



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Carers

23rd November 2023

I am sending this letter earlier than usual as another reminder to all parents that the school is closed to all students tomorrow, Friday 24th November 2023, for teaching training.

This week it has been a pleasure to watch students continuing to engage in positive interactions and to be kinder to each other. We have also continued some follow up work around bullying to ensure our students know who to report concerns to and to understand the actions that we take. It is also important that all understand their own responsibility to treat others as they would like to be treated.

Christmas holidays - The Holiday Activity & Food (HAF) Programme is funded through The Department for Education. The programme enables children and young people to access enriching and fun activities, particularly those who receive free school meals. The holiday activities can involve helping young people experience new and enriching activities from sports, music, dance, and drama, to art, digital creativity, culture, cooking and gardening, as well as improving socialisation, helping children & young people to have fun with friends during the holidays.

Access to this programme has changed. Eligible families will receive a code from the academy and this must be used to book onto activities. Look out for your HAF code.

For queries regarding the HAF programme, please contact The HAF Team at: HAFenquiries@suffolk.gov.uk or check Suffolk HAF on InfoLink [Suffolk InfoLink | Holiday Activity and Food \(HAF\) programme 2023 in Suffolk](#)

Attendance. As you will be aware, the focus of the attendance team is to support students being in school, on time, attending as many lessons as possible to enable our students to reach their full potential. Attendance impacts a student's attainment, achievement, and well-being. With this in mind, throughout the last 4 weeks of this term, we are challenging students to try and attend 100% of the time. The challenge began on Monday 20th November and will continue until 15th December as follow:

- Week 1 challenge – 100% attendance for week from 20th November –24th November
- Week 2 challenge – 100% attendance for week from 27th November – 1st December
- Week 3 challenge – 100% attendance for week from 4th December – 8th December
- Week 4 challenge - 100% attendance for week from 11th December - 15th December

For achieving this goal, we will be rewarding students with the following:

- Week 1 - 100% attendance = lollipop
- Week 2 - 100% attendance = lollipop, along with either a jump the queue lunch pass OR priority entrance to the Christmas shop AND their name entered into the end of term the draw for a £10 voucher



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- Week 3 - 100% attendance = lollipop, their name entered into the end of term the draw for a £10 voucher AND a non uniform pass dated for in the last week of term
- Week 4 - 100% attendance = lollipop, their name entered into the end of term the draw for a £10 voucher, non uniform pass dated for in the last week of term AND an invitation to the film club during period 1 and 2 on the last day of this term

Form tutors have shared this information with students this week. We value your support in encouraging your child to achieve the prizes listed above. If you have any questions at all, please do hesitate to contact Mrs Horsfield, rhorsfield@ormistonden.co.uk

Congratulations to Mila in Year 7 who is performing in the Seagull Theatre Christmas show this year. The Theatre have told us they have been so lucky with their cast and all of the children who have worked so hard in rehearsals. They have said we should be very proud of Mila, and we are!

Votes for Schools - This week students have been voting on "Would you know how to support a friend if someone important to them died?" The results of this discussion can be found [here](#)

The **academy focus** for next week will be "**Responsible**"

The **students form time focus** for next week will be "**Responsibility for my well being**"

PSHE topics for next week are.

Year 7 – Disabilities.

Year 8 – Orientation and gender identity.

Year 9 – What are the effects of drugs.

Year 10 – Careers self-awareness.

Year 11 – Substances, assessing the risk.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



Kate Williams

Principal