

DISCOVER DENES

Meet the English & MFL
teams

What have we been doing

Performing Arts 2023
Production

Student voice; a students
perspective

ASPIRATION—INTEGRITY—RESPECT

Principal's Welcome



A priority for all of us at the academy is to build student independence and resilience through Ready, Respectful and Responsible. We are building a culture in which every individual is valued for themselves, but in which all contribute to making our community a better place to be.

In this edition you can learn more about the student leadership opportunities that we have which are crucial to shaping our community, along with the range of opportunities our young people have to develop as active citizens who will make a difference in the world in which they live. Encourage your child to get involved with the life of the academy to shape our community for the better.

Mrs Kate Williams
Principal

Farewell to Mr Cooper who leaves us this term. Mr Cooper has been with us for nearly 7 years, progressing through the science department quickly. In 2022, he successfully gained a Head of Year role alongside his teaching post and has supported many of our Key Stage 4 students over the years who, like staff are going to miss him very much.

We all wish you the best of luck Mr Cooper



Welcome Our New Governors

Lee Nevill joined as a new Community Governor in February 2022. He has 20 years in further education experience to support his passion and enthusiasm for helping others to be better. Lee is also currently the Teaching and Learning Manager at East Coast College. Part of his responsibility is leading teacher development and quality improvement by pro-actively supporting and developing teaching and learning support staff to ensure a high-quality student experience through exceptional teaching, learning and assessment in all settings. Lee is also a keen footballer, and when there is time, enjoys treading the boards in the odd play or musical!

Maria Hogg joins us as a Community Governor having an extensive knowledge of the local area.

Rob Mackay is a successful project manager with 11 years of experience in management and delivery of complex, high-value projects. Rob also joins us as a Community Governor.



Student Voice

- by Bethany (Year 8)

My role in student council is as the secretary, meaning that I take notes of everything that goes on in our student council meetings. I am also one of our schools' representatives for student voice over all OAT academies. This is where I attend meetings with OAT schools in a certain areas, where we discuss what we, as a school, are working on and the main goals for our projects.

Student Council

Recently, in student council, we have been discussing the process for student suggestions and launching the "You said, We did" process to the academy, whereby form representatives ask their forms if they have any suggestions for student leadership.

Last week we started to analyse the results from this and plan to talk the suggestions through with the Principal, Mrs Williams.

We also have been voting for our new Chair of Student Councils and our new Regional Student Voice representatives.

Other topics on our agenda have been talking about Red Nose Day and similar events.

Regional Student Voice

Regional Student Voice is a student council over all the schools in the OAT trust. We had been asked to go to our separate academies to decide on a project based on either environmental help or equality and diversity. Members of student council had decided on equality and diversity and ideas had included having a culture day to celebrate, as week commencing 20th March was a week within our academy in which we celebrated diversity. This meant all teachers and students embraced other cultures and celebrated their own. We decided to display this by sending a spreadsheet out to all our teachers that, if they wished, they could fill out with their nationalities, religion (if they have one) and their favourite food from their nationality. With these details, we plan to create a PowerPoint template that teachers can place on their classroom doors if they wish, to display their culture.

What have our students been doing?

North Lowestoft Heritage Action Zone have been working with Year 10 art students. Their workshop focussed on looking at the post office building and the intricacies of it, enabling students to look deeper into the fabric, honing in on a specific area rather than drawing the building as a whole. After being shown the project presentation, students worked on their art pieces using a variety of different materials.



RED NOSE DAY

You raised
over £261 for
this !! Thank
you!

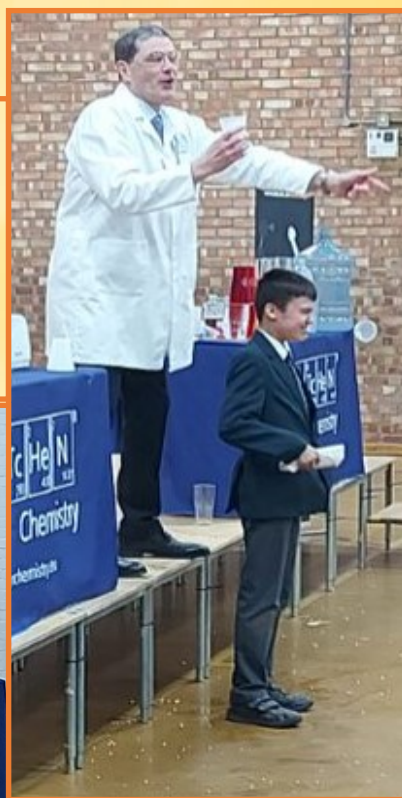
ORMISTON'S GOT TALENT

Congratulations to Freya in Year 7 who has been awarded the KS3 runner up prize in OAT's Ormiston's Got Talent competition and has won a £50 voucher for our performing arts department!



Students from Year 7 and 8 had the opportunity to attend a "Kitchen Chemistry" presentation with Dr Stephen Ashworth.

During the course of each hour, Dr Ashworth showcased a number of exciting experiments, the students loved it!



What have our students been doing?



We hosted the Year 7 indoor athletics competition this term with North Suffolk Sport & Health Partnership, and could not have been prouder of the students who represented us. The girls were fantastic and considering they were short on team members, they gave absolutely everything. The boys were also incredible and missed out on first place by one point. To come second out of all the local high schools is a fantastic achievement. Well done to all involved!

We attended the Lowestoft Council Holocaust Memorial Day. The theme this year was 'Ordinary People' and student leadership students Kai, Bethany and Head Boy Theo played an active part in the service, sharing their own readings based on this theme. Jack laid a wreath, alongside a student from Ashley School, on behalf of Waveney Youth Council.



Year 7 students Dexter and Freya represented our academy this term at the regional finals of Ormiston Academies Trust's first ever MFL Spelling Bee in Norwich. They had to learn 100 words in French or Spanish and were really put through their paces during the competition!

We are exceptionally proud of both of our students who worked so hard - and we are delighted that Dexter made it through to the national finals - you can read more about his success on our MFL pages...



Suffolk Positive Futures and Ultimate Boxing offer an enrichment club each Wednesday after school.

If any students are interested in joining, or you would like to find out more, please contact Mrs Richings at the academy.



Year 11 completed their mock exams this term – well done to everyone!

Alongside support offered to all students in school, you can also visit our website for lots of resources and information on all aspects of exams.

<https://ormistonden.es.co.uk/for-students/exam-preparation>

Meet the English Team

Our aspiration throughout our department is to embolden, sculpt, be determined and encourage the development of student abilities within English literature and language. Our team consists of ten expressive and dedicated teachers -promoting the love of reading and writing; elevating oracy around the academy and community.



Miss Glover is the Head of Department and the creator of our culture capital curriculum. After working in a college, Miss Glover strives to encourage and develop students love for literature; promoting the further study of English in higher education.

Mr Donavon is our Vice Principal of Teaching and Learning, Literacy. Mr Donovan supports the department through the whole school, aiming to elevate the reading and speaking standards around the academy and community.



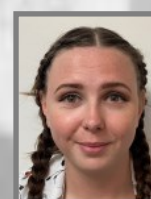
Mrs Read is our Assistant Principal for Quality of Education and researches strategies to help all students achieve within English. Mrs Read holds a Teaching and Learning group where she discusses training and strategies to support staff and student. Mrs Read is also our SLT SEN Link.

Mrs Gardiner loves teaching KS4 English and specifically *An Inspector Calls* by J.B.Priestley, due to its presentation of a classical Edwardian culture and the unique characters he creates, designed to affect an audience—forcing a change in moral judgement. Mrs Gardiner is also one of our Heads of Year.

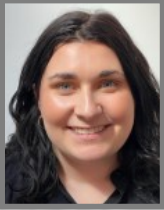


Mrs Sherriff has recently joined our department and loves teaching *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens as it contains themes of the suffering and social justice to the Victorian poor and compares with today's society to create awareness of the danger. Mrs Sherriff is also one of our Heads of Year.

Miss Powell is our Welsh English teacher who has been studying at ODA for three years. Miss Powell is an enthusiastic and bubbly person whose love for gothic and romantic poetry really aids the development for clear understanding by students within the academy.



Meet the English Team



Miss Howard joined us this year, after spending many years teaching in a behaviour improvement school. Miss Howard found her love for teaching English specifically, while studying Shakespeare's Othello and analysing the Machiavellian character.

Mr Bailey is one of our newest members of the department, who came to us as a PE teacher, but found his passion teaching English Literature from many war poets and writers such as Journey's End by R.C Sherriff .



Miss Napthen is our Teach First teacher, who joined us in September. Miss Napthen's love of literacy and English is presented by her hard work and rigorous training within the classroom—supporting all students about double entendre within Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing.

Mrs Williamson is our English Administrator and the creative mind behind our educational classroom displays. Mrs Williamson's dedication to the department allows her talents in English to cover and TA within lesson – supporting students in a one to one capacity.



This is an exciting year for our team, not only for the new members of staff, but with the strategies to support learning across the department and academy. Next year we are organising a trip to the Globe Theatre in London to watch a Shakespearean play first hand.

As a department we believe that it is vital for students to experience Shakespeare's theatre live, to truly understand his concepts of a tragic hero. We are excited to see our students thrive and take pleasure in reading and gaining more knowledge.

Performing Arts 2023 presents Little Shop of Horrors



Little Shop of Horrors....



WELL DONE to every student who performed in this amazing show.;

Thomas, Effi, Scarlett, Olivia, Eve, Orlaith, Meg, Jason, Shakira, Alyssa, Ray, Melody, Scarlet, Lillia, Ella-May, Sydney, Erin, Millie, Ellia, Angel, Leonie, Freya, Imogen. Thanks also to those backstage and behind the scenes including Heather, Hayden, George, Ms Rudd, Miss Grimmer, Mr Morris, the site team.

CONGRATULATIONS & thank you to Mrs Turner and Mr Hissey on this fantastic production.

Meet the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Team



Miss Polly Grice has worked at Denes since 2019 after training to be a teacher at the University of Oxford and is passionate about bringing the outside world into her classroom. Miss Grice teaches French and Spanish and loves organising pen pal exchanges, sending postcards and bringing visitors in to school to share their love of languages. Her favourite thing to teach at the moment is *Les Choristes*, a French film about a school for troubled boys in the 1940s.

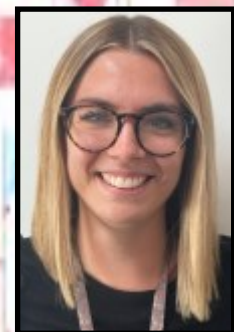
I'm Ms Best and I have been working at Denes since 2018. I teach German and Spanish. I am very passionate about all languages and love encouraging students to continue their studies outside the classroom through film, music and more. Always a keen linguist, you will often find me popping into French lessons to learn new phrases from the rest of the MFL team and testing them on our students. I am really enjoying teaching the film *Ballon* in German at the moment as it has allowed me to bring German history into the MFL classroom which was another one of my favourite subjects when I was studying at school and university.



Hey guys

I'm Mr Tanoé, teacher of MFL (French and Spanish) at Ormiston Denes, I have been teaching here for a few years and have really enjoyed broadening students' horizons through teaching them the languages that I speak and the associated cultures. As a multi heritage/cultural person, polyglot and someone who has lived all over the world, I see the teaching and learning of languages as a key part of increasing world awareness and empowering people to see themselves as an integral part of the world and celebrate its wider diversity.

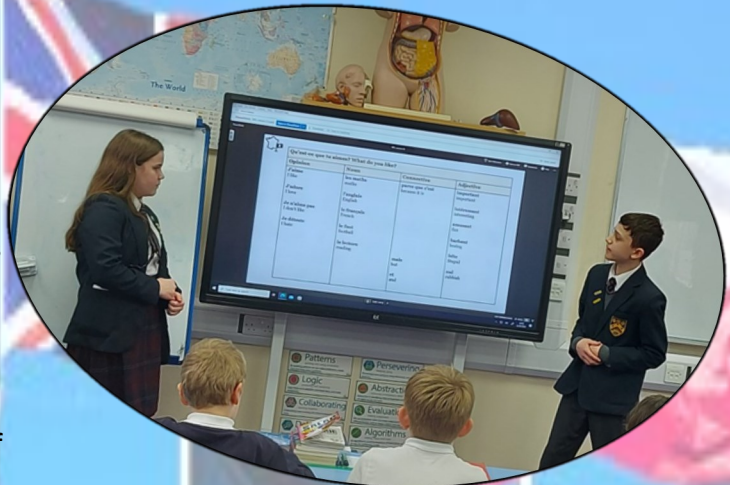
Miss Aves has worked at Ormiston Denes Academy since June 2022 as Assistant Principal for Behaviour and Attitudes, coming from another local Ormiston school. Miss Aves loves teaching grammar - especially the passé composé in French with all the Beyoncé accents! Miss Aves loves languages because they are like a secret code! Her favourite thing to teach at the moment is Year 8 Spanish, where the class are learning all about traditional Spanish food - me gusta mucho!



Hi! I'm Mrs Griggs. I have worked at Denes for quite a few years now and have particularly enjoyed teaching German. Travelling and experiencing new cultures with my family is one of my passions which I love to share with my students. Although learning foreign languages isn't easy, for me it has opened many doors in life and created lots of fantastic opportunities, both personally and professionally. That is why I love what I do and always try to encourage others to learn languages - you'll never know where this might take you, but one thing for sure: your life will not be boring!

Opportunities within Modern Foreign Languages

Umo, Ziva, Lily, Issy, Jake, Erienne, Katey and Layla delivered Spanish, German and French taster workshops to 3 year 6 classes. The students were amazing, and a delight to be able to watch. The courage and professionalism to stand in front of three different classes and teach their language was incredible. They were a real credit to the academy, themselves and their family. Miss Grice added; I was with Jake and Izzy in the French workshop. After I'd introduced them and explained to Year 6 that my knowledge of French was from probably before their parents were born, our two students delivered it all.



Jake should be a teacher, he was incredible and took the lead but brought Izzy in throughout the workshop.

Year 7 student Dexter competed in the national finals of the Ormiston MFL Spelling Bee - reaching the second round of the finals and representing the academy brilliantly.

Dexter had to learn the spellings of 150 words in French and competed at a school event to progress through to the regional competition to earn his place in this week's final.

Miss Grice said: "We couldn't be prouder of Dexter, not only for his incredible dedication to French but also for being a fantastic competitor and ambassador for our academy.

"To reach the national finals was an incredible achievement and to see him do so well under the pressure was incredible. The whole academy was behind him and joins me in congratulating him on his incredible achievement."



Year 7 MFL students have been getting post with a Royal seal of approval this term.

Students sent Christmas cards out to Royal Families and Heads of State across Europe and have been delighted by the replies they've had come in this term. Among the replies are wishes from the Royals of Monaco, Luxembourg, Belgium, Liechtenstein, the President of France, the Chancellors of Germany and Austria and several ambassadors.



Co-Head of MFL Miss Best said: "We've been so excited to share the beautiful cards and letters with Year 7, and they have absolutely loved reading all the messages inside them too. It really helped their writing to know they were communicating with real people abroad so to get so many replies has been wonderful"



REWARDS

**So far this year
students have earned
170,242 reward
points!**

World Book Day 2023



Dates to be aware of

Easter Break: Monday 3rd April to Friday 14th April

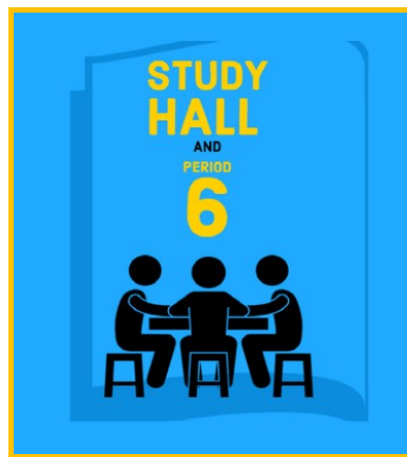
Monday 1st May: school closed for May Bank Holiday

Thursday 4th May: Year 8 Parents' Evening

Monday 8th May: school closed for King's Coronation

Half Term 29th May to Friday 2nd June

Week commencing 15th May: Year 11 exam season begins



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