

Ormiston Denes Diary

15TH DECEMBER 2016



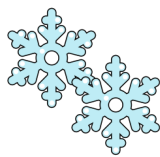
**Three Gold Standard Awards
mark outstanding achievement
for Ormiston Denes Academy**



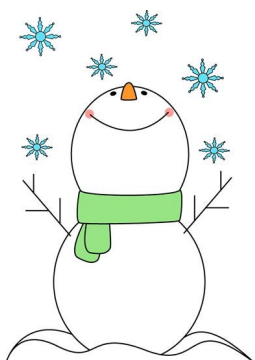
**Suffolk Schools Rugby
7s Tournament**



**Year 9 students
pass their Bronze
Arts Award**



**National Youth
Takeover Day**



Olympic Day Out

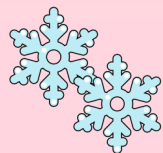


**Alumni
Ray Wang**

**Ormiston
DENES
Academy**



Plus lots more ...



Contents

Page

Three Gold Standard Awards mark outstanding achievement for ODA	3
Student Spotlight	4
Boycode Year 7 PSHE Presentation	5
Armistice Day 11th November	6
Remembrance Sunday 13th November	7
Alumni - Ray Wang	8
Alumni Update - Danny Cook	9
Alumni Update - Perry Scott	10
Hustings	10
Cambridge Science Centre Show	11
Year 10 Work Experience	11
Suffolk Schools Rugby 7s Tournament	12
Family & Community Learning	13
Principal's Award for Exceptional Student Response	14
Year 7 Basketball Champs	14
Warhammer School League	15
Bronze Arts Award for Year 9 students	15
National Youth Takeover Day	16
Wear it Pink	17
Olympic Day Out	17
Creative Choice at DanceEast Ipswich	18
Ghoulish Golden Ticket Event	18
BBC Children in Need	19
Christmas Concert	19
Lego League	20
Performing Arts Day	20
Boccia Champions	21

There is a no drop-off policy on the academy site. We encourage all who travel by car to drop off at a nearby road which is a short walk from the academy.

We encourage the use of public transport where walking/cycling is not suitable.

Thank you for your support.

Lost Property

Please remember that lost property is kept for three weeks only.

Any lost property will be available for parents/ carers to view in Reception on Monday 19th December between 3.00pm and 4.15pm.

Any unclaimed items will be donated to charity during the Christmas holiday.

From our Vice Principal, Mr Tony Bown ...

As we approach the end of the longest term of the year, when the nights have been drawing in and there is a constant threat of cold and gloomy weather, I am reminded once again how privileged I am to be involved in education generally, but the Ormiston Denes community specifically.

There is nothing more cheering and heart-warming than spending time with our students. Our core values of respect, integrity and aspiration have never been more apparent than they are now and as I walk the academy corridors and visit lessons I am greeted by courteous, respectful, smiling students, who are proud to be part of the academy. Year 11 students, in particular, have really understood the importance of aspiration, and they are motivated and focused on the next few important months. Attendance at revision and intervention is higher than it has ever been, and with mock examinations due after Christmas I am warmed by the positive attitude and high expectation that emanate from these students.

Our recently appointed school councillors are set to prosper as well. Head Boy Hubert and Head Girl Lauren have already met Mr Driver and have been tasked with leading their team and bringing improvements to recycling and lunchtime activities. They also have the privilege of deciding how to reward the whole academy for collecting their first 1000 Denos, given by staff to students for acts of respect and thoughtfulness outside lessons.

Thank you for your continued support this year. Our attendance figures have surged in the last year, and we have higher than national average attendance in the academy. Regular attendance leads to excellent learning and outstanding achievements.

I wish our students and staff a restful break, with much high quality time to recharge the batteries. I wish everybody in the community a truly wonderful Christmas, and I look forward to seeing students back at the academy on 5th January 2017.



**This term finishes on
Wednesday 21st December at 12.15pm**

**We return to the academy on
Thursday 5th January 2017 (Week 1)**



www.ormistonden.es.co.uk



@OrmistonDenes

FREE BREAKFAST FOR EVERYONE

Breakfast is available every day between 7.40am - 8.45am in the dining hall.

Cereals, fruit, yoghurt, breakfast bars, warm cheesy muffins and toast.

Hot food served between 8.00am - 8.30am.

A full cooked breakfast is available every Wednesday (sausage, bacon, egg and beans).

Ormiston Denes Academy breakfasts are a great way to start your day.

There's no charge and no need to book. Just turn up, eat and go!



Ormiston
DENES
Academy



Ormiston
DENES
Academy



Golden Ticket Events will be held during lunchtime on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th December. Are you a Golden Ticket Winner?

Keep up to date with our daily tweets!

Follow us on Twitter @OrmistonDenes The Twitter app is free to download. Just visit:

<https://twitter.com/download?lang=end-gb>

Three Gold Standard Awards mark outstanding achievement for Ormiston Denes Academy

Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) recently held their sixth annual conference to which key staff, principals, academy representatives, advisors and special guests were invited, from across the OAT network.

Gold Standard awards

This year's OAT Gold Standard awards were presented at the conference by Paralympic gold medalist and former Ormiston Venture Academy student, Jessica-Jane Applegate MBE.

Ormiston Denes Academy was very proud to receive the following Gold Standard awards:

Outstanding Enrichment Opportunities
Outstanding Transition Practice
Outstanding Innovation: Marketing and PR



Mr Ben Driver, Interim Principal, and Jessica-Jane Applegate MBE

Ormiston Denes Academy was also a highly commended finalist in the Enterprise in Education Award category at the recent Lowestoft & Waveney Chamber of Commerce Business Awards 2016. The Enterprise in Education Award recognises an organisation that has the students' future at its heart. It will maximise its STEM delivery through innovation which will ultimately provide them with a rich and varied career pathway.





Student Spotlight

Robbie, Year 8 student

Congratulations to year 8 student Robbie who recently won the runner-up prize in 2016 Beales Summer Holiday Writing Competition.

Chair of Judges Carol Butcher said: "The standard of entries was very high and this was a nationwide competition across all our stores so this is a fantastic achievement for Robbie."



Luke, Year 8 student

Luke is doing a 5k swim on Saturday 17th December in aid of Gt Ormond Street Hospital. His 10 week old niece Amelia has had three major heart operations and Luke wanted to raise funds for the hospital.

Taran, Year 10 student

Gymnast and Venture House student Taran has been celebrating some rather awesome achievements this year.

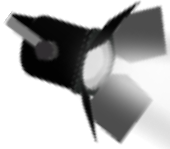
In March, Taran competed at the English Championships for the first time as a first year Figure Junior. Following this, she spent five days during August at a training camp in Cork, Ireland,

September saw her take part in three competitions in as many weekends; the first being Suffolk voluntary levels when she came 2nd, then the Challenge Cup at the Guildford Spectrum (the UK's number one leisure complex), again a first for her. At the regional finals, Taran qualified from county voluntaries, where she came 10th. Finally, in October, Taran was selected to represent Suffolk at the Sapphire Invitational in Hemel Hempstead, where Team Suffolk gained a Silver.

Taran competed for Suffolk again on 12th November where the team won silver again.

Congratulations to Taran.





Student Spotlight

Ashtenrose, Year 8 student

Enquire House student Ashtenrose recently competed in the Suffolk Dance Festival in Felixstowe where "she did incredibly well winning lots of her sections" said her proud Mum. Ashtenrose was presented with three overall trophies for Junior Improvisation Cup, the EADT Choreography Cup and the Janice Fullman Cup for the most promising Junior Dancer of the festival.

Ashtenrose's mum told us: "We are exceptionally proud of her and thought it would be nice to let her school know."

Congratulations on your super achievements Ashtenrose!



We are very proud to share these students' wonderful achievements. If you have something similar you would like to share with us, please contact: Mrs J Durrant, Marketing & Communications Officer.

Boycode Year 7 PSHE presentation

As part of our PSHE programme we were lucky enough to recently have Belgium boyband Boycode attend our school to give two online safety and cyber bullying presentations and performances. During two sessions the group performed to year 6 students from Poplars and Northfield primary schools and to our year 7 students.



Boycode consists of four young men who auditioned three years ago to be part of a new boyband, and were successful in their endeavours to become part of Boycode. As a group they have toured China and Europe, and were in the UK to perform to young people across the country whilst delivering some important messages about staying safe online, cyber bullying and discrimination.

The group was really enthusiastic and totally engaged the audiences with songs and discussions throughout the one hour presentations. They asked questions to the students about the topic, and students also had the opportunity to ask questions of the group.

What was very clear from the students' answers was that the online safety education that they have already received has given them a really good knowledge of online safety and cyber bullying, what to do and where to go if they have queries or problems, and how to be responsible internet and social media users.

Our thanks go to Boycode for coming into the academy to perform as part of their UK tour, and we wish them chart success in the future.

Armistice Day 11th November 2016



These photographs give a flavour of how we have honoured Remembrance Day both in our academy, by way of daily themed assemblies, and also by representing the academy at the Remembrance Service held at the Sparrow's Nest Gardens. Our students are also pictured at the Belle Vue War Memorial here in Lowestoft.

Students Courtney and Ethan led the groups of cadets who wore their cadet uniforms throughout the day.



Mr Ayers, Music Teacher, played the Last Post at every assembly. You can view this on our You Tube channel: <https://youtu.be/krm97olJzZU>

In the lead up to remembrance day we were invited to help produce a 'sea of poppies' which was to be erected and displayed at Lowestoft War Museum in Sparrow's Nest Gardens. During the Skills For Learning sessions students produced dozens of poppies, some displaying individual messages, that were taken to the museum to form part of the display.



Remembrance Sunday 13th November 2016

Respect and remembrance were at the heart of every Ormiston Denes Academy student this week, in the year that marks the centenary of the death of Sgt Claud Castleton, one of our alumni, who gallantly gave his life at the Battle of the Somme and, in so doing, earned a posthumous Victoria Cross.



Students Lauren and Hubert played a lead role in our commemorations, actively involved in delivering assemblies to every student in the academy over the week. They were also proud to represent the academy at memorial services held in Lowestoft on Friday and on Sunday, forging important and impressive links with our local community.

In front of local dignitaries and many hundreds of armed forces, members of the British Legion, cadets, scouts, guides, a plethora of other organisations and members of the public, Lauren read the poem, "Why Do I Wear A Poppy?" by Anne Starr. Her poignant words were well received, and she was particularly taken by the lyrics from the poem: "I wear it for the fallen, and those falling still."

Hubert read "In Flanders Fields" and said he felt it "was a privilege to make a contribution to the whole event" and to mark the anniversary of Sgt Castleton.



Former Head Girl, Nabila, laid a wreath on behalf of staff and students from the academy for the second year, and she said it was "an honour to come back and pay respects to those who fought for us." She added that it was "important that everyone in the community recognises the contribution and sacrifice made by service men and women."



This has become a tradition for students from Ormiston Denes Academy, and many members of the local community were keen to speak with our students and staff during and after the event to praise them for the quality of their reading, and for the respect that they showed.

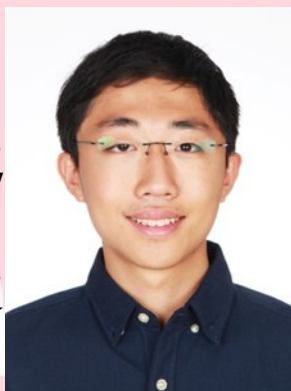
Mr Bown, Vice Principal, said: "our students are excellent ambassadors for the academy today. It is so important that young people understand the importance of Remembrance, and the work that our student voice has led in the academy this week has made me very proud indeed."

Councillor Nick Webb, Mayor of Lowestoft, and Mark Bee, Chairman of Waveney District Council, were amongst those to thank our students for their excellent contributions to the service.



Alumni
Ray Wang

First Year MBBS Medicine with BSc Medical Sciences and Level 3 French, Imperial College London. Outgoing Waveney Youth Council Chair, East Suffolk Partnership Board Member.



Ray attended The Denes from 2011 to 2014. Ray was, and still is, a very proactive student. Whilst studying at The Denes he was also Head Boy, and was Chair of Waveney Youth Council. We have recently caught up with Ray, and this is what he told us:

School life

"I have always held very fond memories of being a student at Ormiston Denes and it always has been a pleasure to return and catch up with familiar faces.

Ormiston Denes was where the academic foundations which underpinned my studies at A-Levels and university were first developed, and it was opportunities at The Denes which led to my subsequent interest in youth social action. I remain very grateful for all the support, advice and encouragement from my teachers and support staff, especially Ms Mayo, throughout my time at The Denes which helped me to take the first steps towards where I am now.

As a student, I have witnessed a lot of changes; abolition of middle schools, conversion into an academy and introduction of vertical tutor groups to name a few. What did not change for me however was the fantastic commitment from staff to see their students succeed.

Now at university, I do miss the routine nature of daily life whilst at school. However, there were some particular occasions which stood out, for example, the two mysteries during Year 11 which remain unsolved to this day. The case of Miss Westoby's (now Mrs Sutton) missing rock in Geography, and the case of my missing French book, which disappeared just before my final controlled assessment containing all my notes. Despite whole school search efforts, it remains unfound. Please get in touch if anyone ever comes across it!

Student Leadership highlights

Some of my best memories at The Denes were forged following my election as Head Boy. Indeed, I met some of my best friends through working together on the Student Leadership team.

Continued ...

Together with Head Girl Edie, Project Lead Nathan, and a team of over 100, along with Mr Ainslie and Ms Mayo, we championed views of our peers and enabled students to engage with all aspects of academy life; from interviewing staff candidates, including four heads of houses, to providing logistical support to public events.

For some of us the latter often resulted in 13 hour days, but they were great fun. A receipt for some pizza ordered before the school production addressed to "Osmartin Beans Academy, Yourmouth Road" provoked particular hilarity, although I doubt the finance department found it quite as amusing when we had to hand it in ...!

It was challenging to run a very active Student Leadership whilst studying 10 subjects, a common sight back then was a stressed me rushing around the corridors delivering memos. Looking back, I often thought that perhaps my job title should have been "postman" instead of anything else.... However, the transferable skills I gained; time management, prioritising, and leadership have served me well.

The highlight of my tenure was the development of the very popular, very successful Community Bakery Project which involved visiting care homes to share cakes and scones with the elderly.

After The Denes

I studied five A/S subjects and four A-Levels at East Norfolk Sixth Form College before successfully securing a place at Imperial College London to study medicine.

Outside of my studies, I went on to the Waveney Youth Council, working with schools and partners to develop youth-led projects including the nationally award-winning Transition Ambassador Project, delivered in eight schools and colleges, including Ormiston Denes. I also serve as a board member for the East Suffolk Partnership of local authorities and service providers, ensuring youth input into local high-level decision making.

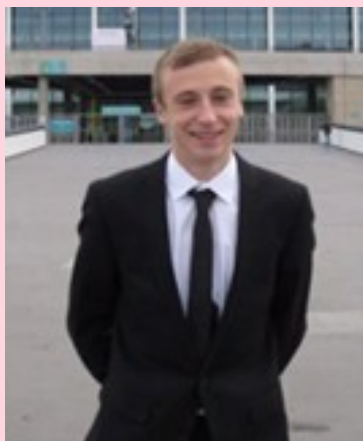
My message to current students

Keep aspiring and always challenge yourself. Believe that you can succeed if you are prepared to put in the hard work; take the initiative and don't just get on with it, but stick with it. Of course, there will be momentary setbacks, challenges and difficulties along the way, but try to keep in mind the bigger picture of where you want to go. Never give up, ask for help, seek advice, and make the most of every opportunity available. I wish everyone all the best for the future."

Our thanks and best wishes go to Ray.

Please visit our website for details of more alumni:
<http://www.ormistonden.es.co.uk/alumni/>

Mrs J Durrant
Marketing & Communications Officer



Alumni Update **Danny Cook**

We've just caught up with alumni Danny Cook, (our first Head Boy). He has some seriously exciting news!

"It's incredible to think that I have been at UCFB for over a year now. That said, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time there. I have met some great people and been privileged to experience some great opportunities.

"Recently I was fortunate enough to have carried out some filming at Soccerex, which is a global football conference held in Manchester. The filming was for a women's football magazine called 'SheKicks', which held various speaker sessions, including some very high

profile people from within women's football.

"I completed my FA Level One during the summer and have since been coaching at a local side called Kinja. I've even been fortunate enough to dust off my football boots and play, which is something I hadn't done competitively for some time.

"Very recently, I was selected to attend West Ham's International Management Games which was held in Groningen, Holland. The International Management Games is a form of simulation activity that places students in different sport and event management scenarios and challenges. My fellow UCFB students and I were split into various mixed teams. Our team consisted of students from Holland, Denmark, Germany and also England, and it was such an insightful experience to work with other cultures. For me, it highlighted how individual us British are, which we clearly don't recognise when working with others in the UK. The tasks we were set were orientated towards West Ham and how they can develop their operations in various departments to maximise their successes. Time management was a key quality, tested during this event, as our team was often set multiple tasks with varying deadlines, and in some cases, it was deciding which tasks to focus on as certain ones would score us more points.

"Out of the 40 teams competing, our team won which was no more than what my teammates deserved for their hard work throughout the process.

"UCFB for me has and continues to be a unique experience that wholeheartedly appeals to individuals who aspire to operate within the sports industry.

"Our course 'Football Business & Media' was redesigned over the Summer break and I have loved the new course spec to date and would recommend anyone who is interested in sports media, especially those who love football, to take this course.

"Nial Quinn, George Cohen, Clarke Carlisle, Nick Hower & Sky Sports presenter Hayley McQueen have all been guest speakers so far this year. All have been very interesting and insightful."

Danny is pictured opposite with Nick Hower from The Apprentice and Countdown.

Good luck to Danny who has also just begun an internship at Dugout. Launched on 28th November 2016, Dugout is a new football-based social media network, which has joined forces with leading teams from across Europe. This "free online platform allows fans to consume engaging content from their favourite clubs."

More on Dugout here: <http://www.dugout.com/> Check out their app too!

Danny said: "UCFB have also managed to secure some internships at Dugout which is a new football site for fans of clubs from all around the world to experience exclusive content produced in collaboration and by the clubs. I am currently working with the very talented content and social department and have really enjoyed the experience of contributing to a project of this scale and ambition."



Mrs J Durrant
Marketing & Communications Officer

Alumni Update Perry Scott

We're really proud to share Perry's latest news.

Perry recently started his Masters Degree in Public Policy at the London School of Economics. Perry told us: "It's very challenging, but I'm enjoying studying at one of the best universities in the world! Alongside my degree, I have been working as a Student Enquiries Advisor in London which involves encouraging and helping 16-18 year olds apply for university. I have also recently been approached to work for ITV as an Economics Research Assistant. Working for the Economics Editor, Noreena Hertz, I help produce stories on politics and the economy for ITV News. It is a very interesting role and I have learnt a lot from researching all of the topics - I really like turning the TV on in the evening and seeing my research on the 10 O'Clock News! Around five million people tune in every night to watch, so it's great to know that my work is having an impact."



Congratulations to Perry for this fantastic and inspirational achievement.

You can read more about Perry and other alumni on our website: <http://www.ormistonden.co.uk/alumni/>

Mrs J Durrant
Marketing & Communications Officer

Hustings

Hustings took place on 30th November 2016. 160 students signed up to be taken out of enrichment to vote on the new Head Boy and Head Girl for the next year. Six candidates presented their speeches to inform their audience of their potential plans should they be elected. They then took questions from the audience and panel. All candidates performed extremely well. Hubert and Lauren were elected as Head Boy and Head Girl, with Joseph and Bryony elected as Vice Head Boy and Vice Head Girl. House Team Leaders elected are Chantelle, Daniel, Eliza, Courtney Louise, Mollie, Holli, Harvey and Eloise.



The panel consisted of:

Mrs T Ellis, ODA Community Governor
Mr T Bown - Vice Principal
Mr P Aves - SCC Partnership Change Manager, Lowestoft Rising
Mr S Halsey, Active Communities Officer, Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils
Mr R Hawkins, former Head Boy/Waveney Youth Council



Head Boy - Hubert
Head Girl - Lauren

Vice Head Boy - Joseph
Vice Head Girl - Bryony



Cambridge Science Centre Show

On Thursday 13th October 2016 staff from Cambridge Science Centre visited our academy to deliver their fantastic interactive 'Spectrum Science' stage show to our year 9 students and students from Poplars Primary School and Somerleyton Primary School. Spectrum Science was based on the theme of light, with a multi-coloured show introducing the concepts of light and space; light you can see and light that you can't see. The show looked at how visible infrared and ultraviolet light are used to investigate the stars and our own solar system, and various other uses of light. During the one hour show they even managed to make two students disappear!

The students were thoroughly engaged by the show, and it was great to see students learn in such a fun and interactive way.

Our thanks go to the Cambridge Science Centre for coming along and providing such a great show.

Year 10 Work Experience Monday 3rd - Friday 7th July 2017

- Work experience gives young people the opportunity of involvement in a workplace, helping them to understand how the world of work operates and how it differs to school. For many students this will be their first chance to work in an adult working environment, and an opportunity to show their potential. It can increase confidence, further develop employability skills and bring the curriculum to life by showing how subjects can be applied and valued in the workplace.
- Year 10 students have received their work experience application packs, and the completed application forms should have been handed back to tutors by **Friday 9th December 2016**. If your child has not yet returned their form, please ensure that they do so as soon as possible.
- Please support your child with their work experience applications and discuss the various options available, including 'find your own' work placements which helps to ensure students have a placement of their choice.
- We would recommend that students consider finding their own placement, in order to meet their specific choice and needs, and to ensure a placement that they will be successful in. Students have until 17th March 2017 to find their own placements, using the peach forms which were in their launch packs.
- Students with queries should come along and see Ms Mayo or Mrs Ladbrook in their office.



Suffolk Schools Rugby 7s Tournament - Victory for Ormiston Denes Academy!

The U16 Suffolk County Rugby 7s Tournament took place at Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club on 20th October. There was representation from four schools throughout the northern region of the county: Sir John Leman High School, Hartismere High School, Alde Valley High School and Ormiston Denes Academy. It was a round robin competition with the winners qualifying for the County Finals in March 2017.

Ormiston Denes' side got off to a pleasing start against Sir John Leman with a strong defensive performance, scoring two tries and one conversion without conceding a point. The 12-0 victory gave the team confidence going into their second game against Alde Valley. Our team, inspirationally led by captain Jake annihilated the Alde Valley side who were also unable to score against the Ormiston Denes defence. This was matched by some excellent team play and running rugby which was a joy to watch. Ormiston Denes ran over five tries scored from all areas of the pitch.

In their last game Ormiston Denes was one victory away from qualification to the County Finals with only Hartismere standing in their way. This was a closely matched game with Ormiston Denes going ahead, but Hartismere matched them score for score. Although all tired, the Ormiston Denes side managed to keep playing positive rugby which led to a 21-17 victory.

All players were outstanding for Ormiston Denes Academy, showing excellent team work and individual performances in every game winning run. Now they are looking forward to the County Finals in March.

Back row left to right: Nathan, Matthew, Danny, Jake (Captain), Christian.

Front row left to right: Josh, Harry, Charlie, Josh.



Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening



Thank you to all parents, carers and students who attended our recent Raising Achievement Evening.

If you were unable to attend and wish to purchase Revision Guides, please contact us.

Revision resources are also available from our website:
<http://www.ormistonden.es.co.uk/exams-at-ormiston-denes-academy/>

Family & Community Learning

Let's get cooking



We held a Family & Community Learning 'Let's Get Cooking' Workshop on 20th October.



25 people attended, making bread and garlic butter.

A good time was had by all!

Make a Christmas Wreath

A wonderful evening was had by all in the latest of our workshops - 'Make a Christmas Wreath'. We had festive music and the lovely scent of cinnamon cones, holly, ivy and ferns. Some people made a holly and berry centrepiece as well. Everyone went home laden with their wreaths and table decorations, and agreed that it made for a lovely evening.



Learning Craft 'n' Natter

We had an enjoyable time at our Craft 'n' Natter evening workshop, where fourteen of us took part in making felt hearts, ladybird keyrings and knitted and crocheted poppies. One lady sat and arm-knitted a cowl, which came in handy for her chilly walk home!

We hope to continue this workshop as a monthly event here at the academy, where everyone is welcome to come and join us.



Further details of our Family & Community Learning are available on our website.

Principal's Award for Exceptional Student Response



The very first Principal's Award for Exceptional Response to Feedback was awarded to Jacqueline, Year 9 (pictured left).

The award on the following week was presented to Rhianna Morgan, Year 7 (pictured right).

Both students were presented with their certificates by Mr Ben Driver, Interim Principal.



Year 7 Basketball Champs!

The newly formed Year 7 Basketball team recently played in their first tournament. With several practice sessions under their belts, the boys were keen to show their prowess on the competitive stage.

Their first match, and for many the first opportunity to represent the academy, was against the hosts Pakefield High School. From the start they dominated possession and took their chances for a confidence boosting win. From there on it was a series of improving displays against Benjamin Britten High School, East Point Academy and Sir John Leman High School, and through hard work and great leadership and motivation from Mr Lewis they excelled, winning all group games and qualifying for the final.

The final was against the league runners up, Benjamin Britten High School, and was this time played on a full pitch, which potentially made for a low scoring game. But it was Aiden who took his chance well and finished a fine jump shot to win the match 2-0 and secure the trophy for the team and the academy!

The team now goes on to the county final after Christmas.

Well played all!



Warhammer School League

On Sunday 20th November Ormiston Denes Academy were due to play against The Norwich School in the Norwich Warhammer store. We took a team of four students who have been taking part in after-school coaching sessions with Mr Buisst since September.

There were only three categories for awards, but all members of the team had to be there and satisfy a large list of requirements. All the boys worked hard to prepare for the heats, and we have now qualified for the national semi-finals on Wednesday 26th April where we will face teams from schools all over the country.



Riley -
Most Sporting Opponent Award



Joshua -
Best Painted Army Award



Zach -
Best General Award



James -
Winning Team Member

All Year 9 Arts Award students pass their Bronze Arts Award

Arts Award is an accredited qualification from Trinity College London, "inspiring young people to grow as artists and arts leaders, inspiring them to connect with and take part in the wider arts world through challenges in an art form" – artsaward.org.uk

Students had to produce a portfolio of work relating to the titles of Explore, Event, Inspiration and Presentation. Over the course of a year, students created a wide variety of artwork using different media and techniques (Explore). Additionally, they visited The Sainsbury Centre in Norwich, where they enjoyed tours and artist-led workshops (Event), and researched artists who inspired their work (Inspiration). Finally, they had to learn a new art skill and present this as an information leaflet to teach someone else (Presentation).

All 41 students received their Bronze Award.

Miss Amy Barwood, Art Technician, said: "The course involved a lot of hard work and we, as a department, are incredibly proud of what these students have achieved, especially since this was our first year running the course."



National Youth Takeover Day

Ormiston Denes Academy recently participated in the Childrens' Commissioner's National Youth Takeover Challenge, an event which sees organisations opening their doors to children and young people to take over adult roles. It puts students in decision-making positions, and allows them to gain an insight into the world of work and challenges that adults face.

This year, working with Waveney Youth Council, Waveney District Council and East Coast Community Healthcare members, groups of students from schools across Waveney were put in charge of the local Clinical Commissioning Group budget for a 5 year period, and tasked with making budgetary decisions based on 12 'newsflash' scenarios and three options to choose from with each scenario. The project was very kindly funded by Waveney District Council, with prizes funded by the Council, Sentinel Leisure and East Coast Community Healthcare.

The activity gave a real insight into the work that goes into buying healthcare services, the various types of healthcare services, and some of the serious decisions that have to be made regarding budgets when unexpected events take place. Some of the scenarios were based on actual events that have taken place and caused dramatic impact on budgets.

As well as thinking about budgets, it also caused lots of debates, conversations and reasoning as to the impacts various cuts may have, and the seriousness of such cuts. For each scenario students had to mark their changes in budget areas, detail the new budgets, provide justification as to their option decision and discuss the impact of their decisions.

Students then had to discuss various scenarios with a panel, made up of health care professionals, local councillors and council members, and even our local MP joined the panel. Each group was judged on the reasoning behind their decisions, the outcomes of those decisions, and their presentation and enterprise skills used during the day.

Another aspect of the day was a presentation about the vast array of career options within the health sector, along with training and apprenticeship route options. This enlightened our students as they automatically considered the 'common' vocations such as doctors and nurses, but hadn't considered the other range of jobs within the service, from admin to IT, from engineers to solicitors; the range was vast. This also gave students the time to network with employees within the healthcare industry to find out more information about the work that they undertake.

All students had a really good day, with some fantastic discussions taking place. It gave the students a real opportunity to work on a 'real life' project, and to enhance their enterprise skills such as team work, communication, problem solving, risk management and presentation skills. It also gave them an insight into the broad range of careers within this sector.



Wear it Pink

Every year, Wear It Pink raises around £2 million during Breast Cancer Awareness Month for the UK's largest breast cancer charity, Breast Cancer Now. They use the money raised to fund world-class breast cancer researchers across the UK and Ireland, who work together to discover how to prevent breast cancer, how to detect it earlier and how to treat it effectively at every stage to try and stop the disease taking lives.



In support of the charity, on Thursday 20th October 2016 we held a non-uniform day, encouraging students to wear at least one item of pink for a donation to the charity. A bake sale was also held at break time, with lots of delicious cakes and biscuits on sale. Finally, during lunchtime students could pay a donation to watch the student karaoke session which took place in our assembly hall, with a number of students bravely performing on stage in front of their peers.



After all money had been counted a staggering £725 had been raised, which has now been sent off to Wear it Pink.

Olympic Day Out

Due to a successful Ormiston Denes trip last year to The Olympic Park, Stratford, London, we decided to return for another year. Our year 9 and 10 V Cert Health and Fitness students were afforded the opportunity to take part in the trip. This consisted of 41 students and three members of staff. The trip included time spent within the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Masters event where they watched a wheelchair tennis game starring a previous world number one player.

After being inspired by the tennis the students were allowed in the tennis activity zone where they tested their co-ordination and reaction time during some tennis, full and mini games, and activities.

After lunch the students were given a tour of the Olympic Stadium where they saw world class venues such as the Olympic Stadium, the Velodrome and the Copper Box Arena.



Mrs Sutton, Teacher of PE, said: "It is a fantastic way to keep London 2012 alive and continue to 'inspire a generation'. It is a trip we hope to make an annual event due to the benefits to all students and staff involved."

Creative Choices at DanceEast Ipswich

We were offered the opportunity to take students to a "Creative Choices" careers event at DanceEast in Ipswich. During November, staff travelled to Ipswich and accompanied students for this full-on day. DanceEast is a centre for advanced training in dance and is one of the few specialist dance houses in the country - so for our students to be able to take part in this it was very special.

The day was funded by Creative Choices who is the national skills academy for creative and cultural skills. See their website for more information: <https://ccskills.org.uk/careers/advice> We took our year 10 dance students who took part in four workshops throughout the day. We were told that for every dancer on the stage, there are 13 people who are employed in supportive roles.

The workshops were built around a performance involving looking at the technical aspects of a performance, how a show is produced, front of house roles and marketing and communications. Our dance students had to take an active part and get involved with challenges such as "What do you do when there is a power cut?" "You are out with a performer, who is on stilts and the performer falls over. What do you do?" They had to design a box office and work out who different communications should be shared with. Students got to find out more about the technical aspects of theatre by trying out lighting and sound controls.

Our students enjoyed the day and have asked us to get involved in more activities like his. From the point of view of the staff, we were able to find out more about careers in the creative industries - the website above has an "ask the expert" feature to enable students to ask specific questions to the right person. This is especially important for us here in Lowestoft where it may not be easy to access specific resources. Staff were able to network and share ideas with other schools' staff.

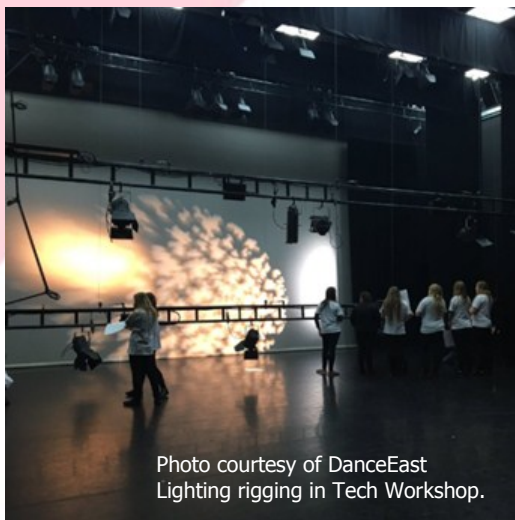


Photo courtesy of DanceEast
Lighting rigging in Tech Workshop.

There are future developments planned with our local theatre who are hoping to offer a similar experience here in Lowestoft. Watch this space!

Ghoulish Golden Ticket Event

Photos taken at another Ormiston Denes Golden Ticket event to reward our quiet achievers.



The vision of BBC Children in Need is that every child in the UK has a childhood which is safe, happy and secure, and allows them the chance to reach their potential.

They provide grants to projects in the UK which focus on children and young people who are disadvantaged, currently supporting over 2,400 projects locally and across the UK.

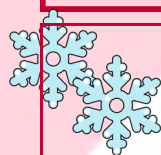
During the week leading up to the appeal night students sold Children in Need merchandise in the form of festival wrist bands, pin badges and Pudsey ears, raising £147.63 from sales of these items.

On Friday 18th November 2016 the academy also linked up with BBC Radio Suffolk's Take Your Teddy to Work Day, with several staff and students bringing in their favourite teddy bear for the day.

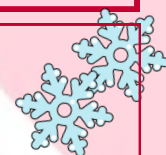
Additionally students held another bake sale with 'Pudsey' and 'Spotacular' themed cakes and cookies on sale, and both staff and students participated in a lunchtime karaoke session in the assembly hall.



Taking into account all activities, a total of £322.06 was raised by the academy. At the time of going to press, the total raised by BBC Children in Need was £46,624,259, a phenomenal amount which will help thousands of children and young people in the UK.



Christmas Concert



On Wednesday 13th December we held our annual Christmas Concert. Following refreshments, the audience was entertained with a mixture of songs wonderfully performed by a number of our students. The audience also had the opportunity to accompany the students and participate in singing to the carols 'Away in a Manger' and 'Silent Night'. The evening finished with a medley of songs from 'Oliver'; a wonderful insight into the school production in 2017.



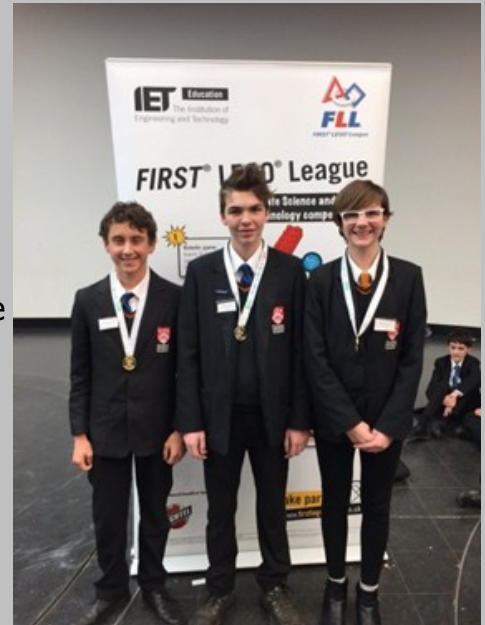
Lego League

On the 29th November Finn, Euan and Lucy went to compete in the First Lego League robotic and engineering competition. The event was held at Ford Technical Centre in Dunton, Essex. The event was attended by schools from our region and London.

The Aim of the competition is to design and programme a robot to solve several challenges that are different every year. They also have to develop a solution to an engineering problem and deliver a presentation in front of professional engineers. Explain how they built and programed their robot and they are judged on the core values of the Lego League and how they work as a team.

The team made good progress on the day and completed well. Due to traffic we arrived late and had to go straight into action on the robot table. We completed our three sessions on the robot tables improving the team performance each time. This year's robot game was difficult and all teams had to work hard to score points.

Lucy, Euan and Finn delivered a good presentation to the Engineers, sounded professional and confident and answered all the questions put to them. The team work presentation was very well delivered and was one of our strongest sections.



Performing Arts Day

Fifteen students from Ormiston Denes Academy were invited to attend an Arts Award introduction day at Ormiston Sudbury Academy on Friday 25th November. They were treated to workshops in Drama, Music and Dance. The young people had a thoroughly fantastic time and gained a lot from the experience. The additional bonus of the day was the training of their teacher Ms Morris to deliver both the Bronze and Silver Arts Awards; a nationally recognised qualification that students can take forward in their academic careers.

A fantastic day was had by all and the students and staff at Ormiston Denes Academy would like to extend a very big thank you to Leo Cox for co-ordinating and running such a successful event.



Boccia Champions!

Thursday 24th November saw six students from Ormiston Denes attend the annual North Suffolk School Sport partnership Boccia tournament. This was held at The Ashley School, with competitors from Pakefield, Bungay, Sir John Leman and The Warren high schools including the host school.

Boccia can be likened to a bowling game, a variation on carpet bowls with players attempting to get as many near to the 'jack' as possible, but from a seated position.

The Ormiston Denes team featured: Harry, Matthew, Travis, Stephanie, Lewis and the tournament veteran Jordan, who has represented the academy at each event of this kind.

This was a sponsored Lord Taverner's event, a charitable organisation for young people in sport.

The Ormiston Denes team played well in the opening group stages, winning all three matches and being declared champions. This now means that the students will go through to the County Final in 2017.

All players were presented with medals and a certificate, and the academy will keep a trophy as North Suffolk Winners.



**We wish a merry Christmas and a happy new year
to all our readers**



A leaflet, poster and loads of other downloadable documents, including information sheets, seasonal checklists and certificates can be found on their website. <https://fab40suffolk.co.uk/>