



# ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

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Dear Parent and Carers,

6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

What a fantastic week it has been in the academy this week. I have had the pleasure of touring a new governor Mrs Packer and Councillor Begum on separate occasions this week and was delighted that they saw our students at their best, attentive in lessons, courteous, kind and articulate when interacting. This was also evident on Wednesday evening when we hosted our **Christmas Fayre**. Thank you to the stall holders who took part in the evening, to Father Christmas for attending, to Mrs Turner for supporting our student performances, to Mr Hissey for organising the whole evening and to the willing staff and students who volunteered their time to help set up, run the event and of course tidy up at the end. Thank you to every student and family member who attended the evening and to local businesses and individuals who donated prizes.

With two weeks of term still to run, Christmas at Ormiston Denes is ramping up a notch. On Thursday the Christmas Shop opened in which students can buy gifts with their reward points and next Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December brings both **Christmas Jumper** and **Christmas Dinner** Day to the academy. A reminder that we are subsidising the costs for all students and will serve the menu (below) for £3.00. Those students who receive a free school meal will also be entitled to a Christmas lunch at no additional cost. Only Christmas dinners will be available during lunchtime on this day. Break service will be as normal. Students are invited to wear a Christmas jumper over their shirts/blouse & tie with their trousers/skirt; blazers are not required on this day

**Discretionary Grants from the Household Support Fund** - Suffolk County Council (SCC) is pleased to confirm that the Government announced a six-month extension to the Household Support Fund from September 2024 to March 2025. The grant will be issued as a £30 supermarket voucher for each eligible child from Pluxee and is designed to help families with their essential living costs during the holiday. Please note these vouchers will have a 2-month expiry, after which vouchers cannot be reissued. A more detailed letter on how to claim these vouchers will be issued to parents soon.

We are hosting '**An Evening of Poetry and Music**' on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December** starting from 6pm. This evening will see a host of students showing off their own poetry and music skills. Parents of those performing will be invited separately, but this is an event we wish to open to all parents.

**Enrichment** - Teachers across the academy are gearing up for next week's Enrichment Day programme which sees a full day of engaging learning opportunities for students from Year 7 to 11. So many students enjoyed the Enrichment days last year, so we have moved one to the Autumn term as a reward for all their efforts so far this year. Letters have gone out to all parents regarding the activities and seeking permission for local trips where relevant. Please make sure you complete any permission slips by the deadline. Any final instructions will go out via text message next week so please do look out for these.

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

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 – What does stalking look like?

Year 10 – What are human rights?

Year 9 – How can I promote my wellbeing?

Year 8 – What is sexual orientation and Gender Identify?



@OrmistonDenes

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Year 7 – What is health?

**Votes for schools** - This week students have been voting on “Do assumptions do more harm than good”. If you would like to continue this discussion with your child, please click [here](#) for further resources.

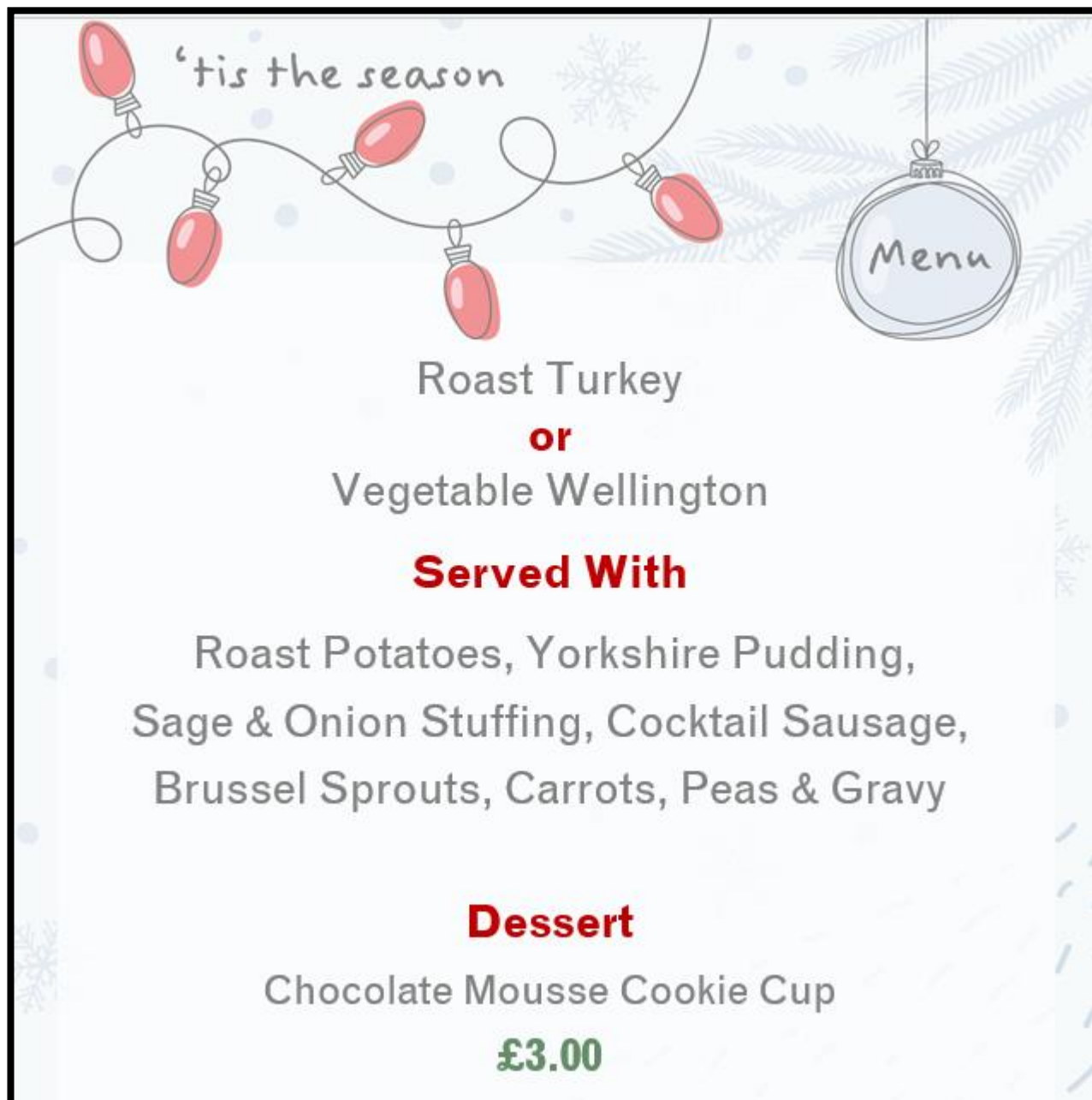
Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



**Kate Williams**

**Principal**



'tis the season

Menu

Roast Turkey  
**or**  
Vegetable Wellington

**Served With**

Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding,  
Sage & Onion Stuffing, Cocktail Sausage,  
Brussel Sprouts, Carrots, Peas & Gravy

**Dessert**

Chocolate Mousse Cookie Cup

**£3.00**