



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

Dear Parent and Carers,

13th December 2024

This week has been a busy one at the academy. Excellent attention in lessons has been matched by a desire to win with great sporting results including a football win for our U15 girls against Sir John Leman High School on Monday. Students have supported Save the Children by wearing Christmas jumpers and festive headwear and have showcased talents at an Evening of Poetry and Music.

Today we have also held the first of our two Enrichment Days for all students. Students are taking place in a wide range of activities including sporting and team building events, historical walks around town, geography and PSHE sessions, careers advice and visits to local colleges as well as some sessions with the army!

The Winter HAF programme is live with lots of opportunities for Free School Meal eligible families to book onto. Families can access Christmas Food Boxes, sport and craft activities and many more. Eligible families can book direct via the [booking system \(eequ.org\)](#). Further information can be found at: [Holiday Activity and Food \(HAF\) programme 2024 in Suffolk - InfoLink \(infolink.suffolk.gov.uk\)](#). If you have any questions, please contact HAF direct at HAEnquiries@suffolk.gov.uk

Attendance - Our children are showing great resilience in coming to school with minor illnesses or returning from sickness as soon as they are able. Thank you for your support with this. We have noticed that many students do not wear coats for school, and it is something we would actively encourage to keep them warm and dry at this time of the year.

Vaccinations: The school nursing team will be in the academy on 17th December to vaccinate any student where consent has been received but who were not available during the previous sessions. Details of the flu vaccination and link for the online portal can be found within Parentmail messages. Additionally, the nurses return to the academy on 8th January for Men ACWY & Dip/Tet/Polio vaccinations for year 9 students, again information can be found on Parentmail. Further details about the importance of vaccinations can be found [here](#).

The Form Time Focus next week will be "Ready" – for the holidays.

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 – Where can I access sexual health services?

Year 10 – How do religious people respond to prejudice and discrimination?

Year 9 – How might someone become involved in a gang?

Year 8 – How can I support someone who is coming out?

Year 7 – How can screen time effect my health?

Votes for schools - This week students have been voting on "Do emojis make communicating easier?" 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



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