

THE "OHA" 'ER"

Vol 4: Friday 7th November

Principal's Update

A warm welcome back after the happy term holiday. I hope everyone had some quality family time together. I'd like to start by once again, raising the importance of attendance for all students. Over the last eight weeks we have seen an increasing number of students who are not completing full weeks in school. I have mentioned several times the direct link between attendance and achievement and the vast amount of research that exists that proves that students who attend school more often, achieve better grades in their GCSE assessments. To support our attendance drive, we have created Attendance Improvement Groups who will work closely with specific students on improving their attendance.

I want to wish our Y11 cohort the very best of luck in their upcoming mock examinations. The next two weeks will be tough for them but mentally and physically but will help them prepare effectively for their real exams in the summer term.

Finally, today we say goodbye to the amazing Mrs Ackley. After twenty years at James Brindley and OHA, she will be missed by all. We wish her the very best of luck in the future.

~ Mr Fitzgibbon

Key Dates



Monday 10th November – Friday 21st November
Year 11 Mock Exams

Monday 10th November/Friday 14th November
Year 7 – Future Skills Questionnaires

Tuesday 11th November
2 minutes silence (11am) – Armistice Day

Thursday 13th November
Y7 Personal Tutor Parental Phone Calls

Thursday 27th November
MHST Tea & Talk Parental Workshop on Behaviour
9.15am – 10.15am (further information to follow)

Friday 5th December
Academy INSET Day – Closed to Students

Friday 5th December
Academy Rewards Trip to Chester Zoo

Rewards Trip Friday 5th December



The first external rewards trip will be visiting Chester Zoo!

This day also falls on our Academy Inset Day, but the trip will still be going ahead.

The top 40 students, with the most purple tickets, per year group will be invited, with a heavily discounted cost for their ticket/transport.

Further details will be emailed out to the parents/carers of the selected students on Tuesday 18th November.



Assembly Overview



WB 10th November
Walking, Talking Mocks – Y11

WB 17th November
Student Voice – Y7-Y10
Mock Exams – Y11

PSHE/As Overview



Year 7 – Healthy Relationships & Types of Families
Year 8 – Grooming & County Lines
Year 9 – Steroids & Drug Laws
Year 10 – Vaping & Cancer
Year 10 – Giving to others & Caring
Year 11 – Mock Exams
Year 11 – Mock Exams

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Year 7

A special shout-out to those of you who are consistently showing up, on time, and ready to learn. Attendance is so important, not just for your progress, but for building strong habits that will help you throughout your school journey. Let's keep pushing for 100% attendance—everyday counts! Also, a big thank you to everyone who is maintaining our uniform standards. Looking smart and presentable shows pride in yourself and in our school community. Let's continue to set the example for others. Parents' Evening is coming up soon, and we're looking forward to celebrating your achievements and discussing how we can support your continued success.

~ Miss Wood (HOY)

Year 8

Welcome back Year 8! I hope everyone had a fantastic October half term and enjoyed the Halloween festivities! It's been lovely to see everyone back in school, refreshed, re-energised, and ready to learn.

As we settle into the second half of the autumn term and start to feel that festive buzz building towards Christmas, it's important that we all keep our focus high and continue giving our best effort in lessons.

We're really looking forward to seeing all of Year 8 engaging in their learning, showing their enthusiasm, and supporting each other both in and out of the classroom. Let's make this term count!

~ Miss Betley (HOY)

Year 9

Our students have returned refreshed and ready to learn.

A huge well done to our U14 girls' football team, who secured a fantastic 4-2 win — with a number of our Year 9 students in the team!

Also, a big shoutout to our football fundraisers, who raised an impressive £457 — great teamwork and effort all round!

We are now entering the final half term of the year, and I'm confident our Year 9 students will continue to show the same enthusiasm, effort, and positivity as always.

~ Mrs Milne (HOY)

Year 10

Welcome back year 10s! We're now well into the academic year, and I wanted to take a moment to recognise the fantastic effort you've all been putting in. As we move forward, it's important to maintain this momentum. Year 10 is a crucial year for building a strong foundation for your GCSE's.

It was great to see so many of you at the work experience evening, please remember to find a placement as soon as possible! It's important as it gives you a taste of the real world and helps you figure out what you might want to do in the future.

~ Miss Harris (HOY)

Year 11

I hope everyone has had a restful half term! It's been great returning to work after maternity leave to be with the Year 11's.

The start of their Walking Talking Mocks this week is in preparation for the next two weeks of hard work - I hope everyone is ready to display their hard work (through good attendance, intervention, homework, revision and Period 6's) and it be reflected in their mocks they will be taking very soon.

It will be a rough but with high reward if they can continue to be motivated!

~ Mrs Richardson (HOY)



Battlefields Trip 2025

Our recent trip to the Battlefields of Belgium was an unforgettable experience, and our students were truly outstanding throughout. Over the course of several days, they explored key sites that brought the history of the First World War to life. From visiting cemeteries and memorials to going down into the tunnels once used by soldiers, students showed great curiosity, maturity, and respect at every moment.

A particular highlight was the moving ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, where our Head Boy, Lucas, and Head Girl, Lydia, laid a wreath on behalf of the school. It was a powerful and emotional occasion, reminding everyone of the bravery and sacrifice of those who lost their lives in the war. Many students commented on how meaningful it was to take part in this act of remembrance.

In between the historical visits, students also had the opportunity to enjoy a taste of Belgian culture. The trip ended on a sweet note as everyone enjoyed traditional Belgian waffles before heading home. A lively chocolate-making demonstration gave everyone the chance to see and taste how Belgium produces its world-famous chocolates.

Throughout the trip, staff were immensely proud of how well the students represented the school. Their behaviour, enthusiasm, and respect for the significance of the sites they visited were exemplary.



House Update

Week 7 saw Neptune complete 5 weeks on the trot at the top of the leaderboard and they were looking very strong to complete another week at the top extending their run to 6 out of 8 weeks, that was until Apollo stormed to the top of the leaderboard for their first win of the year.

Our final week of the half term was a time to celebrate all that have been achieved since September, and so much had been achieved.

A monumental total of 198,280 house points were awarded during the first half term, with an amazing total of 391 students having taken part in our house events so far. My target of every student taking part in at least one house event this academic year is looking achievable.

A huge congratulations to the students who have earned the most house points for their house in each year group.

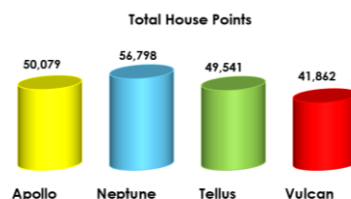
Apollo: Alfie P (yr7), Brody F (yr8), Ayda M (yr9), Daisy D (yr10), Harley H (yr11).

Neptune: Eve W (yr7), Amelia T (yr8), Aurora-Jae G (yr9), Casper S (yr10), Chloe H (yr11)

Tellus: Dakota S (yr7), Alex G (yr8), Caden W (yr9), Amelia C (yr10), Frankie D (yr11)

Vulcan: Alfie W (yr7), Ava-Mae E (yr8), Ella-Mae S (yr9), Claudia H (yr10), Aaliyah S (yr11)

With so many more house events to come, it's going to be a great year.



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OHA GALLERY

Girls in Sport continues to impress!



KS3 Football Fundraiser Winners



Year 8 Boys Football Debut Game for 25-26



Battlefields Trip 2025



8-1 win for Y9 in the County Cup



Half Term Rewards Breakfast Bingo



Darts Club proves popular for KS4!



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GREEN CAREERS WEEK 2025 WILL TAKE PLACE FROM NOVEMBER 3RD TO NOVEMBER 8TH, FOCUSING ON PROMOTING CAREERS IN SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECTORS.

JOB PROFILE

COMPANY: BRITISH GAS

JOB ROLE: HEATING SALES EXECUTIVE

SALARY: FROM £30,000

MISSION:

Energizing a greener, fairer future by creating an energy system that doesn't rely on fossil fuels whilst living our powerful commitment to igniting positive change in our communities.

What they're looking for

- Proven success in business to consumer sales
- Self-starter attitude with a target driven mindset
- Natural people skills to build rapport with customers and internal stakeholders alike
- Energy, resilience, and a competitive edge
- Full UK driving licence

Job Benefits

- £30,698.00 starting salary + monthly commission — earn up to £92k per year
- Top of the range company vehicle or car allowance
- Up to £580 annual discount on your energy bill
- 25 days holiday + option to buy 5 more + 8 bank holidays
- Flexible benefits — tech vouchers, travel insurance & more
- Generous pension scheme

KEY INFORMATION

A green career can be any job, role or occupation that contributes to preserving or restoring the environment and our planet. It can be any industry, not just those seen as 'green.'

Green skills are abilities, attributes, values, attitudes, knowledge, and technical skills needed to adapt services, processes and procedures to support climate change.

Green careers are a fast-growing global employment sector that touches every company, employer, employee, and education establishment. Requiring everyone to work together to build a talent pipeline from school through to employment for the thousands and thousands of jobs and roles needed for the future.

Green careers reach into every aspect of our lives and offer young people an exciting array of opportunities. There are green careers and green skills suitable for everyone.

Choosing a green career can help you to have a positive impact on the environment through the work that you do.

If you want to make a difference to the environment in your career, you could:

- work in a green sector like renewable energy
- work for a company that actively tries to be more environmentally friendly
- think about what you can change in your day-to-day work to make a difference

USEFUL LINKS

[ORGANISATIONS – GREEN CAREERS WEEK](#)

[EXPLORE GREEN CAREERS | NATIONAL CAREERS SERVICE](#)

[NET ZERO STRATEGY: BUILD BACK GREENER – GOV.UK](#)

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PURPLE TICKET STANDINGS

Virtual Purple Tickets are awarded weekly for:

- 100% attendance
- 0 Behaviour Points
- Per 20 House Points (running total)
- Homework completion - Sparx Maths
- Homework completion - Sparx Reader
- Homework completion - Sparx Science

Purple tickets earn rewards for:

- Weekly queue jumps/prizes
- Half termly "in academy" rewards event invites
- Termly external reward trips invites
- Termly raffle prizes - shopping voucher (1 raffle ticket per purple ticket)
- Y11 prom ticket/leavers hoodies

Current No.1 Ranking in the Academy - Florrie (36)



Year 7 (30+)
Williams, E
Jones, R
Folorunso, S
Simm, L
Mountford, N
Beardmore, M

Year 8 (33+)
Bailey-Amison, F
Bagguley, E
Eardley, A
Lahillonne, S
Martin, L

Year 9 (28+)
Hanks, R
Bailey, R
Gallimore, A
Innocent, E
Hughes, M
Tustanowski, O
Wain, J

Year 10 (28+)
Cooke, L
Menzies, L
Badu, A
O'Leary, I
Woolliscroft, J
Ingram, D
Leach, E

Year 11 (25+)
Cartwright, S
Hassall, L
Martin, L
Jackson, A
Tomlinson, T
Davis, F