A message from our Principal

As another busy and productive term at Outwood Academy Normanby draws to a close, it is important to take a moment to reflect on the incredible community spirit that defines our school. Every day, I am privileged to witness our students seizing opportunities to learn and grow, supported by families at home and a staff team that is dedicated to their success.

It is this collective effort - the partnership between school, home, and student - that makes our academy such a vibrant place to be.

To ensure our students continue to flourish, I must reinforce the vital importance of excellent attendance. Being in school every day is the single most effective way for students to unlock their potential. When students are here, they aren't just learning subjects; they are building friendships, developing resilience, and preparing for their futures. We appreciate your continued support in ensuring your child maintains the highest possible attendance levels.

I am incredibly proud of the maturity shown by our year 11 students as they commence their GCSE exams. They are working exceptionally hard, staying focused, and, most importantly, listening to the expert guidance of their teachers. As a community, let's keep them in our thoughts and offer them all the encouragement they deserve during this period. They have put in the work, and now it is their time to shine!

I am delighted to highlight our upcoming reward trip to Flamingo Land. This is a fantastic opportunity for every member of our school community to celebrate their hard work and commitment to excellent attendance an great behaviour.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for being such an integral part of the Outwood Academy Normanby family.

Mark Robinson

Outwood Academy Normanby **celebrated World Book Day and our Year of Reading** by gifting every student a book, bookmark, and treat. Students chose from a vast collection of genres, from fantasy to graphic novels, and enjoyed the return of the popular 'Spin the Wheel' prize competition. It was a fantastic day dedicated to the joy of literature and our belief that we 'read to lead'.

The year 10 **Design & Technology students visited Treske Kitchens and Furniture** in Thirsk this half term. They were given a tour of the showrooms and the workshops where the design and make process was explained and demonstrated to them in an industrial setting. The visit helped bring to life what we teach in school and showed how it can be developed into a career within this industry.

We are delighted to have recently awarded Bryn with the prize for being the **first student in year 7 to have read one million words** this academic year.

Bryn is a very keen reader and enjoys quizzing on Accelerated Reader to check his knowledge and understanding.

Congratulations Bryn, we're proud of you!

We recently celebrated the achievements of our KS3 students. We recognised those who showed **significant progress or high scores in their STAR reading assessments**, alongside our **awesome students** who demonstrate a consistently positive attitude and hard work. We are incredibly proud of our students' dedication to their learning.

Flamingo-Go-Go: Earn Your Seat for the Ultimate Reward!

The end of the school year is a time to celebrate the hard work, resilience, and character shown by our students. **We are thrilled to announce that our end-of-year rewards trip for years 7 through 10 will be a day of thrills and spills at Flamingo Land!**

From the high-octane drops of *Mumbo Jumbo* to the incredible sights of the award-winning zoo, there is something for everyone. Whether you're a total adrenaline junkie or just want to enjoy some ice cream with your friends while watching the sea lions, this is the perfect way to cap off the year.

How to Secure Your Seat

This trip is a reward for students who consistently model our school values. To be eligible to attend, students must meet the following two criteria:

- **Exceptional Attendance:** Students must maintain an attendance record of at least **94%** (in line with the national average) between now and the trip date.
- **Exemplary Behaviour:** We are looking for students who show a commitment to our community. Eligibility will be based on maintaining a significantly low number of behavior consequences.

A Fresh Start for Everyone!

We want as many students as possible to join us on the coaches. To give everyone a fair shot at earning their place, the clock was officially reset on Monday! This means that regardless of what happened last term, every student in years 7 to 10 started this week with a **100% attendance record and a clean behavior slate.** The race to Flamingoland starts now- let's see that "can-do" attitude in every lesson!

Let's make the final week of the year one to remember. Stay focused, stay kind, and we'll see you at the theme park! https://forms.gle/2FuH7j52C4J6EeK39

OUTWOOD
NEWS GROUP

NORMANBY NEWS

Connecting our family of schools, one story at a time.

Thursday 26th March, 2026

How to Succeed by Failing: The Story of Freddie Norton

By Miya C, Dylan W, & Cecylia B

Have you ever felt like giving up because something was too difficult? Freddie Norton, an expert who builds and grows big projects for schools, says that making mistakes is actually one of his secrets to success.

Freddie has helped thousands of students, but he did not get there by being perfect. He succeeded because he:

- Tried his best every single day.
- Believed in himself, even when things went wrong.
- Was not afraid to ask for help when he needed it.

If Freddie could go back to his own childhood, he would tell his younger self to try again and keep going, even when things feel tough.

How to Relax

Everyone needs a way to de-stress. For Freddie, that hobby is cooking. It helps him take his mind off work and relax after a busy day. When he was younger, his main goal was simply to grab every opportunity he could—including gaming and model building.

Inspiring Role Models

Freddie looks up to some very important people, such as the music legend Elton John and Betty Boothroyd, who was the first-ever female Speaker in the House of Commons.

Keep Going (Even When it is Hard!)

He also works with other inspiring leaders who prove that your school grades do not define your whole life.

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Our student journalists spent a day recently researching and writing the most recent edition of Normanby News as part of our **Outwood News Day**. The journalists sought out stories from around the academy, including interviewing staff and students to create their superb publication.

We're so proud of our student journalists! Each reporter received an official certificate and a printed copy of the latest Normanby News. Seeing their dedication to writing and interviewing turn into a professional publication is a huge milestone. We hope they're proud to see their names in print - it's a well-deserved reward for their hard work and creativity.

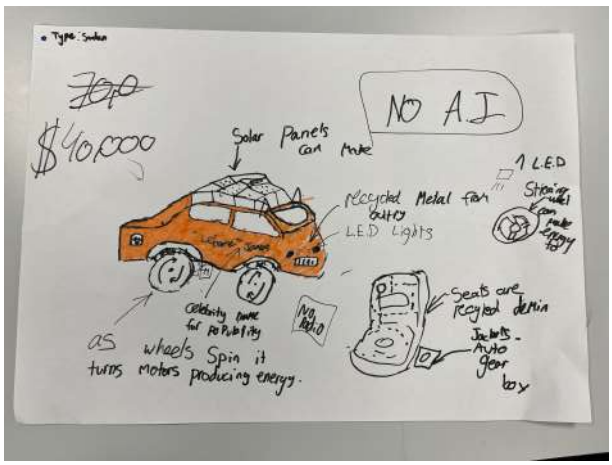
A group of **year 7 MFL reward** pupils were invited to take part in a Japanese workshop in Durham this term. Here pupils learned about **Japanese culture, customs and language**. They were given the opportunity to try on some traditional Japanese clothing, and try some dancing too. We all had an absolutely amazing time. A huge thank you to Teiko University of Japan for organising this event for us.

Our students are eagerly awaiting our **Easter Raffle Draw** before term ends. We have received 45 donated Easter eggs and raised over £300 for our **Outwood Out There** fund. A huge thank you to everybody who has purchased an Easter raffle ticket and/or donated an Easter egg. Special mention to Ava and Kasey for selling tickets every break time.

The students in the ARP entered the **Young Writers Poetry competition** and all were selected to be published! The students and especially Mrs Abbas were bursting with pride. Look out for a copy in the LRC and the British Library!

We enjoy celebrating those students who ensure they are in school on time every day. One student is selected each week as our **Friday Family Feast winner** for their excellent attitude and effort towards attendance and impeccable punctuality. Congratulations to our recent winners!

Outwood Academy Normanby recently welcomed Sharon from Nybep to lead a **STEM Futures workshop for year 9**. Students engaged in hands-on challenges linked to technical career pathways, rotating through activities designed to boost leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. Our visitor was highly impressed by the students' innovative ideas and their fantastic, polite conduct throughout the session.



A group of our year 10 students recently stepped out of the classroom and onto the factory floor for an immersive joint **Geography and Science trip to the SeAH Wind facility**- a global leader in wind energy manufacturing.

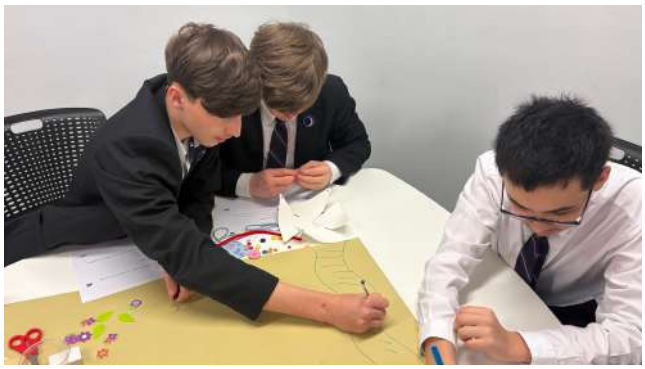
This unique visit provided our students with a front-row seat to the future of renewable energy and the impressive engineering taking place right on our doorstep.

The highlight was the guided tour of the manufacturing floor. Clad in safety gear, students saw the precision engineering required to assemble wind turbine foundations. It wasn't just a lesson in scale - it was a lesson in accuracy, teamwork, and the high-tech machinery that makes modern green energy possible.

Beyond the machinery, the trip focused heavily on career pathways. SeAH hosted a dedicated careers session, highlighting the diverse opportunities available for students once they complete their GCSEs.

Our students represented the school with fantastic curiosity and professionalism. We would like to extend our thanks to the team at SeAH for hosting us and inspiring the next generation of scientists, geographers, and engineers.

Some of our students attended the recent **Choose Your Career event at Teesside University**. The day featured hands-on workshops led by professionals in fields ranging from public services (Police, Fire, Law) to STEM and business (Game Design, Climate Change, HR). The event was a major success, with students praised for their respectful behavior and positive engagement. It successfully sparked confidence and new conversations regarding their future career ambitions.



A group of year 8 pupils were selected to go on an **MFL reward trip to the University of Newcastle** recently, where they took part in a Chinese language and culture workshop. They were given the opportunity during the day to learn some beginners' Tai Chi, a gentle exercise focused on full body awareness, relaxation, and mental calm. A big thank you to all the staff at Newcastle University for organising this wonderful event for us!

Curriculum update: what we've been learning

🛠️ Technology

Year 7 students have been completing some very creative mobile phone holders in DT, Memphis style pencil cases in Textiles and a variety of dishes in Catering!

In year 8 students have been completing some fantastic nightlights, incorporating electronics, CAD/CAM and traditional skills in DT, Day of the Dead cushions in Textiles and some more advanced recipes in Catering.

In year 9 students have completed their timber storage boxes in DT, using 4 different wood joints and CAD/CAM, there have been some excellent and creative childrens' soft toys in Textiles and a range of exciting sweet and savoury dishes in Catering.

At KS4 many students are working hard towards coursework and NEAs and studying for mock exams. Year 11 Catering students have also successfully completed their final Catering practical exams!

🎭 Drama

Our year 11 students are currently in the final stages of preparation for their upcoming practical exam, carefully refining their work and adding the finer details to their pieces. An OCR examiner will be visiting soon to assess them on their performance of two extracts from their chosen texts.

Our year 10 students are currently rehearsing and filming their devised drama pieces. Their pieces are based on a stimulus of their choice, selected from the options provided by the exam board. Alongside this, they are developing their portfolios, carefully documenting their devising process and evaluating their work.

Our year 9 students have been exploring the world of verbatim theatre, performing extracts from verbatim plays. They are focusing on making their performances feel authentic, using vocal and physical skills effectively to ensure their work "looks and sounds real."

Our year 8 students are exploring scenes from Blood Brothers by Willy Russell. They are developing their understanding of how to bring roles to life, using vocal and physical skills effectively and building dramatic tension to engage an audience and enhance key moments.

Our year 7 students are currently working on a scheme based on The Disappearance of Jo. As part of this, they are using a range of drama strategies to explore the story, including image work, role-play, physical theatre and narration.

Maths

Year 7 Shape & Area: Students mastered area formulas for various polygons and compound shapes, applying this knowledge to find missing dimensions and solve worded problems.

Proportion: Learners developed fluency in converting and ordering fractions, decimals, and percentages, including expressing one value as a proportion of another.

Directed Numbers: Students practiced comparing and calculating with positive and negative values, applying these skills to real-world contexts like money and temperature.

Year 8 Algebra: Students practiced substituting into formulas, solving multi-step equations with variables on both sides, and mastering double-bracket expansion and factorisation.

Circles: Learners explored circle terminology and construction, calculating circumference, arc length, and sector perimeters using the relationship between pi, radius, and diameter.

Powers & Roots: Students identified rational and irrational numbers, applying powers and roots to real-world contexts and beginning to explore surds.

Year 9 Inverse Proportion: Students applied inverse proportion to real-world contexts, including drawing graphs and solving related worded problems.

Surface Area: Learners explored 3D shape properties and nets, calculating the surface area of prisms and cylinders and solving for missing dimensions.

Non-Linear Sequences: Students identified and distinguished between various sequence types, including linear, quadratic, geometric, Fibonacci, and square/cube numbers.

Year 10 Data Analysis: Students mastered representing and interpreting data via time series, scatter graphs, and pie charts, focusing on trends, correlation, and lines of best fit.

3D Volume: Learners applied formulas to calculate the volume of cubes, prisms, spheres, and composite solids, including solving for missing dimensions.

Rates of Change: Students explored relationships between speed, density, and pressure, utilizing distance-time graphs and timetables to calculate various rates of change.

Year 11 continue to prepare for their GCSE exams. Students continue to revise key mathematical concepts and this links to knowledge/ content that has been forgotten. Students can identify what topics they need to work on and then embed these topics into their learning.

Music

Year 10 have been refining their listening skills through the study of Baroque, Classical, and Romantic music, developing a deeper understanding of how musical styles evolved over time. This will support their overall musicality and help prepare them for their exam.

Year 9 have been exploring 1950s music, focusing on the rise of rock and roll and the influence of Elvis Presley. They have been studying Hound Dog and learning different instrumental parts, helping them understand how a band works together while developing their performance skills.

Year 8 have been studying film music with the aim of composing original soundtracks for a film clip using GarageBand. Students are given a film clip and apply modern compositional techniques to create music that enhances the action and mood on screen.

Year 7 have been exploring rock music and the instruments within a band. They have also been developing their piano skills through pieces such as Sweet Caroline, alongside songs by Adele and Ed Sheeran, focusing on smooth chord changes and building muscle memory for confident performance.

English

Year 7 students have been exploring a range of travel writing articles and have created their own piece of travel writing, using their kno wledge of our home town.

Year 8 students have been reading and writing about dystopian fiction. They have read and analysed extracts from George Orwell's 1984, and studied the short story Examination Day.

Year 9 students have studied a range of poems based around the theme of conflict, and have compared Wilfred Owen's Exposure to another poem of their choice.

Year 10 students have read An Inspector Calls, and have been investigating who was responsible for the death of Eva Smith.

Year 11 students are now making their final preparations ahead of their exams and have been working hard on all aspects of their English Language and Literature courses.

Science

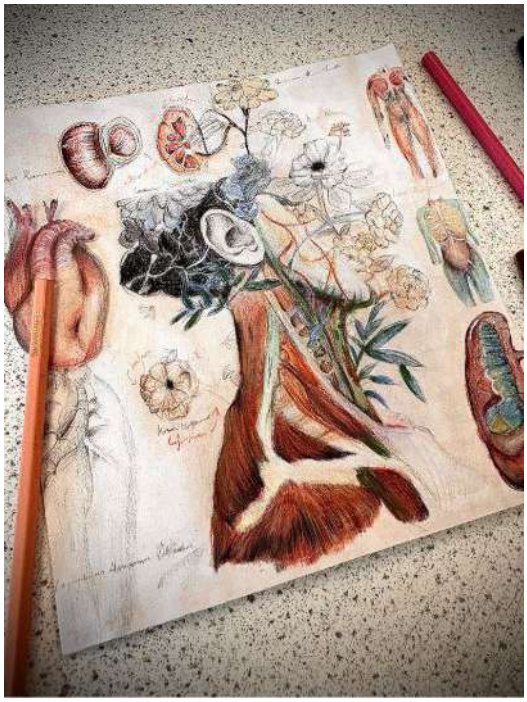
Year 7 and 8 students have been completing practical investigations and research in electricity as part of the Trust-wide Ogden trust work to inspire the next generation of physicists. There were many great posters and some fantastic work by each group with the winning group attending Outwood Academy Easingwold to present their work.

Students in year 9 have been building up their foundational knowledge in chemistry looking at the development of atomic theory and the periodic table.

Students in year 10 have been completing their first mock exams - with lots of effort having gone into their revision and their hard work has paid off in the grades they have achieved.

Students in year 11 are now into GAP analysis work looking at areas of improvement from both mock cycles and working on areas that have appeared less frequently to hone their skills and knowledge to those potential exam questions in the summer.

🎨 Art



Our year 11 art students are currently working their way towards the final stages of their Externally Set Assignment. This is a crucial period of preparation as they head towards their 10-hour timed test.

Our year 10 art students are coming to the completion of their first artist explorations. They are currently focusing on creating their own ideas inspired by the style, process, materials, and techniques of their chosen artist.

Our year 9 artists have been drawing inspiration from the techniques of contemporary artist Vexx to develop their own unique character ideas and independent concepts.

Our year 8 artists are currently taking a journey through the evolution of portraiture, moving from historical foundations into the vibrant world of contemporary art.

Our year 7 artists have been diving deep into the formal elements of art, with a special focus on the intricate world of pattern. Most recently, classrooms have been hubs of calm and concentration as students explore the practice of Zentangle.

🌍 Geography

Year 7 students are studying climate change and how it impacts us.

Year 8 students are studying how UK flooding happens and how it affects people and the environment.

Year 9 students are looking ahead to their GCSEs by studying natural hazards and why they are becoming more dangerous.

Year 10 students are finishing their fieldwork projects by collecting and presenting data.

Year 11 students are focused on Paper 3 practice to get ready for their GCSE exams.

History

Students in year 7 have been studying English expansion, specifically within Wales and how castles played a major role in this.

The industrial Revolution has been the focus in year 88, looking at the impact of this within Middlesbrough and the surrounding areas in particular.

In year 9, students have been studying migration from understanding what it is, the facts surrounding migration, to looking at how it has impacted the lives of migrants and people within the UK. Our students have found this very informative and transformative.

Year 10 have started their study of Weimar and Nazi Germany, beginning with the impact of WWI and the Treaty of Versailles on Germany. Finally,

Year 11 students are in the middle of their in-school revision, going over what we think might come up on the exams and practising our exam skills.

Physical Education

In PE, this half term, students have continued developing their Head (Thinking), Heart (Character) and Hands (Physical) skills through Dance, Handball, Fitness and Basketball lessons.

Students have been working creatively to improve their performances, as well as looking at the long-term impacts exercises can have on their life and health.

Thank you to parents and carers for your support in ensuring that students **wear their uniform** in compliance with our policy.

Trousers:
• must be plain black and in a tailored formal style;
• must not be cropped, tight/skinny fit, made of stretch or patterned fabric. They should not have decorative buttons, buckles or fashion belts;
• jeans, flares, cargo, bootlegged trousers, tracksuit bottoms, jeggings or leggings are not acceptable.

Skirts:
• from 1 September 2025 non-logo skirts must be 2.5 inch box pleat and sit on or just above the knee. These are easy to purchase from all supermarkets at very low cost.
• must be plain black and in a tailored formal style;
• tight-fitting, tube skirts are not acceptable;
• must sit on or just above the knee;
• must not be made of jersey, stretch or patterned fabric;
• must be worn with a minimum of plain black 40 denier tights.

School Jacket

Girls Blouses

Boys Shirts

Knitwear

Boys Trousers

Girls Trousers

Girls Skirt

School Tie

YOUR SPORTS KIT

P.E Polo

Games Jersey

P.E Short

Sports Sock

Midlayers

Microfleece

Girls Leggings

Pro Track Pant

Required PE Uniform:

- School Purple polo top
- Purple/black Outwood games jersey
- Black plain shorts/skort (not hot pant style e.g. Nike Pro)
- Plain black knee length games socks
- Trainers - Non-marking sole with a good grip and with laces/velcro, providing support to ankle & foot. Please note that pumps do not provide adequate support for the foot or ankle.

We strongly recommend:

- Gum shield - for rugby/hockey
- Shin pads - for football/hockey

Optional PE Uniform:

- Football boots
- Plain black tracksuit (no logos) or midlayer top and bottoms
- 3/4 zip fleece
- Non see-through plain black leggings
- Black plain skort
- Plain white long sleeved t-shirt may be worn in place of the school purple polo top for religious or health reasons

PE kit must be worn even if a child is excused from PE (injury or illness) unless in extreme circumstances e.g. a broken arm, the child would not be expected to change.

PRE-LOVED
OUTWOOD UNIFORM
BY TRUTEX

Did you know?

You can donate your out grown uniform & purchase pre-loved online

Step 1
Donate your used uniform in the recycle points found in school

Step 2
Trutex will collect, wash and repair ready for resale

Step 3
Visit trutex.com using school code **LEA00980SC** to purchase pre-loved uniform

*Where garments are not suitable for re-sale, Trutex will recycle.

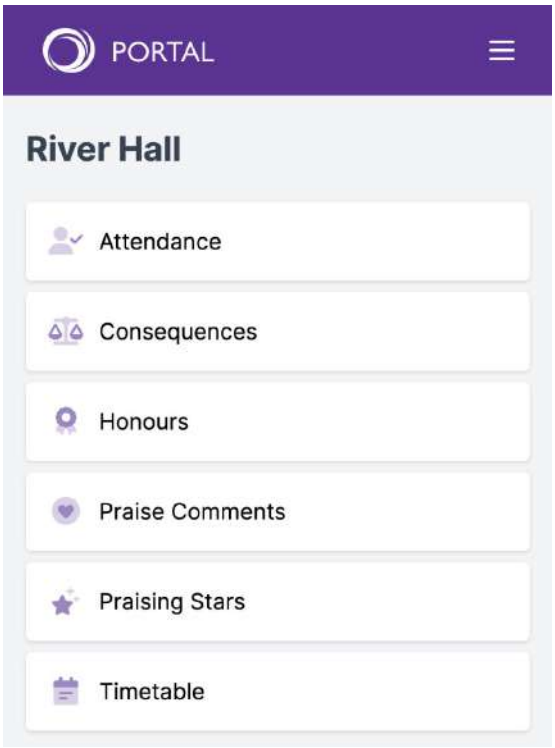
www.trutex.com

We are committed to ensuring that you have easy access to information about your child's education and would ask that you take the opportunity at the start of the academic year to ensure you can access our **Parent and Carer Portal**. The online portal will allow you to securely access information from your mobile device or computer and includes information about Praising Stars Reports, praise comments, attendance, consequences and your child's timetable.

Parents and carers who have parental responsibility can access the portal using their email address. Instructions to sign in to the portal are below. If you have any issues logging in please contact the academy.

Students can also access this portal and can sign in using their academy Google account.

If you still need to provide an email address so that you can access the online portal, please contact the academy via enquiries@normanby.outwood.com to update your contact details.



Getting started

Visit **portal.outwood.com** or scan the QR code.

To sign in:

1. Enter your email address
2. Check your inbox for a special "magic link"
3. Tap on the link to sign-in!

(If your magic link does not arrive after a few minutes, please check your spam folder).

Key dates

3 April 2026 - Good Friday (students not in school) - Easter holiday begins

6 April to 17 April 2026 - Easter holiday

30 April 2026 - Year 9 catch up vaccinations

4 May 2026 - Early May Bank Holiday (school closed)

7 May 2026 - SEND Coffee Morning

8 May 2026 - Year 11 GCSE exams begin

19 May 2026 - Year 9 Parents'/Carers' Evening - 3.45pm to 5.45pm

Contact

Please note that your child's learning manager or teachers may not always be available to take your call immediately during the school day due to teaching and learning commitments. Parents should leave a message with Reception and we will endeavour to return all calls within 48 hours.

We love to hear your feedback, and comments are very welcome. To leave feedback, please contact us at enquiries@normanby.outwood.com.

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