

# DISCOVER DENES

Edition 1

Autumn 2021

***Christmas is coming ...***

***Remembrance Day at Denes***

***Charity events were a great success***

***Read Aloud programme is a hit with the students***

***Enjoy our first edition of Discover Denes with all the term news and events that took place.***

ASPIRATION • INTEGRITY • RESPECT

## PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME



As the principal of Ormiston Denes Academy I am delighted to welcome you to our very first edition of Discover Denes.

At Ormiston Denes Academy we are immensely proud of our students, our staff and our school. Despite the challenges of a global pandemic it is a warm and vibrant community in which our young people flourish. Schools have been shut off to the world for so much of the last two academic years that it is easy to forget all the **inspirational** things that happen in addition to academic learning.

This term at Ormiston Denes we have been finding new ways to celebrate success, re-establishing a vibrant student leadership, showing **respect** through acts of remembrance and making a difference to our community through raising money for charity and supporting our local food bank. We have been developing our **aspirations** through visits to colleges and careers events and have been showcasing our talents through dance, music and drama performances.

I hope that you enjoy this first edition, showcasing just a little of what makes our academy so special.

**Mrs Kate Williams**  
Principal

# Read Aloud



**W**e believe students are entitled to experience a wide range of texts, including various challenging books that they otherwise might not encounter. Students from all backgrounds should experience the pleasure and excitement of these books and have high-quality texts read to them and starting this term, that's exactly what are students have been enjoying - 3 times a week.

Listening to a skilled reader, Read Aloud, provides so many benefits for the students including cognitive and social development, but it can only help to improve students own reading ability and potential for academic and lifelong success giving them access to a world of ideas they may not otherwise be able to experience.

Students in Year 7 have been having swashbuckling fun listening to the escapades of Black Dog and Long John Silver in Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*. Whereas students in Year 9 are lost in Ray Bradbury's dystopian world of *Fahrenheit 451*. Our Year 10 students are listening to *The Great Gatsby*.

# Christmas is almost here!

**R**eal Christmas tree's were not allowed last year because of COVID, so this year we have gone all out—with 5 gorgeous trees spread throughout the school. Students have enjoyed the wintery smell of pine and the twinkling of the lights and we hope to have shared some Christmas joy with the community by placing a large tree on our roof for all passers by to enjoy. Students

have been busy making their own decorations to really make the trees their own—and they look great! Last week, students enjoyed a full turkey roast Christmas dinner and took part in Christmas Jumper Day—raising nearly £200! We asked our KS3 students to design and make their own Christmas cards and we have been blown away by the incredible cards we have seen. It was a really hard

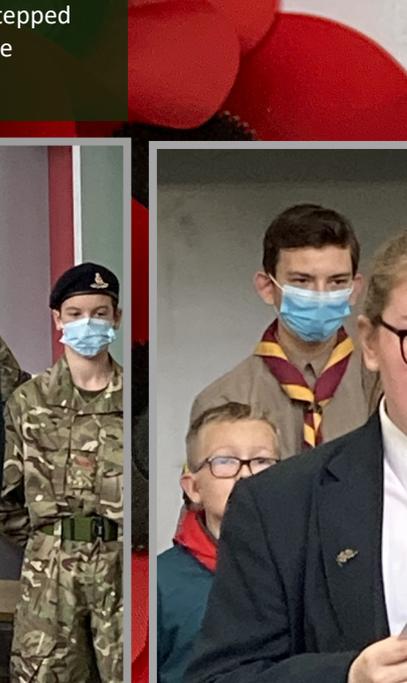
decision as the talent shown was amazing but we did choose a first, second and third as shown below. Congratulations to Ella, Serena and Mark for their incredible creativity. Ella's card has been made into this year's official Ormiston Denes Christmas card and has been sent out to many, many places. Thank you to all the students who took part.



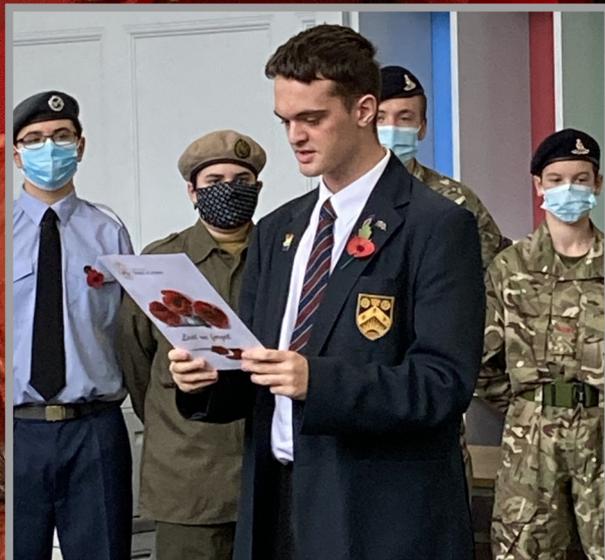
*Will we get a white Christmas this year?*

# Remembrance Day at Denes

A credit to the Academy .... Were the words used to describe our students Archie and Jude as they read with honour and emotion "Why we wear a Poppy" by Anne Star. This was read as part of the Lowestoft Community Remembrance Day Service held on Sunday 14th November 2021. Archie and Jude were congratulated by many of the dignitaries in attendance, including Peter Aldous MP and Lord-Lieutenant of Suffolk; Clare Countess. They said that Archie and Jude read with great pride, poignancy and empathy, and that they were both a credit to the academy. The Sunday service was the continuation of the remembrance event held at school. Earlier in the week students and staff took part in an act of remembrance which included a 2 minute silence on Armistice Day and a special service with students who are part of local groups attending in their uniforms. A poppy wreath was laid at our Rolls of Honour board and once again Archie and Jude stepped up and read for us all. The service can be viewed by accessing our website.



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# REWARDS



**F**orm tutors have been busy nominating students for their effort and achievement all term—there have been over **400 reward certificates** given out to our students this term and nearly **40,000 reward points allocated!**

In addition to the reward certificates, students who displayed any one of our key values of **aspiration, integrity and respect** were nominated to spend a form time session with the Principal, where they were congratulated and treated to a fancy breakfast.

**W**ell done Year 11 who have sat through a full session of mock exams. Mrs Smith, Head of Year 11 said “it was great to see so many faces at 7.45am at breakfast in preparation of the exam ahead of them”.

You may have seen some of the delicious food that our Year 11 students have prepared for their Catering exams—check out their dishes on our Instagram, Facebook and Twitter pages.

At the time of printing, students do not know their results. We will be holding a special Year 11 Mock Exam Results celebration assembly on Wednesday 15th December.

**Good luck to all of our Year 11 students.**

**C**ongratulations to **Year 10 student Mia**, who entered and **WON** a competition to design a logo for Dip Farm. Her design has been on their letterheads and badges and is now going onto the posters and signs for their park!



We are hugely proud of **Senior Prefect Isabel**, who is applying to be the “YouthMP” for Suffolk. Good luck Isabel.



Keep snapping Cain! Our talented **Year 8 student Cain** has been snapping some lovely, local wildlife photos.



# Meet our Governors...



## **Tina Ellis, Chair of Governors and Community Governor**

This is Mrs Ellis' second term as Chair of Governors. She was formerly a civil servant with DWP, responsible for Job Centre delivery in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk districts and Director of Skills and Competitiveness Partnerships for the Regional Development Agency for 18 months before taking early retirement. Currently Vice Chair of Governors at East Coast College and a member of the Lowestoft and Waveney Chamber of Commerce Executive. Hobbies include swimming, walking and reading, and Mrs Ellis is a crossword fan.

# A

ll strands of our **Student Leadership, including our Anti Bullying Ambassadors and our Prefect Body** came together this term to celebrate everything they have achieved this term. Our Principal and other staff joined in these celebrations and thanked them for their commitment not only in school but for everything they do in the local community as well.



## **Charity Events at Ormiston Denes**

**Wear it Pink**—we raised over £180.00!

**Silly Sock Day**—raised awareness of Anti Bullying and how we will not tolerate it in school.

**Children in Need**—raised over a staggering £600.00—which included all the money collected from the **Macmillan Bake Sale**.

**Lowestoft Food Bank**—all items have just been collected. Thank you for supporting this.

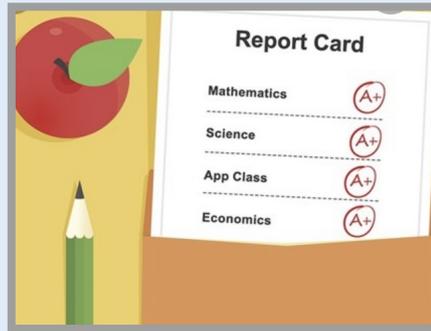
**Thank you all so very much for your ongoing support with these amazing charity events.**

## Parents' Evenings

13th January—Year 11

27th January—Year 9 (including options)

10th March—Year 10



## School Events

16th February—PRIDE 2022

1st April—Dance Showcase

8th April—Queens Jubilee



## School Trips

16th March— School of Rock

25th March—3 day FA Training Camp



What's coming in 2022



ORMISTON  
**DENES ACADEMY**

Yarmouth Road  
Lowestoft  
NR32 4AH  
Tel: 01502 574474

[www.ormistonden.es.co.uk](http://www.ormistonden.es.co.uk)



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