



Stoke High School Ormiston Academy



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THE STOKE HIGH SCHOOL ORMISTON ACADEMY NEWSLETTER - JULY 2017

Message from the Principal



As the academic year draws to a close it is my pleasure to showcase our achievements this year within our newsletter.

It would be almost impossible to cover all of the activities that our young people and the school as a whole have been involved in and that contribute to Stoke High School-Ormiston Academy being such a positive and vibrant environment.

As you are no doubt aware we had a monitoring visit from OFSTED on the 21st April, you can find the official feedback letter on our school website. I believe the inspection made a fair assessment of the school's progress since the last inspection and accurately describes our areas for improvement. The report concludes that the school is "... *taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection in order to become a good school.*" It goes on to state that our "*Classrooms are now overwhelmingly calm and orderly environments*" and that we have "*..... strengthened the school's policy towards rewarding positive behaviour in lessons and as a result pupils are keen to contribute constructively.*" The Inspector identified three areas for development; Strengthening provision for disadvantaged students, improving attendance levels and ensuring the school website is compliant with Department for Education guidelines. As you can imagine we are very happy with the progress we have made and are confident that the school is heading in the right direction.

The summer term is always preparation for the public examinations for Year 11 and 10. The preparation of our students this year has been strong and I would like to take this opportunity, not only to wish our outgoing Year 11's the very best for their future, but also to thank our dedicated staff team who have worked tirelessly to prepare our students for these, particularly during a time of real change in the examination system.

Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September when we will have a new college system for supporting our young people in realising their academic and personal potential. Kind regards,

Glenn Mellor, Principal

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD BRONZE PRACTICE EXPEDITION – SUNDAY 28th AND MONDAY 29th MAY 2017

After successfully completing training in school, 10 students took part in their two-day practice expedition in the Butley/Rendlesham Forest area.

Pupils practised putting up tents, cooking on camping stoves, emergency procedures and navigation. The pupils worked extremely hard and on the second day completed a six-hour trek independently, proving that they are ready to do their assessed qualifying expedition in June.



Mr A Park
Duke of Edinburgh Award
Co-Ordinator

YEAR 8 STEM IN INDUSTRY BT TRIP TUESDAY 14th MARCH 2017

As part of British Science Week, 12 Year 8 pupils attended an event about careers in Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths. Pupils took part in interactive displays about past and future BT technology and were allowed to visit the exhibits in the "*house of the future*" with various interactive displays & demonstrations on medicine, security, communications and commerce. A special mention to Alanna, Mia and Freya who won the Morse code decoding competition.

Mr A Park - 2nd in Art/Design/ICT Faculty





RED NOSE DAY FRIDAY 24th MARCH

The week began with the Charity Committee being out and about at break and lunch selling Red Noses – there was an overwhelming response and we sold out very quickly! Our minds then swiftly turned to the individual dress ‘themes’ for the day. There was a definite buzz surrounding the outfits for the day including the staff too! Year 7 donned their pj’s and onesies, Year 8 dressed as geeks and nerds, Year 9’s theme was ‘Coachella’ (festival wear!) and football kits, Year 10 went for a sophisticated ‘black and white’ look whilst Year 11 went all out and competed for the biggest and wildest full on fancy dress outfit!

The week before Red Nose Day, the Charity Committee led a whole Academy assembly informing the school of our plans and the themes for each Year Group. We also set the Academy a fundraising target of **£850** and we were determined to achieve it! Every student donated £1 the morning of Red Nose Day and along with the Red Nose sales, we were creeping closer to our target. We were also helped by the Interact Club led by Mrs D Sewell, who baked and sold cakes during break and lunch time and who then kindly donated their takings towards Red Nose Day.

The day culminated with a whole Academy extended assembly which saw a range of highly entertaining events and acts presented to the whole school in aid of Comic Relief! One section of the assembly was dedicated to world record breaking! Mr P Tankard challenged two Year 11’s to the number of push ups with claps that could be completed in one minute. Mrs W Huckfield attempted to break the record for the number of m&m’s that can be caught in her mouth in 30 seconds and Mr L Jordan and Mr R Moxon tried to beat the record for number of leap frog jumps in one minute! Needless to say, nobody broke any records that day!

The assembly also included our very own ‘Strictly Stoke’ dance off! Mr A Park, Mr L Jordan, Mr R Moxon, Mrs S Hutchison, Mrs C Welsby and Mrs D Le Marrec, along with their Year 11 partners, spent two weeks in training almost every lunch time leading up to the assembly! There certainly were lots of giggles (and hard work!) as they learnt the choreography to Little Mix’s “Shout out to my ex”. Stoke’s ‘cheer-o-meter’ was working in full force on the day, as we decided the winners. After a final dance off between Mrs C Welsby and Cody, Mr L Jordan and Molly it was Mr L Jordan and Molly who were crowned the ‘Strictly Stoke’ winners!

As the assembly came to a close, we reflected on why we raise money for Comic Relief and the help it provides. There was a real Stoke spirit on this day, not just in the assembly but throughout the whole day and every person did their bit. Special mention needs to go to leva who completed a sponsored silence and Josh who shaved all his hair off, both in year 11 who raised almost £100 between them.

Days following Red Nose Day we were still collecting money in and eagerly awaiting to see if we had hit our target. I am so pleased to announce that not only did we meet our target, we also beat it! Stoke managed to raise an impressive **£894.15**. A huge “Thank You” to everyone for your efforts and contributing to this amazing amount!

After such a successful two terms of charity events, the Charity Committee are turning their attention to a local charity for our last project of the year. Listen out for details – we plan on resurrecting the old Stoke High School – Ormiston Academy sponsored walk! Who will raise the most money? Who will complete it in the quickest time? Let’s aim high once again!

Mrs L Allard - Mathematics Faculty



Wow!! What an amazing day!!

Never have I been more proud of Stoke High School – Ormiston Academy and their efforts for this day. Not just on the Friday, but in the week leading up to it.

The Charity Committee spent weeks planning, organising and negotiating with students and staff around the Academy, in order for Red Nose Day to be the success it was. Once again, I need to thank them all for all their help and enthusiasm!





Fly... "MARNIE"

The school was delighted to welcome EasyJet pilot Marnie Munns who spent time with our Years 7, 8 and 9 girls to talk about life as a pilot.

Our students heard how Marnie would spend a typical working day and the skills she needed to use. Marnie is responsible for checking the aeroplane and working with the engineers to ensure it is ready to fly. Once in the air Marnie would be legally responsible for everyone on board - sometimes up to 200 people! All the students were impressed to hear how Marnie would get to fly all over Europe every working day.

Students were given lots of information about how to follow in Marnie's footsteps and the skills and personal attributes needed to be a pilot. The students were told that with hard-work and determination they too could work in the airline industry.

Marnie encouraged all our students to get the best grades they possibly could and recommended students get involved in as many extra-curricular clubs as possible. Marnie said she had developed her own leadership, listening and teamwork skills through activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award and said these skills were what employers were looking for.

We want all our students to have the highest aspirations for their future careers.

Mr W Barton - Head of Year 8



BBC VISIT to NORWICH

A group of Year 9 media students enjoyed a visit to BBC Norwich to give them an insight into working with this particular medium.

With the help of BBC staff, the students went out on location in Norwich City Centre to learn filming techniques and make their own individual films, followed by a session in the BBC editing suites to learn the basics of digital editing and turn their footage into films. They were also fortunate to have the opportunity to tour the Look East and Radio Norfolk Studios.

Year 9 student, Jack said *"It was a great experience. The BBC staff were so helpful and friendly and I learnt loads about making films"*.

Mrs W Toogood - Careers and Work Experience Co-ordinator





OAT Showcase Performance Ormiston Victory Academy

On Friday 30th June we are taking part in a showcase performance hosted by Ormiston Victory; the showcase brings together all OAT Academies in the local area giving students the opportunity to be part of a bigger performance project outside their own school.

This year, BTEC Drama students from Year 9 will be representing Stoke High School performing extracts of plays they have rehearsed and performed as part of the unit on Acting Skills. Group 1 are performing *'Let Him Have It'* based on the true story of Derek Bentley who was found guilty and hanged after shouting the statement *"let him have it"* to his friend Chris Craig during a police shoot out. Group 2 are performing a piece called *'Mobile Phones'*; a play about a disastrous train crash and the noises of mobile phones heard amongst the wreckage.

Drama Club students – Year 9

GROUP 1 Shannon • Annie • Libby
Roseanne • Iara

GROUP 2 Layni • Lauren • Grace • Nicola • Levi

As a finale, all the student performers will come together on stage to sing the song *'Wonder'*, an Emile Sande song.

Mrs T Beacham - Drama



DRAMA – PERFORMING ARTS 'Who Invented The Sausage?'

Drama Club are busy preparing a piece of drama for the New Wolsey Theatre Festival *'Who Invented The Sausage?'*.

Inspiration on the theme is based on explorers and inventors; after discussion and improvisation, the group have decided to create a piece based on the exploration of dreams versus reality, naming the performance *'Where Do Our Dreams Come From?'*. The piece explores a mad inventor who wants to collide two worlds together.

The Festival takes place at the New Wolsey Theatre on Wednesday 28th June at 7.30pm – tickets are £5 and can be purchased directly from the theatre on **01473 295900** or www.wolseytheatre.co.uk/shows/who-invented-the-sausage/

Drama Club students:

YEAR 7 Shohan • Sophie • Ruby • Libby-Rose
Josephine • Ugne • Ali • Isiah • Kelsey

YEAR 8 Stefan • C-Jay • Keylie • Freya

YEAR 9 Grace



'Who to Follow?'

'Who to Follow?' is a New Wolsey Theatre play currently in the research and development stages. The project is funded by the County Council as well as the Grant Recovery Scheme and is in connection to The Morpheus Project – a wider project tackling drug misuse amongst young people in Ipswich. The show will present different narratives, each showing different perspectives on drug taking - students will choose their own journey through these and the show will culminate in the opportunity to discuss their own beliefs and decisions in a safe and open way.

A selection of students from Year 8, 10 and 11 took part in a research discussion session where the director of the show, Rob and some actors involved, spoke to students about issues and opinions and their own experiences surrounding drugs. The information and topics of discussion will help to inform the script and characters that are presented as the final performance.

We look forward to hosting the NWT in September when the performance will be touring schools in Ipswich and coming back to Stoke High School – Ormiston Academy as part of the tour.

Mrs T Beacham - Drama



Year 7

Another busy term for Year 7!

Year 7 have really settled in now and 7CW are still at the top of the Stokies League in the Year Group, with two students from this form also the first Year 7s to gain their Gold badges – well done Fabio and Catalin-Florin! We are also waiting to find out who will win the first Platinum badges as well, so Year 7 need to keep collecting those Stokies. Year 7 also had the best attendance of the whole school and were treated to a lunchtime full of sport, including Trampolining and Badminton to celebrate their success. As attendance is so important, in order for students to do well it is great to see so many striving for 100% attendance every week - keep up the good work and we hope to win the next attendance competition.

Curriculum day with the Humanities Faculty after the Easter holidays was a success, with Year 7 enjoying a coach trip to Orford looking at the church, castle and the coastline. The students have since been working hard together in their teams to complete posters on their experiences. These will be displayed for staff to vote on soon and prizes will be awarded for the best, so good luck all!

On 21 April, nine Year 7 students went to the “Futures 4 Us” SWISS conference at Ipswich Football Club. All the students were very excited and Owen even wore his Ipswich Town socks for the occasion! Owen, Tyler, Dylan, Lauren, Matthew, Ellen, Ugne, Gabriel and Leah saw future technology including 3D printing, completed an engineering challenge and given an insight into the work of Suffolk Constabulary and all students will receive certificates for their achievements. “Well done” to our Award winners last term - Owen, Arina, Gabriel and Libby-Rose won our Achievement Awards and to those who were recognised by their Form Tutors included Ugne, Ella, Lara, Roman, Luana with Gabrielle winning the Head of Year prize. I look forward to giving these awards out again in the Summer Term and look forward to meeting many of you at Year 7 Parents Evening on Thursday 15th June.

Ms J Isles - Head of Year 7

Year 8

Our Year 8 students have enjoyed another fantastic term.

They continue to work very hard in lessons and are fast growing into conscientious and responsible young people.

An important milestone for our students is the opportunity for them to decide which GCSEs to study at the start of Year 9. I have been really impressed with the maturity our students have shown in making these decisions. Students have held lots of sensible discussions with each other and their teachers to help them make informed decisions. We will be able to confirm to students their GCSE Options in the next couple of weeks. To help with this process, we held a careers day for our students. Activities included a “speed dating” event where students were able to meet a range of different employers and find out more about a huge range of different careers. Again, I was impressed with the maturity shown by our students as they asked lots of interesting and challenging questions.

I am always delighted to see our students volunteer their time for others and I was particularly impressed when some of our students took part in a sponsored car wash for charity. My car has never looked so clean!!

I continue to encourage all of our students to look for opportunities to build new relationships and develop new skills. An excellent way to do this is through the many extra-curricular activities on offer at Stoke. Please encourage your child to get involved. I recently enjoyed an excellent evening of athletics with 16 of our Year 8 students and was very impressed to see so many of our students compete so well against a number of local schools. All participants should be incredibly proud of their achievements.

Finally, a massive “well done” to Esme who was selected the winner of our 500 word short story writing competition. Esme’s story was deservedly judged the winning entry from over 60 entries.

Mr W Barton - Head of Year 8

Year 8

SPEED INTERVIEWING

As part of their Options Programme, Year 8 students took part in a speed interviewing activity. A key focus in Year 8 careers education is for the students to find out about different careers and with this aim, more than 50 local business professionals from a diverse range of careers were invited into the Academy to be interviewed by students.

Each student had the opportunity to spend a short-time with each professional finding out as much as they could about their line of work and the world of work in general. At the end of the day the students got together to share the information they had learnt and discuss which careers did or did not interest them. A total of 35 different careers were represented including civil and mechanical engineering, police, insurance, apprenticeships, law, healthcare, conservation, logistics, finance and many more. We were delighted to welcome for the first time an Easyjet Pilot and Captain and she will be making a further visit to Stoke to talk to girls in Years 7, 8 and 9 about challenging stereotypes and job opportunities for women.

Both students and business professionals thoroughly enjoyed the day with the students saying they learnt so much more by talking one-to-one with real-business people and getting answers to the questions that were important to them.

Mrs W Toogood - Careers Officer



Dates for your Diary

JUNE

Wednesday 28 June –
SPORTS DAY

JULY

Wednesday 5 July –

Year 7 and 8 Presentation Evening

Thursday 6 July –

Year 6 Induction and Parents' Tea

Thursday 6 July –

Leavers PROM

Tuesday 11 July –

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Wednesday 12 – Friday 14 July –

Activities Week

Friday 21 July –

END OF TERM

AUGUST

Thursday 24 August –

GCSE Examination Results

Useful LINKS...

www.stokehigh.co.uk

www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/branches/stoke-library

www.ipswich.gov.uk/content/maidenhall-sports-centre

www.parentmail2.co.uk

www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

Year 9

CURRICULUM DAY –

POLICE, CRIME AND PUBLIC SERVICES

The Year 9 pupils took part in a Curriculum Day based on police, crime and public services, which was mostly delivered by external speakers from a range of organisations.

We had presenters from The Matthew Project about drug and alcohol issues and support. The Suffolk Youth Offending Service discussed restorative justice and a Magistrate explained the court system. Two Police Officers carried out a scene of crime activity.

Pupils also provided personal profiling activities which suggested suitable career paths and started writing their own Curriculum Vitae.

Mr A Park - 2nd in Art/Design/ICT Faculty

Year 9

Exciting TRIP Plans

Year 9 has had another fantastic term; the number of students who get involved in exciting trips just gets better and better. We have taken part in: a SWISS 'Future Leaders' Conference at Ipswich Town Football Club; a group of Media Studies students participated in a trip to the BBC studios in Norwich where the students made their own films – soon to be available on the Year 9 button on the school's website – a class of English/Media students thoroughly enjoyed a trip to the Theatre Royal in Norwich to see 'Woman in Black' and two cohorts of students have completed the Base Camp experience, which they all enjoyed. Several of our students participated in the Brilliant Club.

Many congratulations to *Grace*, who received a First for her essay; *Carmen, Shannon* and *Kiera* all received a commendable 2:1 – these lovely students will graduate from the University of Cambridge – very well deserved praise for their outstanding efforts. Congratulations also go to *Carmen* for her achievement at the Suffolk Schools' Athletics Championships at Bury St Edmunds – *Carmen* won a Gold for the Hammer and a Silver for the Discus. Congratulations also go to the students who took part in the Inter-Schools Athletics competition at Northgate High School. The girls came third in their group and the Year team were fourth overall.

Everyone did really well, but special mention goes to *Skye* for the triple jump and *Michelle* for 800m and, additionally to: *Carmen* for Discus, *Roseanne* for 300m and *Shanaiya* for Shotputt – these girls all won their event. In the boys' events, special mention goes to *Darnell* for a 'storming' 100m and *Jay* for 800m. I heard a rumour there was food involved in getting *Jay* to the end! Finally, the girls in the Year group participated in an inspirational assembly about women in the aviation industry, which was led by a lady airline pilot; four girls: *Skye, Georgia, Chantelle* and *Blossom* also took part in a successful Question and Answer workshop. I am, as always, delighted to be in the enviable position of being Head of Year to such a talented, hardworking and fun bunch of students. Attendance is up and behaviour is down. Keep it up and roll on Year 10!

Mrs W Huckfield
Head of Year 9



Year10

CONFERENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA

A group of Year 10 students attended a Conference at the University of East Anglia to gain an insight into Higher Education.

Students had a tour of the Campus and met undergraduates to find out about University life and the routes and courses available to them when they leave school.

They also had the opportunity to choose two academic workshops to participate in, from a selection of 18 diverse and interesting topics, such as *“Qualitative analysis of an unknown powder”*, *“How not to lose your mind”* and *“Energy systems and climate change”*.

Despite having to cut the visit short and return to school early, since the fact that it started snowing heavily, students found the experience very informative, interesting and inspiring.

Mrs W Toogood

Careers and Work Experience Co-ordinator



Year10

Time is just, flying by!!

Year 10 have had an excellent last term, especially as the pressure is suddenly beginning to mount and the real world seems only just around the corner.

On this note, I must say Year 10 conducted themselves during their GCSE English Literature Exams superbly. The Year Group’s maturity and dedication to both the exam and the revision attached should provide excellent results in the Summer. For a Year Group to take such a high-pressured exam, a year early, and to conduct themselves so well, was truly admirable. The excitement of the Prefect Process has started with application letters written, speeches completed and the interviews about to start. Please keep an eye out for the published list of Prefects for the 2017/2018 academic year.

Additionally, Year 10 are now having many opportunities for the future placed in front of them, such as Work Experience and visits to Post-16 establishments. Again, this is an exciting time for all students involved. Please feel free to speak to any member of staff regarding such opportunities and options across all students in the Year Group. Such drive and passion is a real credit to the work Mrs C Lockett has put in with the Year Group over the past three and a half years.

Mr A Pickering - Acting Head of Year 10

Year11

This has been a busy Half Term for Year 11 and they have all been working very hard.

We have seen some highs and some lows and most have been stepping up to their expectations and others I am sure will follow suit. This Half Term has been full of opportunities for Year 11 to take up. We have had a Year 11 Science Curriculum Day and IP-City Maths Conference. There has been Saturday morning revision being offered to some, #period 6 revision, along with lunchtime revision. We have started our exams and all pupils should have exam times tables. Also exam equipment packs have been distributed to the students and may I wish them all the very best. **YOU CAN DO IT!!**

After the exams, we look forward to seeing the Year Group on Friday 16th June 2017 for a Leavers Assembly and BBQ and then again at the leavers Prom at the Belstead Brook Hotel on Thursday 6th July 2017.

The day of reckoning will be Thursday 24th August (keep your eyes on the school website for more details) and I very much hope that each student will get what they need for the next stage in their future. Staff will be available on the day to help support where necessary.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YEAR 11!

Mrs D Le Marrec - Head of Year 11

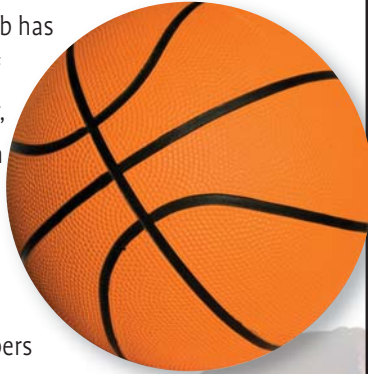




PE Department Sports Report

Basketball Club Continues to Thrive

The extra-curricular Basketball Club has continued to attract high-levels of participation throughout the year, as a number of students have taken the opportunity to develop their skills with the aid of our external Basketball coach Harriet Welham.



As a result of the consistent numbers attending the club, Mr L Jordan and the PE Department have again been able to secure the expertise and delivery of the After-School Club by Coach Welham during the Summer Term. Despite the consistent numbers, the PE Department would welcome any students wanting to take part in the club. The After-School club will continue to run every Thursday between 3:10pm-4:10pm, and is open to all students of all abilities across all Year Groups, Years 7-11. If students would like to find out additional information regarding extra-curricular PE Clubs please do not hesitate to see any member of the PE Department.

Year 8 bat their way to 7th Place

On Tuesday 9th May Mrs D Simmons took Year 8 girls to the District Rounders Tournament at Ipswich High School for Girls. With a total of nine teams entered, the pressure was really on to do their best.

Having been told the date of the tournament had been brought forward only a week earlier, the girls had only completed one training session. Despite this, the girls played extremely well, demonstrating some brilliant tactical knowledge and understanding. The team managed two wins and three losses, of which two were very close results. This resulted in a seventh and eighth place play-off. The girls were successful in their play-off, winning by the tightest of margins - only 1 rounder in it. Overall a finishing place of 7th and a very happy Mrs D Simmons. Well done to the whole team - a cracking group effort!



BTEC Sport Students make Trampolining Competitions a Success

With the assistance of 13 Year 10 BTEC Sport students the PE Department, for the third year running, successfully hosted both the Annual South Suffolk Schools and County Final Trampolining Competitions. Both competitions involved no less than nine visiting schools and was of a very high standard with some excellent routines performed by some very talented trampolinists. The BTEC students undertook a number of vital roles during both competitions to ensure the smooth running of both events. Ali Furlong (School Games Organiser) praised the BTEC students for their hard-work, professionalism and impeccable behaviour throughout both events. The BTEC Sport helpers involved the following students:

Layla, Ajani, Joseph, Jack, Yomi, Riley, James, Marco-Andreas, Erin, Shania, Devidas, Daniel, Scott.

Stoke High School – Ipswich Ormiston also entered teams in both the initial U14 and U16 South Suffolk competition, consisting of the following students: **U14 Team** – Kia, Skye, Leon, Lee.

U16 Team – Krystian Orlicki, Megan, Peni, James.

Both teams were an absolute credit to the Academy and PE department throughout the competition. Unfortunately, both teams missed out on the top three places and the chance to compete in the County Final Competition. The U14 team finished eighth overall, and the U16 finished a very respectable sixth in their competition.

A massive well done to all involved.

Athletics Success for Alexander Sisters

Both Carmen (Yr9) and Faye (Yr10) have made an impressive start to the Athletics season. Both Ipswich Harriers athletes, Carmen and Faye competed in the recent County Schools Track and Field Championships held at Bury Athletics track. This in itself is an impressive achievement as students are only eligible to compete in the Championships if their PB is in line with the County standards. However, both girls went one step further, demonstrating their superb athletics abilities. Both Carmen and Faye put in outstanding performances to finish comfortably inside the top three within their events to process to the next stage of the competition (**Carmen – Hammer Throw = 1st place Discus = 2nd place, Faye – Hammer Throw = 2nd place**). As a result, both Carmen and Faye will be competing in the up-and-coming Anglian Championships held in Cambridge. *We wish both the very best of luck!*



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