



## WELCOME TO THE INFORMATION NEWSLETTER JULY 2024

### Our OCA Vision.

We will make the biggest difference to the lives of our students by laying down the foundations to encourage a successful future.

## WELCOME TO THE SUMMER EDITION OF THE PARENTAL NEWSLETTER

In September we will be launching **Class Charts**. This is a new platform which will allow you as parents and carers to keep track of your child's behaviour, attendance and timetable. This system will replace our current system Edulink.

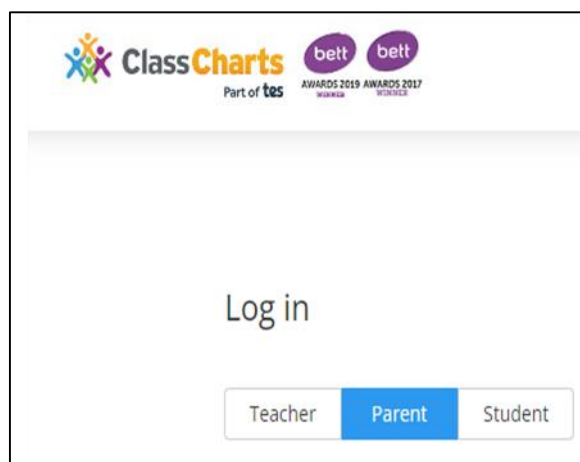
You will be given a Parent Login and an access code. This will allow you to set up your parent account. You can set up notifications so you are notified when your child receives an achievement or behaviour award. It will also let you see their attendance and punctuality as well as access to their timetable. It will also notify you if they have been set a detention.

Should you need any support setting up your parent account you can get in touch with our IT department who will be happy to assist you.

We encourage you to download the App and login as this will enable you to communicate effectively with the academy. All of your child's relevant information will be accessible to you and you will be able to have conversations with your child about their school day.

### LOG IN GUIDE

1. Open [www.classcharts.com/parent/login](http://www.classcharts.com/parent/login)
2. Enter your email address
3. Choose 'I don't have an account yet'
4. Enter your parent access code and name
5. Choose a password
6. Click Log-in!



Please follow the link below for a guide outlining the benefits of Class Charts, step by step instructions and sign in details.

[PARENTS' GUIDE TO CLASS CHARTS](#)



**COMMUNITY SUMMER SCHOOLS IN HALTON**

Please see the flyer below for details of holiday activities in Halton this summer; you can sign up by scanning the QR code.

**AGES 11-16**  
**FREE** HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD  
**summer activities for young people in halton**

Free fun and creative workshops for young people (aged 11-16) in Halton who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. **Free lunch provided for all attendees!**



**animation camp (part 1: hands on animation)**  
**Date:** Tues 23rd - Fri 26th July      **Location:** Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn  
**Time:** 1:00 pm- 3:30 pm

SIGN UP HERE:

**retro video game design camp**  
**Date:** Tues 30th Jul - Fri 2nd Aug      **Location:** Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn  
**Time:** 1:00 pm- 3:30 pm

SIGN UP HERE:

**digital art camp**  
**Date:** Tues 6th - Fri 9th August      **Location:** Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn  
**Time:** 1:00 pm- 3:30 pm

SIGN UP HERE:

**coding camp**  
**Date:** Tues 13th - Fri 16th August      **Location:** Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn  
**Time:** 1:00 pm- 3:30 pm

SIGN UP HERE:

**animation camp (part 2: digital animation)**  
**Date:** Tues 20th - Fri 23rd August      **Location:** Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn  
**Time:** 1:00 pm- 3:30 pm

SIGN UP HERE:



## ATTENDANCE, KEY DATES AND CHALLENGES

### OCA CHALLENGES

This year, our OCA challenges has continued to motivate and reward students. The weekly challenge focuses on our top school priorities of attending school and being punctual, alongside encouraging a positive learning environment through achieving grades 1 and 2 for attitudes to learning, learning multiple Epraise points and refraining from receiving any behaviour points. Winners of the final OCA challenges can be seen below.

YEAR 7		
Position	Form	Points
1	7ASE	870
2	7PGD	580
3	7GSE	500
4	7SRN	460
5	7ARS	440
6	7CAL	420
7	7MDD	310
8	7RLN	170

YEAR 8		
Position	Form	Points
1	8YGY	690
2	8JBR	400
3	8LDS	450
4	8MRA	440
5	8CCL	440
6	8JSR	390
7	8BWS	320
8	8SSN	290

YEAR 9		
Position	Form	Points
1	9HPR	1030
2	9ABW	680
3	9HLE	610
4	9EOL	550
5	9NLS	210
6	9WBT	170
7	9LAH	130
8	9HMR	30

YEAR 10		
Position	Form	Points
1	10CDY	820
2	10AWD	800
3	10CMX	510
4	10HBS	440
5	10RTT	370
6	10LFN	240
7	10TBN	150

Very well done to 7ASE, 8YGY, 9HPR and 10CDY who end the school year as our OCA Challenges Champions!

### KEY DATES FOR THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

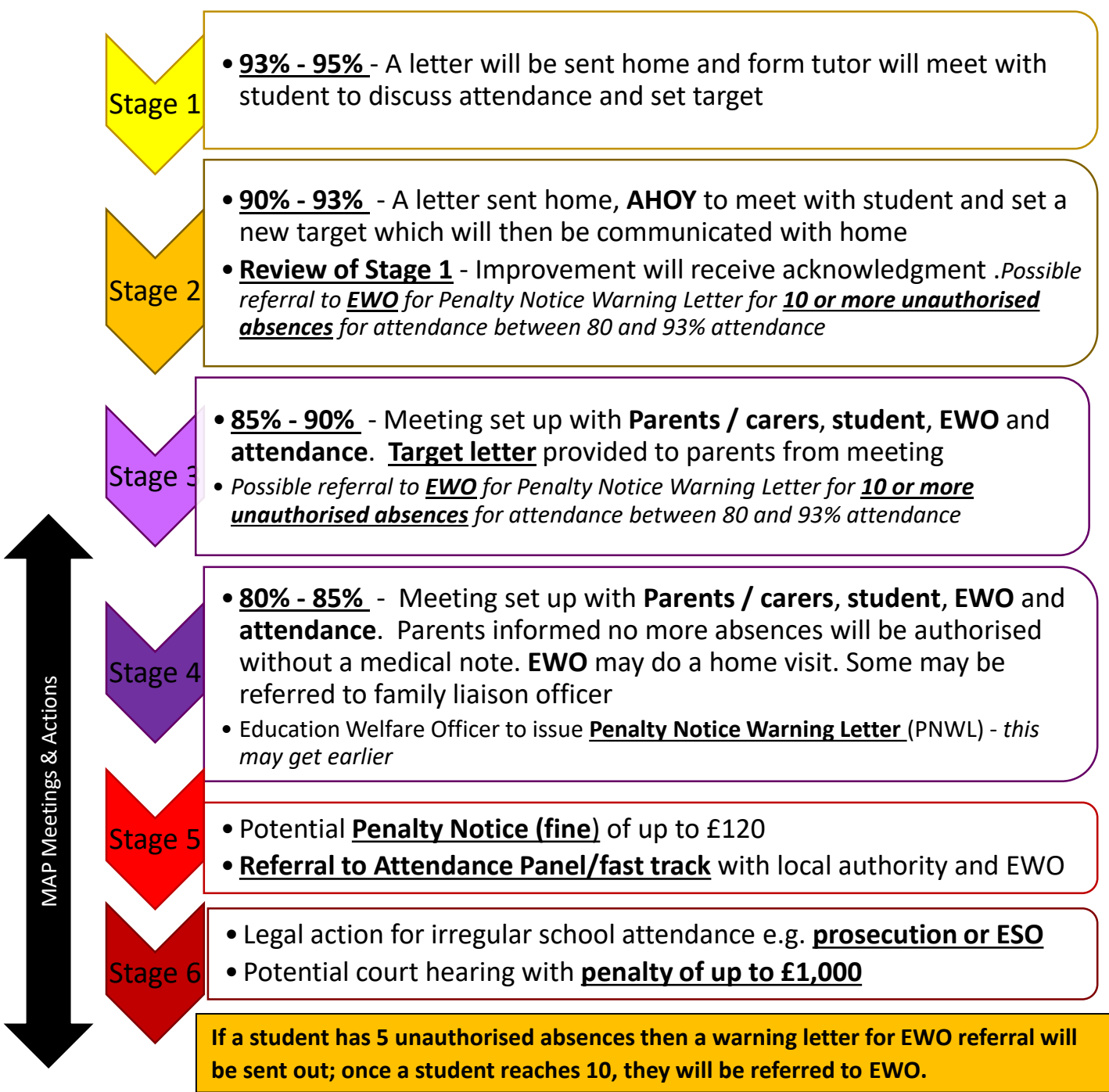
**Autumn Term 2024**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Inset Days  
 4<sup>th</sup> September – Term begins for Year 7 only  
 5<sup>th</sup> September – Year 8 – 9.15am / Year 10 -12.15pm  
 6<sup>th</sup> September – All students return – 8.30am  
 22<sup>nd</sup> October – School finishes at 3pm for half term  
 23<sup>rd</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November – Half Term  
 4<sup>th</sup> November – All students return  
 19<sup>th</sup> December – School closes for Christmas Break at 12.15pm  
 20<sup>th</sup> December – Inset Day  
 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Christmas Holiday

**Spring Term 2025**  
 1<sup>st</sup> January – Bank Holiday  
 6<sup>th</sup> January – All students return  
 14<sup>th</sup> February – School finishes at 3pm for half term  
 17<sup>th</sup> February – 21<sup>st</sup> February – Half Term  
 24<sup>th</sup> February – OAT National INSET day  
 25<sup>th</sup> February – All students return  
 4<sup>th</sup> April – Last day of term  
 7<sup>th</sup> April – 21<sup>st</sup> April – Spring Break

**Summer Term 2025**  
 •22<sup>nd</sup> April – All students return  
 •5<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday  
 •23<sup>rd</sup> May – School finishes at 3pm for half term  
 •26<sup>th</sup> May – 30<sup>th</sup> May – Half Term  
 •2<sup>rd</sup> June – All students return  
 •22<sup>nd</sup> July – School closes for Summer Break at 12.15pm



## ATTENDANCE STRATEGY 2024/25



## WHY ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY?

Good school attendance will give your child the opportunity of success and help them develop the necessary skills for future life. Your child should attend school everyday unless there is an unavoidable cause such as illness.

Missing school damages a student's learning and their grades; research shows that missing 17 days (4 weeks) of school often leads to a drop of one full grade at GCSE, this can equate to 20 hours of English, 20 hours of Maths and 20 hours of Science missed. Absence also disrupts routines and can make a student vulnerable to crime.





## ATTENDANCE SUPERSTARS

The following students must be congratulated on 100% this year!

### YEAR 10

Bobby B  
Emily D  
Dewmi D  
Kara F  
Madison H  
Maisie W  
Heidi W

Special mention must go to Madison H who has had 100% attendance throughout her whole school career!

And well done to Darcee M and Jack B with the most improved attendance.

### YEAR 9

Jaymie Leigh B  
George I  
Natalie J  
Amber T  
And well done to Jacob H and Madison M for having the most improved attendance.

### YEAR 7

Autumn A  
Lilly B  
Alfie S  
Grace S  
Luca W  
And well done to Rebecca C and Evie R for improving their attendance.

### YEAR 8

Jacob A  
Grace C  
Louie I  
Mia J  
Harley P  
And well done to Isla R and Logan T for improving their attendance.

OCA Attendance Ambassadors have been holding frequent meetings this term. Pupils were asked to consider ideas for healthy competitions amongst the form groups, ideas for rewards at the end of term for improved attendance and ways to update the attendance board in their form room and what information they would like to see included.

The ambassadors roles will include speaking to other class members to see if they are aware of their individual attendance and punctuality – if not they will be asked to inform form tutors, involvement in school assemblies to promote attendance and attend a meeting every half term to represent their form

## ATTENDANCE AMBASSADORS





## PUNCTUALITY STRATEGY 2024/25

### Stage 1

- 1st late in a week (before 9.00am), form tutor speaks to student (warning), detention issued to make up minutes late
- 'U' late (after 9.00am) text sent to parents from attendance team

### Stage 2

- 2nd late in a week (before 9.00am) Head of Year to have a conversation with student & attendance team to send a text - 30 minute detention
- 2nd 'U' late (after 9.00am) attendance team to call home

### Stage 3

- 3rd late in a week (before 9.00am) attendance team to call home - 1 hour detention
- Form Tutor to monitor student on a 3-week Punctuality Plan A\*
- 3 'U' lates will result in letter home to parents from attendance team
- Meeting with Form Tutor/Attendance Team for persistent lates

### Stage 4

- 4th late in a week (before or after 9.00am) attendance team to invite parents in & 1 hour detention
- If Plan A fails, Head of Year to monitor student on a Punctuality Plan B\*
- Meeting with HOY/Attendance Team for further persistent lates

### Stage 5

- 10 or more lates (**after 9.00am**) within a term may result in a Penalty Notice Warning Letter or a **Penalty Notice Fine of up to £1,000** issued to parents.
- If Plan B fails, SLT to monitor student on a Punctuality Plan C\*

### Stage 6

- 20 or more lates (**after 9.00am**) within a term may result in a Penalty Notice Warning Letter or a **Penalty Notice Fine of up to £1,000** issued to parents.
- If fail Plan C, students and parents will be invited to meet with governors

\***Punctuality Plans** will be issued to student for a 3-week review; Plan A is monitored by Form Tutor, Plan B by Head of Year, Plan C by a member of SLT. Attendance Team will email all Form Tutors on a Monday with information on the previous week's punctuality for individual students, forms & year groups.

## WHY BE PUNCTUAL TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY?


Being on time sets students up for a positive start to the day and gives them the opportunity to discuss any concerns with their form tutor. Any student who arrives after 9am will be given a U code. This late code is classed as an unauthorised absence and could result in a fixed penalty notice. Remember, when students leave school we are often asked for references. The two main enquiries of employers and course providers are punctuality and attendance; not only will absences and lateness impact on grades and education, it could also impact on future education or job opportunities.



## ASSESSMENT AT OCA

Students have now completed all formal assessments for this academic year. A big well done to students for the dedication and hard work that has gone into our recent Whole School Assessment week. Year 10 completed their first round of mock exams and key stage 3 students completed their end of year assessment. Assessments are all cumulative and assesses content studied across the year.

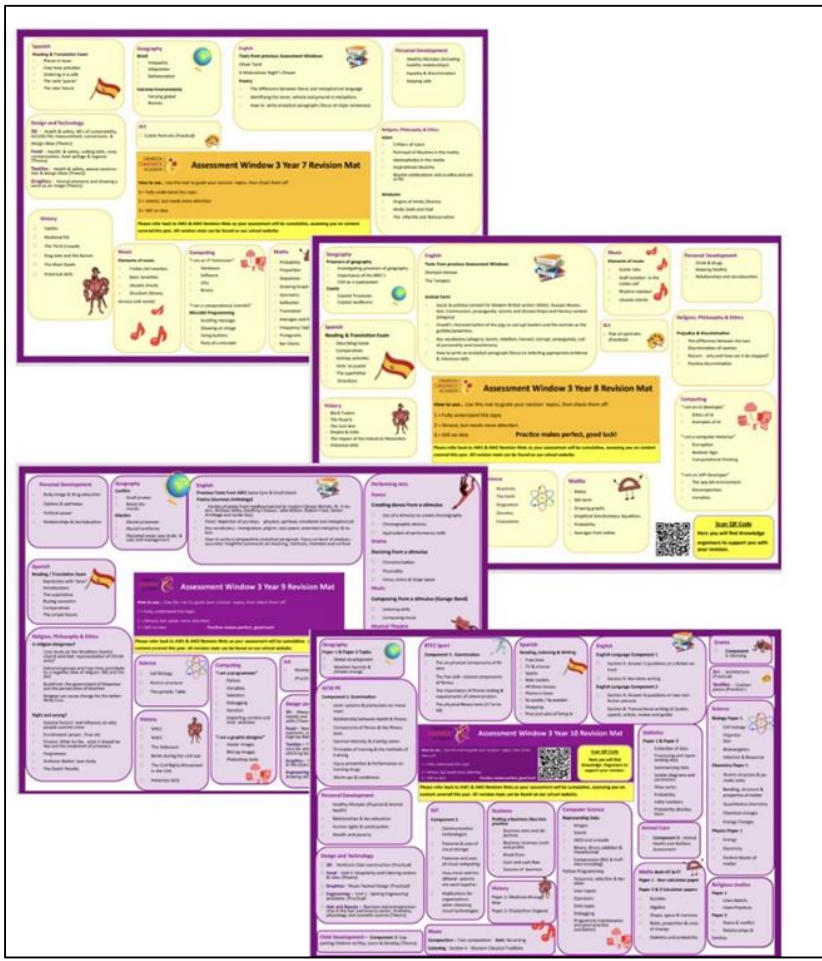
Students have also shared that they found the revision mats useful when revising as all topics for each subject are clear to see and can be used as a tick list. Each assessment window a new mat is released however students should refer back to the previous mat as assessments are cumulative to ensure students can retrieve prior learning.



**Scan QR Code**

Here you will find Knowledge organisers to support you with your revision.

Following the parental survey regarding assessment, we value your feedback and this year we introduced knowledge organisers which are available on our school website. In the summer term in preparation for AW3 we introduced the QR code onto the revision mat which takes you directly to the knowledge organisers on our school website.



To support students with exam preparation and study skills this year we introduced into our morning enrichment programme Revision Strategies sessions. Prior to each assessment window there has been a different revision strategy focus. The purpose of this is to introduce students to a range of ways to revise so students can select the strategies that best suits them. This has included revision mind maps, flash cards and foldable revision. Students have shared that they have found this time very useful. Students valued the guidance from their teachers on effective revision strategies in preparation for their assessments this year.





## KENYA FUNDRAISING

Fundraising events are being held regularly and in many different forms so please keep a look out!

Students from Years 9 and 10 have undertaken numerous fundraising events for their trip in summer 2025 to assist with building a school and other community projects! The most recent events were a Bingo Night at Widnes RUFC, raising over £800 and a Tesco bag pack.



The students involved in the bingo fundraiser were:

Harry Q, Kian L, Georgia W, Leah B, Emilia H, Maggie C, Jack M and Annabelle W.

Well done and thank you to all of our local community for your support!







## YEAR 10 BECOME YEAR 11



During the penultimate week of this term our Year 10 became Year 11 during the Red Tie Giving Ceremony. As well as taking photographs during the ceremony, afterwards we went outside to celebrate further as well as have some moments of reflection, remembering Alfie and Tom in our memorial garden.







## TRIPS, VISITS AND THE COMMUNITY

### CHINESE EXCHANGE WITH GLOBAL SCHOOL ALLIANCE



During the last week of term, we were very fortunate to have the pleasure of hosting 29 students from Beijing in conjunction with the Global School Alliance. The students were put into buddy pairs and they attended various lessons including Food Technology, Spanish and Science. Our visitors also joined in with the OCAER week activities! The Year 10 have had a hugely interesting cultural experience and one that they will never forget. In addition, they have made some new friends! At the end of the third day, Molina hosted a special assembly and our Chinese guests and Year 10 students exchanged gifts.

Miss Molina would like to express her gratitude to each of the Y10 for their outstanding participation in the buddy programme; their warmth, enthusiasm, and commitment made a significant impact on our visiting Chinese students, creating a welcoming and inclusive environment that has left a lasting impression.

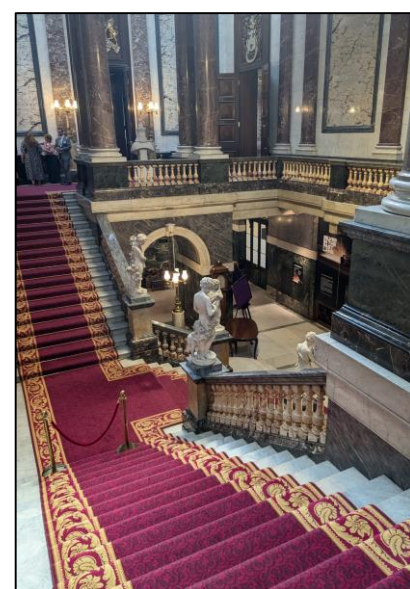
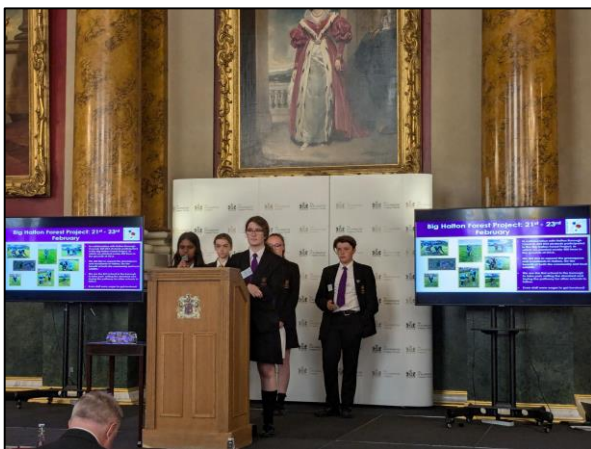






## TRIPS, VISITS AND THE COMMUNITY

### GOLSMITHS' SOCIAL ACTION AWARD



**Five members of our OCA Social Action Team, Miranda T in Year 7, Samara A and Natalie J in Year 9 and Samantha F and U Smith in Year 10 went to London to take part in the final of the Goldsmith' Community Engagement Awards at the very beautiful Goldsmiths' Hall.**

**Our students gave a talk on their social action projects at OCA including the Big Halton Forest, Bug Houses, the Preloved Clothing and Uniform Event, Duke of Edinburgh events, Christmas Fair & the work with Widnes Foodbank.**

**As well as their talk on the projects & the impacts they have had on the community, they set up a stall so that the judges could come and ask them further questions.**

**Getting through to the final eight out of the entire country was a huge achievement and of course. our team was outstanding!**



**TRIPS, VISITS AND THE COMMUNITY**

**OCA ROWING CLUB**



The OCA Rowing Team took part in their first Regatta at Warrington Rowing Club! The boys won both of their races and were confirmed as Regional Champions! They also came a very impressive 4<sup>th</sup> out of 34 schools competing across all regions.

The Rowing Regatta Team were:

- Joe OG
- Joel W
- Yousef A
- Lewis D
- Oliver Unsworth.

The other team members are Oliver MR and Doulsen M

The boys' behaviour, teamwork and performance was impeccable.







## TRIPS, VISITS AND THE COMMUNITY

### ACTIVE ADVENTURERS WITH YEAR 7

Eighty Year 7 students relished the opportunity to take part in Outdoor Active Adventurers over two days. They spent half the day rock climbing at the crag and half the day doing a hill doing a 5km hill walk!







## TRIPS, VISITS AND THE COMMUNITY

### COMMUNITY PRE-LOVED CLOTHING EVENT



**At the beginning of July we held our first Preloved Clothing and Uniform Sale! Members of our school and wider community donated beautiful ladies' clothes including many brand new outfits! We also had very generous donations of men's clothing, including suits and fancy dress outfits (!) along with children's clothes and many baby items. We have already secured the dates for our next events.**



**2024**  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August: 8.30-3.00pm**  
**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December: 4.30pm-3.30pm**  
**2025**  
**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May: 4.30pm-6.30pm**  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August 8.30am-3.00pm**  
**All proceeds from the Preloved Events go to provide equipment for members of our community.**







## THE WIDER COMMUNITY

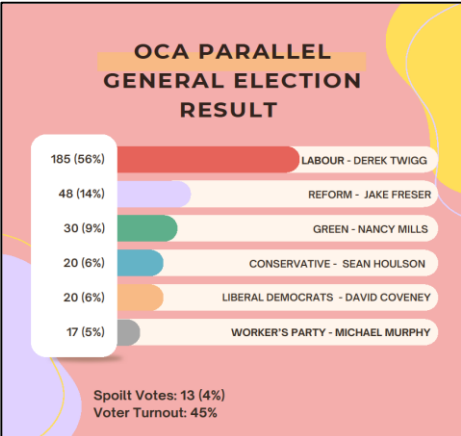
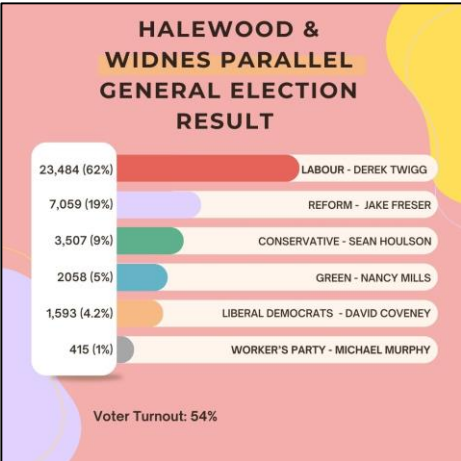
### GREEN TREE AWARD

The Green Tree Award is organised by the Woodland Trust. Chadwick House are taking part in the scheme, gaining points for each of their activities, including tree planting, raising awareness of recycling, creating tree champions. The rationale behind the award is to encourage and inspire students about the importance of trees and wildlife, whilst helping the environment.



# WOODLAND TRUST

## OCA AND THE UK GENERAL ELECTION 2024



During the week of the UK General Election, OCA students took part in a parallel general election. This allowed students to learn more about what a general election was and how the democratic process of voting worked. As you can see from the results, the OCA election result largely reflected the views of the Widnes & Halewood electorate. The only difference being a switch in votes for the Green Party & the Conservatives. Thank you to everyone for taking part!





## TRIPS, VISITS AND THE COMMUNITY

### OAT SPORTS CUP

Held annually, the OAT Sports Cup brings together students from across the trust for an exhilarating day of day of competitive sports and athletics. The events showcase the exceptional athletic abilities of students across our north and west academies with 12 schools attending, the biggest event to-date, giving students a chance to come together, compete, and forge lifelong bonds. This year's north/west cup was held at Northwood Stadium in Stoke-on-Trent, with OAT students filling the grandstand to cheer on their teammates and friends

**OCA students represented the academy as true OCAERs and there were some very impressive performances too!**



**Year7 Team:**  
**Alicia C, Lexie S, Mia B, Charlotte M, Adyan R, Caleb G, Toby S and Dylan B.**



**Year 8 Team:**  
**Ferne H, Devon C, Reece M, Riley W, Mason M, Oliver U**



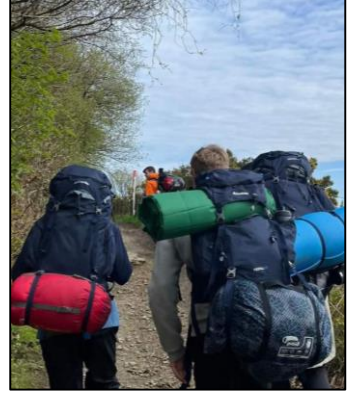
**Results:**  
**Toby: 1<sup>st</sup> in 200 m, Lexie: 3<sup>rd</sup> in 200 m, Dylan: 2<sup>nd</sup> in 400 m, Adyan: 1<sup>st</sup> in 100m heat sprint and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the final, Alicia: 2<sup>nd</sup> in 100m sprint heat and 4<sup>th</sup> in the final & 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Year 7 relay, Mason: 4<sup>th</sup> in 800m, Oliver: 3<sup>rd</sup> in 400m & 4<sup>th</sup> in the Year 8 relay.**





## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Our Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh students completed their practice expedition in Chorley. The weather and the scenery was spectacular, as were our students. Well done to everyone!







# SPORTS DAY



**One of the biggest whole school events of our calendar took place at the end of the penultimate week of term - Sports Day! All students in Years 7-10 took part in athletics, football, kin ball and many others. As well as demonstrating individual sporting prowess, Sports Day is also a fiercely competitive house competition. And the OCA House Sports Day winners are...Malala!**

