

THE "OHA" 'ER"

Vol 9: Friday 31st January

Principal's Update

A huge well done to our fantastic Y11 cohort for finishing their mock exams. As you can imagine, it is a tough and intense period for them, but they have demonstrated real resilience and effort throughout. Massive congratulations go out to Mrs Richardson (Head of Year 11) who gave birth to a baby boy last week, we are really looking forward to seeing her when she pops in to see everyone. Miss Wood will take over as Head of Year for the remainder of the academic year. We are looking forward to a really good turn out to parents' evening on Wednesday 12th February.

Two weeks ago, we had our biannual Academy Review, and we welcomed in a number of visitors from OAT Central Team to focus on all areas of school improvement. We are really pleased with the feedback we received with a number of positives in terms of: teaching and learning, particularly our call for attention and the effective use of whiteboards to check for understanding, our attendance figures have increased from this time last year, which demonstrates all our hard work is having an impact and the positive relationships between staff and students was a real strength. As always, there are areas to improve on, with one of our key focus areas being the depth of knowledge we are teaching in lessons across the academy.

Our mobile phone initiative continues to go from strength to strength. A big thank you to all parents and carers for your support with this. The students have really been incredible, and it has been great to get so much positive feedback from our students, even the ones who were a little more reluctant at the start!

Finally, a massive well done to all our students who have rewarded with our Purple Ticket initiative over the last three weeks. It has been really pleasing to see the number of students who achieve excellent standards on a daily basis. Miss Wilkes will share more information with all families about this in the coming weeks.

~ Mr Fitzgibbon

Key Dates



Wednesday 5th February

Year 11 Science Booster Day at Staffordshire University

Wednesday 12th February

Year 11 Results and Parents Evening (face-face, 3.30pm - 6pm)

Thursday 13th February

Y11 Rewards Breakfast and Y7-Y10 Rewards Film P5

Friday 14th February

Academy closes for half term (1 week)

Monday 24th February

OAT INSET Day - Academy closed to students

Tuesday 25th February

Academy reopens to all student (8.30am line up)

Wednesday 26th February

Y10/Y11 London Trip (Wicked)

Notices



Year 11 Mocks:

A reminder for the **Year 11 Mock Results and Parents' Evening on Wednesday 12th February**. This is a vital opportunity for us to discuss progress and next steps face-to-face, so we strongly encourage all parents and carers to attend.

Year 11 Science Booster Day:

This event is specifically designed to provide additional support in preparation for their upcoming **GCSE Science exams**

Details of the Day

- **Departure from School: 9:30 AM**
- **Return to School: 2:20 PM**

Students will travel to and from the venue by coach, accompanied by staff members.

Assembly Overview



WB 3rd Feb

Y7 & Y10 - School Nurse

Y8 & Y9 - RSL Standards

WB 10th Feb

ALL - Safer internet day (JJC)

ALL - House Celebrations (AMR)

PSHE/WS Overview



Year 7 - Vaping & Dental hygiene

Year 8 - Alcohol effects; physical & social

Year 9 - Risks in sexual activity & condoms history

Year 10 PSHE - Freedom of speech & privacy

Year 10 WS - Global poverty & Amnesty

Safeguarding contact information:

DSL: Jadams@horizonoot.co.uk/ssheldon@horizonoot.co.uk

Deputy DSL: ksheldon@horizonoot.co.uk

Support: safeguarding@horizonoot.co.uk

Year 7

We are delighted to see Year 7 students positively engaging in their lessons and being rewarded with lots of house points for their hard work! A huge well done to the **Year 7 netball team**, who played their first competitive game last week against St. Margaret Ward. They performed brilliantly and showed great teamwork and determination. Now, they're prepared and ready for their first city tournament this week - good luck, team!

Keep up the fantastic effort, Year 7!

~ Miss Smith

Year 8

My proudest moments this term as an RSL have come when receiving such amazing feedback regarding the student's behaviour inside and outside of the classroom as well.

Last week, I spoke to our Y8 cohort about the importance of setting high standards for themselves and each other, and I look forward to seeing those high standards upheld during their time in and out of lessons.

We have our AP1 assessment coming up next week, and I know our pupils will come out of it well, and be able to showcase all of the hard work they have put into their education so far, this academic year!

~ Mr Rose

Year 9

Last week the students had an options assembly and indicated what their option choices would be if they chose them now. It is crucial that they apply themselves to their full capability in lessons in order to make the correct informed choices in a few weeks' time.

I would also like to mention the positive impact that our phone free academy has had on the year group. Students are focussed on lessons more than ever and there is a lot more positivity and conversation at lunch time. Students are happier and have adapted well to our new system

~ Mr Woodcock

Year 10

Year 10 are currently completing a lot of work on next steps once they leave y11. We are completing work on colleges, apprenticeships and employment. The students have been looking at possible work experience placements for the Summer Term using the schools' careers pathway UNIFROG.

There has been some great work completed so far, and I am very impressed with the ambitions of our y10 students. Some have clear plans of what they want to do. All students should be thinking of their work experience placements so please discuss with them at home their findings from UNIFROG and possible links to industry in Stoke-on-Trent.

~ Mr Maher

Year 11

Year 11 have now completed their final round of mock exams and will be receiving their results on 12th February at parents evening. I look forward to seeing you all there to celebrate Year 11s hard work and discuss how further improvements can be made in the run up to the real thing in May.

In other news, Year 11 have said goodbye for now to Mrs Richardson who has now began her maternity leave and welcomed Miss Wood in as our new Head of Year, good luck to them both over the next year.

~ Mr Williamson

What are we learning in.. Science?

- Y7 - Astrophysics
- Y8 - Revision For Assessment Point 1
- Y9 - Photosynthesis
- Y10 - Physics Unit 2 Electricity
- Y11 - Physics Unit 6 Waves

Student Achievement

One of our Y10 students, Amy J, has been chosen to speak at a national conference on 6th February at Victoria Hall Stoke.

Amy, a keen artist decided last year to join a community arts group after seeing it promoted through school. She attends the club once a week and works tirelessly to promote Arts and Culture to support young people. Amy will be speaking at the Outdoor Arts Conference, and it will include young people from Fegg Hayes and other young children from the area.

The audience will include people who make direct decisions about arts and culture at a national level. Amy will have the opportunity to feed into this conversation and champion the views of young people in the city.

The theme of the conference is Equity in Action, you can find out more about it on their website <https://outdoorartsuk.org/national-conference/>

We are so proud of Amy and we wish her the best of luck in this fantastic opportunity. Amy is a student who champions student voice and actively works to improve the school experience for young people in school.

She is a student voice ambassador and has recently been made one of the schools Anti-bullying ambassadors.



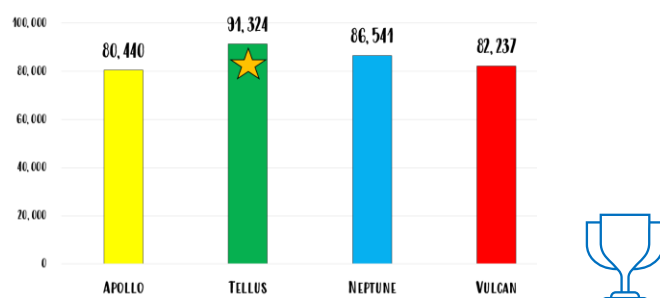
House Update

Term 2A of House Events at OHA is officially underway!

The first events of 2025 have taken place and it is like we have never been away! We began with our Interhouse Short Story Writing Event which saw pupils from Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 all be given a scenic scenario centred around London on New Years Eve! The pupils had a 100 word and 20-minute time limit. I will say that the creativity on show was brilliant to see, and the stories turned out amazing despite the strict conditions of the event! Well done to all involved.

Our first sporting event of 2025 was our Interhouse Mixed Dodgeball event. This week saw the Years 7 & 9 events, with Years 8 & 10 competing in their own events next week. As you can see from the table below, Tellus remain the ones to catch as they are approaching the 100,000 House Point mark already. But like we always say, it is still all to play for!

HOUSE POINTS TOTAL AS OF 27th JANUARY 2025



Safeguarding contact information:

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

Deputy DSL: ksheldon@horizonoat.co.uk

Support: safeguarding@horizonoat.co.uk

Man City Tour

OHA GALLERY

WELCOME TO OUR
HOMEWORK CLUB

Swing by the Library every Tuesday & Thursday during period six with the Success Centre team for some homework magic, revision wizardry, or just plain old study fun!

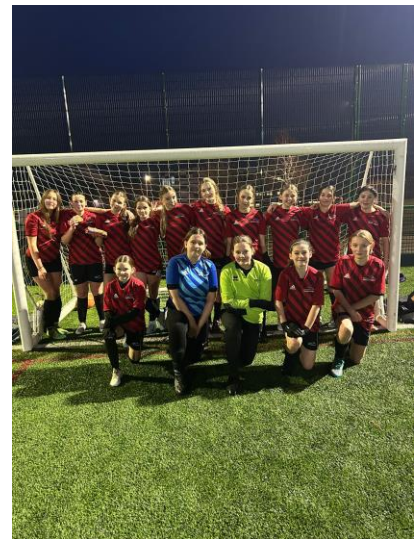
And guess what? There'll be biscuits, juice, and board games galore!

[OAT] Ormiston Academies Trust
Ormiston Horizon Academy

Y9 Girls Football Success

KS3 Netball Season Starts

Anti Bullying Ambassadors



Y7 Books Giveaway



Safeguarding contact information:

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

Deputy DSL: ksheldon@horizonoat.co.uk

Support: safeguarding@horizonoat.co.uk



An OAT Academy

ASPIRE TO BE MORE



Purple tickets are awarded weekly for:

- 100% attendance
 - Every 20 house points awarded
 - Completing tassomai/sparx weekly goals
 - 0 behaviour points
 - Y11 P6 attendance
- 1 ticket per subject on target, during assessment points (currently completed Y9/Y10)

END OF WEEK 3 STANDINGS

(6TH – 24TH JANUARY)

YEAR 7		
W, Kirsten	7T1	14
S, Hannah	7T2	13
M, Jasmine	7T2	13

YEAR 8		
D, Karol	8N1	14
K, Nicole	8T2	14
M, Michelle	8T2	14

YEAR 9		
I, Darcy	9V1	14
L, Lily	9N1	14
D, Jake	9N1	14

YEAR 10		
C, Maddison	10A2	22
G, Libby	10T1	20

YEAR 11		
M, Caden	11N2	11
K, Eshal	11T2	11
R, Aaron	11A1	11

Safeguarding contact information:

DSL: Jadams@horizonoot.co.uk/ssheldon@horizonoot.co.uk

Deputy DSL: ksheldon@horizonoot.co.uk

Support: safeguarding@horizonoot.co.uk