

# DISCOVER DENES

Edition 10—Autumn 2024

**What have our students been doing?**

**Christmas at Ormiston Denes Academy**

**Enrichment Day December 2024**

**Sporting achievements & Celebrations**



**ASPIRATION—INTEGRITY—RESPECT**

# Principal's Welcome



As I write this, we are gearing up for Christmas. The Christmas Shop is open for students to buy presents with their reward points, the Christmas Fayre brought our community together and we still have Christmas Jumper day and Club Zero and Hero events to go. All these events bring us together as a community and gives us an opportunity to feel a sense of pride in what we are achieving together.

Our students show case their talents and willingness to try in everything they do. Just this week a depleted 9 a-side U15 girls' football team took on an 11 a-side opposition and not only played well, but won! Our students are also becoming increasingly confident, showcasing their talents at the Christmas Fayre, with a desire to help others through fundraising.

All of this is only possible because of the support of all of you at home and of the dedicated Denes Team. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope you can find a few quiet moments this holiday season to enjoy our magazine.

Mrs Kate Williams

Principal



## Thank you .....

To Moughton Engineering for their kind and generous sponsorship of our football kit. We think the team look pretty good in it.



Thank you also to Mr K Dobson and everyone at Norton Peskett Solicitors who kindly provided a generous donation towards our Student Christmas shop. You made a real difference, thank you.



## National Youth Take Over

East Suffolk Council invited a small group of students to participate in National Youth Takeover Day, which gives young people an opportunity to take ownership of an issue that is at the forefront of people's lives today. Our team comprised of year 7 students Harry and Harrison, Alex in year 8, and Bethany, Xander, Ella and Charlie in year 10.

Along with four other schools the teams had to create a project and build a campaign to tackle the theme, dealing with the rising costs in our community. The winning team would be awarded supported in getting their project up and running.

Our students decided the best way to support understanding of the cost of living issue was to further raise awareness of budgeting. Their idea included inviting industry professionals and other stakeholders in for a meeting, and to create a workshop with resources which could be piloted in our own school and disseminated out to other schools. They felt it also important to take this support into the primary schools, so students became more aware of budgeting needs from an early age. Our students were super proud to find out that they were the **winning team!!** We look forward to them moving this idea forward, with the support of the academy and external partners.



## Year 10 Careers Day

Students in Year 10 were invited to a Careers Aspiration Day organised by The Norfolk and Suffolk Careers Hub.

Students were able to engage with many employers who were showcasing local pathways and opportunities to engage students about careers within the energy sector, health care and the visitor economy. Through interactive opportunities and discussions students were able to receive realistic careers advice and learn about the various routes into employment. In addition to the 'market stall' arena there were a number of 'spotlight' talks providing more targeted information to students about different sector roles.



Our students made the most of this opportunity and were engaged in great conversations to support their future pathways. It was lovely to hear from of the discussions, and students really benefited from the opportunity. They were able to find out a lot of information about jobs they were aware of, but also found out about job roles that they had never heard of, which was wonderful for them.



Our thanks goes to the Careers Hub for providing our students with this opportunity.



Year 9 student Jacob stunned us with his very own beautiful piece of literature called "The Red Poppy".

*"In a small town surrounded by fields, Ellie stood beside her Grandfather, hand in hand. They were at the town square for Remembrance Day, gathered with others beneath a grey November sky. It was chilly, and Ellie shivered as the wind rustled through the crowd. She looked up at her grandfather, noticing how he held his head high, a small red poppy pinned to his jacket. As the clock struck eleven, a hush fell over the town. Silence spread, wrapping around them like a blanket. Ellie knew about the silence—her teacher had explained it was a moment to remember soldiers who had fought in wars, but she had never fully understood what it had meant.... "*



## UEA Sporting Careers Day

Year 10 students - **Bobby, Aida, Hayden, Cheyanne, Jack, Lucas, Alfie, Jasmine, Oliver & Ash** attended a sporting careers day at the UEA. The day, which was run by the UEA student ambassadors was made up of practical workshops which highlighted careers in sport. One workshop focused on disability sport and a second gave them the opportunity to think and plan like a PE teacher and the third activity focused on sports development.

The day offered the students an excellent opportunity to experience a day on the University campus, network with PE students from other schools and gain a better understanding of what career opportunities are available within sport.



## Ormiston Academies Trust in BLOOM



Our talented students designed and created a gorgeous bouquet of flowers out of used plastic bottles.

It was so good 'OAT In Bloom' awarded the school an academy prize for their Eco work.

Well done Sam, Mia and Archie.

## Remembrance Day and The David Parr Memorial

This year, we continued with the tradition of Remembrance by holding a service in our Entrance Hall with a minutes 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. We could not be prouder of the respect and compassion shown by all.



At the Civic Service at East Point Pavillion, **Ella & Beth** proudly represented the academy with a reading of 'For the Fallen' a remembrance poem, as part of the service.

Representatives of Ormiston Denes were invited to attend a memorial services for David Parr, whose family have been supporters of our school for many years. A wreath was laid under a new plaque and following the church service guests were invited to visit the graves of those who had been killed in conflicts, including David Parr. A remembrance cross was laid on behalf of the academy.



## Anti Bullying Week at Ormiston Denes Academy

During Anti Bullying week the Academy came together to make a stand against bullying behaviours, spreading kindness, respect and empathy!

It was 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.

Ms Sheriff and Mrs Osborn got to escort our National Anti-Bullying Alliance Ambassadors to London to watch a matinee of "Wicked The Musical" on the West End. The students were gifted the tickets by the Company 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!



**Anti-bullying is NOT just for Anti-Bullying Week!**



**We have to take action all year round to bring an end to bullying.**



## Year 11 Information

**Year 11 Parents' Evening is on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025**

### Year 11 Prom

Many of our students have already become excited about Prom at the end of the year. The details of Prom will be confirmed at a later date; however, it is important to note that Prom is something that will be **earned** through the Passport to Prom.

We would like as many Year 11 students to come to prom, therefore the harder they work in lessons and on revision the more likely they will meet the expectations and earn the points to receive an invitation. If students are participating in all the learning and support on offer achieving the points will be straight forward. The ten top students with the most points will have their Prom ticket paid for by the academy.



### Year 11 Leavers Celebration Assembly

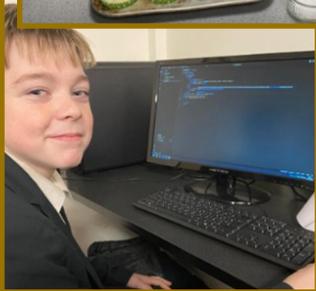
We are planning a series of leavers' events and opportunities for students to remember their time at Ormiston Denes Academy. They will have the chance to get a personalised leavers' hoody, their Class of 2025 Yearbook and gain entry to the Year 11 Leavers' Assembly & shirt signing event. Further details about this event will be released about these later in the school year.

### Upcoming College Events

East Norfolk Sixth Form College - 5th March 2025, 4pm-7pm (bookings open in the New Year)

Suffolk New College - 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025 10am - 12 noon

**Enrichment** is at the heart of everything we do across the OAT family, providing our students with life enhancing experiences from clubs, to sporting events, adventure, tournaments, drama, trips, music, art, debate and oracy... the list is never ending! In December we held our second Enrichment event, our thanks to all external providers and staff who made this happen.



## East Suffolk Council / Ormiston Denes Academy

East Suffolk Youth Council invited our students to join a new team of young people from across East Suffolk to ensure the voices and concerns of young people are heard. We held an election to appoint two students to attend on our behalf, and following a turnout of 164 votes, **Harrison & Jemima** were chosen to represent our students for the next two years.



Harrison & Jemima joined 30 other members of the Youth Council at East Suffolk House who were 'sworn in' as councillors. Later, Harrison and Jemima attended the first official meeting of East Suffolk Youth Council and wrote the following;



*First on the agenda was the election of a Chair and Vice Chair for future council sessions, and we congratulated the successful candidates. We also heard an update from members of East Suffolk Council, who confirmed that the constitution has been amended so that any motion we pass must be discussed by the local council itself. The Youth Council then discussed the motion that we collectively wrote at our induction day, which was focused on the topic of Youth Support and Safety. First, we voted on a proposed amendment which sought to remove a clause calling on the council to produce youth mental health booklets. We voted against the amendment, which was defeated. Next we voted on the overall amendment, which calls for greater support and awareness of mental health issues affecting young people. The motion was passed unanimously. We are delighted that the motion passed and hope that it achieves its aims of raising awareness in our community.*

**Councillor Harry:** *I then spoke about the importance of litter-picking and proposed an idea that there should be more litter picks in our town and along the beach. This was an important issue to me because we need to do more to help the environment and save the planet. I see a lot of litter in our local area and know that this is important to the people on the council. Other councillors supported my proposal and have offered to write a motion for discussion at our next meeting.*

**Councillor Jemima:** *I proposed that we should explore disability awareness and support in more detail. I feel that lots of young people lack awareness of a range of disabilities and the difficulties that they bring, and therefore I would like there to be more education around this. I have therefore decided to work with my fellow councillors to write a motion and bring this forward at our next meeting.*



# Christmas at Ormiston Denes Academy



Christmas Fayre 2024



# Christmas at Ormiston Denes Academy

School & Student Christmas shop preparations



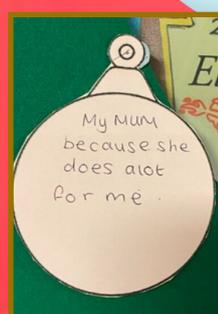
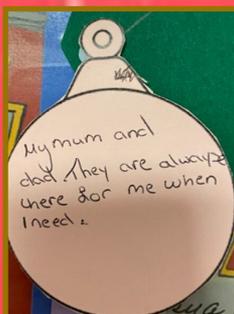
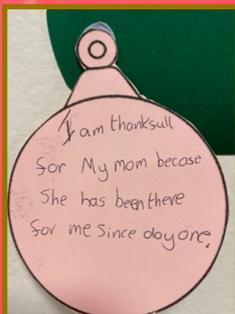
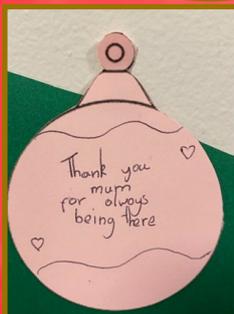
Student Christmas Dinner—thanks to our lovely dinner ladies !



Handmade Christmas Decorations made by our students



Year 7 students say thank you ....



## Sport Events and Celebrations



**U16's boys football after their 12-2 WIN against Ormiston Venture Academy**



**Year 7 Dodgeball**



**Year 9, 10 and 11  
Girls Netball  
Tournament**



**Congratulations to all our trampolining teams, but a HUGE well done to Amara, Darcie, Amber, Clara, Freya, India, Esme and Lucie who collectively, as our U14's team, finished SECOND in the entire county!**



## Sport Events and Celebrations



Year 8 student **Henry** has only gone and won the **UK area Championship in Muay Thai Boxing!** He brought his very impressive winning belt in to show other students and staff and we all thought it was fantastic.

Henry says he's going for the UK title next and we know he's going to absolutely smash it. Well done Henry!



**Year 7's in gymnastics training**

ODA made the short trip to Sir John Leman in the 2nd Round of the Under 15's County Cup. Despite the game being played in far from ideal conditions both sides played some fast-flowing football.

ODA took the game to SJL. Their efforts were rewarded after a fast break resulted in Daisy assisting Molly with the first and only goal of the game. All students battled against the conditions and gave 110% despite being two players down for the whole of the 60 minutes, special mention goes to Lydia and Cheyenne who were superb throughout.



**Well done Imogen, Ellie, Mollie, Holly, Lydia, Amber, Tayah, Daisy & Cheyenne**

## Children In Need 2024

Thank you to staff and students who generously donated towards this years Children In Need and waited in the long lines for the bake sale! In total £647.61 was raised!



## Term Dates 2024-2025

Spring Term 1: Tuesday 7th January 2025 to Friday 14th February 2025

Spring Term 2: Tuesday 25th February 2025 to Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term 1: Tuesday 22nd April 2025 to Friday 23rd May 2025

Summer Term 2: Monday 2nd June 2025 to Tuesday 22nd July 2025

## Parent's Evenings

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January. Year 11 Parents Evening

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Year 9 Parents Evening & Options

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Year 10 Parents Evening

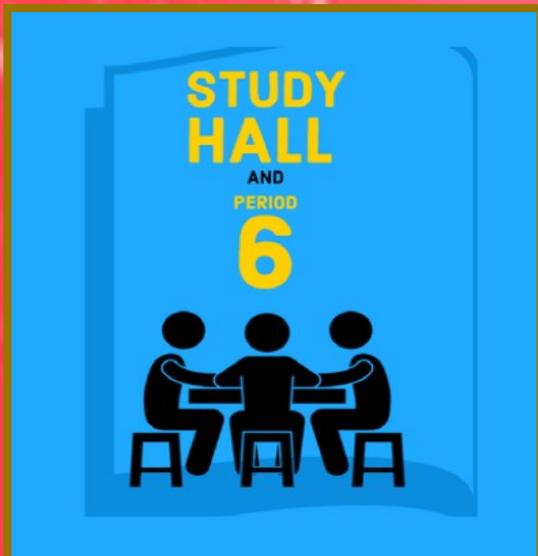
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May. Year 8 Parents Evening

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June. Year 7 Parents Evening



# ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

**[OAT]**  
Ormiston Academies Trust  
AN OAT ACADEMY



**FREE BREAKFAST EVERY DAY.**

7.45am to 8.30am  
every day  
in the Dining Hall.



**Start your day  
the ODA way!**

To Find out more about us, please visit our website [Ormiston Denes Academy](http://Ormiston Denes Academy) or call us on 01502 574 474.