

# DISCOVER DENES

Spring 2025

**What have our students been up to?**

**Sporting Success Stories.**

**Ofsted Inspection outcome.**

**Important dates for next term.**

***Can you spot our students World Book Day Characters inside?***

**ASPIRATION—INTEGRITY—RESPECT**

# Principal's Welcome



As we are approaching the Easter break, I hope you won't mind the pun, but it really has been an "eggcellent" term. Our students have received so much praise and recognition for their achievement and participation in events which enable their personal development, that it is a pleasure to be able to share their experiences here.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank staff and governors for their commitment to Ormiston Denes which has been recognised in our recent Ofsted report.

Kind Regards

Mrs Kate Williams

Principal





# What have our students been doing .... ?

**WINNER!**



## Year 10 Festival of Careers East Coast College Trip

Students attended a careers fayre using virtual reality to look at the Sizewell Power Station and how we can use hydrogen to power cars in the future. During the day student collected MENTA money and the student with the most money won a £20 gift voucher—and the winner was **Jake !**

**Students made (then ate) some scrummy Valentines Day treats earlier in the term.**





# What have our students been doing .... ?

Our drama production students got to attend the dress rehearsal of Lowestoft 6<sup>th</sup> Form Colleges' production of 'Chicago.'

They got to chat to the performers after the show and get some tips to support their own performance in ODA's production of Mary Poppins (which you can see more of later in the magazine).



Some of our 7 students had the opportunity to be involved in **UEA Future Stars**, learning about future career pathways and university life. Students were rock climbing and played pickle ball but also had an interactive creative writing workshop with Ashley Hickson-Lovence, a local published author.



WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY



# What have our students been doing .... ?

**Beth & Ella** travelled to Ipswich High School to take part in **The Great Debate**.

Beth delivered a great speech about how Lowestoft has changed over the years and the judges expressed how much they liked her speech. Well done to both Beth and Ella for putting themselves up for this daunting event!



Lowestoft Town Council held their **Holocaust Memorial Day** in January and **Grace and Mia** prepared and delivered a powerful speech on this year's theme "For a better future"



After the event, we received a lovely email  
“On behalf of Lowestoft Town Council, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the students of Ormiston Denes Academy for their significant contributions to Holocaust Memorial Day 2025. Their speeches reminded us of the significance the day had whilst educating the community about remembrance, tolerance and unity.

We are deeply grateful for Ormiston Denes Academy contribution and look forward to continuing our collaboration with initiatives that strengthen our community and promote shared values and compassion.

Thank you, **Grace & Mia** for representing us all.



# What have our students been doing .... ?



Year 7 student, **Harry F** has danced his way into this year's **Ormiston's Got Talent Finals**. We will let you know how he gets on later in the year.

Good luck Harry!



Some of our Year 10 students attended the **Festival of the Mind** event at East Norfolk Sixth Form College this term focussing on psychology and criminology.

They used the latest VR technology to experience different worlds of the criminal mind. They also “dusted off” a crime scene for fingerprints and created “celeb” photofits!





# What have our students been doing .... ?



Year 11 students ongoing commitment to **Study Hall and P6 Revision** sessions has continued to make us proud!



WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY



**The Dora Love Prize** is an annual competition to give students the opportunity to learn more about the Holocaust.

One of the workshops 'Archive to Art' used historical research and the work of Pablo Picasso to

encourage students to remember forgotten stories and create their own artwork based on a young person linked to the Holocaust. The students did well and enjoyed their day.





# What have our students been doing .... ?

## Year 11 Mock Exams Results Assembly

We are **SO PROUD** of our Year 11 students who picked up their final mock exam results this term. Following some initial nerves, it was relief and smiles all round.

Well done guys.

Class of 2025



Good job  
Year 11



# What have our students been doing .... ?

## Art and Photography Trip to Cambridge

As part of their prep work for the summer exam, our Art and Photography students visited Cambridge for the day taking in the amazing architecture and modern art of the city. Some students got to go inside the old Addenbrookes Hospital, the Museum of Archeology and the Clare College. Our staff were approached by members of the public who wanted to



tell us ***"You should be very proud of your students, they have been a credit to your school"***. Well done guys.

## Ormiston Denes 2025 Ski Trip





# What have our students been doing .... ?

## Cinema Reward Trip #1

Through the generosity of The Marina Theatre and **Into Film**, nearly **150 Key Stage 3 students** were rewarded for their excellent attendance by attending a screening of the film **IF**. The film is based around Bea who, after discovering she can see everyone's imaginary friends, she embarks on a magical adventure to reconnect forgotten imaginary friends with their 'kids' who are now adults. Students were complimented on how well organised they were, and told that we could 'come again'!

## Cinema Reward Trip #2

A small group of **Year 7** students had the opportunity to travel to The Fisher Theatre in Bungay to watch a viewing of **Inside Out 2**. The film looks at emotions, the emotional changes in maturing as a young person and in transitioning to High School. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience the opportunity to visit the Theatre venue .



**Year 8 students** taking on their fitness challenge. Working in teams to reach different destinations in Lowestoft whilst improving their



WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

**Year 9** Rowing  
Fitness  
Challenge





# What have our students been doing .... ?

## Ormiston Denes Academy proudly presented Mary Poppins



### Cast List

Juno B is Mary Poppins

Beth D is Mr Banks

Mia B is Bert

Ella M is Winifred

Mila L is Lane Banks

Cameron H is Michael Banks

Leonie T is Ellen

Jodi L is Mrs Brill

Ziva H is Constable Jones

Ashleigh W is Katie Nanna

Ivana R is Mrs Corry/Bird Lady

Grace C is Miss Andrew

Samuel M is Admiral Boom

Jemima P is Miss Lark

Harry F is Mr Dawes Jr

### Extra's

Katy B, Poppy C, Cody C, Madison

P, Alexis A, Phoenix A & Kaiden N

With thanks to Amy B & Shakira T for stage management & make up.

**Directed by Mr Hissey**

**Music & Choreography by Mrs Turner**



Huge congratulations to all cast and crew for a fabulous production.



# OFSTED Inspection 2025



**Inspection dates: 4 and 5 March 2025**

**The quality of education Good**

**Behaviour and attitudes Good**

**Personal development Good**

**Leadership and management Good**

Following the visit, inspectors published a glowing report, highlighting how *“the academy is highly ambitious for every student to succeed academically and develop personally”*. The report praised the academy’s *“revised curriculum and training for staff,”* which ensures that *“students reach their full potential.”*

Ofsted also commended the academy’s commitment to student personal development and wellbeing, stating that staff *“leave no stone unturned in its work to build students’ self-esteem.”*



# Ofsted Inspection 2025—Strengths recognised as

“The school has made great strides in developing its broad curriculum so that it clearly identifies what students need to learn and the order in which they should learn important knowledge.”

“Pupils enjoy attending Ormiston Denes Academy - staff motivate and help them to reach their potential.”

“Lessons are calm so that pupils can focus on their work. The school is a safe and friendly place, where students are kind to each other.”

“Pupils have many opportunities to develop their leadership skills. Clubs, events such as musical productions and ‘enrichment days’ broaden students’ interests.”

“The comprehensive careers and guidance programme, including work experience placements, helps pupils to make informed choices about their next steps.”

“Staff identify the needs of pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), very well. They adapt tasks, without over-simplifying them, so that all pupils can access the curriculum successfully.”

“The school understands the importance of reading for pupils’ achievement and interests. There are regular opportunities built into the academy day for students to read.”

“Pupils are well-prepared for life in modern Britain. They say, without hesitation, that this is a school where people welcome each other as equals.

“The school fully supports staff to develop the quality of their work. Staff have a myriad of opportunities to develop their teaching expertise and to become leaders. Staff are highly positive about working here.”

“The school has engaged successfully with parents. They trust the school to do the best for their children.”





## Sporting Success Stories

Year 8 took each other on in a game of football this term. X band won but football, and most importantly sportsmanship was the main winner! The entire game was played in fabulous spirit from start to finish.



Our Year 10 boys recently played a friendly against Ormiston Venture Academy. They played really well, but sadly this wasn't reflected in the end score. We know however, our students are all winners!





# Sporting Success Stories



Well done to our girls under 16's Basketball team who are the runners up in the North Suffolk Games.



Our Year 8 boys Football Team played in a great friendly game against Ormiston Venture this term.



Well done to our Year 8 Basketball team who represented ODA in the North Suffolk Schools Basketball competition. Our team came in 4<sup>th</sup> overall – which was a fantastic result.



## Sporting Success Stories

There was HUGE excitement for our under 15's girls football team who reached the semi finals of the County Cup football this term. Sadly, their journey ended here however, the girls should be so proud of their achievements in the competition!



Well done to all these guys who took part in the recent Cross Country trials, the weather was not always friendly but these guys gritted their teeth through it all and should be really proud of themselves.





# Dates to be aware of

**School opens to all students Tuesday 22nd April**

**Monday 5th May: school closed for May Bank Holiday**

**Thursday 8th May: Year 8 Parents' Evening**

**Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May: Half Term**

**Tuesday 10th June: Transition Taster Morning Day 1**

**Wednesday 11th June: Transition Taster Morning Day 2**

**Thursday 19th June: Year 7 Parents Evening**

**Friday 27th June: Y11 Prom.**

**Wednesday 2nd July: Year 6 Transition Evening**

**Thursday 3rd July/Friday 4th July Enrichment Day 1 and 2**

*Thank you and Farewell to .....*



**Mrs Fellas (formally Miss Thompson), is leaving Ormiston Denes after nearly 13 years dedication to the Arts Department. Jess is moving to a new teaching role and we wish her all the very best for the future.**





ORMISTON  
DENES ACADEMY

Yarmouth Road  
Lowestoft  
NR32 4AH  
Tel: 01502 574474

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

# Free Breakfast



*Start your day the ODA way!*  
7.45am - 8.45am every day

## STUDY HALL AND PERIOD 6



/OrmistonDenes



OrmistonDenes



@OrmistonDenes

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

