



# ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

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Dear Parent and Carers,

15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

As mentioned in my previous letter, we continued with the tradition of **Remembrance** this week by holding a service in our Entrance Hall with a minute's silence held across the academy. Students were invited to wear the uniform of the local cadet and voluntary sector groups that they are members of or to wear a poppy. Students and staff also represented the academy at local services both on Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day. I could not be prouder of the respect and compassion shown by all.

This week in the Academy we saw our annual **Anti-Bullying Week** come to life, and our academy certainly came together to make a stand against bullying behaviours, spreading kindness, respect and empathy!

It has been a jammed packed week with creative activities for every year group, assemblies, kindness awards, interactive form sessions on conflict resolution, bullying behaviours and of course a focus on respect. We know that the term 'respect' can mean different things to different people. When we talk about respect, we talk about showing that you value someone and yourself, including valuing their feelings, views, and opinions, even if they differ from yours. We also talk about accepting and understanding others, giving them the same consideration you would expect for yourself.

On Wednesday, Miss Sheriff and Mrs Osborn got to take our National Anti-Bullying Alliance Ambassadors to London to watch a matinee of "Wicked The Musical" at the West End. The students were gifted the tickets by the West End for their hard work, and for helping create the National Anti-Bullying Week- Choose Respect. The stars of the show also did a shout out to the hard work and commitment of the ABA students!

**Enrichment** is at the heart of everything we do and one of our core values is to deliver a full provision of life enhancing experiences for all our students. After last year's enrichment days, most students reported that they enjoyed their experiences and would like to do more, and sooner. Therefore, we are excited to inform you that we have brought forward one of the enrichment days to the Autumn term, on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024, as a means to reward students for their efforts this term and to widen the provision to include KS4 students as well. Watch out for important information, sent via Parent mail next week, providing year group specific outlines of what your child can expect across the day.

**Attendance** - GCSEs may seem a long way off for your child, but all absences at any stage of your child's education leads to gaps in your child's learning. This in turn can:

- mean that they fall behind in work
- They lose motivation
- Impact on their enjoyment of learning
- lead to poor behaviour
- affect their desire to attend school regularly
- affect their confidence in school
- mean they miss out on the social life of school and extra-curricular opportunities and experiences
- affect their ability to have or keep friendships.



@OrmistonDenes



/OrmistonDenes

Yarmouth Road, Lowestoft NR32 4AH

Tel: 01502 574474

www.ormistonden.co.uk

Auditions are happening next week for our annual **ODA's Got Talent** event taking place on **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024 from 6.30pm**. Everyone is invited to come along and support their child and all our brave students that are taking part.

This year we are holding our **Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December**, from 5pm. We have over 30 stall holders confirmed, and Santa has agreed to pop along and meet with our young visitors in his grotto! There will be food available and live entertainment throughout the evening. Look out for further information on our social media sites such as Facebook and Instagram

**The Form Time Focus** next week will be "Responsible".

We will be teaching the following **PSHE topics** next week. If you do not wish for your child to participate or have a question relating to the subjects, please contact your child's Head of Year.

Year 11 – Careers – post 16 choices.

Year 10 – How can I examine myself?

Year 9 – What is addiction?

Year 8 – What is extremism?

Year 7 – What are stereotypes?

**Votes for schools** - This week students have been voting on "Do you know how to resolve conflict respectfully?" If you would like to continue this discussion with your child, please click [here](#) for further resources.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



**Kate Williams**

**Principal**