



WELCOME TO THE PARENTAL NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you enjoy our Christmas newsletter. There has been so much going on at the academy this term and we would like to share the good work with you all. I would like to wish everyone associated with OCA a very merry Christmas.

Our success would not be possible without the support of our wonderful staff, parents and wider community. We are very grateful to you all and look forward to continuing this partnership in the months and years ahead.

Have a restful break,
Mrs Lowry-Johnson



OCA IN THE COMMUNITY

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Our first new-look Christmas Fayre was held on Tuesday 6th December. We raised in excess of £300 for Alder Hey Children's Hospital in memory of Alfie Humphreys. We couldn't have done without Year 9 who were completing the OAT #wewill project under the guidance of Miss Bell.



OAT CONFERENCE

We are so proud of Mason, Luke and Daniel who were asked to participate in the OAT conference in November to talk about their tireless fundraising for Alfie's Garden and their ongoing commemorative work.



FOOD BANK



Our 4 houses, Malala, Sutton, Parry and Simmonds have been collecting food for Widnes Foodbank. Vicky Ferguson who works at the Foodbank gave an assembly outlining the role of the foodbank in our community.

OCA'S GOT TALENT

On Thursday 8th December, we held the first ever OCA'S GOT TALENT! And we certainly have! Our audience paid 50p to watch the performances and £160 was raised for the Widnes Foodbank. Well done to all our fabulous participants. We were treated to dance, comedy, singing and music. The overall winner was Eliza Reynolds. in Year 7. Well done Eliza!



GREAT ORMISTON STUDENT BAKE

Well done to all our fabulous bakers! The sale of the cakes at Open Evening, as part of our Macmillan Coffee Morning, raised over £120!

Well done to our finalists, Declan Peel and Evie Roberts who are through to the next round!



BOOKS FOR BREAKFAST

Due to the popularity of the event last year. We held two Books for Breakfast events last term for Year 7 and one for Years 8 & 9. It was fantastic to host an event like this and thank you to all those who attended.



ENRICHMENT

Our new-look Enrichment Timetable was launched at our Enrichment Fayre at the start of the school year; currently nearly 80% of our pupils have been to at least one enrichment and we are determined to get to 100%. Please speak to Miss Ronan or Mr Woods if you have any further suggestions or ideas!

DIVA MAKING CLUB



Building on from our Diwali focus in Morning enrichment sessions, year 7 were invited to make and decorate divas during enrichment time to celebrate Diwali, the Hindu festival of light. The history of Diwali and divas was explored as we put our creativity to the test!



MFL SPELLING BEE

DANCE

This half term students have enjoyed workshops with Emily Marsland, a professional dancer who currently works in the dance industry.

KS3 students have taken part in enrichment sessions where they have learnt a range of styles including commercial and jazz.

Y10 and Y11 students also enjoyed a workshop learning dance combinations in a commercial style to further develop their performance skill.

During the second week in November, the MFL department held the school final of the OAT Spelling Bee. The stakes were high to move to the regional final stage with only two places available. Lots of year seven pupils joined us in H19 to support the participants. Round one involved pupils spelling as many words from the list of 50 as possible within 2 minutes and then the 2 strongest candidates progressed to the "sudden death" round, where each participant was given a word to spell correctly to stay in the competition. There were some tense moments as participants battled it out but eventually, Alfie Roberts and Eliza Reynolds were crowned OCA School Finalists and will progress to the next stage!

A huge well done and congratulations to all those who took part and good luck to Eliza and Alfie for the Regional Final which will take place on Monday 9th January 2023 at Ormiston Chadwick Academy.

CAREERS CONNECT & MOCK INTERVIEWS

Students are currently receiving one to one career guidance from our partner provider, Careers Connect. Alison Belmont our careers advisor is in school every Thursday and provides unique guidance and information to individuals in a 30-minute face to face appointment. Mock interviews took place in December for Year 11 pupils. Pupils had the opportunity to apply for colleges and had a 15 minute face to face interview with our liaison officers and our local colleges and universities.

YOUR FUTURE, YOUR CHOICE

In October, 12 higher education providers from a variety of pathways visited OCA to display what they have on offer! This allowed students in years 10 and 11 the chance to explore and discuss potential post 16 options. Thank you to all of you that attended; our visitors commented on the maturity of our students.

YEAR 11 REVISION EVENING

Thank you to all our parents and carers of Year 11 who attended a revision skills presentation, including various methods, organisation etc. Core subjects provided bespoke revision sessions and all attendees got a 'goody box' of revision materials! Thank you to our parents and carers who supported the event!

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES:
GCHQ TALK

Year 9 pupils gained an insight into a career with the UK's intelligence, security and cyber agency, GCHQ as a Language Analyst and their experiences of learning, speaking and using languages.



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: CAREERS FAIR

Our Careers Fair is on Thursday 26th January for all years from 9am-3pm.

We are inviting a large variety of employers and education sectors to show our students what is available regarding possible career choices, routes in and qualifications needed.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Having excellent attendance and punctuality is essential; as we know, without this, learning and education suffers and opportunities are missed. Our whole school attendance target is 97%; lost time through poor attendance cannot be replaced so students are encouraged to maximise their time in the academy with a positive rewards system for success.

The reward system is designed to acknowledge those students who have 100% attendance, 100% punctuality and substantial improvements in either attendance or punctuality.

This year, chocolate rewards have been distributed for 100% attendance and the most improved have been in with a chance of winning Love to Shop vouchers per year group.

Pizza rewards began in November; two forms per week for the best attendees!

The 12 Days of Christmas began last year and we have continued this year! This is to reward students with 100% and those students who have improved their attendance from last year.

TRIPS & VISITS

ENGLISH TRIP TO WEAVER HALL

Year 7 pupils went on a trip to Weaver Hall, an old workhouse! Pupils engaged with Victorian artefacts and had a real immersive experience, enhancing pupils' experiences of Oliver Twist.



DRAMA TRIP TO THE MOUSETRAP

Year 11 went to see the longest running production in the world, Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap."



BRONNIE

Bronnie is a singer/songwriter and Pop-Rock artist. She now has her own Rock & Alt radio show and much of her performance centres around mental health. We invited her back to perform again as our Year 8s loved watching, talking to and listening to her last year!



ARTIST VISIT – PRISCILLA EDWARDS

Priscilla Edwards, came to visit Year 10 Textiles students in October; especially exciting as Priscilla is one of the artists that is studied on the course!



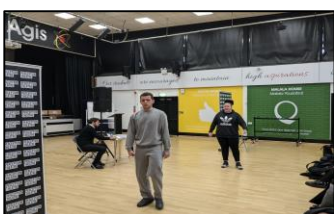
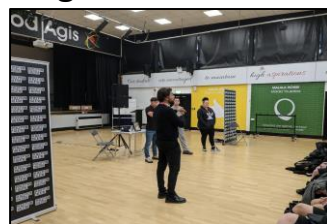
GB ATHLETE – JOEL FEARON

All of Year 9 were treated to a visit and activities with Joel Fearon. He is the first British athlete ever to excel at elite level in both track and bobsleigh representing Great Britain on the world stage in both sports. He really was an inspiration!



PERCEPTION THEATRE - CUT

Pupils in Years 8-11 were privileged to watch a production from Perception Theatre Company, called CUT, about knife crime and youth violence. The production explored how a needless dispute at school caused a teenager to be stabbed and killed. It was very hard hitting and we learnt a lot.



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN WORKSHOP

Year 10 pupils were part of an assembly and accompanying workshop discussing the very real issue of violence against women. Topics ranged from catcalling and wolf whistling to criminal offences which were sensitively discussed, underpinned with statistics.