



## WELCOME TO THE PARENTAL NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2021

### A LETTER FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parent and Carers,

Here we are at the end of a year which has seen unprecedented challenges for students, staff and parents. I would like to thank you for your continued support, patience, and acceptance of all of the changes that have been implemented along the way to ensure that our young people have continued to learn and develop over the past year.

We have seen some truly amazing work from students and staff reflecting our core values of Originality, Community, Aspiration, Excellence and Respect. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parent/carers who attended our Excellence Show this week; it means an awful lot to us as staff to have the support of our families.

Alfie's memorial garden was opened on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July of OCAER week and I want to extend my thanks to Alfie's family for their attendance. Alfie will always be remembered at OCA; he was and always will be one of us.

It has been a joy to get trips up and running again and we will be back next year with many more opportunities for our students both at home and abroad.

Congratulations to Joel Barnett and Vyara Mihova who have been shortlisted to the next round of interviews at Gresham's in Norfolk for a prestigious place at a sixth form boarding school.

Congratulations to Sophie Pitt, Maddison McKinnon and Theo McNulty who got through the first round too.

Head Boy and Head Girl interviews will be held in second week back in September and I look forward to receiving and reading the applications.

In July, the Year 11 tie ceremony was held; this was a very special moment for our students embarking on the final year of their journey

We are very much looking forward to welcoming new Year 7 students in a special tie giving ceremony on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Further arrangements for our students' return to school will be sent out towards the end of August.

Years 7 and 11 will return on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September and Years 8-10 will return on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and restful summer, and we look forward to welcoming you all back for what we hope will be another uninterrupted year.



## LITERACY

### **READING IN FORM TIME.**

Pupils in Years 7-10 have finished the class books with their form tutors! Below you will find a link to the books so you can read about it in readiness for September!

#### **Year 7 - Bubble Boy**

**Illness/disability**

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2016/sep/16/the-bubble-boy-by-stewart-foster-review>

#### **Year 8 – Wonder**

**Disability/bullying/inclusion**

[https://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/books/children\\_sbookreviews/9099174/Wonder-by-R.J-Palacio-review.html](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/books/children_sbookreviews/9099174/Wonder-by-R.J-Palacio-review.html)

#### **Year 9 - Ketchup Clouds**

**Betrayal/democracy/death row**

[https://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/books/children\\_sbookreviews/9778282/Ketchup-Clouds-by-Annabel-Pitcher-review.html](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/books/children_sbookreviews/9778282/Ketchup-Clouds-by-Annabel-Pitcher-review.html)

#### **Year 10 - Pigeon English**

**Immigration/inclusion**

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2011/mar/13/pigeon-english-stephen-kelman-review>

## **FAMILY TALKING POINTS – IT'S GOOD TO TALK!**

What do you talk about at home? Try one of our Family Talking Points! Each week in form time, our pupils have a Family Talking Point that they discuss, talk about the topic at home and then feedback the next week, ready for another Talking Point. All of our FTP are on the website!

## ATTENDANCE

Over the past year we have rewarded 60 students with pamper/treat bags, £5 love-to-shop-vouchers and breakfasts in the first half term.

During the 12 days of Christmas Spectacular, we awarded 72 students; during the 10 days of Easter Eggstrvaganza, we awarded 60 students and during the 7 days of Summer Sizzlers, we awarded 35 students!

Mr Rice announced the winners over the academy tannoy system, affectionately known as on the bing bong! Rewards included Easter Eggs, chocolate bombs, cream eggs, Ditton Deli breakfasts, chocolate fountains, cinema tickets, a movie afternoon with friends, chocolate/sweet treats, KFC takeaway, advent calendars, Costa Coffee vouchers, pamper sets including Lynx or Soap & Glory, Krispy Kreme donuts, Mcdonald's breakfasts, All4one beauty & gaming vouchers, All4one restaurant vouchers and bowling vouchers.

The last day of the rewards is always a family takeaway for one student in each year for their outstanding attendance as well as a reward for the students with the most improved attendance. Well done to all our winners!



We are offering our soon-to-be Year 7s the opportunity to participate in our summer school! It is totally free, includes lots of fun activities and lunch!

Register your place following the link:

<https://kwiksurveys.com/s/VMNcMX3c/i/0>

And email [summerschool@sandymooroa.co.uk](mailto:summerschool@sandymooroa.co.uk) with any queries you may have.

Alongside this, we are inviting parents from 9am -12pm of the first week, 25th July – 29th July to take part in a variety of literacy activities, such as reading for pleasure, discussion skills, job application skills, supporting your child with literacy, communication skills and a general refresher on all things literacy, with coffee and cake! Please contact [summerliteracy@ocacademy.co.uk](mailto:summerliteracy@ocacademy.co.uk) if you would like to attend.

ORMISTON  
CHADWICK  
ACADEMY



\*FREE to students  
joining in 2022



# YR7 SUMMER INTRO

ORMISTON  
CHADWICK  
ACADEMY

AGE QUOD AGIS



Ormiston Chadwick Academy are offering their Yr 6 transition students the opportunity to gain confidence and bond before starting their OCA journey

25TH JULY  
TO  
5TH AUGUST

9AM-3PM

FREE\*

### Activities include:

- ✓ Archery
- ✓ Yoga
- ✓ Circus Skills
- ✓ Drama
- ✓ Samba Drumming

### Ormiston Chadwick Academy

Liverpool Rd, Widnes  
WA8 7HU

### Registration Link

<https://kwiksurveys.com/s/VMNcMX3c>

More Information [summerschool@sandymooroa.co.uk](mailto:summerschool@sandymooroa.co.uk)



### **YEAR 11 LITERATURE LUNCH CLUB**

Since its relaunch in September, Wednesday lunch times in the library have never been the same! A special thank you to our Year 11s for their beautiful reading every week of some, shall we say, challenging yet fun material!

We are reading 'Losing It' an anthology of short stories!

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Losing-Keith Gray/dp/1849390991>

### **READING PALS**

Every Friday during form time, some of our especially selected Year 10s come to the library to listen to some of our especially selected Year 7s read!

The Year 10s offer advice, encouragement and they sign reading logs as well as being a friendly face.

A very big well done to everyone involved this year! We will continue our reading scheme in September, but we would like even more students involved, to read to and be read to! More information will be on its way in at the start of the new academic year!

### **READING AGES**

Students in Years 7-10 had their reading ages tested during the penultimate full week of term; this is essential so that we track students' progress and put in place any interventions.

### **HARLEY**

This term we have been very lucky to have made contact with a charity, Canine Concern.

Harley, a miniature Australian labradoodle visits us each Monday with her trainer and handler; she is a specially trained therapy and literacy dog. She's very happy to be read to and loves it if she's asked to visit some of our students who need a cuddle with her if they're having a difficult time.

Because she is specially trained, she does not react to the school bell or crowded corridors. Parents and carers are informed if their child is in contact with her. Harley really is on of the reasons that we all look forward to Mondays!



More information about the work that they do can be found here: [Welcome to Canine Concern - Canine Concern](#)

**BOOK VENDING MACHINE**

So, this arrived on Friday and has so far caused a stir!

It is our book vending machine that is in the main building of the foyer; students pass it every day when they come into the school building. We are in the process of stocking the machine with books that reflect our school values of originality, community, aspiration, excellence and respect, as well as broad selection of cross curricular novels and factual books.

The vending machine is part of our rewards' process; gold book token, similar to coins, will be given to deserving students who will select a book using the key pad in a traditional vending machine! The book will drop and be retrieved!



You can find out about some of the book choices for our vending machine below. And of course, let us know if there is something else you would like!

**A SELECTION OF YEAR 7 CHOICES**

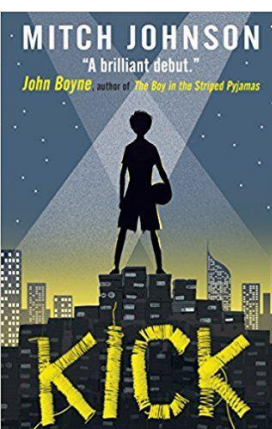
[Wonder: R. J. Palacio : Palacio, R J, Palacio, R J: Amazon.co.uk: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Wonder-R-J-Palacio/dp/1616196528)

August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. *Wonder*, begins from Auggie's point of view, but soon switches to include his classmates, his sister, her boyfriend, and others.



[Freedom: 1 : Johnson, Catherine: Amazon.co.uk: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Freedom-1-Johnson-Catherine/dp/1616196528)

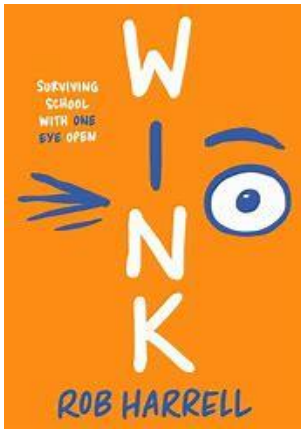
An action-packed and pacey story about a boy's experience of slavery in Britain. Nathaniel doesn't want to move to England with his master's family, leaving behind his mother and sister on the Jamaican plantation. But then he remembers what his mother told him: once a slave sets foot on English soil, they're free. Perhaps he can earn his fortune and buy his family's freedom, too.



[Kick : Mitch Johnson: Amazon.co.uk: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Kick-Johnson-Mitch/dp/1616196528)

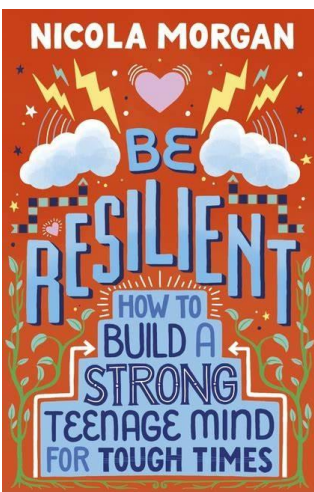
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A SELECTION OF YEAR 8 CHOICES



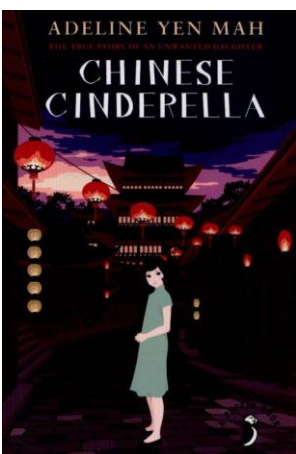
[Wink](#)

Ross Molloy just wants to be normal. He doesn't want to lose his hair, or wear a weird hat, or deal with the disappearing friends who don't know what to say to 'the cancer kid'. But with his recent diagnosis of a rare eye cancer, simply blending in is no longer an option. Ross - and his friends and his family - all need to work out how to deal with this devastating challenge that Life has thrown down. Maybe Batpig can come to the rescue?



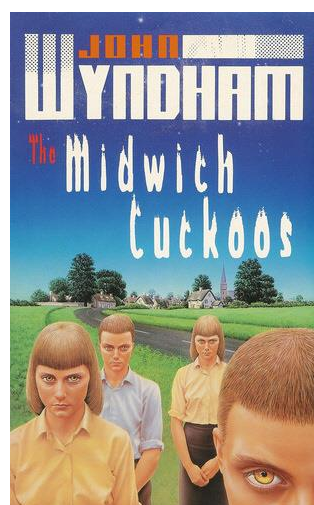
[Be Resilient: How to Build a Strong Teenage Mind for Tough Times : Morgan, Nicola: Amazon.co.uk: Books](#)

Some events in life will always be out of our control, whether it's a global crisis or a traumatic event at home – but *Be Resilient* shows that the power to cope is in our hands. Discover how to develop the skill of mental resilience in this fascinating guide from award-winning author and teenage brain expert Nicola Morgan. From building a support network to building optimism, find positive, practical advice for preparing for, coping with and bouncing back from the toughest of times.



[Chinese Cinderella \(A Puffin Book\) : Yen Mah, Adeline: Amazon.co.uk: Books](#)

Jung-ling's family considers her bad luck because her mother died giving birth to her. They discriminate against her and make her feel unwanted yet she yearns and continuously strives for her parents' love. Her stepmother is vindictive and cruel and her father dismissive. Jung-ling grows up to be an academic child, with a natural ability for writing. Only her aunt and grandfather offer her any love and kindness. The story is of survival in the light of the mental and physical cruelty of her stepmother and the disloyalty of her siblings.

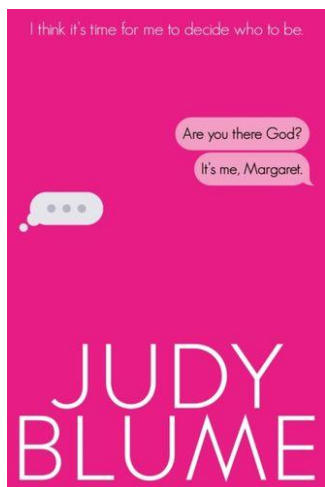


[The Midwich Cuckoos : Wyndham, John:](#)

In the sleepy English village of Midwich, a mysterious silver object appears and all the inhabitants fall unconscious. A day later the object is gone and everyone awakens unharmed - except that all the women in the village are discovered to be pregnant. The resultant children of Midwich do not belong to their parents: all are blonde, all are golden eyed. They grow up too fast and their minds exhibit frightening abilities that give them control over others and brings them into conflict with the villagers just as a chilling realisation dawns on the world outside. "The Midwich Cuckoos" is the classic tale of aliens in our midst, exploring how we respond when confronted by those who are innately superior to us in every conceivable way.

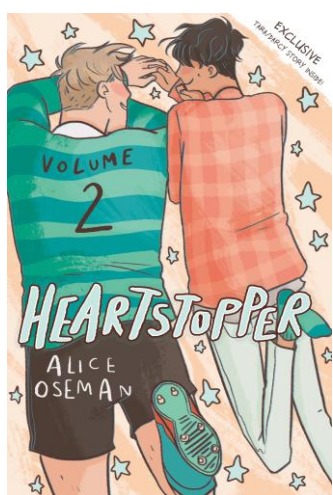
## LITERACY – VENDING MACHINE

### A SELECTION OF YEAR 9 CHOICES



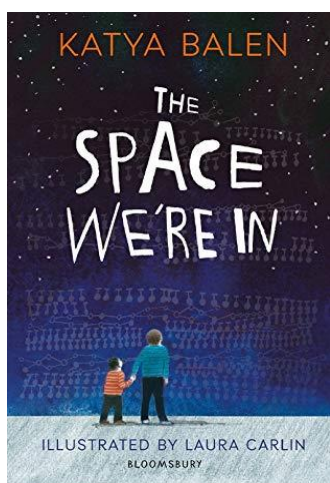
#### [Judy Blume Are you there God its me Margaret](#)

Life isn't easy for Margaret. She's moved away from her childhood home, she's starting a new school, finding new friends – and she's convinced she's not normal. For a start she hasn't got a clue whether she wants to be Jewish like her father or Christian like her mother. Everyone else seems really sure of who they are. And, worst of all, she's a 'late developer'. It's too embarrassing to talk to her parents about these things. So she talks to God instead – and waits for an answer.



#### [Heartstopper Volume 1: Oseman, Alice: Amazon.co.uk: Books](#)

Charlie and Nick are at the same school, but they've never met ... until one day when they're made to sit together. They quickly become friends, and soon Charlie is falling hard for Nick, even though he doesn't think he has a chance. But love works in surprising ways, and Nick is more interested in Charlie than either of them realised.

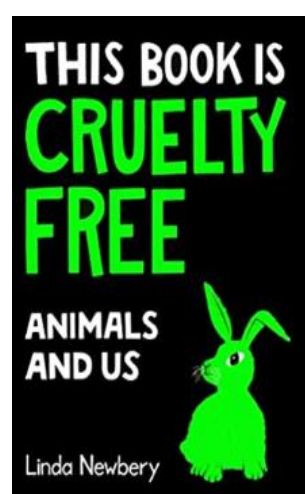
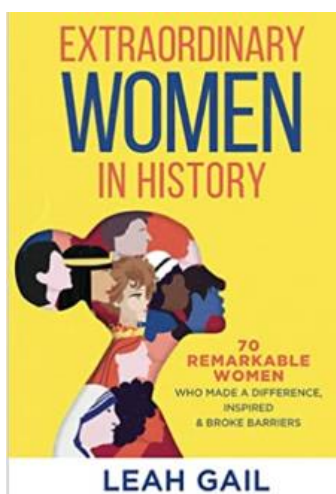
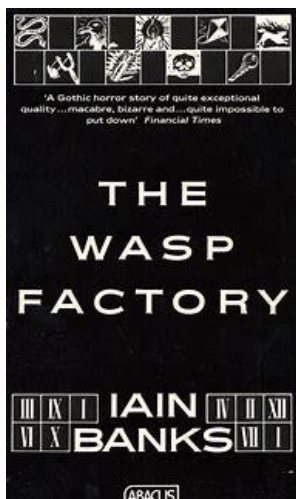
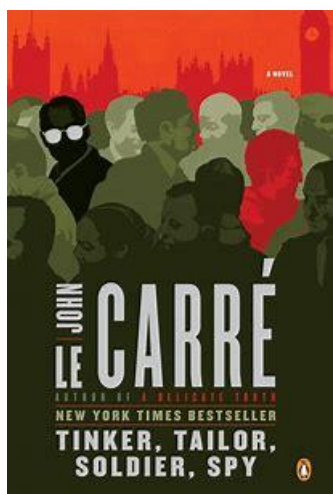


#### [The Space We're In: from the winner of the Yoto Carnegie Medal 2022 : Balen, Katya, Carlin, Laura:](#)

10 year-old Frank has trouble navigating his relationship with his younger brother Max who is autistic. Frank loves soccer, codes, riding his bike, and playing with his friends. His brother Max is five. Max only eats foods that are beige or white, hates baths, and if he has to wear a t-shirt that isn't grey with yellow stripes, he has a melt down. Frank longs for the brother he was promised by his parents before Max was born--someone who was supposed to be his biggest fan, so he could be the best brother in the world.

Instead, Frank has trouble navigating Max's behavior and their relationship. But when tragedy strikes, Frank finds a way to try and repair their fractured family and in doing so learns to love Max for who he is.

### A SELECTION OF KS4 CHOICES



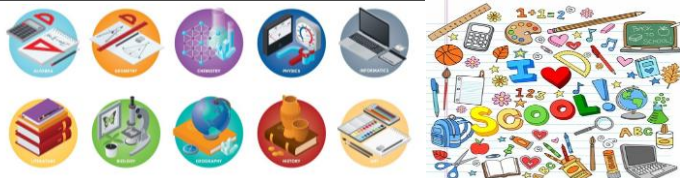
[Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy: John Le Carré](#)

[The Wasp Factory: Ian Banks:](#)

[Women-History-Remarkable-Difference-Free: Animals and Us](#)

# SUCCESS STORIES

## DEPARTMENTAL SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS: 2021-2022



**CULTURE FOR READING:** All students in English have regular opportunities to read plays, poetry, novels and non-fiction. This year, we have seen how students' fluency, expression and vocabulary have improved with lots of students sharing their love for reading.

**CURRICULUM:** Students have risen to the challenge in studying an ambitious curriculum this year, learning about love potions and fairies in Shakespeare's plays, investigating crimes with Sherlock Holmes, dispelling the negative stereotypes of poor people in the Victorian era, or following the journey of immigrants onboard the Empire Windrush.

**ENRICHMENT:** Debate Mate has been a roaring success during this academic year!

A group of year 7 OCAers came together in order to learn a new skill and excelled in oracy and persuasion. Together, the students worked hard for our Debate Team and found a real passion for current events. Our weekly debates were widely successful within enrichment and after our dedicated debaters finished the course, they elected a team captain to continue to nurture these newfound skills on their own. Well done team!

**TRIPS:** A group of Year 10 students attended a taster session at Cronton College in June where they experienced an A-Level English Language lesson. The teacher was blown away by our students - both their maturity and insightful responses to some challenging material and questions. Here, the students embodied OCA's core values of excellence and aspiration.

**CULTURE FOR READING:** All students in English have regular opportunities to read plays, poetry, novels and non-fiction. This year, we have seen how students' fluency, expression and vocabulary have improved with lots of students sharing their love for reading.

**LIBRARY:** All KS3 students have taken part in lessons in the library where they have read a variety of fiction and non-fiction. Additionally, students have taken part in library challenges to win prizes and have their creative masterpieces on display. Year 11s shared their love of reading at Literature Lunch Club, reading short stories about love, relationships and growing up.

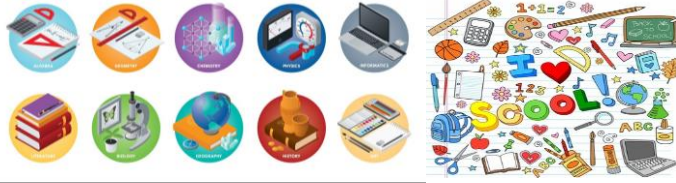
**WORLD BOOK DAY:** Year 7 students who won the golden ticket were awarded for excellent attitudes toward their learning with a chocolate-themed party in the library hosted by Willy Wonka himself (formerly known as Mrs Percival).





# SUCCESS STORIES

## DEPARTMENTAL SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS: 2021-2022



HISTORY

History department successes this year include the Holocaust survivor speech delivered to Year 9 students via Teams. This provided students with witness statement evidence to enhance understanding of the Holocaust and its impact.

In addition, a selection of Year 7 History students took part in the cross curricular enrichment project with MFL and English.

Miss Bell lead the session and provided materials for an informal book club with Year 9 and 10 students, focusing on historical fiction.

The department has created, implemented and reviewed new source and interpretation mastery sheets to enhance student understanding of these key features of the subject. Students have examined evidence independently, leading to stronger outcomes.

Max Barnes (ex student) is also due to speak to Year 10 History students on 7th July to discuss his progress to university. I can provide more after the event if required.



A recent fieldwork for Y10 geography students at Loggerheads country park was a huge success for not only the department, but all pupils involved, this was recognised by members of the public who commended our Y10 pupils on their polite, kind behaviour.

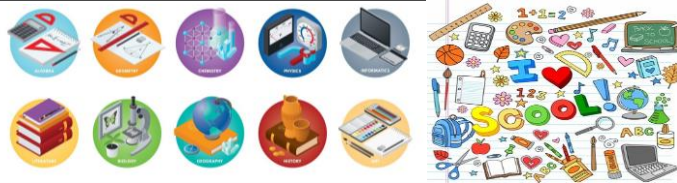
Increased uptake at geography GCSE for the upcoming year 9 cohort.

The new KS3 curriculum implemented Sept 2021 covered a range of both human and physical topics giving pupils a broad insight into KS5 choices, this was also shown to increase pupil engagement within geography shown through student survey

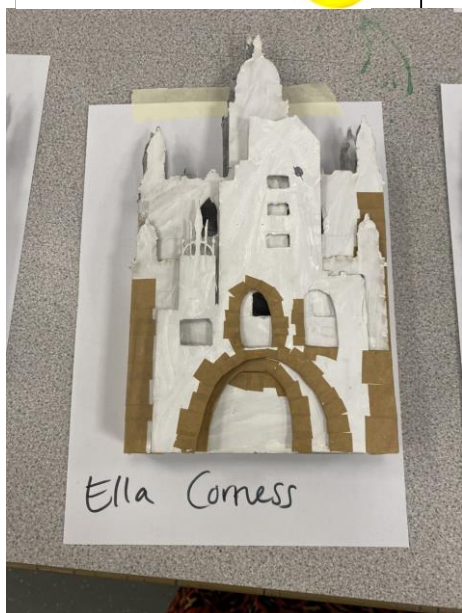


# SUCCESS STORIES

## DEPARTMENTAL SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS: 2021-2022



Year 10 students have been working on their GCSE coursework on the theme of architecture developing their card construction and decoration skills using a wide variety of media. All students have achieved a substantial amount of progress in their short 3 hour exam, as seen in these photographs of their work.



Ella Corness



Milly Vick



Millie Doyle



George Greenway



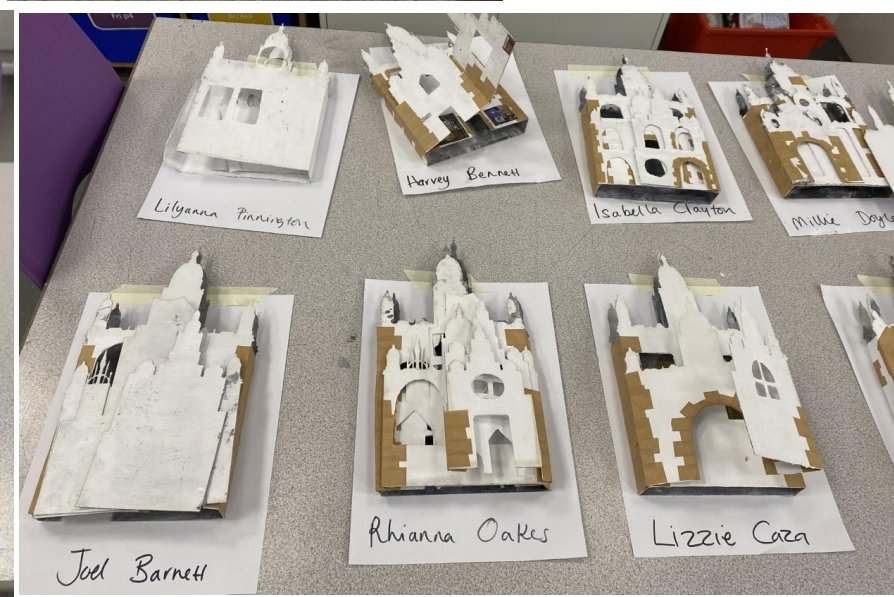
Lizzie Caza



Isabella Clayton



Alyssa Stevenson



Lilyanna Parrington

Harvey Barnett

Isabella Clayton

Millie Doyle

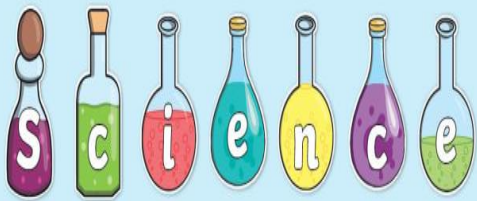
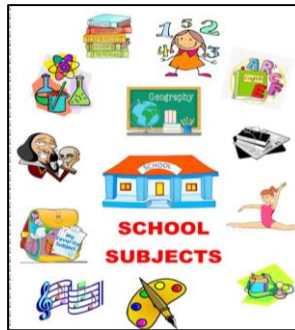
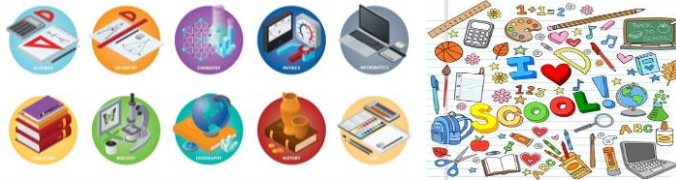
Joel Barnett

Rhianna Oakes

Lizzie Caza

# SUCCESS STORIES

## DEPARTMENTAL SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS: 2021-2022



This year's year 7 and 8 students have taken part in an enrichment trip to Widnes Catalyst Discovery Centre to expand their cultural capital by exploring real world science application and build links to the local community's science industry.

KS3 students took part in the British Science Week which explored the concept of growth in Science. All students produced a poster on the growth mindset and the best were chosen to be forwarded to the national competition.

Other competitions were run through the year to promote student engagement including an Easter egg competition for KS3 and a code-breaking Christmas hamper competition for KS4.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION



### NATIONAL SPORTS WEEK!

All students should leave school with the knowledge to lead healthy active lifestyles and a lifelong participation in sport. The activities that week included:

In PE lessons: Danish long ball, kinball, foot golf, dodgeball, ultimate frisbee.

Enrichment: KS3 football and rounders, then KS4 football and dodgeball.

Primary football tournament: 5 feeder primaries entered their girls' teams into a tournament at OCA. Nine of our future GCSE PE students were young leaders for the event. These were Jace Hurst, Bobby Houghton, Lennon King, Matthew Sharkey, Dan Millington, Joe Tyrer, Cian Brown, George Daley and George Bell. They were exemplary!



# SUCCESS STORIES

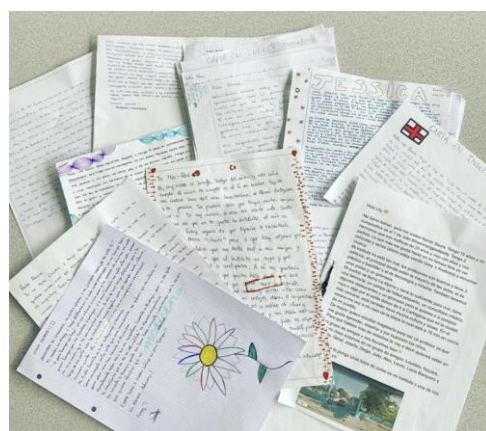
## DEPARTMENTAL SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS: 2021-2022



**ENRICHMENT AND CULTURAL CAPITAL OPPORTUNITIES:** This year, at the MFL department, we have had the fantastic opportunity to learn about other cultures and languages. In February, Years 7 to 9 had the chance to immerse themselves in the Chinese New Year's celebrations and the Chinese language itself thanks to the Manchester Confucius Institute. Year 9 also enjoyed a Spanish breakfast with churros with chocolate. There are no pictures for this one because we were too busy eating the delicious Spanish food! Last but not least, we launched our 2023 Barcelona Trip. We will be visiting the Spanish city in July next year and spend four days carrying out lots of visits and fun activities. It will be the perfect opportunity to put our Spanish into practice!

**GCSE LANGUAGES UPTAKE IS GROWING!** We are over the moon with the number of Year 9 students who have decided to continue to study Spanish at GCSE level. We will now have 3 classes full of talented and curious linguists!

**PEN PAL EXCHANGE:** Our Year 10 Spanish students have been writing to our Spanish friends at Colègi Sant Gabriel in Barcelona and El Bohío in Cartagena. Hopefully, we forge long lasting friendships with them and can visit them in the future to show off our Spanish!



### **CARMEL COLLEGE A LEVEL**

**TASTER LESSON:** on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July, some of our Year 10 linguists visited Carmel College to get a sneak peek of what learning languages at A Level is like.

**ST BASIL'S PRIMARY TRANSITION AFTERNOON:** We were amazed by St Basil's pupils during our transition afternoon. Their engagement, politeness and work ethic were outstanding. ¡Estupendo, chicos! We are really looking forward to teaching you all from September



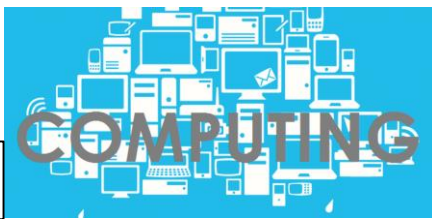
Our enrich programme will be more varied, exciting and jam packed in September! We will be launching our new programme with an Enrichment Fair on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm-4pm. During this time, pupils will be given the opportunity to speak to staff about the clubs and enrichment opportunities on offer an sign up to them! Our expectation is that every pupil attends an enrichment during their OCA career!



KS3 Performing Arts Club



Coding for Girls.

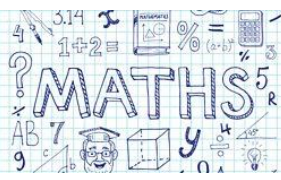
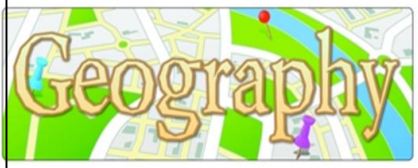


Cross curricular project with Year 7 in conjunction with MFL and English.



Salsa/Bachata – traditional Spanish dance  
Spanish through art – KS3 & Year 10  
Spanish & French sports.

Travel club - pupils will be given time to explore different locations around the world discovering different types of tourism and the issues these locations may face. They will have the opportunity to be their own tour operator creating a itinerary for their group.



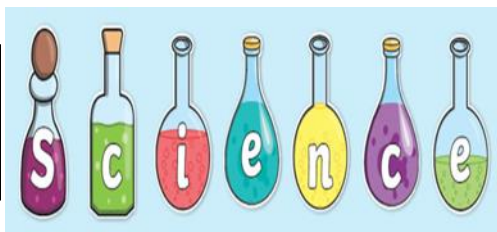
Further maths club for y10s  
Numeracy club for KS 3 & 4



Year 11 Literature Lunch Club  
Journalism Club  
Comic Club  
Book to Film Club –  
Make Ourselves Heard  
LGBT



Fun science practical activities for KS3.  
OAT STEM Fest



Football KS3 and KS4 - Boys & Girls  
Rugby.  
Netball KS3.  
Multi-sports - All Years  
Glow Sports / Dodgeball.

KS3 DT club  
CAD club - laser cutter & 3D printer





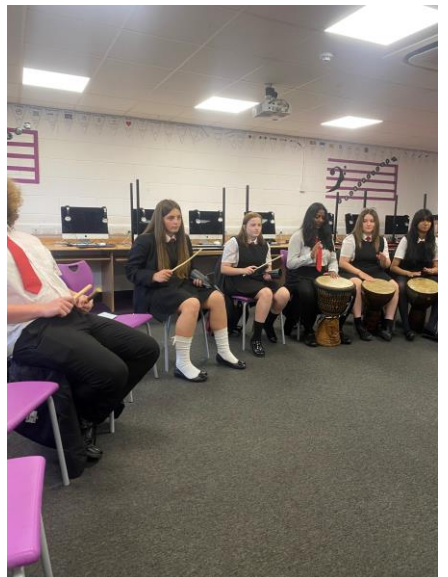
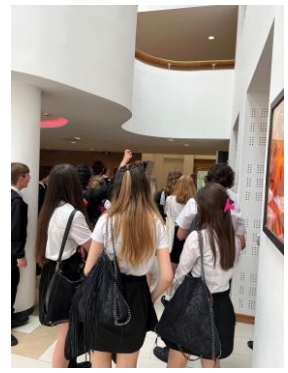
# OCAER WEEK

OCAER Week, a series of events and educational visits, took place on the week of Monday 11th July - Friday 15th July 2022. This week was been planned in accordance with our academy values of originality, community, aspiration, excellence and respect. It was an excellent opportunity for our students to benefit from new and exciting experiences and throughout the week. Our students took part in a series of different opportunities including a trip to Liverpool to visit Frontline Church/Imagine If charity, Strawberry Fields and Hope University. Our students were involved in original experiences such as drumming, cultural cooking, circus skills, team building exercises, art workshops, options taster sessions, Duke of Edinburgh activities, geocaching and listening to speakers from the Anthony Walker Foundation.

The week culminated in 3 Excellence Shows, one each for years 7, 8 and 9. Parents were treated to music, dance, singing, an art and technology exhibition, a summary of the week's activities presented by the students and then an awards' ceremony. Thank you so much for your support; we are already looking forward to OCAER week 2023!



# OCAER WEEK



# THE EXCELLENCE SHOW

