RESILIENCE · RESPECT · INTEGRITY · COMMUNITY
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Headteacher: Mr. J. Sands
Deputy Headteacher: Ms. R. Gilbert

Dear Parents & Carers,

It was a fantastic first week back at the academy. Our Trust Head of Secondary Schools, Julia Mead, visiting on Tuesday and walked the school. She commented on the high levels of engagement, productivity and lesson quality that she observed. A true testament to our students and their response to the improvements we have made and continue to make.

We also had an excellent Trust Safeguarding Review during the two days before half term. The review commented on the huge strides the school has made to ensure students feel safe in school and all procedures are in place. The highlight was the student voice, where one comment from a student said they 'felt known' now that we had a PAL for each Year Group.

We have a busy half term ahead and I wanted to write to you with information on events and opportunities.

Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch – Thursday 12th December

On the 12th December, students are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper for a £1 minimum donation towards Save the Children charity. On the same day, the canteen will be serving Christmas Dinner. This will be served at tables with Christmas music, crackers and games. The price of the Christmas lunch will be £4.00. Students that receive Free School Meals will have this fully funded, please disregard the entry on Parent Pay. There will be hot and cold food available at breaktime but there will be no lunch service for those who do not wish to have a Christmas lunch. To book your Christmas Lunch, please purchase via ParentPay by Friday 29th November. There will be an option to pay the Christmas jumper donation at the same time.

Meet the Headteacher – Parent Forum – Tuesday 19th November - 6pm

I am keen to establish regular opportunities to meet with parents to discuss different aspects of The Ongar Academy. I would like to invite you all to attend next Tuesday. The two aspects up for discussion are:

- Mobile Phones
- Reward over Sanction Policy

There will also be an open Q&A session at the end for you to bring any questions and I will do my best to answer. If you would like to attend, please email sbotterell@theongaracademy.org to book your place.

I look forward to meeting you and discussing important aspects in our mission to improve the school for all.

Kind regards,

Mr Sands Headteacher

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