

THE "OHA" 'ER"

Vol 6: Friday 22nd March

Principal's Update

Our second Personal Development Day of the academic year was a huge success. As you can imagine, having 850 students out of the academy on one day has several significant logistical challenges, however, I am very proud of how well staff and students responded. We have had numerous bits of positive feedback from our external providers, complementing our students for the manners and conduct. Special recognition must go to Miss Wilkes for her razor-sharp organisation and attention to detail.

A big thank you to all Year 9 students and parent/carers for their attendance at Options Evening last Wednesday. With over 80% in attendance and with strong advice and guidance, we are confident that the year group will be able to make informed decisions on their subject choices.

A final reminder that there is a comprehensive revision programme in place for all Year 11 students throughout the Easter holidays. I am thrilled to say that over 50% of students have already signed up for the sessions, however, it is really important that those who have not engaged yet get involved. If you need any further details, please contact Mrs Thomas - lthomas1@horizonoat.co.uk ~ Mr Fitzgibbon

Key Dates



Monday 25th March – Friday 5th April:
Academy closed for Easter

Monday 1st April – Friday 5th April:
Holland Sports Tour; Valkenburg

Monday 8th April:
Academy reopens for all students.

Wednesday 24th April:
Year 8 Digital Futures Day – in academy (selected students only)
Year 8 Parents Evening (3pm–6.30pm) via telephone

Monday 29th April:
Year 8 Vaccinations

Monday 6th May:
Bank Holiday; Academy closed.

Need to know:



Holland Sports Tour: Arrival at Academy on Sunday 31st March, 11.30pm.

Follow the PE Instagram ([ohape2024](https://www.instagram.com/ohape2024)) for live updates throughout the week!

Equipment: Pencil cases are a part of our mandatory equipment for all students, please ensure your child has one with a green pen, black pen, ruler & pencil inside.

Exam Invigilating: If any parents are interested in invigilating the Y11 GCSE exams this summer, please contact ncolclough@horizonoat.co.uk

Assembly Overview



WB 8th April
Y7-11: Welcome Back/Matilda Performances (RSLs)

WB 15th April
Y7/Y8: Careers – Mona Brigs (Bowland&Kirkland)
Y9/Y10: Careers – Ian Gibson (GP)

PSHE Overview

- Year 7: First Aid & Road Safety
- Year 8: CCE/Knife crime
- Year 9: Cancer & Blood Donation
- Year 10 – Managing a home & Suicide Awareness

OAT

Ormiston Academies Trust

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Safeguarding contact information:

DSL: Jadams@horizonoat.co.uk/ltoach@horizonoat.co.uk

Deputy DSL: ksheldon@horizonoat.co.uk

Year 7

This term we got the opportunity to meet parents in the academy for parents evening. It was lovely to hear all the positive things that teachers had to say about year 7.

We had another whole year group personal development day to the beach. Although the tide was in it was still a great day and a chance to get the whole year group together and out of the academy doing geography curriculum-based tasks.

- Miss Haynes (RSL Y7)

Year 8

This short five week half term has been very pleasant indeed. The highlight without doubt was our Personal Development Day trip to Delamere Forest where our students all seemed to enjoy two separate beautiful walks in the British countryside. We were surrounded by happy smiling faces and the general impression that I had was that all of the kids loved it and had memories to savour. Some enjoyed scenery, others enjoyed the challenge of 'that hill' but most enjoyed the peace, fresh air and friendship that a trip like this contains. Have a great Easter break!

- Mr Woodcock (RSL Y8)

Year 9

It has been a fantastic few weeks for our students. We recently completed our PD trip to Manchester Science Museum. It was a fantastic day and all students were really engaged in their learning. Our options evening was well attended. I have had some fantastic conversations with students regarding their next stage of study. If you have any concerns regarding options, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please can you remind your child on the need for good punctuality to lessons. Students have 4 minutes to get to each lesson and I really want to focus our year group on this when we return after the Easter break. - Mr Maher (RSL Y9)

Year 10

Year 10 had the opportunity to visit Staffordshire University as part of our latest PD day offer. Students were taken on a tour of the campus facilities and took part in a Q&A with current students and lecturers, with lots of thoughtful questions posed. Year 10 were then able to experience an introductory engineering lecture, before splitting into small groups to experience various taster sessions ranging from graphic design to forensic science. Feedback from university staff about Year 10's conduct and engagement were excellent, well done Year 10! - Mr Williamson (RSL Y10)

Year 11

As we approach half term this is a great opportunity to remind both parents and students about the half term booster sessions running over the two-week period. I am encouraging all students to attend as many sessions as possible, to help support with GCSE Exams that are now fast approaching. Finally, a reminder that Leavers Hoodies are available to purchase via the Smart online shop and the deadline for these to be purchased is Sunday 31st March.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term, be sure to incorporate time to relax in between revision. - Miss Smith (RSL Y11)

What are we learning in.. Geography?

Y7: River Formations

Y8: Geographical Development

Y9: Middle East

Y10: Ecosystems (Rainforests & Deserts)

Y11: Exam Preparation



Careers

OHA recently celebrated National Careers Week with various activities. These included displaying Staff Career Fact Files to spark conversations among students about their teachers' previous roles and dream jobs.

Additionally, OHA hosted its first Apprenticeship, T-Level, and Technical Qualification Evening, where local colleges and training providers presented their courses to Year 9, 10, and 11 students and parents.

Several businesses and organizations participated, including West Midlands NHS Trust, Equality Training, WJ, MPCT Military Academy, Stoke City Academy, Staffordshire University, Blue Bay Travel, and Reaseheath College.



House Update

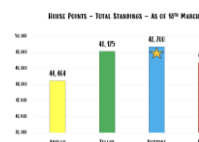
Upcoming House Quiz: Flags of the world/Celebrities

The past two weeks have seen a huge change in our House Standings as Tellus managed to close the gap to Neptune despite being more than 3,000 away from the lead when we returned after February half term.

The past two weeks have seen our Girl's Cross Country events for Years 7-10; this was an amazing event where the girls involved showed high levels of resilience throughout.

Our Interhouse Easter Egg Hunt also took place this past week.

Rounding off the half term we have our Interhouse STEM competition led by Miss Spencer; this will see pupils work in their houses to create the best animated advertisement. We also have our Interhouse Art Piece Competition led by Miss Morrey; this event is for Key Stage 3 only and the pupils will be given 1 hour to create an artistic piece linked to a particular theme! Lastly, as we stand, Neptune are top of the pile in terms of overall House Points with just one term left to go!



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Careers Week Events



Y10 Netball City Team



Y8 Football Team Success!



DOFETent Pitching



Y9 Industrial Cadet Graduates!

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PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY 2

Thursday 14th March

Our second Personal Development Day was a huge success, with four groups out on visits!

- Year 7 – New Brighton Beach
- Year 8 – Delamere Forest
- Year 9 – Science & Industry Museum
- Year 10 – Staffordshire University
- Year 11 – PREVENT Assembly & Intervention
- The Hub – Liverpool Museums
- The LIC – Stanley Head

