

THE "OHA" 'ER"

Vol 13: Friday 19th July

Principal's Update

As we close in on the end of the academic year, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout this year. Despite us dealing with the very upsetting news of Mrs Clacher's death this week, it is important for us to reflect on the progress we have made over the last twelve months.

Our Ofsted visit in November 2023 was an extremely positive experience, where our staff and students demonstrated our values in abundance. I have never felt prouder of our amazing school and our wider community. We are very proud of our report with numerous eye-catching statements that capture the wonderful supportive culture of our school. This report was not achieved within the two days of our inspection, it has taken four years of creating a vision, delivering on our values and making our school a place where students and staff can develop and flourish. As mentioned previously, we are determined to build on the positives and continue to work hard to improve specific areas to ensure that OHA is a truly great place to educate young people.

There have been many highlights throughout this academic year. We constantly challenge our staff to provide rich opportunities for our students that allow them to improve, develop and nurture their amazing talents. I feel that this academic year, we have once again raised the bar. There are a couple of great examples below that I wanted to share:

- Sports Day
- Football / Netball Tour to Holland
- Battlefields Trip
- School Musical - Matilda
- Performing Arts Trip to London
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Cadets Trip to Portsmouth
- Y10 Work Experience
- Y10 Newcastle College Visit

Above is just a snapshot of what we offer, and we will continue to ensure our students get the best opportunities possible to allow them to demonstrate our Academy Values of: Respect, Resilience and Responsibility in everything that they do.

On Thursday 4th July we also won the OAT Sports Cup, competing against twelve other Ormiston schools from the North and West of the country. This is the seventh year that we have won the OAT Cup and a fantastic occasion for our students to demonstrate their skills on a national stage. Well done to Mrs Smith and the wider PE Team for their hard work and dedication and for making sure our students were fully prepared and ready to perform to the best of their ability.

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Principal's Update continued..

Our new House system which was launched in September has gone from strength to strength under the excellent leadership of Mr Rose. It is great to see how proud students are of their House and how much they have enjoyed taking part in a range of activities. We are really looking forward to building on this great success again in the new academic year.

As we end the academic year, we say goodbye to a handful of staff who are moving onto pastures new. They all have played a significant role in our school journey, and we wish them the very best of luck in their future venture. I want to pay particular attention to three members of staff who are retiring from OHA after a significant contribution to education on our community:

Mrs Thomas - after 35 years of service at James Brindley and OHA, Mrs Thomas has been a cornerstone of our school. She did amazing work as teacher of PE for a number of years, inspiring our students through incredible relationships and providing them with a range of opportunities to represent their school. In more recent years, she has been a crucial part of our Learning Support team, working with students on a 1:1 basis or in small groups, supporting staff and providing the nurture and challenge that is needed on an individual basis. We are incredibly proud of her wonderful career and wish her every success on her retirement.

Mrs Bolderson - joined James Brindley High School in 2001 and has been a crucial part of our Inclusion Team over the last 23 years. Her nurturing and supportive mannerisms have allowed students to develop and flourish across our school. She has developed wonderful relationships with a large number of students and will be missed by all. We wish her the very best on her retirement.

Mrs Farmer - A truly fantastic character and one of the people you will have met on the school reception over the last seven years. She is loved by students and staff alike and her and Mrs Stewart even had a mention on the Ofsted feedback earlier this year.

We also say goodbye to the following staff who are removing on to pastures new and wish them every success in their future careers:

- Mrs Leese - Maths teacher
- Mrs McEvoy - English teacher
- Miss Maleci - Spanish teacher
- Mr Latham - English tutor
- Mr Richardson - Pastoral Team
- Miss Shafiq - Cover Supervisor / World Studies teacher
- Miss Mills - Drama teacher
- Miss Hodgkinson - Cleaning team

I would like to wish all of our OHA community a safe and restful summer break and I look forward to working alongside you next academic year.

~ Mr Fitzgibbon

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Key Dates



Friday 19th July – Horizon Day
Academy closes for the summer holidays.

Thursday 22nd August
Year 11 Results Day

Wednesday 4th September
Academy reopens for Y7 students only.

Thursday 5th September
Academy reopens for all students.

Wednesday 11th September
Year 6 Open Evening

Need to know:



Academy Ties

Reminder that all students will need to have the new academy ties ready for September, these can be purchased via ParentPay and collected straight away from the uniform office. Alternatively, they can be purchased from our uniform shops.

Academy Standards

Please ensure all students are ready for learning on their first day back in September. All students should have a bag and pencil case (black pen, green pen, pencil & ruler)
Also, reminders for hair and nails – no extreme/unnatural hair colours/cuts and nails should be natural, short and a nude colour.

OHA Rewards - Instagram

Please follow our new rewards page on @oharewards for all events, updates and competitions coming up for next academic year!

Assembly Overview



- **WB 2nd September**
- Y7 – Tie giving (AWF)
- Y11 – Tie giving (AWF)
- Y8-Y10 – Welcome Back (RSLs)
- **WB 9th September**
- Y7-Y11 – Rewards/House Events (VXM/AMR)

OAT Sports Cup 2024

- On Thursday 4th July, 40 students travelled to Northwood Stadium for the annual OAT Sports Cup.
- This is a sports day competing against other OAT schools in the country in athletics, dodgeball & tug of war.
- All 4 teams (Y7-Y10) won in their overall year groups, and we were crowned winners, again, for the 7th year in a row!

Mrs Clacher

We are absolutely devastated at the loss of Mrs Clacher this week. She was a true inspiration to our students and was a wonderful colleague and friend to our staff. Having educated and supported our students for 23 years, she will have touched and changed the lives of many. When we return in September, we will work with staff and students to make sure a lasting memory is created on site.

For now, Mrs Clacher and her family are in our thoughts and prayers.



OHA GALLERY

Y10 Work Experience Placements



Capri Performance for Mental Health



Drama Trip to London



Sports Personality of 2024



Y10 Driving Lessons Rewards



Y7 STEM Day Winners



Crocky Trail Rewards Trip



OAT Sports Cup Victory!



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