNER

We will be taking part in Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 14th December 2018. Students and staff are asked to donate £2, and wear their brightest, funniest, craziest Christmas jumpers. To add to the festivities, our staff and students will be able to enjoy a Christmas lunch from our canteen – payment of £3 (£1 if your son/daughter is eligible for free school meals) must be paid via Wisepay by Friday 7th December 2018, to ensure our kitchen enough time to place their orders. We will make sure that all students can enjoy this special occasion together with staff, and we would like to reassure parents and carers that there will be a vegetarian option, and any other dietary needs will be catered for.

COMMUNICATION

Please find below contact details for the Heads of Faculties:

English	Mrs Suttle	staffpsu@theongaracademy.org
Maths and Computing	Mr Simpson	staffjsi@theongaracademy.org
Science	Mrs Manning	staffema@theongaracademy.org
Humanities	Mr Hadley	staffsha@theongaracademy.org
Creative Arts/PE	Mrs Clark	stafflcl@theongaracademy.org
Technology and Art	Mr Savill	staffgsa@theongaracademy.org

If you need to contact the Headteacher please use the following email address:
head@theongaracademy.org

For any queries regarding your Wisepay account, please use the following email address:
wisepay@theongaracademy.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

We would like to thank our parents and carers for their positive feedback via social media. We appreciate your ongoing support!

Please make sure to keep an eye on our Facebook and Twitter accounts for regular updates, both using the handle @theongaracademy

PTA UPDATE

If you would like to support us at any events coming up this year, please let us know at **ongarpta@gmail.com**. Follow us on Facebook via **THE ONGAR ACADEMY PTA**. You can also contact us on twitter **@ongarpta**.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS AT TOA – VOLUNTEERING WITH THE PTA

A quarter of the money we've raised to date is because you buy our refreshments and support our raffles! The school's Christmas production is coming (13 Dec), once again we'll be selling refreshments and hosting a raffle, but we need you!

1. Do you have a raffle prize you can donate?
2. Can you spare an hour to support our refreshment stall?
3. Will you buy a drink/raffle ticket on the night and support us to support your child(ren) at our lovely school?

We value your support and the school always benefits. DM or email us on ongarpta@gmail.com if you'd like to help.

PTA - PRE CHRISTMAS DRINKS AND BUFFET – THE WHITE HART, MORETON

Is 5th December in your diary? If you'd like to come along and catch up with/meet other parents and carers at The Ongar Academy, just mail us, ongarpta@gmail.com or DM us through our Facebook page for payment details. £20 per head to include a glass of wine and buffet.

Our staff will endeavour to respond within **24 hours**.

LETTERS HOME THIS WEEK

All letters are available under Parents Zone – Letters Sent Home.

- The Ongar Academy Christmas Advent Calendar 2018

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 30th November – Ongar Lights Switch On and Carol Festival – St. Martins' C of E

Tuesday 11th December – Carols by Candlelight - London

Thursday 13th December – Christmas Celebration

Friday 14th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 19th December – Last day of term – School closes at 12:10pm

FIXTURES

To keep up to date with our latest results, please keep an eye on our PE departments Twitter page, via the handle @OngarPE, and encourage your son/daughter to regularly check the PE board and their MILK accounts for more information regarding fixtures.

- No fixtures this week

If you do have any issues related to school which you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.