



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Carers

6th October 2023

Thank you to all of you who allowed your children to support our Open Evening which took place last night. Students were smart, polite and positive, displaying confidence in taking responsibility for helping the academy and supporting younger children. One of the highlights of the evening was listening to our Head Prefects Lillia and Jamie as they spoke about their time at the academy and how they have grown in confidence over the years.

It has been fantastic to see so many students getting involved in extra-curricular clubs, especially down in PE. We all know how important it is for both our physical and our mental health to stay active, so please take a moment to discuss what opportunities there are for your child to get involved and encourage them to give something a try.

Road Safety – It is the time of year when daylight hours are rapidly reducing. Please think about your child's journey to and from the academy carefully. If they ride a bike, have they got lights and reflective gear? Can they stick to cycle paths? If they walk, do they have a well-lit route to follow? Can you also help keep our children safe by avoiding parking on the cycle paths outside the school instead agreeing a pickup point further away?

Reading and Mental Health - The National Literacy Trust are launching a campaign on 10th October promoting "Take 10 to Read". As an academy we know the importance of reading, not only to improve literacy and cognitive development, but to support mental health. Alongside supporting the National Literacy Trust with Take 10 to Read on Tuesday 10th October, our students read in school four days a week as part of our Read aloud programme. Further details on this can be found [Ormiston Denes Academy - Reading Support](#) and details of mental health support for students, parents and carers can be found [Ormiston Denes Academy](#)

PSHE topics for next week are;

Year 7 – Hurtful behaviours.

Year 8 – What is extremism?

Year 9 - Loss and grief.

Year 10 – What is sepsis?

Year 11 - Pressure, persuasion and coercion.

Votes for Schools - This week students have been voting on "Are Black British women's stories told in our history?". The results of this discussion can be found [here](#). Next week's topic is "Should the UK open new old fields?". Why not find out your child's views on these topics? Some of the debates have been really interesting.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Kate Williams. Principal



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