



Ormiston
DENES
Academy



There is still time to join us.
Please see the back page for details.



The Lowestoftian

From Ormiston Denes Academy

DECEMBER 2017



Contents

Page

From Our Vice Principal, Mr Tony Bown	1
Ormiston Denes Academy Governors' Profile - Mrs Kate Gill	2
Lablive - Science Extravaganza	2
Spelling Bee Competition	3
Ormiston Denes Academy Celebrates Second Award of the Year	4
Careers Events This Half Term	5
Inter-School Takeover Challenge Event	6
Ormiston Denes Basketball Teams Through to Second Round	7
German Film Screening at Cinema City, Norwich	7
Embrace Film Screening	8
Remembrance Day	8
Suffolk Skills Show	10
Children in Need	10
Year 10 Work Experience	11
U13 Girls Football	11
Physical Education Trip to UEA	12
PHSE Performance by Boy Band, Misunderstood	12
Star Wars Arrives at Ormiston Denes	13
Gig Night	13
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Rehearsal	15
Essex & Suffolk Water Reading Project	15
Year 8 Gateau Competition	15

Contact Details

Main Switchboard 01502 574474 (for all admission enquiries)

Tours please email tours@ormistonden.co.uk



Find us on
Facebook

www.ormistonden.co.uk



@OrmistonDenes

Our newsletters are also available to view on our website.

From Our Vice Principal, Mr Tony Bown ...

Autumn is always a long term at schools, and as we see a smattering of snow and approach the Christmas break, this is an opportunity for all of us to reflect on what has been taking place in and around Ormiston Denes Academy, a term after we celebrated our best results ever, to ensure that our improvement is sustained.

Reading the following pages you will see a sample of the range of opportunities we offer our students in music, languages, sport, the arts generally and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). I would like to publicly thank the staff who make these opportunities possible. They, like me, understand the importance of broadening horizons and opening minds by exposing young people to activities and opportunities beyond the traditional academic curriculum. I have written in previous issues about our Enrichment Charter, our promise to our students, and I fully acknowledge that we would be unable to deliver it without the professionalism and dedication of our staff.

You will have heard on the news recently the renewed focus the government is putting on social mobility. The aim of this work is to ensure that all young people, regardless of background, are able to achieve the standards required for whichever route is appropriate. Students should have guidance and support to help them make choices that are best for them. This includes Lowestoft students aiming for universities, apprenticeships, or employment at the highest level.

Ormiston Denes Academy has secured funding to support this process. Public Sector Partners in Suffolk are supporting work including STEM-focused activities, under our newly appointed Director of STEM (watch out for our STEM evening in the summer), a renewed focus on high quality careers education, information, advice and guidance and specific focuses on improving attendance and literacy across the academy.

Attendance, as supported by research and our own data, is crucial to success in schools. Indisputably, students who attend Ormiston Denes Academy regularly achieve better academic success. Of course, they also have better access to the range of enrichment opportunities on offer. My plea to parents and to students is to encourage perfect attendance and excellent punctuality to the academy all through the year. We have aspirational targets for attendance and, by their own admission, students do sometimes have time at home which is not strictly necessary.

Kofi Annan, when he was Secretary General of the United Nations, said, "*Literacy is...the road to human progress and the means through which every man, woman and child can realise his or her full potential*". When in polite company, I discuss literacy, correct spellings, or insist on correct grammar. My wife justifiably calls me pedantic, and takes pride in reminding me that the word pedant is borrowed from the French "pédant", meaning teacher or schoolmaster. If, however, I define being 'literate' as being able to read and understand a passage, and being able to explain thoughts clearly in writing or in speech, few would argue that these are important skills. In fact, every GCSE examination assesses student literacy and the literacy skills needed to apply for a job or a college place, and pass an interview, are certainly as important as the academic grades that a student achieves. Our success in the Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project (page 6) was, in part, because students gave a superb presentation to the judging panel. My second plea to parents and students, therefore, is to use some time over the forthcoming holiday to talk, to have discussions over a meal or while going for a walk and to read - to read anything - as often as possible. If you are short of an idea for a Christmas present, head to Waterstones in Lowestoft and buy a book token.

My final thought goes to Year 11 students. They have impressed us this term with their attitudes to learning, their focus in lessons, and their regular attendance to a longer school day, as we have introduced daily 'period 5' lessons. Their Christmas break will be followed by two weeks of mock examinations. Indeed, for many, the exams have already started. I remind them that, as I explained in my recent '*Make It Happen*' assembly, understanding your own goals and working tirelessly towards achieving those goals, is rewarding. Please make the best of the Christmas break, enjoy some family time, some friend time, some 'down time' and some 'me time', but remember that January is mock season and that if you are in Year 11, you are more than half way through your school year already.

I wish all members of our local community a peaceful, happy Christmas.



Ormiston Denes Academy Governors



Mrs Kate Gill

Vice Chair
Community Governor
Responsibility for SMSC

Governor Profile

I am very proud to be a Community Governor and Vice Chair at Ormiston Denes, and have been immensely encouraged by the tremendous progress that Ormiston Denes has made recently. I am also a member of the Finance and General

Purposes Committee, which plays an essential part in ensuring the smooth operation of the academy.

I 'retired' in December 2015, but prefer to describe my new life as 'not being in paid employment', as I am involved in several charitable and voluntary activities, which are both varied and rewarding. My other roles include being a trustee of Great Yarmouth and Waveney Mind, and I am very aware of the need to ensure that we support young people's mental health and wellbeing.

Before I retired, I was an executive director at our local NHS Clinical Commissioning Group. One of the initiatives which I took part in was the formation of 'Lowestoft Rising'. I don't think we would ever have guessed several years ago that the germ of an idea arising out of a long, and at times, somewhat boring meeting, would have brought about the champion of Lowestoft, that Lowestoft Rising is today. I remain committed to how Ormiston Denes can best support, and be supported by, its local community.

I live near Lowestoft, and although I've only been living in Suffolk about five years, I have been touched by the warm welcome I've received. This definitely is the friendliest place I've ever lived. I am married, with fairly usual interests of reading and gardening, however my unusual interest is that I am a church bell ringer.

Lablive - Science Extravaganza

Students from Years 8 and 9 had the opportunity to attend a one-off Science Extravaganza at Saint Felix School in Southwold on Thursday 30th November 2017, brought to Suffolk by Cheltenham Science Festival and EDF Energy.

Students watched two really interactive presentations. The first "Hack your Brain" looked at how our brain communicates with the rest of our body, delivered by Ginny Smith, a specialist in Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of Cambridge. The second, "The Wonderful World of Robots" looks at both the history and the future of robots, what they do and how they work, and was delivered by science communicator, Jonathan Milton. The students thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon, especially being able to join in with the performances.

Evie said of the "Hack your Brain" performance "We had a great time learning about the human brain and looking at the illusions, they were really cool." Abbie, who enjoyed the robotics workshop said "I enjoyed controlling the Sphero robot as it was very hard to control but I made it jump which I found pretty cool."

Our thanks go to EDF Energy for arranging such a great performance.



Spelling Bee



**Do you have
students that are:**

**Competitive? Good spellers?
Up for a challenge?**



**Ormiston Denes Academy invites you to
participate in a Year 5 & Year 6 Lowestoft
Primary Schools Spelling Bee Competition 2018**

Then why not sign up for your school to participate in our Spelling Bee Competition? Initial heats will be held within each individual school to determine your best spellers in each of year 5 and year 6.



Full entry packs, including instructions, rules and word list, will be sent out to schools once confirmation of participation has been received.



Individual primary school heats to be held in each primary school to determine their spelling bee finalists.



The competition final is to be held at Ormiston Denes Academy on Wednesday 7th March 2018, from 3.30pm to 5.30pm.



All participants receive a certificate.



Prizes for the top students in each year group.



Trophy for the overall winning school.

**If you would like to sign your school
up for this exciting event please email
jmayo@ormistonden.es.co.uk
with your expression of interest.**



**Ormiston
DENES
Academy**

[OAT]
Ormiston Academies Trust

An OAT Academy

Ormiston Denes Academy Celebrates Second Award of the Year



Our students and staff are celebrating after achieving a second prestigious award, further marking their remarkable year.

Our academy, which is sponsored by Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT), received the award for 'Enterprise in Education' at the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce Awards, which was hosted on the 10th November at the Ivy House Country Hotel, Oulton Broad.

This follows our academy winning the Education Star Award in October at the 'Stars of Lowestoft and Waveney Awards', for achieving our best ever GCSE results this year.

The 'Enterprise in Education' award aims to recognise schools that demonstrate excellence in developing the skills of their students, helping them to be successful in the workplace. Our academy was awarded the title of 'Enterprise in Education' for

demonstrating that it goes beyond classroom learning to enhance, enrich, and embed links with business, and for creatively supporting students to relate their learning to the real world of work.

Ormiston Denes Academy has a number of measures in place to ensure students are well prepared for the world of work or further education. Initiatives include providing careers education, which begins in Year 7; all students having access to a qualified careers guidance professional for one-to-one sessions to help them plan for their future; and all Year 10 students receiving a week of valuable work experience, helping them to develop key skills required to succeed.

Students at the academy also have opportunities to attend trips to the Big Bang Fair (the UK's largest fair for science & engineering for young people), the Suffolk Skills Show, and top universities such as The University of Cambridge and The University of East Anglia (UEA). The academy's close partnership with The UEA and The University of Suffolk brings Higher Education Champions into the academy each week to raise students' aspiration.

In 2017, over 98% of Ormiston Denes Academy's students progressed to further education, training or apprenticeships. The Suffolk Chamber of Commerce awards highlight talent, excellence and inspiration in Lowestoft and Waveney. Ormiston Denes Academy's award was collected by Mr Tony Bown, Vice Principal, and Mrs Carole Budgen, Careers Co-ordinator. Mrs Budgen said: "Our students' futures are at the heart of everything we do and I'm delighted that our academy has won this award. We forge close links with employers and education providers, with over 45 providers attending our annual careers fair and regularly coming to the academy to deliver presentations and workshops to support the curriculum".

Mr Bown said: "I'm absolutely delighted that we have won this award. It builds on the excellent progress we have made this year in other areas, such as achieving our best ever GCSE results. Everyone at our academy works very hard to ensure students are well prepared for the world of work or further education and this award is so well deserved."

Additionally, Ormiston Denes Academy was named as the highly commended finalist in the Community Pride Award, sponsored by Waveney Norse. We would like to congratulate Hoseasons, who were named category winners.

Careers Events This Half Term

Year 9 and 10 students attended the Skills for Energy event at International Aviation Academy in Norwich in November 2017, and explored the range of career and training opportunities available within the energy sector by talking to stallholders. They tested their skills on a tractor simulator from Easton and Otley College and tried out survival equipment with Survitec Group, as well as other interactive activities on offer. In a workshop, students were challenged to build a North Sea rig using spaghetti and marshmallows. Zeta, Year 10, said: "The trip was really useful and helped me to know what kind of jobs there are in energy, and what they involve." Our thanks go to EEEGR for organising an interesting and comprehensive careers event.



Deputy Conservation Warden, Ellen Shales, came for a 'Pizza Careers' working lunch and students learnt about her job at Suffolk Wildlife Trust. She explained about managing habitats to suit the different species of animals, birds and insects at Carlton Marshes. She talked about studying environmental science at university and doing voluntary experience in order to get her dream job.

Police Cyber Crime Investigators came to talk about working for the Police. Students were already well informed about cyber crime as they had attended an assembly by the team recently, but they had lots of questions about the skills needed to work in this area and what the job entails. We learned that there are different routes into this career but increasingly, applicants are expected to have a university degree.

F. Christmas Enterprises Ltd.

Apprentice Reindeer Keeper

Exciting opportunity for a reliable, hard working person interested in worldwide travel. Must have experience of working with animals, be confident working at heights, well organised and reliable, with 5 GCSEs grade 4 and above including maths, English and science.

Please send CV and cover letter to HR@fchristmas.n.pole

Are you looking for an apprenticeship? Do you need help with your CV and cover letter. If so, pop into the Careers Office to make an appointment with Mrs Budgen or send an email to cbudgen@ormistonden.co.uk.

Inter-School Takeover Challenge Event



Nine students from Ormiston Denes Academy, supervised by 2 support staff members, recently participated in an Inter-School Takeover Challenge event. This is a fun, hugely successful and exciting activity for young people that sees organisations across England opening their doors to children and young people to take over adult roles, putting young people into decision making positions and encourages organisations and businesses to hear their views. Children gain an insight into the adult world and organisations benefit from a fresh perspective on their work.

The academy has taken part in Takeover Challenge for a number of years, which is annually supported by our local council and Waverley Youth Council.

This year's challenge was working with our local Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project (FRMP), in conjunction with the local council. This project is one of the most important projects happening in Lowestoft at the moment, a town that suffered severe flooding in the 1953 & 2013 storms. One of the challenges that the project team faces is communicating with local people of all ages in an engaging and interesting way. The team asked schools to come up with their own proposal on how they could engage people, from all different age groups, about the project: what campaign they would come up with, who and how they would involve people, and by using what medium. The teams also had to decide a team name, and appropriate hashtag.

The project was funded by Lowestoft FRMP & sponsored by local business Lings Motorgroup. Lings suffered over £3.5 million damage in 2013. Our students worked really hard, meeting in the week leading up to the event to do some research prior to the day. They had decided that a logo would be beneficial, so that everybody would instantly recognise something linked to the project. They used a shared Google document so that each team member could share their own thoughts, which prepared them for the day itself.

Our students worked very well on the day, not only creating a campaign plan, hashtag and logo, but also leaflets and other merchandise. They also had to prepare a five minute presentation to present to the judges, and then answer questions about their campaign. After a tense afternoon of judging, our team was awarded for their great efforts by being judged as the winning project. Their prizes were certificates, a glass trophy and a cheque for £2,500 to spend on filming equipment for the academy. These were presented to them by our local MP Peter Aldous, who was also one of the judges. The prizes also include our students working alongside the FRMP to make their idea a reality, and continue to do so up until the project completion in 2020.

JB, a Year 9 student, said: "The experience of taking part was great; the quietness in the boardroom was intense; the laughter as we took part was fun and we learnt so much about flooding and also about each other. When we found out that we had won, I just wanted to shout *yesssss*! The pride you feel for your team is huge."

Continued from previous page ...

Ms Mayo, Transition and Co-Curriculum Projects Manager said: "This has been a great project to work on, allowing the organisers to see things from a different perspective and listening to the views and ideas of young people. It has given students an insight into the world of work, and enhanced their enterprise skills. It brought a group of students together to work for a common goal, and one that will give a legacy to the Lowestoft community. Being project winners means that these students will work to see their ideas come to fruition to raise awareness of the Flood Risk Management Project."

Ormiston Denes Basketball Teams Through to Second Round

On Tuesday 28th November, Ormiston Denes Academy took on Pakefield High School in the first round of the Basketball Cup. The boys managed to hold off Pakefield in the first three quarters, but stormed ahead in the 4th to win 33-21. The girls took a big lead, but Pakefield put up a fantastic performance to bring the score back to within 2. The game was neck and neck until the last quarter, where Ormiston Denes pushed ahead to win 60-50! The stand-out players were Lucas, Sean, Aleesha and Devon.

Well done all!

German Film Screening at Cinema City, Norwich

In light of the opening of Ormiston Denes' German Department, the MFL department took part in a German film screening at Cinema City, Norwich, on Thursday 19th October.

The screening was organised by The UEA Think German Network and offered Year 8 and 9 students across Suffolk and Norfolk the opportunity to watch "Der Ganz Großer Traum" (lessons of a dream) with English subtitles.

A coach left the academy at 9.00am with 20 excited Year 9 German students on board and headed for Norwich. Their behaviour was impeccable throughout the duration of the journey, and they were encouraged to speak in the target language.

On arrival at Cinema City, students and teachers were provided with drinks and snacks before entering the cinema screen. The students thoroughly enjoyed the gripping film (in German!) which was based on real events and tells the story of a visionary young teacher who not only changed his students' lives but also introduced the game of football to Germany.



The event, which was funded by the German Embassy and The UEA, was accompanied by a quiz and creative writing competition for schools to take back with them.

Courtney, Year 9, attended the trip and said: "It was an enjoyable experience. It taught me a lot about life in Germany during that period of time, and I also learnt some more German vocab. Overall, it was a really good trip."

Frauline Morris will be arranging a viewing of the film after school soon and there will popcorn and diet cokes for those who want to see the film with English subtitles.

Embrace Film Screening

Staff, students, families and the wider community were invited to the academy in their onesies for a 'girls night in' themed evening on 28th November, to watch a special film screening of the social impact documentary 'Embrace.'

'Embrace' explores the issue of body image, told from the point of Taryn Brumfitt, who both features in and directs the documentary. Taryn traverses the globe talking to experts, women in the street and well-known personalities about the alarming rates of body image issues that are seen in people of all body types. She explores the factors contributing to this problem and seeks to find solutions.

This documentary was well received and was very thought provoking; it helped breakdown a lot of stereotypes regarding body image, allowing viewers to strengthen their positive mindset about how they view themselves and importantly, others.

Our thanks go to Jane Page and Lowestoft Rising for providing the funding and means to be able to show this in the academy.



Remembrance Day 2017



Respect and remembrance were at the heart of every Ormiston Denes Academy student, with special commemorative assemblies in the week before Remembrance Day 2017. On Friday 10th November 2017, students were able to come to school wearing their Cadet, Guide, Scout uniforms, as a sign of respect.

Students, Lauren and Hubert, represented the academy at the memorial service held in Lowestoft on Sunday 12th November, 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."

Hubert and Lauren then laid a wreath on behalf of staff and students from the academy.

WAVENEY GROUPS



CLUBS (ALL AGES)

Tuesdays starting 23rd Jan from 4:30pm - 5:30pm at
Sir John Leman High School, Beccles, NR34 9PG

Wednesdays starting 24th Jan from 5pm - 6pm at East
Point Academy, NR33 0UQ

Thursdays starting 25th Jan from 4:30pm - 5:30pm at
Ormiston Denes Academy, NR32 4AH

Saturdays starting 27th Jan from 10am - 11am at
Ormiston Denes Academy, NR32 4AH

FEB HALF TERM CLUB (4-14 YEARS)

Runs from the 12th - 16th Feb from 9am - 3pm
at Ormiston Denes Academy, NR32 4AH

For details of other clubs please visit our website

BOOK NOW!

Call: 01473 718193

Email: info@onelifesuffolk.co.uk

Visit: www.onelifesuffolk.co.uk

WANT TO GET HEALTHY THE FUN WAY IN 2018?

FREE healthy lifestyle support for all the family with
OneLife Suffolk's programmes & holiday clubs*

CALL 01473 718193



Includes a
free
cookery
class!

**FREE 8 week swim
pass or gym
membership
(age
dependent)
for all
children who
complete the
programme!**

- Programmes available for children aged 2-4 years, 4-11 years and 12+ years.
- 6 & 10 week programmes with 1 hr sessions & holiday clubs

• Support & advice for parents who are concerned about their child's weight and to help the whole family to be fit & healthy

- Fun physical activity sessions



Suffolk
County Council

**One
Life
Suffolk**

**Eligibility criteria applies*

Suffolk Skills Show



In October a selection of students in Years 8, 9 and 10 had the opportunity to visit the Suffolk Skills Show at Trinity Park in Ipswich.

This annual event brings together employers, schools, colleges and training providers. It offers students the chance to work out which careers are of interest to them, match their strengths, then find out the best route to get the right skills for the job.



There were a wide breadth of sectors being promoted at the show, including advanced manufacturing, agriculture, food and science, creative and digital industries, construction, energy, retail, financial, HM Forces, horticulture, law and legal services, to name but a few.

Students were able to tour the vast exhibition stands, speak to employers and training providers, and find out more about careers they may have a future interest in, or indeed that they had not even considered. They were also able to find out not only what qualifications may be required, but also the 'softer' employability skills that employers are also looking for in their ideal employee.

Our students came back from the trip enthused about all that they had seen, heard and learnt from the various employers and training providers.



Children in Need **17th November 2017**

Students celebrated Children in Need with a number of different, and some new, events in the academy. Although we didn't have the normal non-school uniform day, we did host a bake sale during break time, together with duck racing at lunchtime in our assembly hall. Students were also invited to bring in their teddies, in conjunction with BBC Radio Suffolk.

We also held some inter-house competitions. Students could sign up and join in with the 2017 BBC Children in Need Duck Race, paying a small donation to choose a duck from a sweep-stake selection. The race was shown on the BBC website during the day, and the winning student in each tutor group was the student that chose "Golden Duck."

Additionally, students were invited to bring in both their small change and any old £1 coins for Pudseys 'Round Pound Countdown,' with each tutor group totalling their monies raised.

The final total raised throughout the day was £418.79, a great achievement by all concerned.

Year 10 Work Experience Monday 2nd - Friday 6th July 2018

- Work experience gives young people the opportunity for 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 be handed back to tutors by **Friday 12th January 2018**.
- 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 be able to find their own placements, using the peach forms which were in their launch packs.
- Any queries relating to work experience can be forwarded to Ms Mayo at the academy.

U13 Football - CSF EFL Cup

On 5th December the U13 Girls spent the day at Carrow Park in Norwich, taking part in the U13 Community Sports Foundation English Football League 6-a-side cup. This was a great experience for the girls, both on and off the pitch.

The team faced some tough competition in the group stages. First up was a well drilled Northgate High School who started strongly in the first half while Ormiston Denes were still finding their feet. The girls found themselves 5-0 down at half time but a much better second half left the full time score at 6-0. Encouraged by their second half display, the girls were much sharper in their next game against Framingham Earl High School. A tight game saw the girls go 1-0 down but a quick reply from captain Hollie, left the final score 1-1. A strong Aylsham High School side also proved difficult for the girls to overcome; the final score was 4-0. Experienced group winners Thorpe St Andrew School were last up and strong shooting from them meant the young Ormiston Denes team was well beaten in the end.



Well done to Year 7 students, Shanelle and Georgiana, for both taking turns in goal and making some excellent saves. Fellow Year 7 student Mystie-May, worked hard in defence, aided by Year 8 students Louisa and Daisy-May on the right and left sides. This left the middle of the pitch for the talented Hollie to be able to break down play and create chances.

Overall, the girls enjoyed the experience and even got the chance to meet Norwich City defender Christoph Zimmermann.

Physical Education Trip to The University of East Anglia

Year 7 students experienced a fantastic visit on Thursday 30th November to the UEA. 28 boys had the chance to spend the day at the Sportspark and then were taken into the lab for sports science research. The sports were archery, judo, fencing and rock climbing on the amazing indoor climbing wall.

Students experienced two of the four sports, all with qualified coaches and state of the art equipment. In the afternoon the boys attended two sessions in the lab; one on healthy eating and the other on the effects of energy drinks.

Students concluded the day with a tour of the facilities, including lecture halls, dining areas and accommodation.

The reason behind the trip is that the amount of boys applying to universities is falling nationally and it is hoped by providing such a fantastic experience during Year 7, students will set themselves high aspirations for further education.



PSHE Performance by Boy Band, Misunderstood

In November, students in Year 8 attended a performance and PSHE presentation by boy band, Misunderstood.



The boys, Stephen and Jeffrey, who have appeared on 'Britain's Got Talent', performed for the students during their performance, as well as delivering a cyber bullying, discrimination and British values message.

The students watched a unique and entertaining performance from the artists, which was followed by the PSHE educational message, aimed at empowering students to make the right choices in regards to online safety and cyber bullying, as well as to inform students not to discriminate and to treat everyone fairly, whether they have a different sexual preference, race, age, sex, or nationality.

The students thoroughly enjoyed their performance, whilst taking on board the important messages contained within.

Star Wars Arrives at Ormiston Denes

On 6th December our students experienced a series of surprise visitors to celebrate their efforts in school. Chewbacca, R2-D2 and two Stormtroopers arrived in lessons to deliver golden tickets to the student in each class who had 100% attendance and had received the most reward points for effort this term.

The characters shot basketball hoops, completed sentry duties on the entrance hall balcony and met with the Principal, Mr Driver, before attending every class in the academy and having group photos with students and staff.



The 50 golden ticket winners then had the opportunity to meet all the characters in the assembly hall later that morning, with a Death Star backdrop and the chance to wield a lightsaber for the photograph, which all students received a printed copy of. The experience was kept under wraps with only five staff knowing about it, meaning it came as a huge surprise to over a 1000 students and staff.

Mr Aldous, Assistant Principal said: "The whole academy was amazed to see Chewbacca sitting in a maths lesson or Stormtroopers walking the corridors greeting students. It was a fantastic experience for our students, to recognise effort as they work incredibly hard, as well as celebrating our attendance which is above national standards. The feedback has been really positive from all involved and we hope it is an unforgettable experience".

Mr Dack, Head of Rewards said: "What a great experience for students, it was great to see the looks of excitement on all faces across the academy."

This week, the same characters were on the red carpet at Leicester Square for the premiere of the new Star Wars movie 'The Last Jedi', as part of the Premier Events UK Team.

Gig Night



Students in Years 10 and 11 held a Gig Night on Tuesday 21st November. It was a fantastic evening of music and singing, which allowed students to perform in front of a live audience. Parents, carers, families and students were invited into the academy to see what the students have been doing in their music course.



WE ARE GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY

Our groups offer the opportunity to:

HAVE FUN.
GET ADVICE + SUPPORT.
TRY SOMETHING NEW.

Develop your:

SELF-CONFIDENCE.
LIFE SKILLS.
WELLBEING.



Your nearest group is: Butterfly Effect
For young women aged: 11-19 yrs
Day: Thursday, starting 9th Nov. Time: 6:30-8:30pm
Location: 'Top Cats', 49 Morton Rd, Pakefield, Lowestoft, NR33 0JH

Weekly session price*: FREE
(those who are unable to contribute will still be able to attend)

Visit girlsfriendlysociety.org.uk/register
to sign up online.

Or contact: Great Yarmouth Office
at: 01493 852253 for more information



**GIRLS FRIENDLY
SOCIETY**
confidence • growth • friendship

girlsfriendlysociety.org.uk [f girlsfriendlysocietyuk](https://www.facebook.com/girlsfriendlysocietyuk) [@GFSEnglandWales](https://twitter.com/GFSEnglandWales)
Registered Charity Number 1054310 | Registered Companies House Number 3172713

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Rehearsal

On Friday 24th November, a small group of 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 a wonderful opportunity for students to watch a prestigious world renowned orchestra performing, and appreciate the dedication and professionalism of the musicians involved.

Students had the chance to see and listen to the orchestra practising pieces from the evening's performance of "The Music of John Williams." Under the direction of the conductor Anthony Weeden, the orchestra performed a selection of musical film scores known and loved throughout the world, including Superman, Harry Potter, Jaws, ET, Jurassic Park, Star Wars and Schindler's List.

The students were really impressed with the performances and thoroughly enjoyed this exciting experience, especially having the opportunity of listening to film music that they all recognised.

Our thanks go to the Marina Management and Friends of the Theatre for allowing our students this opportunity.

Essex & Suffolk Water Reading Project

Essex & Suffolk Water (ESW) encourages their employees to support community and charitable organisations through their Employee Volunteering Scheme, **Just An Hour**. This scheme allows employees to give a minimum of 15 working hours every year to support causes.

Over the past year ESW have supported our reading in the academy by sending in volunteers to read with suitable students for a short while. Over the past term we have had four ESW employees come into the academy on a weekly basis to assist with this project, which aims to enhance confidence in reading.

Our thanks go to ESW for their commitment and continued support of this project.



Year 8 Gateau Competition

In Year 8, students make a range of dishes from pizza to macaroni cheese. For their final practical assessment they are tasked to make a whisked sponge and then decorate it to make a gateau. Many students have excelled themselves and showed great skill in doing this. However, the best gateau overall was made by Edvinas. This is made even more impressive as he has attended intervention in quite a lot of the lessons this year so hasn't attended lessons.

Well done Edvinas!

FREE BREAKFAST

For all our students



**Ormiston
DENES
Academy**

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 Thursday
(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!



Is your child eligible for free school meals?

If you receive any of the following then the answer is 'yes'!

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit **but not the Working Tax Credit** and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week
- Universal Credit

To apply, go to <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals> or call 01473 260989, or alternatively, call the academy on 01502 574474 and we'll be happy to help.

No Drop-Off Policy

Polite safety reminder. Due to the number of students walking around the site before and after school, we have 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.



We wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.

**The academy finishes for the Christmas holiday on Tuesday
19th December 2017 at 12.15pm.**

**Students return to the academy for the new term on
Thursday 4th January 2018.**



Applications for Year 7 in September 2018

Did you know?

Current Year 6 students are still able to apply for a Year 7 place at Ormiston Denes Academy for September 2018, even if you have applied to another school.

- You will need to submit a paper application Form CAF1, to Suffolk County Council, in addition to the original application.
- Your original application will still be processed.
- The paper form will override the original application, once processed by Suffolk County Council.
- You will know the outcome of the application after March 2018.

If you would like further information about Ormiston Denes Academy or about in-year admissions, please contact us on 01502 574474 or visit the website www.ormistonden.es.co.uk

If you would like to book a tour of the academy please email tours@ormistonden.es.co.uk