

Vol 11: Friday 6th March

Principal's Update

Dear OHA Community,

I hope everyone enjoyed a lovely half term and despite the poor weather were able to get out and have some family time together.

Pride of place this week goes to Mrs Naylor and Miss Wilkes. I am delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Gold Careers Mark which recognises the amazing work we do in providing a spectrum of excellent career opportunities for our students. This starts in Year 7 and builds right through to Year 11. This is a part of our school that we are hugely proud of, and we feel that the opportunities our students get in these areas are second to none. Well done to our Careers team and all the students who were involved in the process.

Attendance continues to be a key focus for us for this half term. Please take note of the Attendance Challenge that is taking place - with some lovely cream egg treats to be shared on Friday 27th March for those students who have beaten their attendance from last half term.

Congratulations to our Year 11 cohort who are coming to the end of their second set of mock examinations. It is a gruelling process but will prepare them well for their summer examinations.

Finally, I would like to welcome the 210 Year 6 students who received their offer letter to OHA this week. We are delighted to welcome them to our OHA family. A big thank you to Mrs Douglas and Miss Collis for all the hard work and time they invest in the transition process. We are very proud to be full once again.

Mr Fitzgibbon

Key Dates



Thursday 12th March

MHST Tea & Talk Morning – further information to be sent out

Tuesday 17th March

Year 10 Revision Evening (In Academy) 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Tuesday 23rd March – Wednesday 25th March

Year 7 Residential

Monday 23rd March

Year 10 Careers Challenge (In Academy)

*Selected classes only

Tuesday 24th March

Personal Development Day 2

Thursday 26th March

Rewards Trip: Location TBC

Friday 27th March – Tuesday 31st March

MFL Trip to Barcelona

Friday 27th March

Academy closes for Easter at 3.10pm

PD Day 2: Tuesday 24th March



Year 7 – Inclusive Sports Day (Academy PE Kit)

Year 8 – Introduction to DofE Day @ Delamere Forest (Academy PE Kit, a spare pair of shoes, plus a packed lunch)

Year 9 – Natwest Careers Challenge (Academy Uniform)

Year 10 – Careers in Science, Forensics Day (Academy PE Kit)

Year 11 – Intervention (Academy Uniform)

All years are required at their normal start time of 8.30am, at their normal line up.

Year 7, 9, 10 and 11 will be staying on site for their activities.

Parents of **Year 8** have an Edulink form for up to date contact information to fill in, this is only available via the parental page – not through a student log in.

All year 8 students who receive FSM, will have a packed lunch provided as well.

Assembly Overview

WB 9th March

Y7/Y10 – Principals Assembly

Y11 – Counting down to exams

WB 16th March

Y8, Y9 & Y11 – Principals Assembly

Y7 – Residential Reminders



PSHE Overview

Year 7 – Menstruation & Emotions

Year 8 – CPR & Antibiotics

Year 9 – Democracy & Countries

Year 10 – Courts & Laws



Safeguarding contact information:

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Year 7

Welcome back from half term! I hope you all had a lovely and restful week off.

We now have just over three weeks left of this half term, and we also have our very exciting residential coming up—which I'm really looking forward to enjoying with you all as well as PD Day 2, for students remaining in the academy based on inclusivity.

I'd like us to make a big push on attendance over the next few weeks; let's aim to be the best we can be and show outstanding attendance as a team.

~ Miss Taylor (HOY)

Year 8

Welcome back after half term – it's been great to see students return with such positive energy.

Our focus this term continues to be attendance, with our aim being to see every student in school, every day, so they can make the most of their learning and time with friends.

We also have our upcoming Personal Development day at Delamere Forest, which I'm really looking forward to – I can't wait to get my walking shoes out with you all! Remember to fill in your up to date information via Edulink Forms, and pack a packed lunch/spare of shoes for the day.

~ Miss Betley (HOY)

Year 9

What a fantastic turnout for Options Evening – it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm from both students and parents. We're also incredibly proud of our Year 9 sporting achievements.

A huge well done to our darts team, who played their first competitive matches against Birches Head Academy – a brilliant milestone for the team!

Congratulations as well to Sonny, who came out on top in our chess competition, beating an impressive 37 competitors to take first place. An outstanding achievement, well done.

~ Mrs Milne (HOY)

Year 10

Year 10s are off to a fantastic start this half term! I'm so proud of their hard work on coursework in their option subjects and assessments in both core and options.

Our upcoming PD day will be in the academy, focusing on forensics and science careers. Students need to wear PE kit – please see the letter sent from Miss Wilkes via Edulink/emails.

I hope you've all received your child's report, we have some fantastic achievements and progress being made. Feel free to reach out with any questions.

~ Miss Harris (HOY)

Year 11

It's been a real tough 2 weeks for our Year 11's as they've gone straight from half term into their mocks.

I am really proud on how resilience students have been with facing their last round of mocks before the real deal. I hope students get the results they worked so hard for in this last round and get themselves in the best position as possible for their GSCE's which is approaching scarily fast. Mock results will be given out on PD Day 2 – 24th March.

~ Mrs Richardson (HOY)

Lego League Success

We're incredibly proud to celebrate our very first OHA team taking part in the FIRST LEGO League tournament held at the Newcastle and Stafford Colleges Group (NSCG) Newcastle Campus in February

This year's challenge, FIRST LEGO League UNEARTHED, invites teams to explore the past and uncover stories through innovation and technology. Our students designed and built their robot using the LEGO Mindstorms set, programming it to complete a series of exciting missions on the competition table. Throughout the day they demonstrated fantastic teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving as they tackled a range of robot challenges.

For a first-time entry, the team represented OHA brilliantly and showed real determination and enthusiasm. Huge well done to everyone involved – we're already looking forward to next year!



House Update

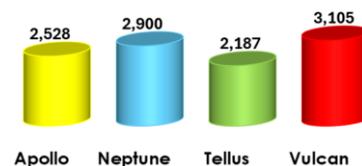
The largest inter-house Chess Tournament (our 2nd of the academic year) finally concluded, after some mammoth games, with Sonny (Yr9) narrowly beating Casper (Yr10) in an epic final game. Well done to everyone that played a part in our best tournament ever.

The first short story writing competition of the year was a struggle to judge given the huge number of entries. But with help from the English department, we finally narrowed and concluded that; Kiara (Apollo yr9) was the overall winner, Year 7 winner: was Susan (Apollo), Year 8 winner: Aida-Paula (Apollo), Year 9 winner: Gia (Apollo) and the Year 10 winner: Julia (Neptune). Well done to everyone that took part.

The Dodgeball league has had to pause while the year 11's complete their mock exams so our focused has switched to the Escape Room challenges, which are still ongoing, with Vulcan currently leading the way with the fastest time to complete the challenge.

Week 21 saw another Vulcan weekly with Neptune coming 2nd, Apollo 3rd and Tellus 4th. With so many more competitions still to come it's anyone's guess who will become the house champions of 2026.

House Points - Week 21



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OHA GALLERY

Y10 Apprenticeship Expo



Interhouse Chess Champion



NANCY

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
COUNTIES '26

Age 13
200m Back
Silver 🏆
PB Regional QT
🕒 2:44.40



Y10 Boys Football Success in the community



OHA's first Darts Fixture



Y10 Photography Workshop



Stoke City LGBTQ+ Workshops



Y8 Workshop with Emma Bridgewater



KS3 Sparx Roller Disco



Y10 Careers in Art Workshops



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Careers of the Month

MARCH Y7

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER



Check out this career on Unifrog, or scan here to:

- Watch the video
- Find out what the job involves and how to get in
- See how much you could be paid



MARCH Y8

MECHANICAL ENGINEER



Check out this career on Unifrog, or scan here to:

- Watch the video
- Find out what the job involves and how to get in
- See how much you could be paid



MARCH Y9

TREE SURGEON



Check out this career on Unifrog, or scan here to:

- Watch the video
- Find out what the job involves and how to get in
- See how much you could be paid



MARCH Y10

HYPNOTHERAPIST



Check out this career on Unifrog, or scan here to:

- Watch the video
- Find out what the job involves and how to get in
- See how much you could be paid



MARCH Y11

FINANCE MANAGER



Check out this career on Unifrog, or scan here to:

- Watch the video
- Find out what the job involves and how to get in
- See how much you could be paid



National Careers Week 2026

Use the links below for further information on Careers:

[Countdown - NCW 2026 Virtual Careers Fair](#)

[Money Confidence and Future Skills](#)

[National Careers Week | National Careers Service](#)

[Home | Discover your skills and careers | National Careers Service](#)

For any further support, visit our website page or speak to Mrs Naylor:

[Ormiston Horizon Academy | An ambitious school at the heart of our community - Careers Guidance](#)

PURPLE TICKET STANDINGS

Virtual Purple Tickets are awarded weekly for:

- 100% attendance
- Behaviour Points
- Per 20 House Points (running total)
- Homework completion – Sparx Maths
- Homework completion – Sparx Reader/GCSE POD
- Homework completion – Sparx Science

Current No.1 Ranking in the Academy:

Luna Rae (Year 7) – AGAIN!

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

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Gibson, L	Bailey, C	Shaw, E	Melenciuc, A	Williams, M
Adshead, E	Marsden, F	Allin, L	Moore, R	Ashley, L
Harrison, M	Bagguley, E	Wain, J	Rapi, E	Bryan, S
Wood, I	Davies, B	Smart, L	Espley, L	Cartwright, S
Adeniran, M	Whitefoot, K	Gallimore, A	Menzies, L	Clowes, F
Wozny, A	Lahillonne, S	Rajhman, H	O’Leary, I	Jackson, A
O’Leary, C	Raza, A	Hughes, M	Hussain, N	Boardman, L
Williams, E	Davies, O	Holdcroft, E	Roberts, O	Carter, M
Bagnall, D	Tate, E	Arthur, M	Ingram, D	Leech, G



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BOOST YOUR ATTENDANCE!

ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE!

24th February - 27th March

24 DAYS!

IMPROVE YOUR ATTENDANCE!

SHOW BETTER ATTENDANCE THAN LAST HALF TERM...

EARN A DELICIOUS REWARD!

GET A FREE

CRÈME EGG!

