

Meridian Media

What's Happening at Ormiston!

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Senior Team Introduction

It has been a bustling and busy time at the Academy with a whole range of exciting and enjoyable events which have ensured lots of amazing opportunities for our students. We had the pleasure of three nights of outstanding entertainment from our fabulous students who performed in "Sister Act Junior". Their drive, their commitment and their sheer talent was wonderful to see and they truly brought the house down. The last night was a sell-out!!! The comments from the audience were so positive and everyone was left waiting in anticipation for the next big production. Miss James, Mr Jones and Miss Cooke worked tirelessly to create such a treat for the audiences which is a true reflection of their desire to enhance the profile of Performing Arts in our academy. They had the support of other colleagues from the Art and Design Team, our Admin Team and many staff who gave up evenings to help out. Mrs Stanyer, Mr Darlington, Miss Pavitt and Mrs Green all put on their greasepaint and performed but it was the students who were stars in the making, actors, stage hands and behind the scenes who made this the stand out show it was and truly our best to date! A massive thanks to all!

We have had a real drive to raise awareness with regard to mental health and students and staff showed their support for this cause by wearing something green on Friday 19 May. You will see thoughts, inspirational comments and quotes from students created during form time attached to our gates which will hopefully provide positivity and mindfulness for anyone needing a boost. Thanks to parents and carers for their 50 pence donations to our fundraising for this issue which will go to the charity 'Mind'. There have been lots of opportunities for our Y10 students to work with colleagues from further and higher education thanks to Mrs Eldershaw. They took part in a mini study skills programme with Higher Horizons and Staffordshire University and the staff said they were the best school they have ever visited! Our students once again displayed fabulous attitudes to learning and cemented our reputation as having some of the most ambitious students imaginable. The email received about our students' conduct was glowing with praise and we could not be prouder! As if that were not enough, a team of Y10 students accompanied Mrs Eldershaw to an event at Staffordshire University where they had the task of creating and presenting to academics, a body of work called My Perfect Uni. It was a stellar performance and they won the whole competition. We are bursting with pride!

Mr Taylor has also just returned from a STEM event at Keele University where Y10 students have had the chance to participate in a university tour and talks by lecturers on renewable energy and maintaining biodiversity. They also visited the Horwood energy centre which the students talked to two experts who showed Keele's state-of-the-art £22 million programme called the 'Smart Energy Network Demonstrator'. Another fabulous opportunity that our scientists of the future enjoyed immensely. A final Year 10 mention to those students working hard on the Sports Journalism Course. Mr Watt continues to report back excellent comments from those with an interest in becoming the Sky Sports journalists of the future! Our Year 11 have our thoughts and best wishes as they have now begun their GCSE exam season. They have been committed and highly positive about attending, contributing to and engaging in extra sessions after school and even at the weekends. We would like to thank parents and carers for continued support and we know this is a stressful time for you too. We send all the luck in the world and we hope they achieve their potential and beyond so that they have the choice of colleges, apprenticeships, universities and careers. They deserve every success and we are rooting for them! Our Y9 students have been going through the Options Process and we hope they have now made decisions which allow them to follow their chosen pathways in the future.

This last week of term sees us reward students for displaying Magic Manners and there are praise postcards and prizes for those who we capture doing so and whose teachers nominate for consistent being kind and helpful to all. It is a pleasure to see students being so polite and embodying one of our most important Academy Values- Respect.

We have a jam packed half term coming up as we near the end of the 2022/23 academic year. This is just a taste of what is to come:

We look forward to saying "Bon Voyage" as our students in KS3 head off to Paris.

We have our spectacular Sports Day to look forward to and are hoping we have the weather on our side!

Our Y10 have their mocks- Good luck!

Our KS3 students have their AR3 assessments- get revising all and put your study skills to great use!

The Social Science and Humanities Faculties have the Mosque and Liverpool trips to look forward to.

We welcome our Y6 students and their parents and carers as part of our Transition Days and Transition Evening in July. We look forward to our Rewards Trips at the end of July when students can enjoy social time and relax. We hope you have a fabulous half term and come back refreshed and ready to finish off the academic year before a lovely Summer break.

Well Done!

House Points and Competitions



A. Boggild
H. Lupton
P. Onje

Poetry Competition

Miss Fenton's Year 8 'Jet Set' cohort have been hard at work studying 'War Prose and Fiction' in English. Their task was to re-write the famous poem, 'The Man I Killed' by Thomas Hardy from the opposing perspective - 'The Man Who Killed Me'. All poems were brilliant, but the English faculty selected these three winners who have all received a £10 Amazon voucher. Well done all!

*I look him in the eye
We could've been friends
But now the sky is high
And we're both coming to the end*

*I fiddle with the trigger
I'm ready to take the shot
I am with such vigour
He wants to kill me first; I think not*

*If I knew this would happen,
I would've never done it in the first place
They told us we'd bring honour to the one who reigns
But now I'm staring my killer in the face*

*The bullet hits me like a blindside
Right through my chest
We did this all for pride
I hope I did my best*

*I look him in the eye
We could've been friends
But now the sky is high
And I'm coming to the end*

P. Onje

*Two strangers; enemies eye to eye,
Yet like old friends on bloody ground.
His face as grey as the sky above,
His soul empty, the loss of love.*

H. Lupton

*Our attention diverted for a second,
By the roar of jet planes and banging bombs,
Then screams and gun shots follow quick,
Our eyes meet again and there they stick!*

*Fear, panic, then as quick as the wind,
He raised his gun and shot.
The blanket of death began to cover me;
Darkness spread and less light I could see.*

*Squelch went his footsteps as he went,
Into the distance, then glancing back.
Two strangers? Enemies? Again eye to eye,
Enlisted, for our countries – one 'friend' must die*

*Piercing eyes full of hate,
Burning flesh while I wait,
I feel the metal cut my skin,
The shooter commits another sin*

A. Boggild

*I felt his anger, I saw his rage.
The horrors this man would do for this wage
He took my life without regret,
How I'd turn the tables if we ever met,*

*My last breath I did exhale,
My flesh it turned cold and pale,
I'm sure the last sound I heard was cheer,
One day soon my foe will feel my fear.*

Extra Curricular Highlights

Book Club



If you love reading and you also love to talk to fellow readers, then come along to the book club every Monday after school from 3.30pm to 4.00pm. There are only 6 slots available to Key Stage 3 students to come and chat about what they have been reading and why they have enjoyed it. Swap book reviews, and try an author you might not have heard of before.

Sports Clubs

Multi-Sports Club every Monday with Stoke City Football

Netball every Tuesday with Miss James

Cricket practice on Wednesday - Invite only, register interest with Mr Goodwin

Badminton every Wednesday with Miss James and Mrs Sutton

Girls' Football every Thursday with Mrs Sutton



Swimming Club

Swimming club runs every Tuesday from 3pm to 5pm at Fenton Manor Sports Centre for KS3 students. The sessions are £5 available on ParentPay. Come and join us for a fun swim session. Limited spaces are available, speak to Mrs Kirkham in the school office to register interest.



Polyglot Players

Join us to try out a different language every week. Play games, win competitions and become a polyglot! Tuesday Week A Annex 1.

Craft Club

Craft club runs at lunchtime every Thursday for years 8 and 9 run by Miss Gibson and Miss Bailey. There are only 10 slots available so register interest quickly!



Singing Club

Mr Jones runs the singing club every Monday after school.

Please speak to Mr Jones to register interest.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

We are very pleased to have our new cohort undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is one of the world's leading awards for young people, and is highly regarded by universities, colleges and employers both nationally and internationally. It encourages young people to develop independence, commitment, leadership and teamwork through being involved in a personalised programme of activities.



Subject Spotlight

Mathematics

Year 11 students enjoyed a fantastic day at Keele University receiving tuition from some of the best teachers across the city in higher tier GCSE mathematics skills. Even our own Mrs Pavitt taught a session! Another trip for grade 4 on foundation tier GCSE is going to Keele again this week, we're looking forward to another fabulous day!

Ben Sparks, noted mathematician and musician, joined us for two talks with year 7, 8, 9 and 10 on Tuesday 28th March. For year 9 and 10, they explored the creation of number and how mathematics has many facets that aren't always explored in classrooms. Year 7 and 8 learned mathematical magic, and have been wowing the academy with their clever numerical and psychological tricks. It was a pleasure hosting Ben, and all of our students were amazing throughout the talks. - Mrs A Pavitt

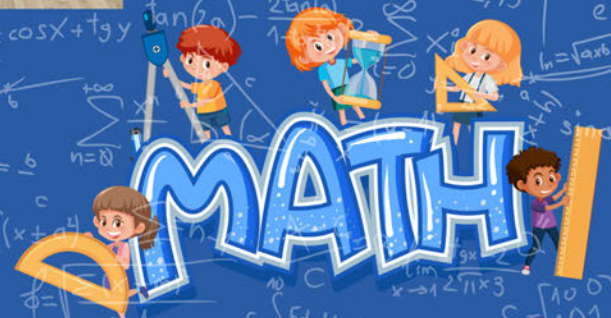


Maths Feast

The Maths Feast has been rearranged for the final half term, those involved will be notified of dates and practice sessions. We are looking forward to showing off what team OMERA can do!

Maths Faculty Challenge

The Maths Faculty challenge is coming soon, keep an eye on Google Classroom and your maths lessons for details soon.



Universities in Focus



The University of Oxford is considered not only one of the best in the UK, but also in the world. The University of Oxford is divided into 36 colleges and three societies. Each college is independent and self-governing, and the three societies – Kellogg College, Reuben College and St Cross College – operate very much like the other colleges, but are considered departments of the University rather than independent colleges.

Undergraduate students (those studying for a degree) are admitted to one of the 32 of the colleges and permanent private halls. All colleges accept applications from mature students, while Harris Manchester College is solely for mature (older) students. University, Balliol, and Merton Colleges are the oldest and were established in the 13th century. Green Templeton, which came into existence in 2008 following the merger of Green and Templeton Colleges, is the University's newest college, and Reuben College, which was founded by the University in 2019, is the newest society.

Colleges, societies and halls select and admit undergraduate students, and select postgraduate students after they are admitted by the University. They also provide accommodation, meals, common rooms, libraries, sports and social facilities, and pastoral care for their students as well as being responsible for students' undergraduate tutorial teaching and welfare.

The University of Oxford itself determines the content of the courses within which college teaching takes place, organises lectures and seminars, provides a wide range of resources for teaching and learning in the form of libraries, laboratories, museums, computing facilities, examines students and award degrees.

Oxford University is divided into four academic divisions. Within these divisions are numerous departments, faculties and schools. Oxford's museums, libraries and collections provide an outstanding resource for the University and work closely with divisions to deliver their courses. The Humanities Division brings together nine faculties and the Ruskin School of Art. The faculties are among the largest in the world, enabling Oxford to offer an education in arts and humanities from music and fine art to ancient and modern languages. Oxford was named as the best university in the world for arts and humanities in the 2022 QS World University Rankings by Subject.

The Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division is home to the nonmedical sciences at Oxford. The nine academic departments in the division span the full spectrum of mathematical, computational, physical, engineering and life sciences, and undertake both research and cutting-edge applied work. In the Times Higher Education subject rankings for 2022, Oxford was ranked first in the world for Computer Science.

The Medical Sciences Division is the largest of the four academic divisions within the University and is internationally recognised as a centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching. In the Times Higher Education subject rankings for 2022, Oxford was, for the 11th year running, ranked first in the world for Clinical, Pre-Clinical and Health subjects.

The Social Sciences Division brings together departments, faculties and schools committed to tackling some of the major challenges facing humanity, such as sustainable resource management, migration, global governance, justice, poverty and development. The Times Higher Education subject rankings placed the University of Oxford as number one in the world for Social Sciences in 2018, 2019 and 2022, and number one in the UK and Europe in 2020 and 2021.

Did you know the three most popular subjects studied at The University of Oxford are: History (3rd), Law (2nd) and in 2022 Medicine was the most popular with over 1000 students enrolled!

Famous

Alumni (people who attended the University of Oxford) include Stephen Hawking (Physicist), Nigella Lawson (Chef and Broadcaster) and Malala Yousafzai (education campaigner).



Sister Act Jr - The Review



Miss James and the fantastic cast and crew of 'Sister Act Jr' made the academy proud on 26th, 27th and 28th April when they packed out the main hall and wowed us with their breathtaking performances. From the backstage help to sound and lighting, to front of house and the understudies, the academy has pulled together to support Miss James and the cast to put on some of the best performances we have seen since last year's 'Matilda the Musical'. The singing was sensational, the dancing was on point and the sets were spectacular. We were also joined by Crescent Academy Primary School to watch the matinee performance and everyone had a truly fabulous time. All the students' and staff's hard work was worth it; we are all incredibly proud of the show you put on. Mrs Stanyer played a hilarious role as a hard of hearing old sister; Mr Darlington gave an 'arresting' performance as a police officer and Mrs Pavitt and Mrs Green were also heavenly sisters. E. Infantino gave a remarkable performance as 'Deloris' supported by S. Bond as 'Mother Superior' and M. Greatrex as 'Sister Mary Roberts' who were both absolutely stunning in their roles. Time for a well earned rest... until the next one.



SHOWTIME





Library and Reading



Easter Raffle!!!

Our Easter raffle was drawn on 30th March just in time for the Easter holidays and the lucky winners are named below. Well Done everyone!

- C-J Burton-Baskeyfield - Roses
- Mrs W Locker - Quality Street
- L.Goodman - Lindt Easter Egg
- O.Leach - Thorntons Easter Egg
- H.Boulton - Sweet Hamper
- E-R.Tams - Chocolate Hamper

Book Club

Our Book Club was organised by one of our year 7 library leadership team, L.M. Cashmore and our first meeting included talking about the books the students were currently reading. Students were happy to share information on their books and why they liked them. This is something we hope will continue in the future.



Year 5 student visit

The library hosted a very special event for some year 5 pupils from Sandon Primary Academy on 27th March. The pupils were entertained and inspired by children's author and poet, Matt Abbott to think about poetry and how they could create their own poems and pieces of creative writing. The pupils were engaged and came up with some fantastic similes and metaphors about a library, a place they like to visit and our very own Stoke-on-Trent. A few were even brave enough to read their ideas to Matt aloud. It was lovely to see some of our future students enjoying our library facility and exploring the types of books we have available. Some of our library leadership team came along to assist and got to catch up with former teachers and the afternoon was a great success. We finished off with a scavenger hunt in the library and it was safe to say we all had a fantastic time. Thank you Sandon Primary Academy for attending and making it a memorable afternoon for all.



Poet - Matt Abbott



LET'S CELEBRATE

Top Readers



To celebrate the end of term, the library also celebrates who are the 'Top Readers' in the academy. To qualify, students must have checked out 5 books or more in a term and this term, Mrs Mellor handed out 10 certificates to these students. The top readers in each year group also receive a National Book Token. Well done to these well read students.

- L. Goodman Yr9, O. Jones Yr7, H. Chilton Yr9 E. Rowley Yr7, E. Demucay Yr 7, S. Sheldon Yr7, M. Steprans Yr7, A. Waqar Yr7, I. Amjad Yr7.



Academy Good News



Indoor Cricket Under 15s Team Success

Mr Goodwin took our boys under 15 indoor cricket team to a local tournament held at Fenton Manor Sports Complex on 30th March. The boys played incredibly well against Trentham High School and Blythe Bridge High School and came away with a massive win for Ormiston Meridian Academy. We are so proud of you for securing a place at the County Cup Final for indoor cricket. Well done boys!

- T. Rana
- R. Khan
- U. Farooq
- T. Beswick
- A. Nawzz Khan
- I. Ahmed
- Afnan Year 8
- A. Satar



Year 7 Football Team Victory

Mr Maxwell accompanied our year 7 football team to The Discovery Academy on 18th April where our fantastic players were victorious over a strong opposing team.

We are so proud of our very talented boys and girls who played a tremendous game and came away with a 2-1 win. Well done to all who took part!

- T. Roberts
- R. Parker
- L. Brookes
- M. Hanif
- G. M. Parkes
- R. Croydon
- E. Banson
- C. Jackson
- C. Wibberly
- L. Key
- G. Baskerville



Engineering Motorsports Visit

Ten year 10 students attended Staffordshire University with other schools to experience a day of Engineering hosted by Higher Horizons. The most engaging part of the day came when the students went to the University's Motorsports Garage. Within the garage were a selection of vehicles including an F1 car that they were building to enter the 'Formula Student' competition held annually with up to 125 universities competing. Impressively Staffordshire University came 1st place in 2021 so there was much pride in showing of the winning car to the students. The whole day was a success and our students had an incredible and engaging time, furthermore we beat the other schools in the quiz. - Mr A. Martin

OMERA SPORTING HEROES

Age: 12
Amateur
Boxer

Sophie Deaville



I started boxing when I was 9 because I used to take my brother and it looked fun and I have been boxing for 4 years. My most memorable moment in boxing is when I met Sam Eggington, who was the IBO Light Middleweight Champion in 2022. My proudest achievement is when I fought and won on the Hulton Abbey Amateur Boxing Club home show in February this year. My boxing role model is Scott Lawton who was the two-time English lightweight champion and is now my head coach.

Training is hard work as I have to do it 4 or 5 times a week, during my sessions I usually do fitness work to build strength, speed and power, I will also use pads and do some sparring work. Sparring involves practicing my skills against another boxer in the ring. I will practice by making the motions of boxing without landing heavy blows, this is good for training as my skills need to be tested under competitive conditions so I get used to being in the ring and under pressure. My favourite punch is left hook because it's quick and I usually catch people unexpectedly.

I am proud to be a member of Impact Boxing Academy Amateur Boxing Club.

Also likes:
Football

Role Model:
Scott Lawson

Boxing Club:



Most memorable moment was meeting Sam Eggington!



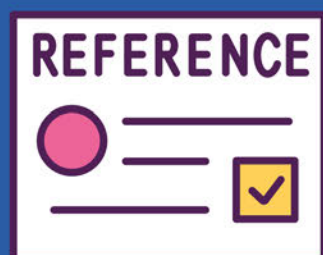
Careers and Work Experience



At Ormiston Meridian Academy, students have access to a wide range of careers activities. We actively work with a number of local further education providers and employers. Every year group is taught about potential career pathways through our in-depth PSHE programme. Topics covered include: potential career choices; alternatives to college and sixth form; post 16 options; interview skills; CVs and personal statements; personal finance and option choices. Careers education is delivered during dedicated PSHE sessions (Living in the Wider World). Our excellent careers provision has been recognised with the prestigious awarding of "The Quality in Careers Standard". The following are just some of the positive areas identified in the report:

"Careers embedded across the Curriculum with a Careers Entitlement published on the Academy Website. Good across Curriculum Plan in place "

"Ormiston Meridian Academy has excellent plans in place to ensure several meaningful encounters take place for post 16 opportunities "



As your child begins to look at work experience and further careers options, this can prove daunting for parents and students alike. While your child will have been supported by our careers advisor, Mrs Chambers, we are also here to support you as a parent. If you or your child has any questions or needs any support with college applications, work experience applications or anything regarding careers, please do not hesitate to contact our careers department on careers@omera.co.uk and we will be happy to help you.

A word from Mrs Chambers, our Careers Advisor:

"I'd like to introduce myself as Careers Adviser working for Ormiston Meridian Academy. I have worked as a Careers Adviser in the City for many years and will be working in school on Mondays and Tuesdays. My work focuses on year 10 and 11 as they approach the end of school, but I welcome enquiries from any students and parents. So please get in touch. My email address is gchambers@omera.co.uk or students can drop in at lunch and break time to see me."



Sports Journalism Course



The Sports Journalism students in Year 10 spent a day at Stoke City Football stadium on Tuesday 25th April as part of the course they are undertaking. The students had sessions with Angela Smith, BBC Radio Stoke, and Niall Cope, Media Assistant at Stoke City. They spoke about their varying roles and the work that they do on a regular basis. The students then worked in pairs on a commentary that would be given if they were commentating on a match on the radio. In the afternoon we had a tour of the stadium including the media area for post-match interviews take place and went to the changing rooms and surrounding area where players are interviewed after a match that is shown on tv. Pictures of the students are below. In follow up tutorials the students have been completing a 'podcast' in small groups. Congratulations to all the students taking part for their commitment and high standard of work completed.



Brilliant Club

Birmingham University was the destination for the Year 9 Brilliant Club students who graduated from their course led by Phillipa Peart. All the students have received a pass on their final essay of 2 000 word completed to university standard. The students have received a Third Class award(40-49%), a 2:2 award (50-59%) or a 2:1 award(60-69%). We arrived at the university at 2pm after a McDonald's lunch and the students met staff and students from the university who congratulated them on their successful completion of the course. We were given a tour of the campus looking at the academic and recreational aspects that are on this particular campus. The final part of the afternoon was the collection of their certificate for successfully completing their programme of study. Well done to the 12 students who completed the course.



What's next at OMERA?

Summer Reading Challenge

We are excited to announce our very own Summer Reading Challenge using myON which is an online library containing thousands of books of all genres and catering for all reading abilities and age groups. All our students have access to myON using their usual school login and password details. Our librarian, Mrs Mellor, has created a project entitled 'Summer Reading Challenge 2023' which showcases some of the best titles on myON. Students are able to access this at home - or anywhere else with internet connection - to earn house points during the summer holiday.



The Great Ormiston Hike

To raise funds for our popular school library, Mrs Mellor, our librarian, has challenged herself to walk 263 miles throughout the summer holiday. This is to represent the distance between Ormiston Meridian Academy and the village of Ormiston in Scotland. Mrs Mellor will track her steps each day - a whopping 13,150 - to total 263 miles by the end of the holidays. You can sponsor her on ParentPay and help maintain our library with fantastic titles and ensure we can keep the wonderful surroundings in our library going for another year. Thank you for your support.



Summer Student Fitness Challenge

We are inviting students to challenge themselves during the summer holidays and raise funds for the Alice Charity. This is a local charity which supports vulnerable families in the Stoke-on-Trent area and we would very much like to present them with an amount of money raised by the students walking during the summer. Get fit and support a wonderful local charity. Get involved!!! Information to follow.....



French Trip

KS3 students will be heading off to Paris on 28th June. Bon voyage!



Sports Day

The academy will hold our sports day on 14th July. Fingers crossed the weather is kind and the students can enjoy a fantastic fun filled day!

Year 6 Transition

We look forward to welcoming year 6 students from local primary schools to the academy on 5th & 6th July. We can't wait to meet you!

