



# Meridian Media

## What's Happening at Ormiston!

5

### Senior Team Introduction

Dear all parents, carers and students,

As we approach the end of the first half term, I firstly wanted to wish you all a very relaxing and enjoyable October half-term holiday. If you are enjoying Bonfire Night, please stay safe!

What a great start to the academic year we have had! Here are just a few of my favourite moments...

We are the first school in Staffordshire to sign every student up to every library in Stoke-on-Trent and our work has been commended by the Local Government. You can read more about this within the newsletter. I would like to thank Miss Brammer and Mrs Hope for all their hard work in making this vision a reality. We are encouraging all students to go and visit a library within the half-term and think about a trip to the brand-new library in the Smithfield building in Hanley for everything you need to study and research: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-stoke-staffordshire-67171688>

Students' personal and character development is always a focus at OMERA and this year we have turned our attention to ensuring students are physically active as much as possible. We now have our 'Active Lunchtimes' and the launch of our sporting interhouse competitions, the first of which was Interhouse Dodgeball with Simmonds clinching the top spot for Year 7! Come on Bridgewater, Yousafsi and Turing Houses; you need a win!

As part of our Year 7 'Step into Student Leadership' programme, Year 7 participated in their first leadership programme at Standon Bowers, with some enjoying the full residential experience. Whilst it was very cold and wet, the staff and students had a fantastic time! Our 'Step into Student Leadership' programme is designed to develop students' teamwork, communication, decision-making and problem-solving skills as we aim to ignite our students' futures and create the leaders of tomorrow!

We are all very proud of our year 11 students and the way they have started the academic year. P6 has started and the participation from Year 11 has been simply incredible. I am so proud of the staff who give up their time and the students who have been simply awesome! As a Year 11 maths teacher myself, it is an absolute privilege to spend extra time with students who are so committed to their studies. As many of you will know, the Saturday sessions have started and your child may have been targeted for one already. Whilst we are encouraging as many students to come as possible, we also understand that our Year 11 students need time to relax with their family and friends at weekend, therefore, Mr Goodwin and Miss Peacock are there for you if you wish to discuss this further. We want to work with you throughout your child's final year at school to ensure your child has the best possible support and provision available.

Some of our Year 11 students attended Staffordshire University to participate in a competition organised by Higher Horizons. Our students have been working on their renewable energy project since April, researching new and innovative ideas on renewable energy, specifically wind turbines. They were up against stiff competition but won by some way! Staffordshire University lecturers who judged the competition thought our students were simply exceptional.

A large number of our students took part in the Guinness World Record attempt for 'The Largest Baking Lesson'. The record stood at 497, and, together with other Ormiston Academies, we smashed the record! It's quite incredible to think our students' efforts will be recognised in the Guinness Book of Records! Massive well done to Mrs Brereton and all the students involved.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read our newsletter and getting a flavour of the great things that are happening within our academy.

As always, if you ever need me or wish to speak to me, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Lovell on [dlovell@omera.co.uk](mailto:dlovell@omera.co.uk).

Kindest regards,  
Mrs C Stanyer  
Principal

# Attendance House Points and Competitions

100%

Ormiston Meridian Academy wants parents and students to value school attendance by recognising the link between students coming to school and getting good qualifications when they leave.

Please help us and your child by ensuring they have excellent attendance to school striving to achieve 100%. Full school attendance is the key enabling students to achieve their full academic potential.

Government data shows clearly that there is a strong correlation between excellent attendance and high academic performance and the impact that poor attendance will have on your child's achievement.

Recognising this link has led to the Government making positive school attendance a priority.

Like the Government, Ormiston Meridian Academy is committed to tackling the underlying causes of absenteeism.

"Missing School can have a lasting effect on a pupils life chances, this is why we are doing all we can to encourage more pupils back into class by toughening up on term time holidays and attendance".

Government Minister.

This half term's attendance incentives:



## ATTENDANCE AWARDS

### HALF TERM 1

- 8 Weeks
- 39 School days
- 39 Form sessions
- 195 lessons

50 house points for each full week!

Additional 500 house points for a full half term!

900 house points in total!

Excellent Attender Award for a full half term!



Even more rewards

Treats in form every Monday week A



100% weekly Praise Postcards! Sent via Synergy every week



## AWESOME FOR AUTUMN!

PRIZE DRAW FOR ALL STUDENTS MEETING THEIR 90% ATTENDANCE TARGET

# House Points and Competitions



**INTER-HOUSE  
COMPETITION**

**DODGEBALL**

**WHO WILL WIN?**

**W/C 23/10/2023**

# Extra Curricular Highlights

## Brilliant Book Club



Miss Brammer runs a book club after school on Monday and Thursday 3.20-4.15pm. If you love reading or just want to improve, this is the club for you. We will be reading, sharing and reviewing books together. But most of all having fun reading!



## Love Your Library

Do you know we have thousands of books in the school library, that you can borrow and take home, to read and share with your family? Miss Brammer and the library team will be on hand to help you select from our wide range. The library is open to every students at lunch time. If you are interested, please get a pass at break time form the library.

## Sports Clubs

There are a large number of sports clubs in school including: swimming, dance, basketball, football, cheerleading and multi-sports . If you are interested in any of the above please speak to the PE Department or consult your clubs timetable.



## Mindful Colouring

Join Miss Cooper and Mr Cotterill for a fun and peaceful colouring session in F64 every lunchtime. Calm your mind and relax with some artwork.

BE KIND  
TO YOUR  
MIND

## ECO Club

ECO Club runs every Monday lunchtime in S04. This club is open to all year groups. Want to save the planet? Have a passion for recycling? Contact Miss Hodgettes for details.



## STEM Club

Mr Taylor runs STEM club every Tuesday lunchtime in F72. Fancy being the next famous scientist? Or do you just love experiments? This is the club for you.



# Extra Curricular Highlights



Do you enjoy being creative, playing games and having fun? If your answer is yes...come to Drama Club!

Every Thursday week A:  
Lunchtime 1.30-2.10  
Every Tuesday week B:  
Lunchtime 1.30-2.10

Drama  
studio

Starting with 'Reality  
T.V...let us be  
creative and act our  
hearts out!

Drama

(n.) We don't want it in our own lives but it's fun to watch it unfold elsewhere.

## Latest News.....

COMING SOON



COMING SOON

We are delighted to announce that the cast of this year's OMER Musical production - Legally Blonde Junior have been selected. It was not an easy process to cast this, but it was an absolute pleasure to have watched their auditions, as we have had witnessed first-hand just how talented our students are at OMER.

Congratulations to them all for their courage and ambition, as well as a brilliant first week of rehearsals. We hope that you will come and support us in April.

Kind regards,

Miss James, Mrs Prendergast, Mr Jones, Miss Cooke

# Extra Curricular Highlights



## Sporting Success!!!! Team OMERA

Well done to our, Year 7 Football team. They managed to win the Premier League Kicks High School competition. The boys also took part in an anti-racism workshop where they learned the difference between non-racists and anti-racists. The experience then ended with a trip to the Bet356 stadium and free tickets to watch Stoke v Southampton. Well done boys!!!



# OMERA SPORTING HEROES

Gracie-Mae Parkes

Role Model:  
Chloe Kelly



Age: 12  
Footballer  
(Winger)



My Dad used to play football when he was younger and the way he talked about the memories and opportunities made me want to play too. I had never played football before and to be honest I had very little confidence too!

So, in 2020, at the age of 9, I started playing football for a local team, Butt Lane White Star. It was a rocky start, but I made lots of friends who taught me the value of teamwork and going from a 9 year old girl with very little confidence to becoming the Parents Player of the Year at the end of the season, it gave me the boost I needed.

In 2022, at the age of 11, I joined Leek Town FC under 13's. I was playing for the year above. Not only was this a challenge mentally, but physically and technically. We were Winners of the Staffordshire Shield, runners up in the League, and runners up in the league cup. These were fantastic achievements for the team and made me feel proud to be part of it all (Now I truly understood the emotion that my dad felt when he shares his stories with me).

In November 2022, at the age of 12, Mrs Sutton approached me about attending some extra training sessions with Stoke City Community Trust, I went along every Friday just with the ambition to meet new people and learn new skills. It was not long after I was asked to go and take part in a tournament, thinking nothing of this I went along and my team won the tournament! A few days later my Dad received an email from Stoke City, explaining that during this tournament, I had been scouted and was asked if I would like to go for trials.

In March I joined Stoke City football club and have been with them for 7 months and I am still a winger. My most favourite memory about football is seeing the Lionesses at the Stoke Stadium when they beat Luxembourg 10-0. I also met an England under 16's captain Phoebe Chadwick and have been a mascot for the Stoke City Women's First team and Leek Town Women's.

I train 3-4 times a week which is about 6 hours in total. During training we usually work on pace, strength, passing, pressing and have a mini game at the end. I also play a match on the weekend with either Stoke city, Leek town under 14's or Leek town under 13's depending on which team has a match. I love to score goals and help my team win. No matter what team I play for I always come up against a competitive team like mine but I just keep my head up and try my hardest!

I love to watch my favourite team Manchester City play on TV and my favourite footballer is Chloe Kelly who plays for England Women and one day I wish to be like her. I am so happy to be playing for Stoke City!



Also likes:  
Rounders & Badminton



Club:

Most memorable moment is watching the Lionesses beat Luxembourg 10-0 at Stoke Stadium!

NEW



# Personal Development

We are excited to kick off the launch of our dynamic Sports Lunchtime Activity Programme, specially crafted to ignite the competitive spirit and foster a love for physical activity during lunch breaks.

At OMERA, we believe in the power of sports to promote teamwork, discipline, and a healthy lifestyle. With our new Sports Lunchtime Activity Programme, we aim to provide students with an opportunity to engage in various sports, stay active, and have a blast, all while enhancing their well-being.

Here's what you can look forward to with our Sports Lunchtime Activity Programme:

**Diverse Sports Offerings:** including football, hand ball games as well as a range of other activities that are added regularly (Frisby coming soon).

**Expert Guidance:** We have dedicated coaches and knowledgeable staff who will provide guidance and ensure that everyone can participate and improve their skills.

**Friendly Competitions:** Expect fun and friendly games that are designed to stoke that competitive spirit.

**Physical Fitness and Fun:** These activities will keep our students fit, active, and stress-free, contributing to overall well-being.

**Team Building:** Team sports promote collaboration, friendship, and the development of social skills, creating a strong sense of unity.

We encourage all students to join us for some action-packed lunchtimes. Whether you're a seasoned athlete or just looking to try something new, there's a spot for you in our Active Lunchtime Programme.

We're thrilled to embrace the joy of sports during lunchtime and look forward to seeing you on the field.

Let's get active, get moving, and score big!



**Did you know?**  
The NHS recommend children and young people aged 5 to 18 should aim for an average of at least 60 minutes of moderate or vigorous intensity physical activity a day across the week.



# Universities in Focus

## Spotlight on 'The University of Manchester'

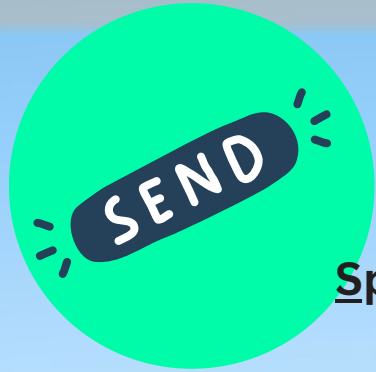
The University of Manchester's origins date back to in 1824. However, the University of Manchester, in its present form, was created in 2004 by the amalgamation of the Victoria University of Manchester and the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST). After over 100 hundred years of working closely together, both institutions agreed to form a single university, and on 22 October 2004, they officially combined to form the largest single-site university in the UK. The University of Manchester has an inspiring history which they continue to build on, through ground-breaking research and are recognised as a centre of educational excellence. As an institution they promote the idea that the best thinkers and most able minds come together to challenge assumptions, pose questions and create the exceptional with a view to changing the world!

The university of Manchester is number one in Europe, and second in the world for social and environmental impact (Times Higher Education, Impact Rankings 2023), and they encourage their student body to engage in programmes that help to solve the global challenges surrounding sustainability and building a better future. The University of Manchester is ranked as the 28th best university in the world (QS World University Rankings, 2022) and is the 'Most targeted university by top graduate employers' (High Fliers Research, 2023) meaning their students have access to some of the best, most attractive graduate schemes, leading on to well paid and satisfying careers! The University of Manchester has around 17,000 international students every year (figures sourced from HESA 2021/22) actively promoting diversity among its academic community and Manchester as a city, was voted the top UK city to live in for 2022 (The Economist Global Liveability Index) with its wide range of cultural experiences and opportunities as well as a bustling social scene!

## Did you know?

The Alumni of The University of Manchester are really quite prestigious! They boast an impressive 25 Nobel Prize winners as graduates, including: Ernest Ruthford, Niels Bohr and James Chadwick (very famous scientists!). Some other famous graduates include Professor Brian Cox, Actor Benedict Cumberbatch and Football Manager, Vincent Kompany. Situated approximately 45 miles away, Manchester is easily accessible by car and train, so students can easily commute from Stoke-on-Trent to the University!





# Subject Spotlight



## Special Educational Needs Department Social, Emotional, Mental Health

This year in the SEND Department we celebrated World Mental Health Day on Tuesday 10th October 2023. It's a global event that aims to raise more awareness about mental health conditions. This year's theme was set by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) and states: "Mental health is a universal human right".

World Mental Health Day aims to encourage governments around the world to do more to support mental health and wellbeing, and empower people to help make a lasting change.

At Ormiston Meridian Academy we marked the event by starting the day by talking in form time about the positive effects of reading on mental health. This was followed at lunchtime by welcoming Leigh Blunt from the NHS Mental Health Support Team (MHST) to the Academy to signpost help and support to young people who wanted to know more about mental health. In addition to this, we had a 'Mental Health Day Craft Club' run by Mrs Gibson and Ms Bailey where students could decorate 'Positive Pebbles' with messages of positivity and resilience to share in the community.

There are a number of other handy tips and tricks you can try out if there are times when you're not feeling too great, and you can suggest these to friends and family too:

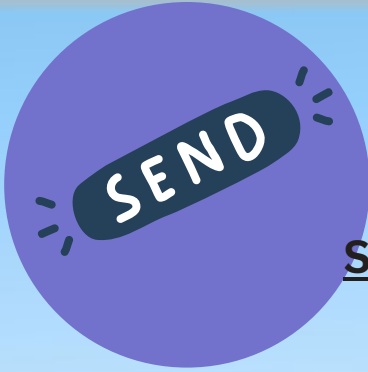
- Make sure you're getting enough sleep.
- Spend time outdoors.
- Plan something to look forward to like reading a new book, baking something tasty, or taking part in a sport you love.
- Make sure your diet is healthy and balanced, which includes having the odd treat here and there too.
- Help others as giving back can actually help make us feel good.
- Take part in a physical activity - this can include things like walking, dancing, cycling and even a game of hide and seek or tag!
- Spend time with supportive people - these could be friends, family members or people at school.

Considering this advice, we ran a competition for both staff and students in the Academy to get out into nature with family and friends and photograph something yellow. This is not only a fun activity to encourage awareness of this important day but to take positive steps for mental health by spending time outdoors, taking part in physical activity and spending time with supportive people.

The staff winner was Mr A Martin and the Student winner was Dan Tunstall 11APA both received Wellbeing Packages and House Points. Well Done



Should you or someone you know need support please see the useful local signposting below:



# Useful Contacts:



## Special Educational Needs Department Social, Emotional, Mental Health

National Suicide Prevention Helpline UK 0800 6895652 A confidential and supportive listening service for anyone 18 and over with thoughts of suicide. Available from 6 pm till midnight every day. Shout [www.giveusashout.org](http://www.giveusashout.org) Text 'Shout' to 85258 if you are in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you are struggling to cope and you need immediate help. It's available 24/7.

NHS 111 Telephone '111' – for a 24/7 helpline for all health enquiries. They also provide an online service at [111.nhs.uk](http://111.nhs.uk).

Samaritans FREE Tel: 116 123 [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org) For confidential emotional support for people in crisis, available 24/7.

Childline 0800 111 is a free, private and confidential service where you can talk about anything that you are worried about, at anytime.

Staffordshire Mental Health Helpline Call free on 0808 800 2234 For people 18+, 6 pm – 2 am weekdays, 2 pm – 2 am weekends, 365 days a year. Text FREE on 07860 022 821 Online webchat [www.brighter-futures.org.uk](http://www.brighter-futures.org.uk); email: [Staffordshire.helpline@brighter-futures.org.uk](mailto:Staffordshire.helpline@brighter-futures.org.uk)

CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) Central Referral Hub for up to aged 18, 0800 0328 728 (Option 1) 9 am – 5 pm, Monday to Friday. Multi-disciplinary teams of social workers, mental health nurses, therapists, clinical psychologists, mental health practitioners and child and adolescent psychiatrists.

Changes Health and Wellbeing 01782 411433 [www.changes.org.uk](http://www.changes.org.uk) You can self-refer online. Groups promoting wellbeing, personal recovery and peer support.

The Dove Service 01782 683155 [www.thedoveservice.org.uk](http://www.thedoveservice.org.uk) Counselling and support for adults, including bereavement and social groups, and children and young people affected by bereavement or life-changing illness. Self-referrals will incur a fee for counselling.

Savana 01782 433204/433205 [www.savana.org.uk](http://www.savana.org.uk) FREE one-to-one counselling service for anyone who has experienced sexual violence (male and female), Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service and Youth Support. Self-referrals can be made online.

Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Talking Therapies <https://staffsandstoketalkingtherapies.nhs.uk/> Can self-refer online or on Tel: 0300 303 0923. Multi-agency partnership (Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust, North Staffs Combined Healthcare Trust, Changes Health and Wellbeing, North Staffs Mind, Burton and District Mind and the Dove Service), offering free psychological treatments



# Duke of Edinburgh Award



## What is the DofE?

A life-changing experience. A fun time with friends. An opportunity to discover new interests and talents. A tool to develop essential skills for life and work. A recognised mark of achievement; respected by employers.

14-24 year-olds can do a DofE programme at one of three progressive levels which, when successfully completed, leads to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

They involve helping the community/environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition and, for Gold only, working with a team on a residential activity.

Any young person can do their DofE – regardless of ability, gender, background or location. Achieving an Award isn't a competition or about being first. It's all about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries.



## What our students say about DofE.....

Gabrielle Moores - "The DofE was very difficult but I'm proud I stuck at it".

Madison Young - "I really enjoyed being out with my friends and challenging myself. Even though it was wet and cold, I feel a great source of pride!"

Jessica Swannell - "I love being outside so the DofE was really fun for me. I thought the challenge of being out, navigating through out the countryside and getting lost was exciting and fun."

Max Thorley "Everyone should do it, it was good!"



## The Adventure Begins.....

27 Students took part in the Duke of Edinburgh training weekend at Standon Bowers. The students developed their skills, learning how to plan routes on maps, spot dangers on walks and to help injured people with their first aid knowledge. And most importantly, how to cook food in the wilderness! If you are interested in joining the Duke of Edinburgh Award team, please contact Mr Walker.

COMING SOON!  
THE COMMUNITY  
BOOK CASE.  
MORE  
INFORMATION  
NEXT ISSUE.....

# Library and Reading

THANK  
☺ YOU

## WELCOME

Welcome to our school Library page I hope you have had a wonderful start to the new term. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Miss Brammer and I am the Reading Co-ordinator at Ormiston Meridian Academy. I also create this newsletter and run the school library. I would like to invite you all to come and see what wonderful facilities we have on offer at the school. Computers, magazines, books, gaming guides and revision guides, to name but a few. Come along at lunch or after school and see what we have to offer. We have just launched a new library loyalty scheme, every time you take out a book receive a stamp, when your card is full trade it in to Miss Brammer for a prize!!!!

## Donations

Are you having a clear out ready for Christmas? Do you need to make space for more books at home? We welcome donations of any books which are in good condition. To donate, please leave them at reception or pass them directly to Miss Brammer in the Library.

Thank you to Mr Davies, Mrs Ward and Mr Watt for their donations this half term.

I would also like to thank the Science department and Mrs Thorley for their donations of plants.

## Books of the Month

OCTOBER

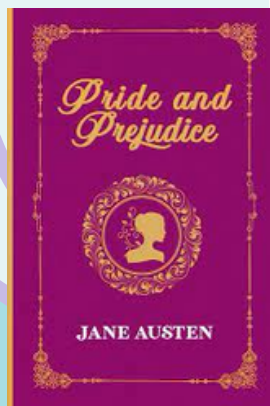
We are celebrating a number of important events in the library this month including, Black History Month, Libraries Week, National Poetry Day, and World Mental Health. You will find a selection of displays and books on these topics in the library. Please look out for more competitions to come as well!

## Wellbeing Books

We know that starting a new school or even a new year group can be daunting at times. The Library has a wide range of books that can help you cope with the transition to high school and life changes in general. For example, "Grange Enders into Year 7," by Maggie Walker is a story that talks all about the transition to high school in a funny and uplifting way. If you need any help or support choosing a book please ask Miss Brammer or one of the library staff.

## Book Corner

Miss Brammers favourite book is *Pride and Prejudice*. I love this book because I enjoy escaping into the world of Jane Austen. Elizabeth Bennett is my favourite character and the protagonist of the story. Like me Elizabeth is a headstrong woman who likes a good book! A great book suitable for all ages and a true classic!



WELL DONE

## Extreme Reading Competition

Well done to you all for your fantastic entries! They are proudly on display in the school Library. Come along and see if you can spot yourself. I am pleased to announce the winners are Leo Freeman Y9, Victor Dorobantu Y8 and Ellie Mai Stevenson Y8.

# Reading Benefits

take

10

minutes  
to read

every

day

**Read for 10 minutes a day to relax, be inspired and feel good.**

Research shows that reading helps you to:

- 📖 Unwind and boost your mood
- 📖 Improve your memory and concentration
- 📖 Escape from the pressures of everyday life
- 📖 Connect with your feelings
- 📖 Improve your self-confidence.

**So pick up a book today!**

DID YOU KNOW?  
THE WHOLE SCHOOL  
TOOK PART IN TAKE  
TEN TO READ, ON  
10TH OCTOBER 2024,  
AS PART OF WORLD  
MENTAL HEALTH DAY.

# Library In the Press!!!!!!



Published: Friday, 6th October 2023

Every pupil from Ormiston Meridian Academy has signed up to become members of Stoke-on-Trent libraries, to mark the culmination of Green Libraries Week 2023.

The academy has started a drive to encourage students to read whenever and wherever possible and show students that libraries are a place where students can broaden their imaginations, develop passions and interests and develop their cultural awareness.

Working in collaboration with Stoke-on-Trent Libraries, the academy will now have access to e-resources in their own library.

Literacy leaders at the school will continue to work with staff at the nearby Meir Library to ensure this becomes a yearly activity, as new pupils join the academy.

Cllr Jane Ashworth, Leader of Stoke-on-Trent City Council said:

“We want to improve literacy levels across Stoke-on-Trent, and drives such as the one by Ormiston Meridian Academy will only benefit children. Reading is necessary within a school setting, but getting students to read for pleasure will have knock-on effects, as this helps to relax them plus has numerous mental health benefits. Our libraries are not just about hard copies of books, we also have e-books and e-magazines available through the BorrowBox and Libby and Cloud Library apps that can be downloaded and enjoyed wherever you are. School can be a stressful time for young people, but taking some time out with a great book, is a great way to relax their minds and get lost in a great story.”

Claire Stanyer, Principal of Ormiston Meridian Academy stated:

“I’m thrilled with the collaboration between Stoke-on-Trent libraries and Ormiston Meridian Academy. We are passionate about reading and the academic and personal benefits it brings to young people. Whether it's fiction, non-fiction, 19th century literature or autobiographies, all forms of reading can capture a students' imagination and enrich their knowledge and cultural capital like nothing else! We want our students and parents/ carers to enjoy a trip to the library at the evening and weekends as part of their family time”.

The coordinators of the strategy are Nicola Brammer and Tracy Hope who lead on reading across the academy and they actively promote reading for pleasure. They said:

“At Ormiston Meridian Academy, we pride ourselves on developing a reading culture that promotes a love of reading and reading for pleasure in our library and across the academy. Our partnership with Stoke on Trent libraries will ensure all students have equal access to a wide range of reading materials both in the academy and at home. Building links with the wider community will not only enhance our current provision but will also cement reading as the heart of our academy.”

Find your local Stoke-on-Trent library and discover our digital services at <https://librariesonline.stoke.gov.uk/iguana/www.main.cls?surl=LibraryExtra>

# Academy Good News



On 15th September Mr Elliot took eleven of our year 11 students to Staffordshire University to participate in a competition for local OAT schools organized by Higher Horizons.

The students have been working on this project since April, to research new innovative ideas on renewable energy, specifically wind turbines.



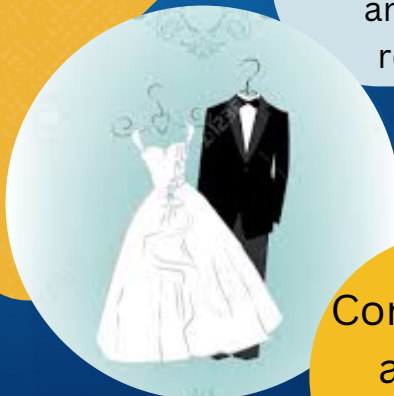
The students have been attending after-school sessions for weeks to prepare a presentation to a panel of judges, which included university lecturers from Staffs. We entered two teams, who did our Academy immensely proud and one of our groups (Flower Power) won the competition! Please congratulate the students if you see them around the Academy and ask them all about their renewable energy project.

Congratulations to Miss Vigus and Miss Walters who got married over the summer.

We welcomed back Mrs Dawson who has returned from maternity leave.



WELCOME BACK!





# Careers and Work Experience



## Work Experience Week

During the summer term we will be taking part in Work Experience. The date for work experience is the week commencing 8th July 2024.

A work experience placement aims to give young people a taste of 'The World of Work', so that they may begin to appreciate the demands which will be made upon them when they enter employment after they have completed their education. The placement your child arranges for themselves will need to be voluntary and unpaid.

Each student will be expected to arrange their own placement and work the normal working hours of the firm or organisation for the duration of the placement.

We will be loading students to a new system called Unifrog before Christmas.

We ask that students, parents and careers speak to businesses etc. More information regarding this will be shared over the next few weeks.

If you have any issues or concerns please call the academy and ask to speak to Mr G Davies (DT)



## Year 10 Careers Interviews

Mrs Chambers, our careers advisor, predominately sees year 10 students for careers interviews. During these appointments, Mrs Chambers will discuss what subjects the students enjoy and what careers path they would like to follow.

Mrs Chambers helps students to look at available courses for their chosen field and predicted grades based on their mock exam results. Students will be seen multiple times over year 10 and supported through applying for college courses.



NSCG



# Out and About...

## Year 7 Residential



On 18th-20th October, our Y7 students, battled the elements and Storm Babet to enjoy an action packed residential at Standon Bowers. They enjoyed three days of physical activity, team building and enjoyed making new friends . Most of all they had lots of fun!!!!



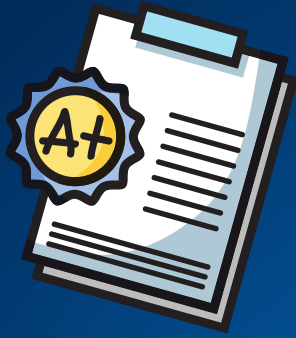
**STANDON BOWERS OUTDOOR CENTRE**  
DELIVERING OUTDOOR EDUCATION SINCE 1885



The Performing Arts department arranged for 50 Year 8 and 9 students to attend a trip to The Regent Theatre to watch a production of the 'heavenly hit show (Daily Mail) 'Sister Act' on Wednesday 27th September 2023. Starring TV and West End legend Lesley Joseph, this eagerly anticipated 2023 Olivier Award-nominated production of the Broadway and UK smash hit musical Sister Act really had the audience jumping to their feet!

Disco diva Deloris' life takes a surprising turn when she witnesses a murder. Placed under protective custody she is hidden in the one place she shouldn't be found – a convent! Encouraged to help the struggling choir, she helps her fellow sisters find their true voices as she unexpectedly rediscovers her own. Filled with powerful gospel music, outrageous dancing and a truly moving story, Sister Act left the students breathless. It was a sparkling tribute to the universal power of friendship, Sister Act was reason to REJOICE!





# What's Next at Ormiston...



## Autumn Achievement Update

I am sure you all have your own memories of exams – of silent exam halls, rows of desks and chairs, hours of revision, the smile on your face as you saw the question you prepared thoroughly for... Firstly, Mrs Hearson (Head of KS3 Achievement) and I would like to congratulate our Year 7 students on their impeccable behaviour during their baseline GL Assessments in English, Maths and Science. They upheld all of the exam protocols and were incredibly focused as the testing was underway. The GL assessments will provide us with a clear and precise baseline of your child's attainment levels and enable us to accurately monitor their progress in core subjects across KS3. The academy will be receiving the GL Reports in the coming weeks and will share the key findings and guidance with you. As we move into the first Assessment Round window of the academic year (AR1) for all year groups, I know that you will be wanting to support your child through their revision and assessment. Therefore,

I have summarised some key steps that you can take:

- First and foremost, research has shown that parental support is eight times more important in determining a child's academic success than social class. The fantastic news is that you don't need to be an expert in any of the subjects your child studies to make a real difference! Any encouragement and support you can offer at home will be hugely beneficial to your child's success in their GCSEs and this will also help combat any potential negative stress.
- Ensure your child attends school every day – 90% attendance means one in ten days is missed; over the course of a school year this is the equivalent of four weeks and can be worth more than a grade!
  - Agree the balance of work and social life and stick to the agreement – flexibility is key – i.e. if a special night arises, agree that they can make up the work another (specified) time.
- Help them plan their revision timetable around the revision lists that have been issued. There are lots of free revision timetable tools and templates available online.
- Provide your child with a quiet place to study where they will not be disturbed and there is a table to work at. Alternatively, direct your child to attend our daily HAIL club.
- Ensure that your child has a range of stationery available to them. This can range from highlighters and colour pens, smaller “flash card” style pieces of paper or card, A3 paper, etc. If you would like support from the academy in providing these, please let us know.
- Test your child on the work they have been revising; this will help them (and you) understand what they know and where they need to focus more attention.
- Encourage your child to have a clear goal by the end of their revision period - e.g. ‘At the end of this thirty minutes, I will be able to label a diagram of the heart and answer a question on how the heart works.’
- Most importantly, use Synergy to contact your child's form tutor or subject teacher should you have any questions or concerns about individual subjects.

I wish all OMERA students the very best for the AR1 window and thank you again for your continued support.

Miss Peacock

Assistant Principal for Achievement



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Ormiston  
**Meridian** Academy

## Academic Year 2023-24

### AUTUMN TERM 2023

<b>INSET Day</b>	<b>Monday 4th September (staff only)</b>
Y7 and Y11 (only)	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 8.40
All year groups	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 11.00
Half Term	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November (inclusive)
Students in	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November
<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November (Staff only)</b>
End of Term	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December

### SPRING TERM 2024

Open for Students	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January
Half Term	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February (inclusive)
<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February (Staff only)</b>
Open for Students	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
End of Term	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March

### SUMMER TERM 2024

Open for students	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
May Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May (academy closed)
Half Term	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May (inclusive)
<b>INSET Day</b>	<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June (Staff only)</b>
Open for Students	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>INSET Day</b>	<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July (Staff only)</b>