



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

Dear Parent and Carers,

6th February 2026

This week many of our students have had opportunities to take part in a range of events. Year 8 have taken part in creative writing workshops with Ashley Hickson Lovence, the author of *The 392*, *Your Show* and *Wild East*. Sports leaders in Year 10 have hosted a primary basketball tournament and Year 11 students will today take part in an art trip to Cambridge. I would like to say a big thank you to Ormiston Denes staff who across the whole year arrange such fantastic opportunities for our students.

It's the **Year 9 Options and Parents Evening on Thursday 12th February**. As a reminder to previous correspondence, this is an important event for all year 9 students as it marks the beginning of the GCSE/BTEC Options process. **Attendance at the Parents and Options Evening is the first requirement students must have signed off, so it is essential that your child attends, even if you cannot.**

Next week, our final round of mock exams begins for our Year 11 students. We are looking forward to seeing them approach this with the responsibility they demonstrated in the previous mocks. They have been working hard, and we know this will pay off. The timetable has been shared with you at Parents' Evening, and reminders will be available on our social media channels, but the full timetable can also be found on our website [here](#).

Attendance to mock exams is compulsory. It is even more important that students arrive to the academy on time (8.35am for line up) as we will be running pre-exam warm up sessions with their subject specialist teachers and collecting mobile phones on the lines to support exam regulations. Students are encouraged to take advantage of exam breakfast to get them in the right mindset before the exam, which is available in the Entrance Hall every day through the mock period from 8am. Prom Points will be awarded for attendance to these sessions.

Period 6 and Home Learning will continue throughout the mock exam timetable. These are valuable opportunities for students to revise and ensure they are prepared for their mock exams, to make the most of this final opportunity for practise. On behalf of the academy, I'd like to wish them the best of luck! I am looking forward to seeing the rewards in their Mock Results Assembly in March.

Next week is national mental health week and to promote this we have several activities from positive affirmations, puzzles as well as additional mental health staff in school for drop-in sessions.

East Coast College and Lowestoft Sixth Form college are offering half term tours to any student who is still undecided as to which college to attend next. If you search under either of these colleges, you will be able to book a tour and look around the campus. Additionally, East Norfolk Sixth Form college has an Open Evening on Tuesday 10th March from 4pm, open to all students.

The **Form Time Focus** next week will be "Proud"

Next week we will be teaching the following PSHE topics. If you have any concerns regarding the content of the PSHE lessons, please refer to our policy for clarification on withdrawals. The policy can be found [here](#).

Year 11 – Where does the Government spend our money?

Year 10 – What are my personal boundaries?

Year 9 – Careers UEA Workshops.



@OrmistonDenes



/OrmistonDenes

Yarmouth Road, Lowestoft NR32 4AH

www.ormistondenes.co.uk

Tel: 01502 574474

[OAT]
Ormiston Academies Trust
AN OAT ACADEMY

Year 8 – What does caffeine do to my body?

Year 7 – What are the physical changes in puberty?

Votes for schools - This week students have been voting on “Be informed. Be curious. Be heard” If you would like to continue this discussion with your child, please click [here](#) for further resources.

Half term is coming up, and the academy will be **closed for this from Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February**. In addition to this, the academy is **also closed to all students on Monday 23rd February 2026** for staff training. **All students are expected back in the academy on Tuesday 24th February.**

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



Kate Williams.

Principal