

DISCOVER DENES

Edition 3

Summer 2022

Goodbye Class of 2022!

(Prom celebration photos and staff notes inside)

*Student leadership
updates*

*Rewards and
celebrations*

*Trips, visits, ODA's Got Talent, Wimbledon, and
PRIDE celebrations inside.....*

Welcome to our third edition of Discover Denes.

ASPIRATION • INTEGRITY • RESPECT

Principal's Welcome

This year has flown by.



We are already on our third edition of Discover Denes which provides us with a fantastic opportunity to reflect on the many things that our students have experienced this term which will have helped to enrich their education at Ormiston Denes Academy. I am sure that you will agree that the range of opportunities our students have had, despite the ongoing prevalence of Covid is something to be proud of.

Given these challenges, I think it only right that I take a moment to thank the staff at Denes and the many external organisations that have worked so hard to ensure that we offer so much more to develop our students beyond the curriculum.

Mrs Kate Williams
Principal

What have our students been doing?



Over the Easter period connections were made with **Get Suffolk Reading**, a National Literacy Trust project running in Lowestoft, who are keen to work with schools on various initiatives. The project has already very kindly donated a large number of books and kindness journals.

Thank you Get Suffolk Reading, we look forward to working with you in the future.

A group of 15 students took the opportunity to participate in two workshops and a day trip at the **University of East Anglia**. During the day trip students were able to tour the university, including the student accommodation, experience a lecture and a workshop in one of the seminar rooms. Four UEA student ambassadors accompanied them for the day, which was great for our students to be able to ask them questions about their experiences. A highlight was the opportunity to use their climbing wall. The final workshop finished with all students receiving a certificate and medal for their work.



On Thursday 2nd June 2022, we were very proud to have students represent the school in a memorial service and plaque unveiling to the late **David Parr for the 40th Anniversary of the Falklands**. Mayor of Lowestoft, Councillor Alan Green, Lieutenant General Jonathan Page OBE, and Mr Philip Turner, Chairman of the Royal British Legion were there alongside the Parr family. Students Calum and Archie both read for the service, which ended with words of thanks from Mr Peter Aldous, MP.

Student Leadership

Student Leadership this summer term have been very busy arranging stalls for our summer fete, which took place on Saturday 16th July. Within our student leadership team we have a separate committee called the 'Events Team' who have been making bags of sweets and organising the refreshment stalls. A brilliant job was performed by everybody who supported the summer fete.

This summer term we have also been recruiting our new 'Head Student' and 'Prefects' to further join our student leadership team. Well done to all the students who applied for the position. We are very pleased to announce our New Head Boy/Girl Student Leadership team as;

Head boy: Theo J

Head Girl: Jamie-Ann W

The Senior Team is enhanced by; Epifanio A, Raeni D, Tyler D and Tazzy A

We held our OAT Student Leadership elections in February 2022 to find 2 representatives from our academy who will represent us at the **East Regional Student Voice** meetings. Seven candidates were nominated and balloted and, following the school vote, two were elected - Bethany (Year 7) and Theo (Year 10). Both Theo and Bethany have already been attending the regional meetings along with other OAT schools within the East and feeding back on the discussions covered. Our Vice Chair of Governors, Mrs Carole Davies was very proud to meet with them and together with Miss Grimmer, thanked them both for their commitment and contributions to student leadership.



A number of our Student Leaders attended the last inter school virtual **Youth Council Meeting**, where they heard about various initiatives from Get Suffolk Reading and our local Environmental Sustainability Officer. They also created mind maps linked to three priorities (mental health, environmental awareness and awareness and understanding of how people are different) that had previously been chosen as issues important to young people.

Our Student Leaders formed an **Eco-Schools** Council encouraging change at Ormiston Denes, and within their families, to help protect the environment and habitat from pollution and other things that lead to environmental deprivation. They have been working very hard to obtain the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award for the academy.

They have completed their assessment and are working on three major topics: Marine (plastic in our oceans), School Grounds (eco garden) and Waste (recycling). Two students have volunteered to represent Ormiston Denes at the OAT National Eco-Schools Council Meetings. We have been involved with: The Big Plastic Count and Earth Day 2022, and we are currently working on our Eco-Garden and The National Literacy Trust – Eco Literacy Champions Group.

Goodbye Year 11—we will miss you

Good luck in the future year 11. You have smashed it this year. All the best

Mr C .

I am so proud of you all and I can't wait to hear what you get up to next - please keep in contact! Good luck and I will miss you.

Mrs Wilkinson

It has been an absolute privilege working with you over the last five years. Good luck for the future, you will definitely be missed here!

Mr Shaw

I want you to remember that each one of you is amazing. You have unlimited potential to achieve anything that you set out to accomplish.

Mr McAllister

Wishing all the Y11's good luck for the future. From the MDSA's & cleaning team

Congratulations you've made it! You have had a challenging journey through secondary school but have come out the other side thriving. Well done to you all. Good luck for your future.

Mrs Calver

Enjoy the great adventures that are in front of you. I feel very proud.

Mrs Turner

Wishing every single one of you good luck for what ever comes next. Have fun and stay safe, we're going to miss you all :)

Mrs M Read

I hope the next incarnation will be as amazing as this one. You have set the bar very high Good luck in the next step of your life.

Miss Welsh

**Don't forget to come
back on Thursday
25th August 2022 for
your results !**



Year 11 Prom



Professional photographs were taken on the night, for purchase on the night. These were taken just for fun. We hope you enjoy them.



**A RECORD BRAKING 155,926 POSITIVE
POINTS HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO 750
STUDENTS THIS YEAR!!**

**1302 students have received a nomination for effort
1271 students have received a nomination for
achievement**

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL

Celebration



On Friday 27th May 2022 the **Festival of Suffolk Torch** Relay arrived in Lowestoft, with Mayor Alan Green carrying the torch in a special Festival E-Rickshaw, as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Over a 588 mile route, 250 torch bearers, each nominated community champions, had been nominated to carry the torch. We nominated our head student Archie, in recognition of all the events that he has participated in over his time with us. Archie had actively participated in the civic Remembrance Day services, Holocaust Memorial Day services, including a performance of *Suitcase 1938* held at the Lowestoft Train Station in 2020. Archie has also organised, directed and performed in *'A Midsummer's Night Dream'* to raise money for Norfolk LGBT+ charity, as well as supporting numerous events and activities in school.

We were very excited to hear that the Council Events Committee chose Archie to represent Lowestoft in the relay and, on Saturday 28th May, Archie was passed the torch from Mayor Green and then proceeded to ride in the E-Rickshaw on its next part of the journey. This took Archie through the town and then up the seafront, passing numerous spectators and over 400 members participating in the local park run, who all cheered him on.

As an academy we are very proud of Archie and the fact he was chosen for such an important event.



Students came together to show support for their school's LGBT community in their annual Pride celebrations. Ormiston Denes Academy marked Pride with a week of events, including assemblies, a daily Pride picnic and a whole-school event on Friday.

They were visited by the Norfolk LGBT Project and Access Community Trust's Place of Pride who spoke about the services they offer and held a Pride merchandise sale.

The school's vocal group performed and the Ormiston Denes Pride Committee raised the rainbow flag at the front of the school. Pride Group Co-ordinator Polly Grice said: "It was wonderful to mark Pride with our students and it's really special to see them feeling comfortable to be who they are and celebrate with our wider school community.

"Our student-led Pride committee has worked hard all year to make our school a place where we celebrate diversity and it was lovely to be able to celebrate with them."



Ladies' Wimbledon 2022!

Wow, what a day we had at Wimbledon's ladies finals day!

Students were star struck when they found themselves so close to Tom Cruise! The other highlights of the day were touring the amazing Centre Court and watching the ladies finals.

All eight students were an absolute delight and it will be an experience they will never forget!!



Real Life Tom Cruise!!! ↓



Careers Opportunity—Bringing Scientists to You

On 9th June, fifteen Year 8 students had the opportunity to go to East Norfolk for 'Bringing Scientists To You', a programme offered by the University of East Anglia. They took part in five hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) workshops offered by PHD students in the various schools in the Faculty of Science. Some of the activities involved the students programming robots, writing secret messages and looking at science relating to food. They also had a talk with the university lecturer where they found out more about university and what it can offer as well as the abundance of **career pathways** in science.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed the day and learnt lots of new, fun and interesting things, as well as opening their minds to a possible future career in science.



Ormiston Denes **HAS** got Talent !

18 students from years 7 - 10 auditioned for Denes Got Talent and 12 were chosen to perform in the live final on stage for an audience and 3 judges on 28th June. There were dance, vocal and instrumental acts, as well as a comedy sketch and in true Got Talent style, the judges commented on all acts and chose their 3rd, 2nd and 1st place, although the marks were incredibly close. **In 3rd place was year 8 student Lola performing Irish dancing, in 2nd place with a beautiful vocal solo was Scarlett in year 9 and the top spot went to year 10 pianist, Thomas.** Congratulations to all of our super talented students.



The audience and students were incredibly supportive and the judges really enjoyed the evening. (They were even given a box of tissues, just in case they found things overwhelmingly beautiful and shed a tear.)

New Year 7 Students

On Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th July we welcomed our new Year 7 students into Denes. It was lovely to see them all and we are really looking forward to welcoming them fully in September.

Jubilee Celebrations

It was lovely to be able to welcome so many ex students back into the academy for our Jubilee reunion tours. With a wide range of ex-students, from some having left last year right back to those that left in the 1960s, there were a lot of changes to see and a lot to chat about. During the tour of the academy many of the changes that had occurred over the years were pointed out. This was really informative to our new students, who never realised we had a swimming pool, a lecture theatre or a 6th form area. Following the tour our visitors were able to chat over tea and coffee, and look at the many old photos, year books, press cuttings and centenary books. A lot of conversation and laughter seeing themselves, and lots of their peers and previous staff members appearing in the photos. Our thanks goes to all that made time to return to the academy, and we hope that they enjoyed coming as much as we enjoyed meeting them again.



We hope you enjoyed our celebratory Jubilee flag that was raised the week before the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. Thanks to our students who kindly helped Mrs Williams with the raising of the flag.

Jubilee lunchtime celebrations. Staff and students enjoy ice creams, jubilee cakes and having some fun on the field (the students won the tug of war)!



Thank you to all staff who have worked with us this year. Your work and support for our students was awesome. However, there was one member of staff who decided to leave us after 36 years of service! **Mr Turk** has influenced the lives of thousands of children, many parents reading this now would have known Mr Turk, or been taught by him. He was an extraordinary teacher, a supportive student champion and a very, very nice bloke! We are and shall continue to miss him very much. **Thank you Sir!**



Dates to be aware of

Monday 5th September: All students return to school

Monday 5th September: Individual school photographs

Thursday 15th September: Year 7 Settling In Evening

Thursday 29th September: Open Evening

Thursday 14th October: Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening

Friday 21st October: The school is closed to students for staff training

Monday 24th to Friday 28th October: Half Term

Don't miss out



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