

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you of the changes to our praise culture at Portland. The changes have been in effect since we came back this year and focus on recognising students in lessons and around the academy who demonstrate our core values of Praise, Kindness and Resilience.

Each student is now part of a House. These houses are named:



**Africa**

**Asia**

**Oceania**

**Americas**

**Europe**

Throughout the year there are House Competitions run by each subject area within the academy. As well as earning house points from taking part in these activities, students are able to earn House Points in lessons as part of our 'Classroom Champions' initiative. Each lesson at least one student is nominated for either the Pride, Kindness or Resilience value and this is then recorded as a praise point which you can see on the Parent Portal.

So far this year there have been over 43,000 praise events logged. This is just wonderful and something the students are excited to receive, share with staff and others. I hope that you are able to have conversations with your son/daughter at home about this and ask what they received their praise for.

At Outwood Academy Portland we are dedicated to creating a positive climate for learning and enabling students to feel a sense of achievement every day. Each half term the winning House and students with the most praise points are celebrated receiving prizes, certificates and messages of congratulations.

We are very excited about this addition to the academy and hope you will join us in recognising your child's positive contribution to school life.

Yours faithfully



Mrs R Atkinson  
Assistant Principal