

# THE "OHA" 'ER"

Vol 3: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October

## Principals Update

And just like that, our first half term is nearly over. Overall, we have had a very pleasing seven weeks, with the vast majority of our students having settled very well since returning from the summer holidays. All students have assemblies over the last week based on an 'Aim Higher' theme. We have been focussing specifically on student Character and Communication. Please have a conversation with your son/daughter about our expectations and how they can 'Aim Higher'.

We are moving forward with our plans for OHA to be a 'mobile phone free school' and we will share our plans with all families when we return after half term. As mentioned in my recent video message, we believe there are significant benefits to students' mental health and a clear link between student concentration and their ability to learn effectively, without distraction.

Congratulations to the Y10 Netball Team who were crowned Stoke - On - Trent City champions last week. They are a wonderfully talented group of students, who we are extremely proud of. I have no doubt that they will go on to achieve even more success in the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a restful and enjoyable half term when it arrives

~ Mr Fitzgibbon

## Key Dates



**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October**

Y11 Mock Exams

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October:**

*Alternative footwear day*

Academy closes for October Half Term

*Paris Trip (25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>)*

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November:**

*Academy reopens to all students*

Mental Health Workshops for Y8-Y11.

Parental Workshops: 10.30am – 11.30am

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November:**

Y7 PT Parents Evening via telephone

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

Y11 Health and Social Intervention

## A Day in the life... of a Year 10

Year 10 feels more pressured than KS3 because options are in place and GCSEs are around the corner.

This is the year to get our heads down and work hard. In GCSE PE, we have been learning about the muscular and skeletal system – I picked PE as it's a subject I'm confident I can do well in and is a subject I really like.

In Creative IMedia, we are learning about client briefs for advertising and websites, this is really good because I can see myself working in this industry and I really enjoy the subject overall.

Representing the academy in football fixtures is great, we beat Moorside 7-2 a few weeks ago and drew against Biddulph 3-3 as well. This isn't a year to be messing around – it's a year to do great stuff!

B.Burndred – 10A2



## Assembly Overview



WB 21<sup>st</sup> October

Y7-10 – Black History Month (LTS)

ALL – House Celebration (AMR)

WB 4<sup>th</sup> November

Y7-11 – Welcome Back/Mental Health (LLW)

Y11 – Stoke 6<sup>th</sup> Form (LTS)

## PSHEA'S Overview



Year 7 – Emotional Puberty & Healthy Relationships

Year 8 – Knife Crime & Grooming

Year 9 – Effects of Drugs

Year 10 – First Aid & Alcohol / Immigration & Nationalism

Year 11 – Types of Insurance / Consequences and Promises

**OAT**

Ormiston Academies Trust

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## Year 7 & 8

We have had a great start to the year from both year groups. Punctuality to academy and lessons has been prompt by all with both year groups looking extremely smart and ready for their day in their uniform.

This term, some of our Year 8 have joined the Navy Cadets on a Tuesday and it has been great to see them take part in line formation. Many pupils are taking part in the array of extra-curricular activities on offer, and it is a joy to see how well we have done in all the sporting events, including the girls football 3-1 win in the county cup!

Both year groups are showing how well they are doing by achieving the most house points, with the numbers being very close I am really looking forward to see which year group can achieve the most this year.

Finally, a big thank you from me for all those in year 7 and year 8 that helped out on our Open Evening at the beginning of the term, you all represented the academy with pride. This has been a great but long half-term, so I wish you all a restful week over the October break. ~ Miss Collis (Director KS3)

## Year 9

Year 9 have had a positive start to this year & I am pleased to be developing new relationships with the students. It has been great to see so many girls attending football & netball clubs & then representing the academy in fixtures & tournaments.

I am also pleased to announce that Liam T was selected to be our Regional Student Voice Rep for KS3 & will be meeting with academies across the country to discuss issues that matter to us! ~ Miss Wilkes (Director Y9)

## Year 10

It has been great to see year 10 students getting immersed in their option subjects and there is a massive congratulations to the year 10 girls netball team who were crowned Stoke city champions. This is a first-time achievement for OHA. Well done girls!!

I am also pleased to announce that Alice M was selected to be our Regional Student Voice Rep for KS4 & will be meeting with academies across the country to discuss issues that matter to us! ~ Mr Parkinson (Director KS4)

## Year 11

Year 11 have had a fantastic start to the academic year. Period 6 lessons continue to be attended by well over 80% of the year group, which is fantastic.

This week they have been sitting their walking talking mocks and have engaged with these amazingly well. This is preparing them for their first set of mock exams that begin next week and finish after the half term break. We wish all year 11 students the best of luck and look forward to seeing how they perform.

~ Mr Parkinson (Director KS4)

## What are we learning in.. English?

Y7: Ancient Origins

Y8: Oliver Twist

Y9: War & Dystopia

Y10: Macbeth & Language Paper 1

Y11: A Christmas Carol & Language Paper 2



## Mental Health Awareness Parental Workshops

We are thrilled to be welcoming Satveer Nijjar, Winner of 'Most Inspirational Person of the Year' 2018 at the MBBC Awards, into the academy on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November, for direct student, staff and parental training/support on mental health.

Satveer will meet with all Y8-Y11 students for a bespoke student session focusing on mental health and the improvement, understanding of a response to self-harm.

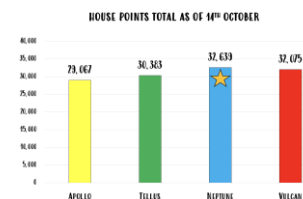
Satveer will also deliver training to all staff and has offered a parental drop-in session for any parent looking for support on mental health and self-harm.

Please check your Edulink messages on for a link to book into the drop sessions, which will be sent on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

Further details on Satveers journey and mission can be found here: <https://satveernijjar.com/>

## House Update

It is safe to say that the House System is back in full flow with Netball, Rounders, Chess and Spelling Bee competitions all being completed over the first half term, with plenty more to come! It is amazing to see the amount of House Points that pupils have managed to amass only a few weeks into the academic year, hopefully this can continue and act as a positive reminder of all the good that our OHA-ers do each and every day! This week is our Interhouse Mixed Rounders event that takes centre stage, it has been fantastic to see the high levels of motivation, engagement and positivity despite the cold Stoke-on-Trent weather playing its part! After 7 weeks it is Neptune who top the pile and are looking good in the early stages to retain their crown. However, it is still very much early days in the race for the 2025 OHA House Cup!



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# OAT

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# OHA GALLERY

Y11 Leadership Team



All Y7 received a complimentary toiletry bag during PSHE



Y8 Partnership Games



Netballers vs Endon



Y11 Walking Talking Mocks Begin



U15 City Champions!



Girls Football Success continues...



7-2 win for the Y7 Footballers



Reading Leaders



## ODD SOCKS DAY FOR ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

### WHAT IS IT?

Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity for children to express themselves and celebrate their uniqueness. There is no pressure on the children to wear the latest fashion or for parents to buy expensive costumes. All they have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school, it couldn't be simpler!

Odd Socks Day is taking place on **Tuesday 12th November** this year to avoid clashing with Armistice Day.



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