ORMISTON
DENES ACADEMY

Dear Parent and Carers,

20th November 2026

It has been a cold and wet week outside but within the academy out students have shone as brightly as always. I had fantastic reports of how brilliant a group of Year 7 were on a trip to the Players' Theatre this week, engaging brilliantly with the session showing respect and really importantly showing off beautiful manners, thanking the theatre staff and the bus driver for the trip.

On Thursday we open our doors to the whole community for our annual Christmas Fayre taking place between 5pm and 8pm. There will festive crafts to inspire and purchase, lots of stall holders, festive refreshments and Santa is making a very special early visit.

Attendance

Success starts with good habits, and attending school regularly is one of the most important habits you can develop. Getting up on time, preparing your school bag the night before and having a good morning routine can all help you arrive at school ready for the day. The habits you build now will support you not just in school, but throughout your future.

Enrichment Day 1 2026

We are delighted to be offering a range of exciting range of activities and experiences on our first of three enrichment days on 1st December 2026 as part of our ODA Enrichment Charter. These are designed to broaden students' horizons and develop key skills in teamwork, STEM and employability. These are normal school days, and all students are expected to attend and meet our usual expectations for behaviour and uniform. Students will be supported throughout the day within their form groups by familiar staff, and will receive clear guidance in advance through assemblies, form tutors and Year teams to help them feel confident with any changes to routine. A letter containing further details for each year group will be sent to parents at the end of next week.

Spoken Language Endorsement

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our Year 11 students on the outstanding way they have approached their GCSE English Language Spoken Language Endorsement presentations. The level of preparation, confidence and maturity shown has been exceptional, with students speaking passionately and knowledgeably about topics that matter to them. Presenting in front of others takes considerable courage, and many students have stepped well outside their comfort zones to share their ideas with clarity and conviction. They have demonstrated true resilience, supporting one another and embracing the challenge with a positive attitude. We are enormously proud of every student who has completed their presentation so far and would like to thank them for the effort, commitment and determination they have shown throughout this important part of their GCSE English qualification.

Attendance winners last week.

Form with the highest attendance - LAB - Year 11
Form with the most improved attendance - JSW - Year 9
Overall Highest attendance - Year 7

The **Form Time Focus** for next week is “Responsible”.

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 – What does the Government spend money on?

Year 10 – What is cancer?

Year 9 – How can we support our mental health?

Year 8 – What are hate crimes?

Year 7 – How might people with disabilities be treated?

Denes Discussion. Next week students will be discussing careers.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



Kate Williams. Principal