

# THE "OHA" 'ER"

Vol 1: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September

## Principal's Update

A warm welcome back to all our families. I hope you enjoyed a lovely summer and managed to make the most of the good weather.

I'd like to start with congratulating our GCSE Class of 2025 on some really pleasing examination results. As a year group, they demonstrated a huge amount of resilience and effort to ensure they were fully prepared for their exams. We wish them every success in the future, and we look forward to hearing their amazing success stories over the coming years. A special mention to Mr Williamson, Mrs Richardson and Miss Wood for their support and guidance over the years.

A big thank you to all the families who attended Open Evening on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September. It was really nice to speak with so many of the Year 6 students and I really loved seeing how engaged they were in the different activities. Once again, our students were the absolute stars of the show and received a range of high-quality feedback for their tours around the building. A special mention to our four Year 11 superstars: Sienna, Jacob, Lucas and Lydia for their wonderful speeches. If you were unable to attend or would like a tour during the day, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Douglas on [kdouglas@horizonat.co.uk](mailto:kdouglas@horizonat.co.uk) and we will be in touch with a suitable time and date.

Finally, we have had a really strong start to the academic year. A huge thank you to all the parents and carers for your efforts and support. A couple of key highlights are 95% + attendance at Year 11 Period 6 sessions, excellent uniform across all year groups, a real sharpness and focus in lessons, very strong corridor transitions and amazing morning line-ups for all year groups.

I'd like to give a specific shout out to our new Year 7 cohort who have started the academic year group so strongly. It was really nice to meet so many parents / carers at our Tie Giving Ceremony on their first day.

~ Mr Fitzgibbon

## Key Dates



### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

Fire Service Workshops Y7 - P1/P2

Year 9 DoFE Information Evening - 5.30pm

### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Year 11 information Evening - 5pm

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September

Fire Service Workshops Y8 - P1/P2

### Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September

Fire Service Workshops - Y9 (P1/P2)

### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October

Y7 - Y11 Flu Vaccinations

### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Year 9 Parents Evening via telephone (2.30pm - 5.30pm)

### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Academy closed for INSET Day

## OHA Staff take on the Yorkshire 3 Peaks



On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September, over 20 staff took to Yorkshire to embark on the 3 peaks challenge in under 12 hours in a bid to raise money for our new 3G pitch.

Staff were amazing throughout the weekend, whether walking or supporting - the OHA team spirit definitely followed us from Stoke!

We have raised over £8000 in sponsorships and we're still working towards the £10,000 goal - any support from our OHA community would be greatly appreciated via the link:

[Ormiston Horizon 3G Pitch - JustGiving](#)



## Assembly Overview



### WB 22<sup>nd</sup> September

Saturday Colleges - Y10

Library Cards - Y7

### WB 29<sup>th</sup> September

Library Cards - Y8

Stoke on Trent College - Y11

Positive Choices - Y9

## PSHE/AS Overview



Year 7 - Self Esteem and Treating People Equally

Year 8 - Crimes near me & Legal Processes

Year 9 - News manipulation & Reviewing news

Year 10 - Grief & Developing resilience

Year 10 - Extremism & Racism

Year 11 - Interview prep & Voting

Year 11 - Curiosity & Fairness

DSL: [Jadams@horizonat.co.uk](mailto:Jadams@horizonat.co.uk) / [ssheldon@horizonat.co.uk](mailto:ssheldon@horizonat.co.uk)

Deputy DSL: [ksheldon@horizonat.co.uk](mailto:ksheldon@horizonat.co.uk)

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### Year 7

Year 7 have made a fantastic start to their journey at our school, settling in with confidence, enthusiasm, and a real eagerness to learn. They have already shown great respect towards their teachers and peers, resilience in adapting to new challenges, and a strong sense of responsibility in their learning and behaviour - which are our three core values at OHA.

It's been wonderful to see how quickly they've embraced school life, formed new friendships, and become active members of our OHA community.

~ Miss Wood (HOY)

### Year 8

I just wanted to take a moment to say how proud I am of Year 8 for such a fantastic start to the new school year. The energy, positivity, and focus you've all shown in lessons and around school has been brilliant to see.

It's been a pleasure to welcome you back and watch you settle in so well. Let's keep this momentum going and continue to support each other, work hard, and make this year one to be proud of.

Well done, Year 8 - keep it up!

~ Miss Betley (HOY)

### Year 9

Our students have had a fabulous start to year 9 and should be commended on their maturity and work ethic. Students have returned smartly, fully equipped and ready to learn.

This year is extremely important as students will be having conversations regarding their 'option' subjects and the path they wish to take moving forward into year 10, which will be upon us before we know it!

Our students have been introduced to a small amount of new Academy routines, which have been extremely successful and fully embraced with a high level of maturity.

~ Mrs Milne (HOY)

### Year 10

Welcome back year 10! I hope you all had a restful break, I am really proud to say the majority of students have settled back really well into their option subjects.

I am looking forward to seeing all the amazing things year 10 will accomplish this year.

Remember we are all here to support you every step of the way! Lets make this the best year yet!

~ Miss Harris (HOY)

### Year 11

Well done to Year 11 for such a fantastic start back to the school year! I'm really impressed with your excellent attendance to Period 6 and the positive attitude you've shown in lessons, it's clear you're already setting yourselves up for success.

I'm also excited for the first football fundraiser for the new 3G pitch and prom.

Let's keep up the brilliant effort and make this a year to remember!

~ Miss McGowan (RSL)

## DofE 2027

First of all a huge welcome back to all of our OHA-ers after a, hopefully, lovely summer break! We have some exciting times ahead as we kick off another year of our Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) programme at OHA.

Last year our Year 8 pupils (Current Year 9) had 2 PD Day experiences centered around our DofE programme; since then they have had the opportunity to sign-up to this years programme, and there is still time now!

On Monday 22nd September, we will be hosting a DofE Parents Information Evening at the academy with the evening beginning at 5:30pm.

This is an open invitation to all parents and carers of our current Year 9 pupils, if your child has already signed up for, or is interest in taking part in our programme this year then please feel free to attend the evening. This evening provides the chance for me to explain to you what the award entails, provide an overview of what your child can expect throughout the year, and answer any questions that you or your child might have. I will also be able to discuss the payment structure for the award and the key dates of this year's programme.

Of course, if you are unable to attend the evening and/or have any burning questions, please feel free to get in touch. My email is [arose@horizoncoat.co.uk](mailto:arose@horizoncoat.co.uk).

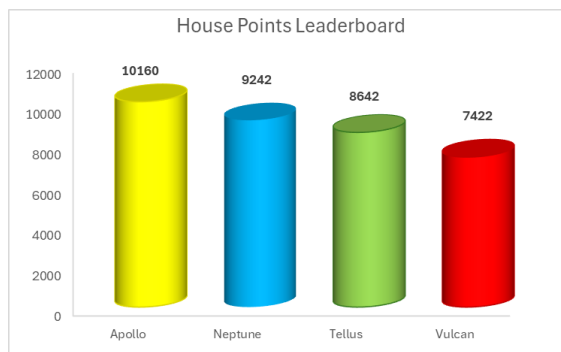
## House Update

Back with a bang with more House events ever!

Following on from last academic year, with Tellus win the house cup, the house points have already started totting up, with 34,600 being awarded already, as each of our four houses aim to win the OHA House Cup this year.

Apollo have a slim lead in the standings over 2023/24 House Cup winners Neptune with current House Cup champions Tellus slightly behind in 3rd place after Vulcans stuttering start sees them in 4th place. The past few weeks our pupils have been signing up to our house events for this term with the events commencing next week, w/c 22nd September.

This week will also see our House Captains for this academic year selected by their PT groups. With the voting for key stage house captains taking place in the coming weeks.



Safeguarding contact information:

DSL: [Jadams@horizoncoat.co.uk](mailto:Jadams@horizoncoat.co.uk)/[ssheldon@horizoncoat.co.uk](mailto:ssheldon@horizoncoat.co.uk)

Deputy DSL: [ksheldon@horizoncoat.co.uk](mailto:ksheldon@horizoncoat.co.uk)

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# OHA GALLERY

Y11 Senior Student Leadership Team



Year 7 Tiegiving Ceremony



Year 11 Conference with Keiron Gilpin



Open Evening



Safeguarding contact information:

DSL: [Jadams@horizonoot.co.uk](mailto:Jadams@horizonoot.co.uk) / [ssheldon@horizonoot.co.uk](mailto:ssheldon@horizonoot.co.uk)

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## ASPIRE TO BE MORE

Aspire to be more has been developed to build a high-performance culture which celebrates positive behaviours both in and out of the classroom at OHA. This reward policy recognizes and reinforces behaviours that will raise attainment and support developing young people's attitudes, embedding that both effort and achievement are valued here at OHA.

### **Purple Ticket System**

Students will be awarded purple tickets (online) each week if they meet the following criteria:

- 100% attendance
- 0 Behaviour points
- Completing SPARX goals (Maths, English and Science) *1 ticket per subject*
- Achieving 20 House Points (*1 ticket for every 20HP*)

Students will also receive purple tickets during assessment points; *1 ticket per subject on or above target.*

Each week, students will be informed of their current Purple Ticket standings with their PT and parents will also receive a letter home each half term. This starts the Week of 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

### **Rewards**

Each week, students will be recognized and rewarded, either individually or as a collective PT, with prizes and rewards from Mr Salt (House and Rewards Coordinator) for Purple Tickets, House Points, Attendance and SPARX completions.

Every 3 weeks, students who are a part of our 100% club (have received 100% of attendance, behaviour and homework tickets) will be sent a letter home recognizing their efforts and rewarded at the end of the academic year by Mr Fitzgibbon (Principal)

Rewards Trips and In Academy Events will now all be based on Purple Tickets – the students with the most amount of purple tickets will be selected each time, which allows us to recognize and rewards students who are thriving both academically and personally around the academy.

Our schedule of events for this academic year is below:

- In academy – October – Bonkers Breakfast Bingo
- External Trip – December – Chester Zoo (Y7-Y10), Trafford Centre (Y11)
- In academy – February – Movie Afternoon
- External Trip – March – Cinema/Lazerquest
- In Academy – May – Picnic & Games Afternoon
- External Trip – July – Alton Towers

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