



ORMISTON
DENES ACADEMY

The Lowestoftian



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From Our Principal

I would like to open my comments by saying what an enjoyable first term it has been at Ormiston Denes Academy. I never fail to be impressed by the professionalism of the staff who really do go the extra mile for our students. This shows itself in so many different ways, such as the amount of clubs that take place, the care students get when upset and struggling, and indeed the hard work we demand from them in lessons. In the end, as a school we are here to educate young people and whilst that education maybe in a broad range of areas, inevitably a key focus is their learning in all the different academic subjects.

There are so many highlights it is difficult to choose any particular one, however having said that I have to say that our Children in Need non-uniform day was pretty special as was Remembrance Day. For non-uniform day students behaviour was superb but even more impressive was how it was arranged and managed by the students themselves. The student council did all the assemblies (I was not involved in any of them) and they also wrote and signed the letter to parents. All students came dressed in a variety of different clothes and it was great to hear them talk so enthusiastically about being given the opportunity to raise funds for those less fortunate than themselves. Remembrance Day was particularly touching and again I was quite stunned to hear the school fall silent for 2 minutes as we all thought of those who have sacrificed so much during various wars over the years. Some students turned up in their uniforms (Scouts, Sea Cadets etc) and were very proud of the institutions they were representing. We also had students attend the memorial service in town with members of the public speaking very highly of our students.

On a more day to day report, learning walks (where we visit a number of lessons spending time looking at the quality of the learning taking place and chatting with students) have taken place and work scrutiny as well. We spend a great deal of time developing staff as it is one of my key passions in education. I have been impressed by the quality of training that is taking place and also the depth of analysis that has come from middle leaders and teachers when looking at work and observing lessons. It bodes very well for the future.

Governors play an important role in the school not only in supporting and challenging us, but also that crucial link with the local community. They give up so much of their time as it is not only evening meetings they attend, but they are also in school meeting with students and staff and doing other aspects of monitoring which is really important. This also means they get a good insight into the running of the school and can triangulate comments and reports from senior leaders.

I am very pleased at the progress we are making against the Ofsted key areas for improvement. As you would expect we have worked incredibly hard with compliance and are using external agencies to support us in this important task. One example of this is the Local Authority attendance team that now comes in half termly to look at registers and also discuss individual cases, given that this was a crucial area during the last inspection.

It is great to see Christmas trees around the school I am pleased to say we have the right balance of enjoying the build up to Christmas whilst concentrating on learning and all the important little things like compliance and uniform and behaviour.

On a personal note I'm thoroughly looking forward to some quality family time over the holiday ready for fresh and pacey start to the spring term on 6th January.

Governor Introduction

I teach geography at Ormiston Denes Academy and I also oversee the induction and training of new teachers joining the profession and training here with us. I commenced the role of Staff Governor in September 2019 and I have already attended several meetings where a wide variety of topics have been discussed. This has afforded me a broader insight into the processes and systems that support the day to day running of the academy. I am incredibly impressed by the wide range of experience and expertise we have on our governing body and by the dedication and commitment that each member demonstrates. As we all strive for continuing improvement, it is an important and exciting time to be able to contribute from the perspective of a member of teaching staff, whilst also having insight into the wider picture. I am very positive about the future of our academy and I am delighted to be able to contribute through both my roles as a teacher and as a governor.



Mrs Suzanne Smith
Staff Governor

House Cup Autumn Term Report

The House Cup has got off to a great start this term with a wide range of competitions taking place with our four houses; Endeavour, Enquire, Inspire and Venture vying for the title of House Cup Champions. Each term a House will be awarded as the winner and an overall winner will be announced at the end of the summer term. As well as competitions taking place across the curriculum there are also points available every two weeks for the houses with the best attendance and most rewards points. House points are also available for attendance at parents' evenings. So far this year Inspire have had the best attendance at both Year 7 and Year 11 nights.

Dodgeball was the first sports competition of the year back in September. Inspire ran out the overall winners of the scores from each year group which were added together. Currently the weekly basketball competition is underway at lunch times with Inspire in lead at the minute as well. We also ran a Rugby World Cup competition with each house being given a group to follow. Venture were the eventual winners with South Africa winning the competition.

Endeavour won the literacy essay writing competition over World Literacy Day whilst Inspire won the Autumn 1 accelerated reader competition. Science have also ran a science club competition with the first place going to Inspire. Whilst modern foreign languages hosted a week of translation challenges during European languages week with Enquire winning this competition. Venture and Enquire have shared the lead in the form time numeracy challenge by showing the most progress this term. Whilst Inspire are the current leaders in the ongoing weekly Maths challenge.

There are lots of competitions still going on this half term right up until the end of term. These include:

- Careers competition
- Christmas catering decoration competition
- Form time numeracy
- Maths weekly competition
- Art capturing Christmas
- Accelerated reader update
- The Autumn winners will be announced on the last day of the Christmas term!

House Reports

Endeavour House

Although the nights are drawing in and the days are getting colder, nothing will stop the continued excellence of Endeavour House and the above and beyond efforts of tutors and students this Autumn term.

Competitions that have happened so far include house dance, basketball, ethics, and a confusing conundrum for all our budding mathematicians. Thank you for all your support and continued efforts towards encouraging and winning effort points for our house leadership competition. This term also sees "Double Bubble" where students will be earning twice the amount of effort points for their hard work in December.

Memorable moments have included some fantastic improvements in attendance, Endeavour students leading the way in school fixtures, and a continued mature approach towards improving, both academically, and as young adults.

Notable mentions need to go Jude, Isobel, and Josh for their fantastic involvement with community projects inside and outside of the academy. A very proud Mr Fisher and thankful Ms Mayo.

The boards and screens are showing future updates of events so keep your eyes peeled where you can best represent our house and push towards the final end of term Christmas party reward. Finally, we have been awarding more and more this term with "The Wheel of Names" which is a randomly allocated competition that rewards high attendance and effort with a Love to Shop gift voucher. You've got to be in it to win it, so keep up the hard work.

Mr D Fisher

Enquire House

Well, what a term this has been. We welcomed the new Year 7s who have quickly settled in and become an integral year group within, not only the academy, but also in Enquire.

Whilst Enquire are not as yet sitting comfortably at the top of the effort point stakes I am confident that with the participation of the upcoming competitions this will soon change. Competitions ongoing are careers Christmas competition, food collection boxes in tutor groups as well as houses receiving top points for attendance. Donations to Lowestoft Food Bank collection will be gratefully received.

During assembly we have recently started a 'Wheel of Names' random name generator reward. Providing the student who is selected had 100% attendance in the previous week, they win a £5 high street voucher. Should that student not have been here 100% the previous week, the £5 rolls over to the next week. Emily from AGL tutor group was the 1st lucky winner - well done Emily. Attendance at the academy is key to students being able to achieve all they are capable of. We appreciate students, parents and carers working alongside the academy to help raise overall attendance.

A thank you to all parents/carers who, with your continued support and engagement, will see a successful year for Enquire house and the whole of Ormiston Denes Academy.

Mrs H Turpin

Inspire House

With a fantastic end to the academic year in July where Inspire House was crowned as the house cup champions, we have continued the motion and remain house cup leaders this academic term. This is a credit to all the hard work that Inspire students put in. Students are earning reward positive credits daily and Inspire has received over 30,000 points since the start of the year. Our negative slips remain the lowest compared to the other three houses and we will continue to support all students to achieve their best.

Our new cohort of Year 7s have settled in well and have made the transition to high school amazingly well.

It has been lovely to see so many parents and carers at recent school evenings and I look forward to seeing those with ones coming up.

Thank you for the donations we have received for the foodbank and recent Children in Need event, I feel that it shows great community spirit and helps to create good morals and values.

Mrs G Calver

Venture House

Where has 2019 gone? The Year 7 transition week seems a lifetime ago already. I would like to say well done to our Year 7s for settling in and becoming part of Venture House and the academy, continuing to move the academy in the right direction.

As we come to the end of our first term of 2019 I would like to congratulate Year 11 on how well they completed their mock exam week and continue to remain focused and driven to be successful. It really does not seem that long ago that we were welcoming you into the academy as we work together to get you ready for the next step of your exciting lives.

With the House Cup Competition taking place around the academy I am extremely pleased and proud with the continued success and participation of Venture House over the last term. With basketball, dodgeball and maths competitions taking place, Venture are competing in all of them.

Attendance to school is very important and I would again like to take the opportunity to thank all parents and carers for supporting the house and the academy with their young person's attendance. We continue to work hard to improve the academy's overall attendance and will continue to do so.

As an academy we are collecting donations for the Lowestoft Food Bank and have assisted 357 families every year over the last 3 years.

Any further donations would be gratefully received for any of the following:

Sugar, tinned sponge puddings, snack bars, UHT or powdered milk, tins of beans, tomato soup or vegetables, fish, fruit, bottles of squash or fruit juice, baby food, rice, pasta, breakfast cereals, jams and marmalades, tea and coffee, dog food, baby food, toiletries.

As a final message from me I would like to say thanks again for all students' efforts in the ongoing house competitions, their continued efforts in maintaining high attendance and their academic progress in lessons.

A thank you to all parents who, with your continued support and engagement, will see a successful year for Venture House and the whole of Ormiston Denes Academy.

Have an amazing Christmas and a happy New Year.

Mr J Wilkinson

Careers News

Careers talk

We were delighted to have Charlotte Steggz in school to talk to students about studying Japanese at university. Students were interested to learn about Charlotte's work in Germany as a translator for Nintendo. Charlotte described the stages involved in translating a game and challenged students to think of an English name for one of the mini games she brought with her to demonstrate. Students learnt that you can start Japanese from scratch at university, but that it is helpful to have studied a language previously. Charlotte's advice to language students was to consider taking a language with another subject at university, for example with business, as it makes you more employable than with a pure language degree.

Careers Working Lunches - Apprenticeship presentations



This term, representatives from CEFAS, EDF Energy and Aldi met students for a working lunch, to explain about the apprenticeship opportunities they offer at 16. Students learnt about the opportunities available in each organisation, and the skills and qualifications that these employers are looking for. Teamwork, confidence, reliability, the ability to listen to instructions and carry them out as well as good presentation came out as key skills to make them stand out. Apprenticeships are competitive so it is important to develop these skills alongside passing GCSEs. Working lunches are a great way to gain confidence in talking to new people and practise the skills that could make you stand out at interview.

Suffolk Skills Show

Over 40 students in Year 9 enjoyed a trip to the Suffolk Skills Show in October. Exhibitors from 100 organisations gave them the opportunity to try out hands-on activities as well as a chance to find out information about careers interested them. Students said it gave them a good understanding of future jobs and opened them up to new ideas and careers. They were interested in finding out the skills that they would need and keen to understand about apprenticeships and going to university. It is a great opportunity for Year 9 students who are starting to think seriously about where the subjects they enjoy at school could lead them.

One student summed it up by saying "The Suffolk Skills Show helped me research my future career by telling me what I'll need to fulfil my dreams". They all agreed it was a fun way to find out about jobs and they came away with an impressive amount of 'freebies' from the employers present.

Chamber of Commerce Business Awards

In November Ormiston Denes Academy was invited to the Lowestoft & Waveney Chamber of Commerce Business Awards.

Following our entry into the Enterprise in Education award category, sponsored by EDF Energy, we were delighted to have been informed that we were a finalist for this category, in recognition of all of the great enterprise and careers related work that takes place and is on offer to our students.

In the awards speech it was mentioned how close the entries from the two finalists were, and that it had been difficult to make a decision. However the winners were deemed to be Sir John Leman High School, and our congratulations to them on receiving the award. Our certificate of recognition as a finalist will be proudly on display in our reception area.



Enrichment - Autumn Term 2019

The ethos of the enrichment programme is primarily to offer opportunity, allowing access to activities without the barriers of finance, location, logistics or aspiration. Secondly to provide a social platform allowing students to meet new people and make new friends sharing a common interest. It is also to develop skills, either to further academic skills or promote 'soft skills' such as communication, teamwork or leadership. However, ultimately it is about enjoyment, perhaps having fun within an activity you would not otherwise have the opportunity to take part in.

During the Autumn term enrichment has continued to excite, and students from Years 7 to 9 have enjoyed options from 38 different activities from the following categories: arts and crafts, charity, recreational activities, performing arts, science and technology and sports.

Ms Solomon's Eco Club have been busy taking part in beach cleans and setting up the Eco Committee who will be working with other students and adults to lead the school in improving it's environmental impact.

Calligraphy Club has proved very popular this term. Led by Miss Ryan students have been learning the ancient and beautiful art of calligraphy.

Mr Waite's Dungeons and Dragons Club encourages students to problem solve and allows their imaginations to run riot creating fantasy worlds where almost anything is possible.

Richard Nash, a first aid consultant, has been training students in the art of first responder. This has been very successful and a number of students have gained a qualification through his sessions in enrichment.

Retro-gaming led by Mr Contrino has taken students on a journey back in time before Fortnite and into the realms of the pioneering video games, learning about the history of the gaming industry.

This term Mrs Nield has been taking a group of students to Waterlane Leisure Centre to experience the climbing wall taught by their qualified instructors. Students have explored the wall, exercising problem solving in addition to using their physical strength.

Thank you to all staff and external providers who have made this term such an exciting one for all our students in enrichment. If you would like to offer an activity within our enrichment programme, please contact Mr Armstrong at marmstrong@ormistonden.co.uk

Forthcoming Events For The Spring Term 2020

Wednesday 15th January - Year 10 Parents' Evening

Thursday 6th February - Year 9 Options Evening

Thursday 13th - Friday 21st February - Ski & Snowboarding Trip

Monday 17th - Friday 21st February - Half Term Holiday

Wednesday 26th February - Year 11 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 25th March - Year 9 Parents' Evening

Trips and Events

Wonderstruck Trip

On Friday 12th July, 26 Year 7 students were taken to the Wonderstruck STEM event which was hosted by East Point Academy.

The students were invited to a science show with several demonstrations including Methanol Rockets and a teacher being squashed between a bed of nails and a breeze block that was smashed with a mallet. They then split into groups to make paper rockets which were fired over 100 metres across the school playing field.



There was a demonstration of a rocket-powered car that was built by the demonstrators and all our students were provided with equipment to design our own fan-powered cars. There were several components and power packs to choose from so students had to design their own cars and test run them trying to increase performance and speed to maximum effect. After much competition and experimentation Ian, in his one-man team and Jay-Dee and Charlie were in the lead for Ormiston Denes. Their fan-powered cars went into the grand final against the other schools but unfortunately due to a wonky wheel and crosswinds from the extremely excited audience we didn't win the overall competition.

This was a great day out for both staff and students. All our students were a credit to the academy with outstanding behaviour and effort throughout the day.

Eco Club Beach Clean

In July over 27 of our students attended a beach clean at North Denes beach. This was part of our ongoing school-wide initiative to encourage active citizenship in our students and to achieve Bronze in the international Eco Schools Programme. Students from Year 7 - 9 had all volunteered to take part in a day of giving back to the local community through helping tidy up the environment.

During the day the students collected litter from two sites, conducted an ecological survey of the beach and several areas of unique scientific interest (and played a few team building exercises!) At several points dog walkers and members of the public asked the students what they were doing and when they explained, this was received favourably by the local community. We are extremely proud of their behaviour and how they represented Ormiston Denes beyond the walls of the academy and the impact this has on the local community. It was great seeing their curiosity at the various environmental curios that were discovered. It was a really great day!

To put this trip into context, a few months ago a number of students came forward after reading about Greta Thunberg and the school strikes on climate change and whilst we appreciated their enthusiasm we wanted to channel their energies into something positive that would not impact on their attendance and this event came out of discussion with the student body. Going forwards we will continue with the crisp packet initiative, the assemblies on litter recording the amount left on the field, we will increase the participation of the student body, cleaning around the site, increase recycling and participation in world environment day.

Thank you to everyone who helped with arrangements.

Ormiston Denes Community Awards

On 10th July Ormiston Denes Academy hosted the inaugural community awards. These were held at a packed Christchurch and featured nine of Lowestoft's primary schools who have spent the last month nominating students. Schools in attendance were: Blundeston, Corton, Grove, Gunton, Northfield, Red Oak, Roman Hill, St Margarets and Westwood Primary Schools.

Nominations included; being a fantastic role model, progress and achievement and overcoming barriers to learning.

Assistant Principal, Stuart Aldous hosted the awards with each school coming forward to the front to receive their award from Lowestoft Rising's Phil Aves. Mr Aves also gave a speech thanking Ormiston Denes for creating the evening and also the students and staff of all Lowestoft schools for their continued endeavours and everlasting support.

The final speech was from departing Year 11 student Casey, who spoke about the importance of taking opportunities.

All students were nominated by primary schools, and included ages from nursery to Year 6. Each student received a certificate and 'goody bag', as well as a photograph and chance to meet the Ormiston Denes mascot, Oscar.

Thanks go to all staff involved in organising this event.

Blundeston 'Science is Awesome' After School Club

Miss Welsh has been visiting Blundeston CEVCP School on a weekly basis to deliver a number of science workshops. In early October students came to our academy for the final session, where they were able to work in the science labs making slime!

We are looking forward to the "Science is Awesome" club visiting Somerleyton Primary School during next half term.

This club is so popular that it is now fully booked for every half term this year!

Please contact Ms Mayo at the academy if you would like to book on future workshops, or to find out more about any of our other transition activities that we offer.



Art Enrichment Poppy Making For Remembrance Day



Our art enrichment group have been making large scale clay poppies for Remembrance Day.

They looked at the 2014 Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red installation, by Paul Cummins and Tom Piper at the Tower of London, which saw the moat filled with thousands of ceramic poppies. After studying how the artists created their poppies, the students then sculpted their own in clay which were fired, glazed in gloss red and black, and fired again.

The poppies are beautiful and the art department is really proud of each student for not giving up, as these are not easy to make!

Remembrance Day 2019

Students at the academy have been remembering the brave people, past and present, who have served to give us our freedom.

The art enrichment group made ceramic poppies, which have been proudly on display in the academy reception. Ceramic poppies made last year were also donated to the Royal British Legion for them to sell as part of their poppy appeal.

All students have taken part in assemblies and we have also raised money for The British Legion poppy appeal by selling poppies and other merchandise at registration and break time over several weeks.



Students were proud to represent the academy at the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial on the Royal Plain, with students laying a wreath and Jasper reading the moving poem “Why wear a poppy” by Donald J Crawford to a crowd of several hundred spectators.

Students who were members of local cadet groups were invited into school wearing their respective uniforms on Remembrance day, and it was great to see so many students proudly wearing their cadet uniforms on the day.

We have observed an impeccable two minute silence at the academy on the morning of 11th November. Students

and staff filled the Entrance Hall and surrounded the balcony for the poem, read again by Jasper, the silence and wreath laying by the principal, Mr Nixon.



Our school canteen also got involved with their own tribute, by serving wartime food during lunchtime, so students could get a flavour of what rationed food may have been like during this period.

Lest we forget.

Trip to Alcalá de Henares, Madrid

Nine of our Year 11 Spanish students spent 4 days in September exploring Spain's capital city and the birth place of author Miguel de Cervantes (Don Quijote), Alcalá de Henares. All of them embraced the local cuisine, trying foods such as squid (tentacles and all!), tortilla de patatas, jamón ibérico, gambas al ajillo and churros con chocolate. They all got plenty of practise making transactions and ordering food in restaurants in Spanish.

They spent a day in Madrid visiting the sites and enjoying the glorious weather where one group of students managed to barter with a local tour guide for a massively reduced price for a tour of El Retiro Park.

Another day was spent in the local cathedral followed by an excursion to the ruins of a school 'Casa de Hippolytus' dating back approximately 2000 years.

Everyone had a fantastic time.



Private Peaceful Play

KS4 students attended Marina Theatre on 13th November to watch Private Peaceful to support their drama examinations next summer.

Based on the book written by Michael Morpurgo, and adapted by Simon Reade, Private Peaceful relives the life of Private Tommo Peaceful, a young First World War soldier awaiting the firing squad at dawn. During the night, he looks back at his short but joyful past: his exciting first days at school; the accident in the forest that killed his father; his adventures with Molly, the love of his life; and the battles and injustices of war that brought him to the front line.

Winner of the Blue Peter Book of the Year, Private Peaceful is by third Children's Laureate, Michael Morpurgo. His inspiration came from a visit to Ypres where he was shocked to discover how many young soldiers were court-martialled and shot for cowardice during the First World War. This was a moving portrayal of a young soldier's final day in World War One, but perhaps more importantly conveys the strength of human spirit.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the performance and were in admiration of the one man show and how the actor was able to portray all of the characters and perform a whole show independently, with use of limited props.



Halloween Rewards

Rewards were given to over 400 students who had 100% attendance during the first half of Autumn term and also to the top 75 students earning reward points between 14th and 31st October.

A brilliant turn out of students to accept their rewards from Miss Halsey and Mrs Osborn.

Well done!



Pineapple Studios Trip

Fifteen dance students from our academy had an amazing experience when they were given the chance to visit Pineapple Studios in the West End of London in July.



For some of the students it was their first time in London, using the tube or having the chance to participate in vocational dance lessons. The group had two private workshops. Firstly, a Street Dance workshop lead by a Pineapple dance instructor and an Aladdin (The Musical workshop led by the West End dancer who plays Aladdin!) The girls were inspired by this trip and have learnt a huge amount while thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Thanks to Pineapple for this wonderful experience!

AlterEgo Creative Solutions Theatre Workshop and Knife Crime Assemblies



As part of a collaborative multi-agency response to County Lines and gang violence, East Suffolk Community Partnership have engaged, and funded, AlterEgo Creative Solutions to deliver their theatre play to the majority of secondary schools in the Suffolk area. The Theatre Company visited our academy in November and presented to Year 7 and 8 students.

The play is aimed at raising awareness around:

- What is County Lines and how it can affect young people.
- The grooming process and how it can apply to County Lines.
- The similarities and potential crossovers between Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- Where to go for support, help and advice.

A serious topic, not aimed to scare students, but to raise awareness of something that could take place in our local area. Our students were impeccably behaved throughout the performances and, in the Q&A session at the end of the performance, asked many sensible and mature questions to the actors.

Following on from this performance, our local PCSO Norman Drew has also been into the academy to deliver knife crime assemblies to Years 7, 8 and 9 students. These assemblies link into the theatre performances and inform students on the seriousness, consequences and dangers of knife crime, and of having or using an offensive weapon in a public area.

These two events form part of our PSHE curriculum delivery.

2019 Skills For Energy Event

Year 10 engineering students had the opportunity to attend the 2019 Skills for Energy event at East Coast College, organised by the East of England Energy Group.

Students had the opportunity to visit a large number of exhibitors, speak to companies about various careers in engineering and ancillary occupations, and try various interactive activities. Our students did really well, with lots of participation and interaction, and some very good questions. This allowed them to find out more about this job sector, and support the link between their curriculum subject and the workplace.

Our thanks go to East Coast College and East of England Energy Group for organising and hosting this event.



Literacy Competition

Students in all years were given the opportunity to research the Amazon rainforest fires. They were given news reports about this current affair to discuss during form time. Following this, students entered a competition to write as a news reporter about the fires, in their own words. Within their report they were encouraged to include superlative adjectives. The following articles are from the winning students in Year 7 and Year 8. We are very impressed with the effort that has gone into all the articles which the students wrote in their own time.

The Amazon rainforest is in Brazil, Columbia, Peru. The amazon is the largest rainforest in the world it contributes to 20% of the Earth's oxygen. There are 10 million different species of animals/plants and insects known In the Amazon rainforest. Some of these animals include snakes and spiders and approximately 200 million cattle.

Fires occur all the time in the Amazon rainforest, the most recent fire was the worst on record and it started within the last few months. The fires are so large they can be seen from space. One news story said that the smoke from the fires were blocking the sun and turning Peru into darkness during the day. Most of the fires have occurred due to the heat and lack of rain. However there have been stories of deliberate fires started to take the land for cattle ranching. Cattle ranching is the largest reason of the loss of lots of forests. More news stories claim that farmers caused some of the fires so they could take the land to keep animals on. The president of France offered 18 thousand pounds to the president of Peru to help fix the problems but he declined the offer.

If we do not stop what we are doing to the environment then it will have life changing effects. 10 million different species on our earth will be extinct if we don't stop the fires, and lots of our oxygen will be lost. The loss of so much life dying is at a very high risk. We have 40 years to change or our earth will never be the same. That's why we must spread awareness and stop polluting the sea and be more responsible!

Written by Faith (Year 7)

As many people know, there has recently been the worst fire in the Amazon rainforest for a very long time. Although it does catch fire often, this is by far the worst one. The most interesting thing about this fire is that not only was it caused by how dry the Amazon is, people had set it on fire too. People set the trees on fire to clear land to prepare it for agriculture. It usually doesn't spread as far as it has spread now though.

The Amazon is the world's biggest form of oxygen, it provides us with 20% of it. However, we're not the only ones suffering. The thousands of animals that have lost their homes are now struggling to even survive. We could lose so many species of animals, birds and insects.

There is nothing good to say about this fire, it is causing even more global warming which by the time I'm an adult will be so bad this planet will be inhabitable. The Amazon has already lost around about 15% of its trees, if it goes any higher than 20% it's going to be bad, extremely bad.

Many celebrities have donated money to try and help, just because they're celebrities doesn't mean that you can't do it too. In some areas of the rainforest it is so bad that you can't even see how bad it actually is. Scientists have said that even from space you can see the smoke coming from our largest source of oxygen.

It's devastating to see our world crumble like this. Although you might not be able to go and tackle the fire yourself there are other things you can do to help. You can donate money online to help plant new trees and beat the fire. You can also show your outrage, share it on social media. The more people who know about the fire the better. If the whole world knew what the consequences were from this fire, more people would be doing something about it. If people don't know they simply can't do anything to help prevent fires like these in the future.

If you are able to find out anything more about the fire, please try and raise awareness. If we don't do something fast, there will be no hope in saving the Amazon rainforest. Please try and spread the word about the largest source of oxygen on this planet burning down. There are probably millions of people thinking "I'm only one person, what can I do that would make a difference?" But even one person can make a change, it might not be the biggest change on earth but it still sure does count.

I really hope this message has changed your mind about global warming and the Amazon rainforest burning down. I now hope you realise that this is a big deal and that we NEED to do something about it, and soon. Donating to online charities for global warming and the rainforest is something I also hope you're considering.

Written by Phoebe (Year 8)

Dora Love Prize

Launch Event at University of Essex

On Thursday 26th September ten Year 8 and 9 students were taken to the University of Essex to attend the launch day for the Dora Love Prize which is an annual competition for schools, and aims to raise awareness of the Holocaust and other genocides. During the course of the day the students participated in workshops, and the final event was listening to Holocaust Survivor Frank Bright being interviewed by students from a local school.

Ms Mayo said: "The highlight of the day for me was watching Mia (Year 8) sketch Frank whilst listening to the interview. Charlotte (Year 8) also wrote him a note to thank him for coming in and sharing his knowledge, and for educating the world with his inspiring story. We then arranged to present the drawing and note to Frank at the end of the day."



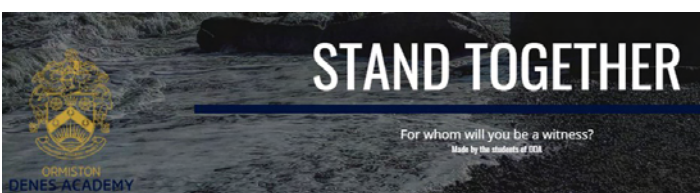
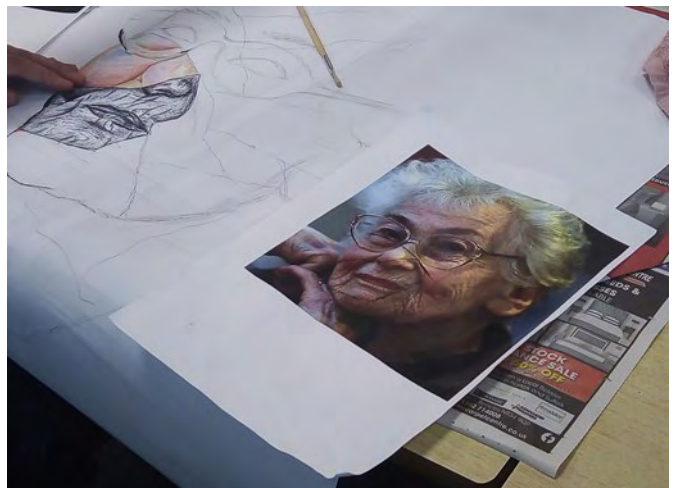
Dora Love Progress



In the weeks since the launch event the students have been busy creating their entries into the competition. They have created their own website on the theme of "Stand together - for whom will you be a witness?" "Stand together" is the theme of the 2020 Holocaust Memorial Day which takes place on 27th January each year. Please visit the website at <http://bit.ly/ODAStandTogether> for more information and to see the fantastic progress the students are making!

Students are also creating a piece of unique artwork, based on a portrait of Dora Love, expertly drawn by Year 8 student Mia. With the outline template drawn, individual students are putting their own drawing skills into the artwork. We can't wait to see the finished product.

Their work will be forwarded to the University of Essex to enter the judging process, with results known in January 2020.



Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is commemorated on 27th January each year, this being the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp. The day is to remember not only those murdered during the holocaust and under Nazi persecution, but also those in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

On 27th January each year across the UK thousands of people come together to learn more about the past and take action to create a safer future, to be a witness to those who endured genocide, and to honour the survivors and all those whose lives were changed beyond recognition.



As an academy, we have participated in HMD events for a number of years, with informative assemblies and input into lessons. We were honoured to have Harry Bibring visit our academy and give talks on two occasions, and we are very sad to have heard that Harry passed away earlier this year. We will again be involved in holocaust survivor webcast which takes place in the lead up to the day, and are hoping to be hosting an inter school event to mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation. Further information will be detailed in our next newsletter.

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Rehearsal

On Friday 15th 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 got the chance to see and listen to the orchestra practising pieces from the evening's performance of "Continental Classics." Under the direction of female conductor Chloe van Soeterstede, and with the wonderful talent of Ben Goldscheider on the French horn, the orchestra performed a selection of music including Mozart's The marriage of Figaro and Horn Concerto No 3, Elgar's Serenade for Strings and Rossini's The Italian girl in Algiers overture.



The students were really impressed with the performances and thoroughly enjoyed this exciting experience, especially having the opportunity of watching and listening to Ben Goldscheider perform. Twenty year old Ben started playing the French horn at the age of 9, and was a Concerto finalist in the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition in 2016. He was a great role model for our students with their own flair for music.

Trip to Muenster, Germany



At the end of the summer term, Miss Morris and Mr Bot took a group of 15 linguists to Muenster in Germany.

They stayed in cabins on an overnight ferry, had breakfast in Holland, went cycling around the city, visited a Land Rover/Jaguar dealer who let them sit in all the vehicles, ate bratwurst and ice cream, shopped and visited an open-air museum, and obviously spoke and learned lots of German.

The students were very well behaved and were praised at the car dealership for their enthusiasm and excellent behaviour.

Young Carers

Young carers are children or young people who look after or help to care for a family member who has a physical disability, long term illness, mental ill health or a substance dependency. The 2011 census informed that over 4,700 young people in Suffolk provided care for a loved one, with over 2000 accessing the services of Suffolk Young Carers.

We are extremely proud to have such admirable young people who have high expectations in our academy, whilst caring for a parent or relative at home. It is challenging to balance personal and family responsibility with that of their studies and that is why we put everything possible in place to ensure our young carers gain the education and qualifications they need to be successful in the future.

To support young carers, we work with Suffolk Young Carers to provide:

- Group drop-in sessions
- House Base access
- Dedicated webpage on our website
- Suffolk Young Carers noticeboard
- One-to-one focussed sessions
- Teacher training
- Awareness-raising activities

We would like to introduce Rachel Maidstone, our new Young Carer Adviser for Suffolk Young Carers;

"Hi my name is Rachel, I am the young carer adviser for the Lowestoft area. I have been working for Suffolk Family Carers since September 2019. My job role has a variety of aspects which includes clubs for young carers, carry out at assessments and to engage with young people within schools. The part I enjoy the most is taking the young carers on respite activities where I see them go outside their comfort zones. I find the job role is really rewarding and I strive from making a difference to a young person's life. People always say I am a bubbly and caring person who is approachable and always willing to listen." Many thanks, Rachel.



Through this work staff and students have been identified as demonstrating exemplary practice. This has been recognised through the *Suffolk Young Carers* in schools award scheme with the academy having gained the Bronze, Silver and Gold award and have just achieved the Platinum Award, the top accolade from Suffolk Young Carers.

Our Platinum award was presented by Rachel during the Christmas lunchtime drop in session on Tuesday 10th December 2019, and will be proudly displayed in our reception area, as well as a duplicate being displayed on our young carer notice board.

East Suffolk Council Stakeholder Workshop



As part of the Waveney Youth Council, secondary schools were invited by East Suffolk Council to attend a stakeholder workshop event at The Hotel Victoria on 11th November. The event, hosted by consultant LDA Design, was designed to bring large groups of stakeholders together to look at shaping a masterplan vision for Lowestoft town centre. They wanted to include young people in this gathering, to ensure their views are also included.

Being the only school that attended, four Year 9 Youth Council students Archie, Josh, Jude and Evangeline were amazing, joining in with the conversations, coming up with ideas and putting over their points of view.

During the afternoon they took it upon themselves to sit independently from their peers to interact with more people at the event and were praised for their support, confidence and enthusiasm, being applauded by all attendees. There is to be follow up meetings in the New Year, and the aim is for our students to attend future meetings to be able to watch how things progress.

All four students were a real credit to the academy, showing great maturity in an adult setting, well done we are very proud you all!

The Independent Learning Archaeology Field School Programme

For a number of years Ormiston Denes Academy has been involved in The Independent Learning Archaeology Field School (ILAFS), an archaeology programme that aims to raise the aspirations, enthusiasm and attainment of secondary school students with regard to higher education by making a valuable contribution to current academic research at the University of Cambridge. The archaeological digs have taken place in community gardens in Walberswick and, more recently, Blythburgh, thanks to the kind generosity of the local residents who have allowed their gardens to be used as dig sites.

The programme has been funded by the University of Cambridge, although unfortunately this funding finished in 2019. However the residents of Blythburgh are keen to allow students from local schools to continue the programme for another year, and are hoping to raise enough money to allow this to continue, through a crowd funding page <https://www.justgiving.com/c.../blythburgh-suffolk-archaeology>.



There have also been articles in the local press, radio and even the local TV news, highlighting their plight. If anyone would like to contribute to this project they can do so through the address above.

Mia's Article

Mia who is in Year 8 has recently had her second article published in the Association for PE's journal. In the article Mia reflects on her transition from Year 6 into 7 and also during her first year at the academy.

Well done Mia, a great achievement!

To read Mia's article please visit our latest new articles on our academy website.

Family & Community Learning

At Ormiston Denes Academy we are passionate about increasing the learning that takes place outside of the classroom, and about building a community. During the course of the year we run various workshops, as we believe that it is important for individuals to spend time together in an enjoyable environment. We invite children to attend with their parents, carers, siblings, grandparents or any other family member. These workshops are free of charge and children do not have to be students at our academy for the families to be able to attend.



We offer events such as cookery workshops, arts and crafts workshops, sports evenings with a free BBQ, plus many more throughout the year.



Our two latest Christmas themed events have been very successful, with large numbers in attendance to create Christmas crafts and Christmas cookery.

Keep an eye on our social media pages to find out more information nearer the time and book your spaces. We look forward to seeing you there!!

If you have any further questions about the events, please email familyandcommunity@ormistonden.co.uk

Boy In The Dress

In December our students attended the brand new David Walliams' heart-warming comedy, which has taken to the stage for the first time as a musical adapted by Mark Ravenhill, new songs from Robbie Williams and Guy Chambers, directed by artistic director Gregory Doran.

The show was fantastic and the students experienced the town that was the birth and final resting place of William Shakespeare.

The performance was exciting, moving and heart-warming. We are looking forward to following this show to the West End with another fantastic trip.



Women of the Future Event

On 27th November a small group of female students had the opportunity of attending the “Women of the Future” event at the John Innes Centre in Norwich, a STEMM (science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine) event.

During the course of the day the students had the opportunity to listen to guest speakers, with a ‘think maths’ show, and talks from a female science technician and female scientist. The keynote speaker was Angela Saini, a British science journalist, broadcaster and the author of three books, who gave an inspiring speech on both her life and the history of females in STEMM.

The students also had the opportunity to visit a number of interactive stands looking at various careers in STEMM, and chat to a number of STEMM professionals in a ‘meet the employer’ workshop.

At the end of the session students had an opportunity for a Q&A session to the various speakers, to enable them to ask questions about careers in STEMM, routes into those various careers, and about higher education in general.

Lowestoft Food Bank

For a number of years we have been supporting our local food bank at Christmas, this being the time of year that some families find most difficult and need to access additional support. Over this time our students, staff and families have been very generous, with over 200 boxes full of items having been donated to this good cause.

This year has been no exception, it has been great to see students bringing their donations into school, and each form room having a wonderful array of donated items being collected. The donations have been taking place since 25th November and runs until 16th December, after which time the food bank will come into school and collect. At the time of going to print we do not know the final amount of items that have been donated, but we are confident that this is going to be our best year yet.

Food Bank Facts:

- In the UK 4.5 million children are locked in poverty, with their families struggling to afford the basics.
- There are over 1200 food bank centres in the UK support families in crisis, including over 400 Trussell Trust food banks.
- Between April 2018 and March 2019 food banks in the UK provided a massive 1.6 million food supplies to people in crisis, a 19% increase on the previous year. It is expected that these supplies will be higher for the current 12 month period.
- Lowestoft food bank supports many local individuals, couples and families, providing food parcels of three days emergency food stocks, and other non food items as required.

Lowestoft food bank also periodically supports our own breakfast club, providing cereals to help ensure our students can access a free breakfast if required.



Review of 2019

Over the past year we have reported on lots of wonderful trips, workshops, enrichment activities and achievements. As we draw to the end of the year we thought we would reflect on just a few of the activities that have taken place.



Careers Fair



Waveney Youth Council Events



Royal Navy Catering Visit



Film Premiere



Young Carer Events



Holocaust Memorial Day



Michael Marriott Youth Awards



Ski Trip



Auschwitz Trip



Sports Trips & Fixtures



Charity Events



Sports Trips & Fixtures



Art Workshops



Art Workshops



Art Workshops



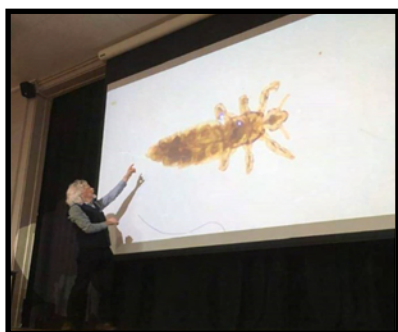
Boat Trips



Archaeological Digs



Environmental Activities



STEM Shows



STEM Shows



STEM Shows



University Visits



University Visits



University Visits



Remembrance Day Activities



Remembrance Day Activities



Dance Trips & Shows



Dance Trips & Shows



Dance Trips & Shows



Disneyland Paris Trip



VIP Reward Visits



School Prom

We hope that you will agree, this has been another year of fantastic opportunities for our students and, as we look forward to 2020, we already have a huge amount of trips and visits planned.

National Youth Takeover Day

On Friday 29th November students from our Youth Council and EcoClub attended National Youth Takeover Day.

The theme for this year was environmental issues. After an introduction from the Chair of the Waveney Youth Council and Stuart Halsey from East Suffolk Council, Councillor James Mullender from East Suffolk Council then talked about individual action we can each take to help the environment.

After this Phil Aves from Lowestoft Rising talked about the climate emergency and his journey in finding out exactly what that means, and what we have to do to change.

The students were then able to spend time talking to representatives from a number of various organisations that work on environmental issues, such as Waveney Norse, Plastic Action, CEFAS, Groundworks, RSPB, Suffolk Wildlife Trust and East Suffolk Council Environmental Protection team. They told us about all of the different things their organisations are doing to work towards a better environment for us all to live in.

The students then had a great time doing a beach clean, in competition with other schools, to win prizes for finding the strangest item of litter, and for collecting the most litter. Thankfully it was a mainly dry day, albeit very cold. A good amount of litter was found from areas along the beach, both promenades, and Kensington Gardens, with cigarette butts being the most dropped item of litter. Our students won the prizes for the strangest item, a set of false Halloween teeth!

Following a lunch kindly provided by the organisers, we watched a presentation from Genevieve Christie who is one of the organisers of the First Light Festival. The students were asked to contribute ideas for how the festival can reduce its' environmental impact, in particular reducing litter, for next year's festival. Josh presented all of our ideas back to the meeting.

Towards the end of the event Melody and Ruby gave an impromptu poetry reading (poem shown below) of Melody's poem about plastic waste and the problems it causes, and Darcey thanked everyone for coming together to make a fantastic day.

Feedback from our students was that the beach clean inspired them to be more litter conscious, and that they enjoyed coming together with students from all of the other schools for a common aim.

Poem written by Melody, Year 7

The world we live in has so much plastic in the land and out at sea.

The world we live in is our home for everyone including you and me.

The world we live in produces plastic. We need to do something about this.

Plastic in the sea is drastic.

Fishes starve, seabirds tangled, bigger fishes guts are mangled.

Plastic here, plastic there, plastic is everywhere.

Plastic in the air and plastic in our drink.

Everyone, please, stop and think!



Celebrating Christmas at Ormiston Denes Academy



Christmas began early this year with the launch of a Christmas Food Bank Collection, and 'Christmas Careers' inter-house competitions which was announced to students during form time in late November.

Selected students had the opportunity to decorate the academy Christmas trees, which are to be found in various locations, giving a wonderful Christmassy feel to the academy.








The 'Christmas Careers' competition tasked students with either designing a job for the future, a career that hasn't been invented yet. The competition for Key Stage 3 students is to become the general manager of Christmas, and to create a job advert for Christmas staff, staff that are needed to make Christmas a success.

Family and Community Learning have held two Christmas events, a Christmas craft and a Christmas cookery workshop, which have proved to be popular, not only with our own academy community but in the wider community also. It is lovely to see adults and children of all ages attending.

Students with an interest in drama and music spent many hours after school throughout November and December rehearsing as they staged a Christmas showcase on 12th December. It was lovely to see so many students performing on stage.

Our Christmas dinner day gave the opportunity for staff and students to sit together and enjoy a Christmas dinner prepared by our wonderful canteen staff. It was lovely to see so many people spending time together and enjoying the festive food.

Christmas is the time for giving and charity featured highly throughout our celebrations, these included:

-  Supporting the national Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day appeal on December 13th. Students and staff were invited to wear Christmas jumpers for a donation to the charity.
-  Students with the top reward points in each year group were invited to meet and feed our resident reindeers who have been invited in on this day.
-  Within our enrichment period, students have been collecting unused gifts which they then wrapped and delivered to a local care home as Christmas presents for the residents.
-  We provided the Gunton Primary Academy & Northfield St Nicholas Primary Academy's Christmas Craft Fayres a stall of decorations designed and created upon our laser cutter. The profits made going to each PTFA.
-  Students and staff were invited to take part in the Santa Run again this year. Students participated in the fun run wearing Santa hats and reindeer antlers for a donation to the East Anglia's Children's Hospices.
-  As an academy we reward students with excellent behaviour and attendance throughout the year. For the third year running we have invited students who model outstanding attendance, the opportunity to attend a performance of the pantomime Snow White at the Marina Theatre in Lowestoft on Monday 16th December.
-  Enquire students have been writing Christmas cards which are being forwarded to residents of a care home which has links to a staff member. At this time of year the elderly still like to receive cards, and students have written special messages inside each to give a little Christmas cheer.

And finally we finish our Christmas celebrations on the last day of term, which is Wednesday 18th December where staff will entertain students during break by performing carols in the entrance hall. Additionally the House that has achieved the most reward points will have their own House party in the assembly hall at lunchtime.

The day will finish in a whole school assembly, with rewards and awards being handed out, and Christmas festivities taking place, to mark the end of the Autumn term.

We would like to wish you all health, happiness, peace and prosperity this holiday season and in the coming New Year.

Merry Christmas!



Children in Need 2019

Everybody knows and loves Pudsey bear and enjoys watching the live TV appeal evening each November, and the good work that is able to take place through the money that is raised each year. The Student Leadership team at the academy put forward a proposal to the Principal as to what they would like to be able to do to help support this fantastic charity. Their voice was listened to and, as a result, a great day of fundraising took place on Friday 15th November. This included:

- A non uniform day with students and staff being able to come into school in casual clothing, subject to a donation to the appeal.
- A bake sale during break time with a huge selection of cakes up for sale, very kindly donated by staff and students alike.
- The auction of a fantastic 'Pudsey' cake kindly donated by a relative of Katy, one of our Year 11 students and our charity captain.
- The sale of Children in Need festival bracelets, headbands and pin badges.
- Staff were challenged to a staff versus student dodgeball match at lunchtime, with players and spectators paying a donation to be involved.
- An after school Year 11 versus staff football match also drew a crowd, subject to a further donations.



A combination of all events meant that a massive total of £1,122.39 was raised, and has now been sent to Children in Need to add to their staggering £47,886,382 that was raised during their appeal night.

There was a wonderful atmosphere around the academy on the day, and great seeing so many staff and students involved in the fundraising. The school canteen wore their 'Pudsey' attire to join in with the events too.

Our Christmas Jumper Day on 13th December, also raised money for Save the Children.



Appeal trivia, did you know.....

- The first ever children's BBC radio appeal was in 1927.
- 1955 saw the first televised appeal, presented by Sooty and Harry Corbett.
- 1980 saw the first modern BBC Children in Need appeal born, presented by the late Terry Wogan, with £1 million raised in the first show.
- Pudsey bear was introduced into Children in Need in 1985.
- In 2007, and Pudsey in his twenties, he was given a fresh look.
- In 2018 Children in Need officially raised £1 billion to support children and young people across the UK since 1980.

Transition

Ormiston Denes Academy provides a number of opportunities for transition from primary school to secondary school, to help ensure that each new pupil starts Year 7 feeling safe, secure, happy and enthused to be part of their new school. There is a varied number of opportunities available, that primary schools can sign up to participate in, from taster sessions, performances and workshops, to after school clubs and community events. Primary schools receive information on a regular basis as to the opportunities on offer, and many schools work with us to allow us to provide a safe and interesting transition programme for their students.

During the final half term we held six Saturday workshops, to allow Year 6 students to come and experience team games, academy tours, and find out about the differences between primary and secondary school. These were really successful, with students being able to explore the academy whilst it is quiet, and be able to ask any questions that they needed to.

The final month of the last academic year saw a number of transition events taking place for Year 5 students, from students spending a day in the academy experiencing different workshops, to Lego robotic afternoons, and science after school clubs.

During the final full week of term we welcomed all of our new Year 6 students to the academy for three or four days of activities and lessons, and a chance of further familiarising themselves with the school, the staff and the students. The Year 6 students then went back into their respective primary schools where they were able to complete their final few days of primary school life and celebrate and discuss their time at their secondary school.

This academic year has set off to a busy start, with staff and students attending most North Lowestoft primary school assemblies to talk to Year 6 students about transition. This was another opportunity for the younger students to find out more about life at secondary school, the curriculum, rewards, trips and clubs we have on offer, and ask our students questions. Staff have also attended school parents' evenings, to be on hand to chat to parents and students alike. This was another opportunity for parents, carers and students to find out more about the academy.

Our open evening was a fantastic success, with hundreds of primary school students, parents and carers attending. They had the opportunity to hear an address from the principal, followed by tours of the academy. Virtually every member of staff was on hand to show off the very best of our academy and to answer queries, with every curriculum subject showcasing their subject areas, displays of work, and activities that students would get involved in. We were thrilled that over 200 of our own students were also on hand to offer tours of the academy, to speak to and answer questions from parents, carers and students.

A Year 7 settling in evening in November allowed parents, carers and students to speak to the form tutors about how well their children have settled into their new environment, and a lot of positive feedback was given as to how our transition process had helped to alleviate fears and worries.

Miss Welsh in our science department has started her after school science club which runs on a half termly basis, and is coming to the end of working with her second primary school. This club is so popular that we are now booked up for the whole of this year and into the next academic year.

Miss Sharpe has also been into primary schools to deliver dance workshops to students, this is also proving successful and is booked up into the summer term.

We are about to launch our 2020 inter primary school Spelling Bee, and are hoping that many primary schools will again be involved. Last year saw 9 primary schools enter the final competition, with Corton winning the Year 5 final and Blundeston winning the Year 6 final.

There are many opportunities already on offer, with many more in the pipeline, all with the purpose of supporting our younger students.

Sports

Ormiston Denes Football Tour to Holland 2019

On 21st October 42 excited footballers and 5 members of staff from our academy headed off to Holland for a once in a lifetime football tour. Our base for the week was the fabulous Center Parcs Limburgse Peel which was approximately 30 miles from the centre of Eindhoven.



The tour started with all three football squads taking part in the first of two 90 minute football sessions delivered by professional West Ham United coaches. The coaching sessions were aimed at the students learning to keep possession in small spaces and then being able to replicate this in 11v11 games. The students worked incredibly hard throughout the coaching sessions and the U14 squad were able to

take this into their first game against Churston Ferrers Grammar School and ran out 6-5 winners with a convincing hat trick scored by Coby. Unfortunately, the U15s and U16s were not so successful in their first game of the tour with the U15s losing 3-0 and the U16s losing 6-1. However, both squads battled extremely hard and a long day before was certainly catching up with the boys.

Once students had taken part in the final coaching session of the tour it was on to the final game. The U14s rounded up an extremely successful tour by beating Dutch opponents RKVH Haalen 14-0. Goals were shared around with Coby scoring 5, Ben 2, Owen 2 and Will, Rhiley and Lewis all scoring one a piece. The U15s and U16s also played against Dutch opponents SV Roggel. The games were played under floodlights and the welcoming we got from officials at SV Roggel was superb. The U15s ran out 3-1 winners with two goals from Cole and one goal from Tom. The U16s had a tightly contested game against SV Roggel and only a penalty could separate the sides. However a neat penalty from Louis ensured that the U16s ran out 1-0 winners. With all 3 teams winning their final games of the tour, it was an excellent way to finish.

On the final day, students were given free time to shop in Eindhoven and enjoy the onsite facilities at Centre Parcs. The plunge pool certainly proved to be a popular choice amongst the students and they enjoyed spending their time singing football songs whilst standing in ice cold water!

As we departed for England there was one final stop to make and that was to visit the home of PSV Eindhoven and complete a stadium tour. Students were able to go pitchside at the Philips stadium and sit in the home and away dugouts, visit the dressing rooms and sit in the director's box. This truly was a once in a lifetime opportunity for the students.

Trip leader, Mr Woodrow, commented on the boys and said that they were an absolute credit to Ormiston Denes Academy and is confident that all of the boys will remember this trip for the rest of their lives".



Powerplay Event

In early October 12 Year 7 students from Ormiston Denes Academy took part in the inaugural Powerplay Event at East Point Academy.

This event is designed promote teamwork and leadership skills. Ormiston Denes' students worked in teams with students from other schools to gain points from a series of physical tasks.

Our students shone and a number of them received medals!

Well done everyone!



You can keep up to date with all our sports fixtures by using this link:

www.ormistonden.co.uk/about-us/sports-fixtures

One Life Suffolk

Families and Young People



10 week - Healthy living family programme

Starting: Tuesday 14th January 2020
From: 17:00-18:00

Address: Inspire Colville House,
School Road, Lowestoft NR33 9NB

includes physical activity for children and young people as well as healthy lifestyle advice!

Call to book your FREE place on 01473 718193

Work Experience

Year 10

Monday 29th June 2020 to Friday 3rd July 2020

December has seen the launch of the Year 10 work experience programme, with an assembly to all Year 10 students to inform;

- **What work experience is:** An opportunity to work in an adult environment, to see the link between school and work, to explore the world of work.
- **What work experience is not:** Cheap labour, an easy week off school, a holiday for teachers!
- **The benefits of work experience:** Build confidence, identify strengths and weaknesses, improve employability skills, show your potential. **Many students have been offered part time jobs and apprenticeships through positive work experience placements.**
- **The process for work experience:** Completing application forms and listing preferred job types, consider finding your own placement.
- **The benefits of students finding their own placements.** To ensure you have a placement to suit your needs, something that is meaningful and that you want to do. Additionally, we have a limited bank of jobs and employers with whom we currently do not work may often consider a student who contacts them directly with a request. Indeed some employers will only consider requests direct from a student.

All Year 10 students need to complete their general work experience application form (which also requires parental consent) and return it to Ms Mayo at the academy by Wednesday 18th December 2019.

We then allow students until Friday 3rd April 2020 to find their own work experience placement, and a form is included within the launch pack. This form has to be completed by parents and an employer, and returned to Ms Mayo for processing by the date shown.

Ms Mayo is on hand to speak to any student, or parent/carer, who has a query regarding work experience, or for assistance in completing forms. The contact details are as shown below.

While students are working hard to source their own placements, we still need the support of our local community and local employers as we are aware that a number of our students wish to pursue a career in a field in which they have no contacts. If you are a local employer or know of a local employer who is willing to support our work experience programme during this period, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Julie Mayo at the academy on 01502 574474 or jmayo@ormistonden.co.uk.





Christmas Closure

PLEASE NOTE:

The Community Sports Centre will be closed for the following period over Christmas:

Monday 23rd December 2019

to

Thursday 2nd January 2020

Bookings will commence again from

Thursday 2nd January 2020

Thank you for your custom this year.

Merry Christmas from all staff at

Ormiston Denes Community Sports Centre.

We look forward to seeing you in the New Year!!

Kevin
Clare
Angie
Harry
Ben

Yarmouth Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 4AH
Teli: 01502 509928/574474 Email: sportscentre@ormistonden.es.co.uk

FREE BREAKFAST

For all our students



ORMISTON
DENES ACADEMY

Breakfast is available every day between
7.45am - 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!



Extracurricular Clubs

Monday	Before School - 8.00-8.40am	Staff/Location	Lunchtime - 1.15-1.45pm
	Football - All Years	Student Led - Astro	Football
	Breakfast Club (Free breakfast)	Miss Dickinson - Dining Hall	Homework
	Library and Homework	George Orwell Library	BTEC Business Support Y10 and Y11
			Computer Access Year Group Rooms
			Art Club

Tuesday	Football - All Years	Student Led - Astro	Football
	Breakfast Club (Free breakfast)	Miss Dickinson - Dining Hall	Homework
	Library and Homework	George Orwell Library	BTEC Business Support
			Computer Access Year Group Rooms
			Dance KS4
			Chooseday Tuesday

Wednesday	Football - All Years	Student Led - Astro	Football
	Breakfast Club (Free breakfast)	Miss Dickinson - Dining Hall	Homework
	Library and Homework	George Orwell Library	BTEC Business Support
			Computer Access Year Group Rooms
			Art Club

Thursday	Football - All Years	Student Led - Astro	Football
	Breakfast Club (Free breakfast)	Miss Dickinson - Dining Hall	Homework
	Library and Homework	George Orwell Library	BTEC Business Support
			Computer Access Year Group Rooms

Friday	Football - All Years	Student Led - Astro	Football
	Breakfast Club (Free breakfast)	Miss Dickinson - Dining Hall	Homework
	Library and Homework	George Orwell Library	BTEC Business Support
			Computer Access Year Group Rooms
			Chemistry Club - Year 11
			Art Club

Art	Business	English	History	Maths	MFL
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2019/2020

Staff/Location	After School - 3.15-4.15pm	Staff/Location
Y7 - Y10 Field / Y11 Astro	Michael Marriott Award: Preparation	Miss Drama - D1
George Orwell Library	MFL Clubs	German Club MFL4, French Club MFL2, Spanish Club MFL1
Mr Dack - C3	History Club -Year 11	Mr Pinner - H2
Y7/Y8 in C4 and Y9/Y10 in C2	Football Club - All Years	Mr Woodrow/Mr Everson - Astro
Mrs Westgate - A3	Netball Club - All Years	Miss Lee/Miss Sharpe - Sports Hall

Y7 - Y10 Field / Y11 Astro	MFL Club - Y11 Speaking	MFL1
George Orwell Library	Music Performance Practice	Mrs Turner - Mu1
Mr Dack Y10 and Y11	Latin Club	Mrs Groome - E1
Y7/Y8 in C4 and Y9/Y10 in C2	Rugby Club - All Years	Mr Armstrong/Mr Everson - Field
Miss Sharpe - Dance Studio	Girls Football - All Years	Miss Lee - Astro
Mrs Budgen - Entrance Hall	Dance Club - All Years	Miss Sharpe - Dance Studio
	Gardening Club	Miss Solomon - Outside MFL

Y7 - Y10 Field / Y11 Astro	Quiet Revision Time for Year 11	Miss Gaines - RA Centre
George Orwell Library	BTEC Sport Revision	Mr Woodrow/Miss Lee/Mr Armstrong - PE1
Mr Dack - Y10 and Y11	Table Tennis - All Years	Mr Everson - Gym
Y7/Y8 in C4 and Y9/Y10 in C2		
Mrs Westgate - A3		

Y7 - Y10 Field / Y11 Astro	English - Y11	All English Rooms
George Orwell Library	Music Performance Practice	Mrs Turner - Mu1
Mr Dack - Y10 and Y11	Maths Enrichment Club	Mrs Escibano - M6
Y7/Y8 in C4 and Y9/Y10 in C2	History Club - Year 11	Mr Pinner - H2
	Trampolining Club	Mr Everson - Gym
	Fitness Club	Mr Dean - Sports Hall
	RPG Games Club	Mr Contrino - H1

Y7 - Y10 Field / Y11 Astro	Drama - Y11	Miss Drama - D1
George Orwell Library	Warhammer Club (Week 2 Only)	Mr Buisst - H6
Mr Dack - Y10 and Y11		
Y7/Y8 in C4 and Y9/Y10 in C2		
Mr Cooper - S8		
Mrs Westgate - A3		

Performing Arts	PE	Recreation	Raising Achievement	Science	Careers
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Would you like to make a difference to the lives of students at Ormiston Denes?

At Ormiston Denes Academy we value our former students and invite them to keep in touch by joining our alumni network.

Former students often return to inform our current students about what life beyond school is really like and these interactions can transform a young person's confidence, motivation and skills.

If you attended Ormiston Denes Academy and would like to inspire the next generation of students, please sign up to our former student network <https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/ormistondenenes>

If you would like to hear more about the alumni network or learn how you can support your former school, please email Carole Budgen: careers@ormistondenenes.co.uk or email our Future First Alumni Officer, Emily Watton: emily.watton@futurefirst.org.uk

Volunteers

Do you have something to offer Ormiston Denes Academy? A skill, passion, facility or opportunity for outstanding young people? Please contact marmstrong@ormistondenenes.co.uk if you are interested in becoming part of our enrichment team on a voluntary basis.

We would also welcome support with our students that use English as an additional language. If you have a connection to our range of languages or international communities featured at the academy please contact Mrs A Griggs agriggs@ormistondenenes.co.uk

Ormiston Denes Academy is always interested to hear from former students and share their success stories of life after Ormiston Denes/Denes High School or The Lowestoft Grammar School. If you'd like to share our success and visit or support the academy in any way please contact Mrs A Patnell apatnell@ormistondenenes.co.uk

There is also the opportunity to sponsor our sports teams who are in the process of rebranding their kit. For sponsorship details please contact Mr T Woodrow twoodrow@ormistondenenes.co.uk

Finally, our students are planning to visit both the Italian Alps for skiing and South West France for water sports. If you would like to sponsor a student or the trip in general with a donation please contact Mr M Armstrong marmstrong@ormistondenenes.co.uk

Is Your Child Eligible For Free School Meals?

Your child will get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support.
- Income based Job Seeker's Allowance.
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Child Tax Credit **but no element of 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 (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month), as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).

To check if your child is eligible, apply online for an immediate response or call **01473 260989**.



All the staff and students
at Ormiston Denes Academy wish
you a Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year



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