

# Ormiston Denes Diary

## 13TH JUNE 2016



**Challan Carmichael  
Concert and  
inspirational talk**

**HEFA  
Archaeological  
Dig**



**Alumni  
Alice Cheverton**

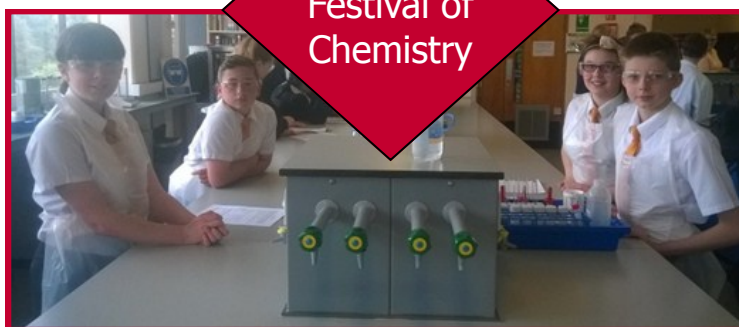


**Visit to Wembley  
Stadium**



**Year 9 Access Drama  
students perform to  
local primary schools**

**Salters'  
Festival of  
Chemistry**



**Plus lots more ...**



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## From our Principal ...

It isn't easy to keep a secret from an entire school, but when you want to surprise all your year 11 students it becomes a necessary task... and it was an absolute pleasure to see the faces of most of our year 11 students when the biggest *fib* was unveiled as a rouse by Mr Craft, and our surprise celebration farewell assembly got underway. It was a wonderful event, which was really very well received by all concerned.

We wish them every success in their exams and look forward to sharing their stories of success in due course.

I hope that that you have received my letter detailing an important change to our protocol on students' use of mobile phones and similar devices? If not, you can find it online in the letters section of our website. Assemblies are scheduled with all our students to explain the reasons for this change and our new expectations. The reasons are that inappropriate use can have a detrimental impact on learning and students' mental health and well-being. As detailed in my letter, please be assured that any urgent messages that you need to convey during the academy day can be sent without delay through the House Bases or school reception. May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support.

Please be aware that our timetables change on 20th June, at which point our students will progress to their new year groups and sets; please check for changes to PE days and other practical activities.

Finally, I'm thrilled to announce that we have appointed a Lead Practitioner to our English team, Mr Senior, who joins our team of four exceptional teaching leaders covering maths, English, science and humanities. They, alongside our exceptionally strong middle and senior leadership teams, are already making a significant contribution to students' teaching and learning as we strive for excellence in all areas of the year ahead.

Kindest regards.

Peter Marshall



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[www.ormistonden.es.co.uk](http://www.ormistonden.es.co.uk)

Follow us on

**Twitter**



@OrmistonDenes



**Covering forthcoming events for 2 weeks between the dates of  
Monday 13th June and Friday 24th June**

**Monday 13th - Friday 17th June**

- Work Experience Week for Year 10 students

**Tuesday 14th June**

- Boys Cricket Festival Q1 (U13) - Denes Oval 3.30pm - 5.00pm
- Maths Clinic - Room M44 3.10pm - 4.15pm

**Wednesday 15th June**

- 'Wicked' Trip - Apollo Theatre, London, Year 7 Students
- Boys/Girls Super 8 Athletics (U13) - Ormiston Denes Academy 4.00pm - 5.45pm

**Thursday 16th June**

- Activity Day for students in Years 7, 8 & 9
- Girls Cricket Festival (U13) - Denes Oval 3.30pm - 5.00pm
- Maths Clinic - Room M44 3.10pm - 4.15pm
- Summer Crafts Workshop (Room T26) 6.30pm - 8.30pm

**Friday 17th June**

- Activity Day for students in Years 7, 8 & 9
- Warhammer Club Room - R12 3.30pm - 5.00pm

**Tuesday 21st June**

- 'Chooseday' Tuesday Lowestoft Sixth Form College 12.50pm - 1.35pm
- Inclusive Football Mixed (U12) - Raw Soccer 10.00am - 2.00pm
- Maths Clinic - Room M44 3.10pm - 4.15pm
- 'Spy in the Library' workshop 6.30pm - 8.30pm

**Wednesday 22nd June**

- Mixed Golf (U16) - Rookery Park Golf Club 3.30pm - 5.30pm

**Thursday 23rd June**

- Maths Clinic - Room M44 3.10pm - 4.15pm

**Friday 24th June**

- Warhammer Club Room - R12 3.30pm - 5.00pm
- Year 11 Prom - Zest, Potters Leisure Resort 7.00pm - 12.00am

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day.

Why not drop in for a free breakfast?

A chance to have a chat and catch up with your friends.

Breakfast is available every day at 7.45am - 8.30am in the dining hall.

Hot food served between 7.45am - 8.15am

Cereals, fruit and yoghurt 7.45am - 8.30am

Cooked breakfast on Wednesday.

All welcome, free of charge.



## Breakfasts

Breakfasts are available to all students on the mornings of their exams. These are free of charge and booking is not necessary.

Students should arrive at The Denes Diner at 8.00am

Main exam season continues until 24th June.

Please ensure you know where you should be and when for all your exams.

If you have any questions, please see Mrs K Turk  
Exams Officer

## Exam Information

The following is available on our website

<http://www.ormistonden.co.uk/exams-at-ormiston-denes-academy/>

- Exams Timetable
- Revision materials
- A Guide for students and parents/carers
- Access Arrangements
- JCQ Notices to candidates
- Policy & Appeals information
- Results & Certificate information

Further information can be obtained from Mrs K Turk, Exams Officer.

## Work Experience Week 13th - 17th June 2016

Year 10 students have the opportunity to experience the world of work during the week 13th to 17th June 2016.

Work experience is an integral part of the school curriculum - it is not about training for a particular job, or even the first step to a chosen career. It aims to provide the student with an opportunity to experience the employment environment working alongside adults, taking responsibility and developing self-confidence. It also serves to highlight the purpose of the student's education, how it is applied in the workplace and, in turn, how knowledge gained in the workplace can aid student education.

Our thanks go to all the companies and businesses that have kindly agreed to support the work experience programme and offer a placement to our students, without this support these opportunities would not take place.

Points to remember;

- Some students have exams during work experience week and need to make arrangements with their employer to be in school in time for the revision sessions and the exams.
- Phones are not allowed in the workplace and must be kept switched off and in bags.
- Students must remember to complete their work experience log book, and ask the employer to complete their evaluation form at the back.
- Make sure you enjoy the experience and remember that a good work experience reference can help you with future college and job applications.



# Student Spotlight

## **Students earn highest youth award a Girl Guide can achieve!**

Huge congratulations to Inspire House students Kaitlyn (year 10) and Savannah (year 11) who have just been awarded the Baden-Powell Challenge Award.

This much coveted award is divided into five zones, each containing lots of different clauses. Ten clauses have to be completed; one from each zone, then five more from any zone. One or two can relate to country/region or Girlguiding initiatives.

To conclude the award, the Guide must take part in a Baden-Powell Adventure which is usually a residential event organised by the country or region for those guides. Members of the 8th Lowestoft (St Andrew's Church), Kaitlyn spent a year working on her award, and Savannah spent two years, as she took a break.

This is what Kaitlyn had to say about working towards their fantastic award: *"To get my BP I completed ten different clauses, including three badges, and a residential event in Coltishall. My Nan, mum and all my aunts have completed their Baden Powell Challenge so I am carrying on the tradition, but it is also incredible to say I've done it! To complete this Challenge I needed the assistance of my District Commissioner and a few other members of guiding as well as The Guide Friendship Fund. One of the clauses I completed with Savannah was to raise money to attend the Residential and what we had left over was donated to a charity of our choice; mine was The Guide Friendship Fund. Actually being presented with our awards was outstanding, as we had written invites to everyone who assisted us in getting it. Only six people in this unit have actually completed this award. I am extremely proud of gaining the badge."*

The award was presented at St Andrew's Church by the vicar, the Rev Damien Rogers. In attendance were their parents, the District Commissioner and two Guiders, as well as their fellow Girl Guides.

Kaitlyn started out in Rainbows when she was 7, moving on to Brownies and Girl Guides. She is now about to venture into the Senior Section. Savannah was also in the Rainbows and has been a Girl Guide since she was 10.



## **Well done Laura**

Laura (year 9) achieved a distinction in her grade 4 ballet exam along with Beth (year 10) and Demi (year 9). They all attend venue of performing arts in Lowestoft.



### **Suffolk PCC's grant awarded to Ormiston Denes Academy**

Ormiston Denes Academy is very pleased to announce that we have been awarded a grant of £8,000 from Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer Suffolk Fund to establish an arms-length support and outreach service for families in need. The funding will support the introduction of a new outreach/ support facility and services for vulnerable, disadvantaged and disaffected young people and families. It will provide those families who are most in need, time and support to make positive changes and offer early engagement and intervention with parents.

Following a recent tour of our academy, Tim Passmore said "I found my visit to Ormiston Denes very inspiring. It was a great opportunity to hear about the plans for the outreach service first hand and is another example of how partnership working can make a huge difference. I am a great believer in the importance of a strong family unit and I am sure this much-needed support network for vulnerable, disadvantaged and disaffected young people and families will make a huge difference. Anything we can do to improve the future prospects of young people in Lowestoft has got to be money well-spent. I am pleased to be able to support this great work."

Peter Marshall, Principal, said: "This new venture will help us transform a currently unused corner of our building into a space that families can use for a wide variety of purposes with additional specialist support provided by local charity Access Community Trust. The facilities will be available for the community as a whole, and for all of our local primary schools for a wide range of purposes, all of which are designed to support students and families with equal emphasis."

Mr Marshall added: "We are hugely grateful for the funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the services of Access Community Trust."

Emma Ratzer, Chief Executive of Access Community Trust, said: "We are incredibly proud to be working with Peter and his team in the delivery of this new, much needed service. Our staff are looking forward to being a part of the support offered at Ormiston Denes, and the funding made available from the PCC allows us all to build resilience, confidence and positive wellbeing in our town's young people."

### **Hustings update**

Hustings candidates recently pitched for student leadership positions. All students were invited to visit the candidates' stands on Thursday 26th May to chat and find out what each potential senior student intends to stand for.

Now the candidates have to compile their manifestos which will include their ideas and visions for the next twelve months. The deadline for submission was Friday 10th June.





## **Alumni - Alice Cheverton**

Alice Cheverton attended The Denes from 2010-2013. Alice was our first Head Girl and she is also an assistant at Ormiston Denes Community Sports Centre.

The following is what Alice told us:

### **School Life**

I really enjoyed my school life at The Denes and it is something I think will always be a part of me due to the amount I achieved there, both academic and sporting wise. I got to know and work with some great people throughout the three years and there were awesome teachers as well. During my time at The Denes, I was very lucky to gain the position of Head Girl and this was a fantastic opportunity to be given! This really helped us to get our opinions heard and hopefully both Danny (Head Boy) and I made a positive difference to the school.

I was fortunate throughout school, being both academic and sporting. I chose BTEC Level 2 Sport as an option for a GCSE alongside Geography and French and was then fast-tracked to do GCSE PE within year 11 as well. The whole PE Department at the time (Mr Craft, Mrs Caswell, Mr Armstrong, Miss Mickleburgh, Miss Morley and Miss Westoby) but especially Mr Craft and Miss Mickleburgh were really encouraging and supportive, offering help and advice throughout - and both are still on hand to help me now if I need it, so a massive thank you should go to them. The rest of the department are always willing to have me back to assist in lessons three years after leaving which I really appreciate, allowing me to gain valuable knowledge to support my future career path.

I remember being very focused on sport and never on the more creative subjects at school. I never looked forward to these as much and was excited for GCSEs so I could drop them and focus on my favourite subjects! I also recall always going to the revision sessions for religious studies in year 11 ... not for the revision, but for the free bacon rolls (they were brilliant. Sorry Mr Buisst!)



### **Achievements**

I had various sporting achievements in school (too many to list), but the most memorable and one that still sticks with me now has to be when I broke the 33 year old 1500m record by around eight seconds in year 10, and hearing Mr Armstrong announcing this to the whole school watching, over the microphone!! Another isn't a sporting achievement as such



but more of a sporting moment; in 2012, I was lucky enough to hold an Olympic torch brought in by one of the local torch-bearers. Within college,

my most notable sporting achievement is being named as the female team captain for the Eastern Region in the AoC Sport National Championships.

### **School trips**

School trips were also a highlight of my school life. Mr Armstrong took a group of us to Manchester for a sporting weekend involving cycling on the Velodrome where Sir Chris Hoy trained at the time, and also indoor snowboarding, BMX biking and watching county netballers play. The futsal tournaments were always exciting for us as well, due to having a really good girls' football team. Summer Schools co-ordinated by Mrs Anderson were always something I looked forward to at the end of the year, with a two-week programme including fun, learning and lots of new friends. We had a trip to Twickenham to watch England vs Italy rugby, but the most notable trip had to be Miss Westoby (now Mrs Sutton) taking a group of eight of us to Wimbledon. We had Court 1 tickets and watched some brilliant tennis, even watching Andy Murray on the big screen playing (this was the year he won). I remember us all being stereotypical and buying the strawberries to eat on the hill!



## Work

I currently work within the Community Sports Centre at Ormiston Denes, and have done so for nearly two years now - who would have thought I'd be back so soon after leaving, as a member of staff! I enjoy my role there a lot and am very grateful for the opportunity and experience gained within the world of work. The staff team there are great and I love working with them. I will miss them all when I leave in September for the benefit of my future career goals. I also work as a lifeguard at a local holiday park when not in the Sports Centre or at Lowestoft Sixth Form. I love to keep busy!

## What I am currently doing/my goals

I currently study A Level PE, BTEC Sport and BTEC Sport Science at Lowestoft Sixth Form College. I spend a lot of my time studying, hoping to come out with top grades in order to access the Degree I want. Lowestoft Sixth Form has been just as supportive as school in my career goals and sporting life, allowing me to leave early to attend races and giving me all the backing and help needed to achieve. My drive to be greatly involved in sport stemmed from both my family and continuous support from teachers during my education. This, and what she probably saw as a passing comment, was Miss Mickleburgh telling me I would make a good teacher which really opened my mind up to teaching as a career goal.

From there on and throughout Sixth Form I focused on this as a career goal, and as a result of everything academic and extra-curricular I completed I have gained a conditional offer to study Physical Education with Qualified Teacher Status at the University of Brighton. The course itself reflects my love for sport and aspiration to support others to achieve their full potential, so it was the course itself which was sold to me and I knew this was really the only path I would opt for.

My message to the students is this: Whatever happens, make sure you do what you enjoy. If this requires you to stand alone, then go for it - you will need a lot of guts and determination to reach your goals and there will always be set backs and sacrifices to be made, but it will surely be worth it in the end! School is a stepping stone for the future, but a very important one, so doing your best to achieve your full potential is key. You are the only one standing in your own way, so if you want to achieve something then you have to make it happen!

Our thanks and best wishes go to Alice and we wish her lots of luck with her conditional offer to study Physical Education with Qualified Teacher Status at the University of Brighton.

Mrs J Durrant  
Marketing & Communications Officer



## Alumni update from Christina Warboys

Christina Warboys has told us the following:

*"I was recently awarded a prestigious research fellowship from the British Heart Foundation (BHF). I will conduct my new research programme at Imperial College London. My project aims to understand the development of cardiovascular disease at a cellular level. The BHF award these fellowships to 'provide career opportunities for talented individuals hoping to become research leaders'. The fellowship is for 4 years and will allow me to establish my own research group and work with some of the leading investigators in the field."*



## **Congratulations to Giarnni Regini-Moran**

Giarnni is Junior EUROPEAN CHAMPION pictured below with BRONZE MEDALLIST, Joe Fraser.

"Giarnni Regini-Moran was crowned junior European champion on the floor with a world class score of 15.166. Landing every tumble without error, Giarnni excelled under pressure to take the title. He then went on to take vault silver with two high level vaults scoring an average of 14.966. He then won himself silver on the parallel bars scoring 14.600, rounding out his championships with three gold and two silver medals. Giarnni had a busy day also competing in the rings final placing 5th with 13.733.

Joe Fraser was also crowned champion of Europe, he took the top spot on the parallel bars with an impressive score of 14.733. Joe also impressed on the high bar with some strong release and catch skills and a sky high dismount, giving him joint silver with a score of 13.933. He didn't stop there however and was also amongst the medals on pommel horse taking bronze with 14.333.

Giarnni: "I was pretty exhausted today but knew I had to put one final big effort in. My floor routine in particular I was really happy with, everything just seemed to click in to place. My overall feeling now after 16 routines is of pride for having achieved so much. Before the championships I'd worked very hard and I felt a few nerves and a bit of pressure so to have done my job feels amazing - it couldn't have gone any better."

### **Excerpt from**

**<https://www.british-gymnastics.org/news-and-events/news/latest-news/6520-gb-junior-men-round-out-europeans-with-another-two-gold-two-silver-and-two-bronze-medals>**



## **Update from the TestostaTones**



Supplied via Facebook

Ormiston Denes staff do Queen's "Don't Stop Me Now" as a tribute to the Class of 2016!

Check out this YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNt5Kees1Cc&feature=youtu.be>



**Ormiston  
DENES  
Academy**



## **2016 Primary Schools Spelling Bee**

Mr Marshall, Principal, and Ms Mayo, Projects Manager, recently presented the certificate and shield to Oulton Broad Primary School who, for the second year, won the Spelling Bee competition.

Two former students of the primary school (Storm and Richard) accompanied our staff in the special assembly, and thoroughly enjoyed returning to their former school.

Thank you to all at Oulton Broad Primary School for being so welcoming.



## **London Fashion Designer visits GCSE textile students**

Thanks to Jay Spooner from Digby Jackson London for visiting our GCSE Textile students.

Jay talked about his journey since leaving school and all about the fashion industry. This was followed by a Q & A session.

Digby Jackson - "Ready to wear clothing from the streets of East London for men and women. Inspired by a universe of monsters, unicorns and ice cream, Digby Jackson London is all about the print."



Olly Alexander from Years & Years (pictured below) dresses in Digby Jackson clothing, as do many other stars.



Check out their website: <http://www.digbyjackson.com/>

## **Moonwalk 2016**

A group of Ormiston Denes staff, also known as the Denes Divas, took part in the Moonwalk on Saturday 14th May. This involves walking 26 miles, around London throughout the night.

Walk the Walk is the UK's largest grant-making breast cancer charity. It raises money for vital breast cancer causes and has raised in excess of £100 million. Walk the Walk came into being 20 years ago when just 13 women power walked the New York City Marathon in their bras to raise money and awareness for breast cancer. Miss Halsey, Mrs Osborn, Mrs Townshend and Mrs Turpin took part in the full 26.2 miles marathon around London for various reasons, having trained for months leading up the prestigious event ...



Miss Halsey said: "It was my first time. It was really hard walking through the night but so worth it."

Mrs Turpin told us: "Just because this was my third Moonwalk, does not mean it was any easier than the others. This was for me my most difficult. It was emotional, exhausting but very worthwhile. Glad I was fortunate enough to be able to complete it. Thank you to all who has sponsored the Denes Divas."

Mrs Townshend said: "It was my third Moonwalk too. Even before the walk in the Big Pink Tent there is such an atmosphere and a sense of 'we are all in it together.' When you are walking on the streets people in cars, buses and taxis are all

encouraging you because it is such a worthwhile cause. It certainly restored our faith in human nature when a man stopped in his car, when we were doing our 20 mile training walk around Lowestoft, to sponsor us as his wife had breast cancer. Thank you to all who have sponsored us."

Mrs Osborn told us: "This was my second moonwalk. (It took me six years to get over the last one!) I would thoroughly recommend taking part to anyone thinking of supporting this worthwhile charitable event. It was emotional, exhausting and exhilarating. The public response astounded me, from the taxi driver donating part of his fee on our way back to Liverpool Street to the stranger who approached us at the station to thank us as she had breast cancer and appreciated our efforts."

Donations are still being collected. If you would like to donate, please visit the team's JustGiving page:

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Denesdivas?utm\\_id=26](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Denesdivas?utm_id=26)

### **Laura's Moonwalk**

Laura (year 11) completed the Moonwalk in London. She walked 15 miles at night in under 5 hours for breast cancer as her grandma lost her battle 3 years ago.

Laura's mum said: "She won't tell you guys, but I thought I would!! I am very proud of her. It's a very hard challenge walking in the cold night around London with 15,000 other women and men, but worth it for the cause."



## **Norwich Pretty Muddy 5k**

This event took place on the same day as the Moonwalk, at the Norfolk Showground in Norwich. It is organised annually by Race for Life Cancer Research UK, and it is a muddy obstacle course that women of any ability can climb over, crawl under and charge through! Joggers usually finish the course in around 40 minutes, and walkers take about an hour.

The team comprised: Mrs Calver, Mrs Allright, Miss Watson, Ms collis, Miss Norman, Mrs Carver and Mrs Gooch.

Donations are estimated at nearing £1000.

Congratulations to all staff and students that took part in these fund-raising events.



## **Congratulations in Panathlon event**



Twenty students from our academy took the opportunity to participate in the North Suffolk Schools Panathlon. Held this year at Waveney Sports Centre, with Lowestoft Sixth Form College officiating, the ODA team played in a variety of sports to gain points for the team total.

Competitions included table cricket, polybat (a version of table tennis), a bowling game called boccia and indoor kurling, together with athletics, throwing and jumping events for extra points.

The ODA team were in good shape on the scoreboard going into the final events, the Races. Held over one length these were both individual and relay based and it was here ODA extended their lead with some hotly contested races.

The final results saw ODA take first place in the Panathlon and second in the pan disability event.

Performance of the day was from Jake (year 9) in the javelin. All students received medals and were proud to be a part of an excellent event.

For a full report, please visit:

<http://www.panathlon.com/north-suffolk-champions-are-crowned/>



*Mr S Aldous*

### **Youth Team Art Exhibition**

Ormiston Denes' Art are pleased to support the Youth Team Art Exhibition project organised by Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (NSFT) Charitable Fund.

Former student, Kara Glass, is undertaking voluntary work with Norfolk & Waveney Wellbeing, and she recently collected a box of valuable resources to assist in this project.

The art project, led by Claire Moran, OT/Youth Team, started on 5th May 2016 and involves young people who are part of the Youth Team's service. It will assist in their recovery, enabling them to express their feelings through art and support with social skills.

Artwork will be showcased in local art galleries in January 2017; we will share further news in due course.

The project welcomes donations which will go directly to improving access to creative activity for disadvantaged young people. More information about the project and how to donate can be found at: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/youthteamart>

This follows a previous successful project which you can read about at: <http://bit.ly/1rBwkf9>

We were thrilled to meet with Kara, who left The Denes in 2010, and we will be sharing her story in our alumni series.



### **Waveney Transition Ambassador Training**

This is the first Waveney Youth Council led project that, following a bid written in partnership with Waveney District Council and Lowestoft Rising, has recently been successful in obtaining funding from The Suffolk Community Foundations Raising the Bar Fund to deliver the project in secondary and special schools across Lowestoft and Waveney.

The project allowed 30 students in years 7 - 10 to receive specific training from Access Community Trust to allow them to support the work that the academy already does to ensure that the transition process from Primary to Secondary school is as smooth as possible for year 6 students. The training includes workshops on self-confidence, team work, communication and relationships.

The plan is for the trained Transition Ambassadors to be involved in the transition weeks during July so every new year 7 student will know this service exists before they arrive in secondary school in September and will not then spend the summer worrying about how they will cope with such a big school. However, we have already used the newly trained students in visiting local primary schools for question and answer session with the year 6 students, to already start to alleviate any fears or worries they may have.

The transition ambassadors will attend a presentation event at Lowestoft Sixth Form College in June 2016.





### Year 6 Coffee Morning for Parents & Carers

Parents and carers of our new year 6 students were recently invited into the Academy for a Coffee morning held in the library. This was an opportunity to meet some of the Academy staff and senior leadership team, find out more about the Academy, and discuss any worries or concerns they may have.

At Ormiston Denes Academy, the most important thing to us is that each new student starts year 7 feeling safe, secure, happy and enthused to be part of their new school. This not only applies to students, we also want parents and carers to be happy and well informed about the move their child will make from primary to secondary school.

The coffee morning is just one of many measures we have in place to make sure this important friendly, caring, organised and effective way to minimise the worry for students, parents, carers and school staff.

**AQA Unlocking Potential Programme** in conjunction with the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust \*\*\* Fundraiser Event for students \*\*\*

Two of our students **Tyla Jo (year 11)** and **Jared (year 10)** are working with national European and World Sailing champion Sam Brearey, who has provided them with months of dedicated support to motivate and inspire them.

The AQA UP Programme is designed to develop skills, knowledge, increase self-confidence, self-belief and encourages them to aim high.

This has resulted in our students developing a plan to deliver a project which benefits our local community. In order to meet that target, they held a fundraiser at lunchtime on Thursday 26th May.

Thank you to all students who attended the event and to Sam Brearey and film crew for supporting.



### Year 6 Transition Day

On Wednesday 18th May 2016 year 6 students from our 'non feeder' schools were invited into the academy to get a taste of life at secondary school. Twenty three nervous year 6 students arrived and were shown to our library where they got a chance to meet various staff and some of our newly trained transition ambassadors. After some 'getting to know you' activities they had the opportunity to ask our students questions about life at secondary school.

Following a snack in our school canteen the students then had the opportunity to take part in PE workshops with some of our year 10 students, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

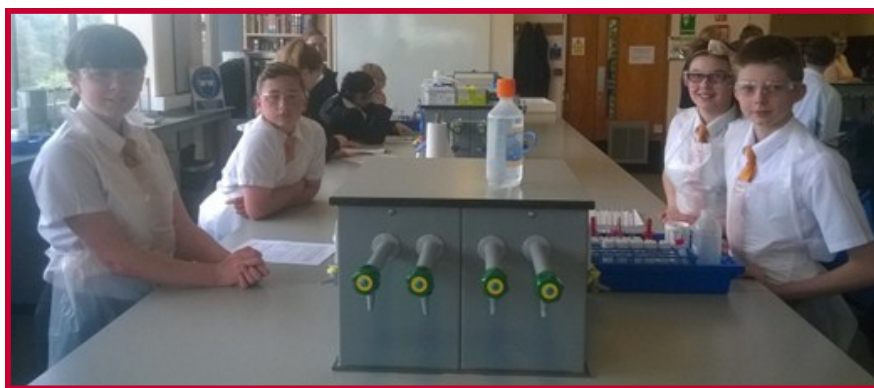
Lunch was provided, to allow them a chance to try our school dinners, and this was followed by two science workshops in our laboratories.

The students had a great day with us, and went back to their parents happy and smiling, full of enthusiasm about their time with us.

## **Salters' Festival of Chemistry**

The Salters' Festivals of Chemistry are an initiative of the Salters' Institute, whose aim is to promote the appreciation of Chemistry and related sciences amongst the young. They offered 49 festivals which took place at various locations throughout the UK, and four students from Ormiston Denes Academy were lucky enough to participate in the event at the UEA in May 2016.

During the course of the day, Luke (year 7), Katie (year 7), Will (year 8) and Jessica (year 8) had to undertake challenges in the University laboratories, working as a team against other teams from schools in Norfolk and Suffolk. The highlight of the afternoon was a kitchen chemistry demonstration from Dr Stephen Ashworth, who gave a great display of experiments using equipment and materials found in the kitchen. Further details of his work can be found at <http://www.kitchenchemistry.eu/>



The day ended with each student receiving a certificate for their hard work undertaken during the course of the day, and prize giving for the winning teams. Although our students were not lucky enough to win a prize they thoroughly enjoyed their day at the UEA.

Our thanks go to Salters Institute, Royal Society of Chemistry and the University of East Anglia for providing our students with this fantastic opportunity.

## **UEA Mentoring Celebration**

Over the past few months eight year 9 students have been involved in a mentoring project linked to the University of East Anglia. The scheme supports young people to aid progression to Higher Education and to widen aspirations. Student ambassadors from the UEA have been coming into school to mentor our students on topics including student life, study skills, research and future choices.

The project culminated in a mentoring celebration held at the UEA, where students had the opportunity to participate in two interactive workshops during the morning. Parents and carers were invited to join the students at lunchtime, and all were then invited on a campus tour and a talk and Q & A session with students and staff from the University.

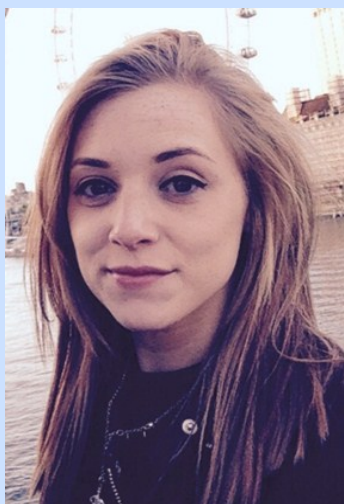
To end the afternoon all students were awarded with a certificate to recognise their achievements.

Our thanks go to the University of East Anglia for offering our students the opportunity to participate in this programme, and to the student ambassadors for their weekly visit to the academy to support our students.



## Thailand calls for former Student, Lauren Page

Alumna Lauren, now nearly 21 years of age, has planned to spend four weeks in Thailand during August and September this year,



when she has volunteered to work in a farming and fishing village.

A full-time nursing student, Lauren always wanted to travel to different countries and experience the cultures. She will be teaching English to the local children during summer camps set up by the company she will be travelling with. She will also be involved in some community renovation projects.

Lauren told us: "Being a full time nursing student, I don't get much time off from university, so I didn't think it was possible to travel until I had finished my course. Aside from this, I am also really passionate about helping individuals and improving other people's lives where possible, (one of the reasons I am pursuing a nursing career), so when I saw the chance to integrate these two things and have the opportunity to help people positively in another country I jumped at it and applied for the programme."

"I am going through an individual company, which isn't government funded, which is why I am trying to fund raise a bit of money towards my trip, as well as working so I can fund most of it myself.



This year's **Suffolk Young Poets Competition** is now open for entries.

This autumn, on **Friday 14 October 2016**, the Prize-winners event will be part of the **Halesworth Arts Festival** where the ten winning poets will each get the opportunity to read their poem on stage during an evening's celebration event featuring a leading poet for young people.

The entry process is straightforward and free - so please look out for the leaflet which will arrive at your school after half-term. The deadline for entries is **Friday 29 July**.

Take a look round our brand new website [www.poetrypeople.co.uk](http://www.poetrypeople.co.uk) where you can discover more about the Competition, read some recipes for poems, and check out last year's winners for inspiration.

The company arranges the whole trip, including the actual volunteering setting, my travel and accommodation while I'm in Thailand. As well as an amazing experience, there are a lot of things I am hoping to get out of the programme. I am hoping to learn a lot about the Thai culture, how they live, how schooling differs to the education I received and also some of their language. The thing I most want to achieve is to make a difference to some of the children's lives and hopefully their futures by teaching them some English, and also to make a difference to the whole of the community in the village by helping them with the renovation projects."

Once Lauren has completed her journey she will be able to add this wonderful achievement to her CV which she will provide to future employers.

We will be following Lauren throughout the summer - be sure to look out for updates on our social media streams.

## **Year 9 Access Drama students perform to local primary schools**

Our Year 9 Access Drama students have been working on a Theatre in Education project. TIE is used to encourage effective learning in schools. It calls for careful consideration of the audience's age and requirements in order to engage them and get the message across.

In order to conclude the students' work, we approached a number of local primary schools to establish what topic they would like a performance to be based around and to what age group. Audiences are encouraged to participate through work in role and through debate, stimulating reaction.

Over the course of two weeks three groups of students presented their performances to;

- Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 students at Corton VC Primary School with performances around the theme of new beginnings, resolutions and perseverance.
- Years 2, 3 and 4 students at Roman Hill Primary School with performances around the British Values and SEAL (Social and emotional aspects of Learning).
- Year 2 students at Northfield St Nicholas Primary School on the themes of perseverance, resilience, focus, teamwork and having a 'can do' attitude.

Our students were all very nervous about performing to the younger students, but did an excellent job, receiving huge rounds of applause from the primary school students. The students also received some fantastic feedback from the schools, including a lot of lovely written messages from students at Corton VC Primary School.

Mrs Catchpole, Head of Drama, said: "Today they explored themes such as bullying, never giving up and speaking to someone about problems. The students were very professional and the audience were fully entertained throughout."



Further details can be obtained by visiting BBC Bitesize website: <http://bbc.in/26W2v96>



## Suffolk Young Carers

Suffolk Young Carers are a registered charity providing information, guidance and support to family carers of all ages across Suffolk, to help to get them the support they need to live fuller lives.

Helen Blight, from Suffolk Young Carers, works with us to help and support registered young carers within our academy. The support offered depends on individual needs, from having time with one of the advisors to offering groups and activities to have time out and meet other young carers.

We have a monthly lunchtime drop in session where our young carers can drop in for a biscuit and a chat, play games and chill out with Helen. **The next drop in takes place on Wednesday 29th June 2016, in room R10.**

Suffolk Young Carers work with schools to raise awareness of young carers and offer Schools Awards to recognise their carer awareness. Ormiston Denes Academy currently holds the Silver Award and is well on the way to achieving Gold standard.

**If you have any queries or would like to find out more you can contact Suffolk Young Carers on 01473 835430.**

### Challan Carmichael - Concert and inspirational talk

On Friday 27th May we were very pleased to welcome Challan Carmichael who gave a wonderful performance to students from Poplars, Wood's Loke and Corton primary schools. This was followed by a second performance for our year 10 students who thoroughly enjoyed not only listening to Challan's message, but also interacting.

Challan opened his performance with "Step by Step" which is also the name of his schools tour and was featured on BBC Introducing in April this year. Challan's single was released on June 3rd.



More about Challan can be found on his website: <http://challancarmichael.co.uk/>



**Poplars Primary School  
Students group photo  
with Challan**

**Poplars Primary School  
Students autograph signing**



## **Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) Archaeological Dig**

The Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) programme aims to raise the aspirations, enthusiasm and attainment of 14-17 year-olds with regard to higher education by making a valuable contribution to current academic research at the University of Cambridge. Participants are actively engaged by carrying out their own hands-on practical investigations in small mixed-school groups, which has a positive impact on their attitudes and aspirations and helps develop transferable cognitive and personal skills. HEFA is aimed at learners capable of applying to top-level universities and helps them to raise their educational confidence and aspirations. During the course, participants will be encouraged to discuss their ambitions for the future and to maintain contact with the University of Cambridge afterwards in order to help them realise their aims.

Although normally aimed at Able, Gifted & Talented year 9 - 12 students, a group of 14 year 8 & 9 students from Ormiston Denes Academy participated in the three day event, along with 3 staff



members (required to fit the supervision ratio for each test pit). The first two days were spent in the coastal village of Walberswick in Suffolk where students ran their own small (1m<sup>2</sup>) archaeological excavation with students from other local schools, with the aim of applying and developing a wide range of learning skills, boosting their academic confidence and giving them a taste of life and learning at university level. They made new discoveries for and about themselves, and in the process contributed to the university's CORS research into the development of rural communities and settlements in the past.

The third day was spent in the University of Cambridge analysing the excavation results in discussion learning sessions which aim to engage and challenge participants, prepare them to produce a written analysis for assessment as well as provide an inspirational and positive experience of higher education. The third day visit has allowed our students to get a taste of university life, to talk to university students and to allow them to see what they could aspire to be.

Students are now in the process of writing their own individual detailed assignment on the dig, which will be marked by lecturers at the University of Cambridge. They will then receive detailed individual feedback on their data collection, personal, learning and thinking skills

developed during the fieldwork as well as their reporting and research skills exhibited in the written assignment, which will support applications to further and higher education.

This is the fourth year we have been involved in this project, and have found it to be an excellent opportunity for students to not only participate in something new to them, but to work out of their comfort zone with students from other schools, to learn lots of new skills and make important discoveries about both themselves and our local history.



The fee for participation of this project is paid for from the academy G&T budget, and subsidised by the HEFA. This project has always been very successful and, because of the benefits and impact on our students, it would be something that we will continue on an annual basis providing the project continues.

Ms J Mayo, Projects Manager said:

*"An amazing experience for our students, it was very thought-provoking for them and for the staff involved. The students felt that, although the dig days were very tiring, they had come away with a lot more information and ideas about themselves, our local history and higher education."*



Students, Riley (year 8) and Morgan (year 8) said:

*"It was fab, working with students from other schools was at first quite scary but I enjoyed their company, and I thought we all worked well together. A really useful experience which showed how determined and helpful we, as students, can be, and made us think about our futures and our past."*

### **"Team Up To Be Champions, School Breakfasts for Winners"**

"Team Up To Be Champions, School Breakfasts for Winners" is a brand new project that charity His Church has launched for 2016. The project aims to improve educational attainment, attendance and social inclusion through the provision of healthy, good quality breakfast cereal to school Breakfast Clubs.

Last year a significant donation of Kellogg's breakfast cereal was made to Ormiston Denes, which led to us being invited to be the host school for distribution to ten local primary schools. The cereal will help to support our daily breakfast club which all students may attend, free of charge.

The cereal, consisting of Kellogg's Rice Krispies and Cornflakes was accompanied by newly added Breakfast Packs containing a variety of tasty and tempting breakfast items.

Mrs J Durrant, Marketing & Communications Officer at our academy, said "It was a pleasure to host this extremely generous project. Representatives from our local schools were very appreciative and keen to take part in a much larger event planned for later in the year."



Schools and organisations that run breakfast clubs who are interested in receiving cereal should contact Sarah Wayment of His Church on 07796 454363 or email [teamup@hischurch.org.uk](mailto:teamup@hischurch.org.uk)

## **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra**

In April a small group of enthusiastic music students had the opportunity to attend The Marina Theatre in Lowestoft to watch the afternoon rehearsal, prior to the evening performance, of The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO).

This was yet another wonderful opportunity for students to watch a prestigious world renowned orchestra performing, and appreciate the dedication and professionalism of the musicians involved.

Students got the chance to see and listen to the orchestra practising pieces from their 'Gala evening of Songs from the Musicals', with songs including All that jazz (Chicago), Music of the night (Phantom of the Opera) and Memory (Cats). The orchestra was accompanied by two outstanding vocalists Graham Bickley and Alison Jear.

The students were really impressed with the performances and thoroughly enjoyed this exciting experience, especially having the opportunity of listening to songs from the musicals that many of them knew. Our thanks go to the Marina Management and Friends of the Theatre for allowing our students this opportunity.

We look forward to our next visit in July, to listen to The Great American Songbook, a salute to the golden age.



## **Picnic in the sunshine**

On Wednesday 8th June, students with no incidents slips during Spring Term 2 were rewarded with a picnic in the sunshine on the grass at the front of school.

Kieren (year 8 - photographed here with Principal, Mr Marshall) said "I had a wonderful time at the picnic, the music was amazing and the food was wonderful, I loved the cookies. It was nice spending time with my friends and having my picture taken". Kieren also added "Thank you for all the great stuff".

It was a pleasure to see so many students enjoying the event and openly expressing their gratitude.





## Visit to Wembley Stadium

Four lucky students experienced a fantastic day as sports ambassadors for Ormiston Denes academy. Destiny (year 8), Francesca (year 8), Joey (year 9) and Robbie (year 9) applied to have a chance to visit Wembley Stadium in an ambassadorial role for school sport across the Ormiston Academies.

After meeting at school at 6am the students set off on the long journey to London and as they arrived were greeted by University representatives and were lucky enough to meet a former Olympic athlete called Jeanette Kwakye. The students were then able to listen to her journey on becoming an Olympic athlete and were able to ask her questions before playing a few games to test the speed of their reactions. The students were then split into groups to find out a little more about the people around them and about their biggest achievements. They then had to take part in some trust and communication games.

Once this had been finished the students then had to create a presentation on what was good and what could be improved within the PE department at Ormiston Denes Academy. The things that the students said were good was that the staff and the equipment were of a high standard and included facilities such as a 3G pitch, two sports halls and a large playing field that can fit both grass pitches and a full size running track.



The main thing they felt could be improved upon was the size of the changing facilities because it was felt there was not enough room for the larger PE groups. After a delicious lunch they had to present their findings to the other schools and teachers about how good the PE was within the school. The final session was an interview where the students had a situation where they were part of a football management team and they had to answer questions in the style of a press conference on Sky Sports News.



The day concluded with a visit to see the statue of the England World Cup winning captain of 1966, Bobby Moore.

Quotes from our students:

'YCFB is a very well-run University and I aspire to be part of the University in the future'..... Robbie (year 9)

'I developed my confidence in meeting new people from across the country'..... Destiny (year 8)

'I now know the standards that I have to achieve to get to a higher level in education'.....Francesca (year 8)

'I was delighted to be a representative of Ormiston Denes Academy '..... Joey (year 9)

*Mr S Aldous*





# Forest School Workshop

**Enjoy and experience an  
evening of Forest School**

**Activities Include:**

- > Creating Willow Lanterns
- > Making Elder Jewellery
- > Fire Lighting Techniques

**Thursday 14 July 2016, 6–8pm**  
**Meet at reception**

Activities will take place on the field in all weathers, please dress appropriately.

All ODA students, parents, carers and local community are welcome.

Book a place on this free workshop using our online booking link:

**<http://workshops.ormistonden.es.co.uk>**

Or

**Email: [jwhitehead@ormistonden.es.co.uk](mailto:jwhitehead@ormistonden.es.co.uk)**