



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

8th October 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

Another week has flown by in the academy. This week our Year 11 students had their first experience of undertaking mock examinations in the Assembly Hall. I would like to congratulate all students involved. They demonstrated **aspiration** and superb resilience. I know Mr Jones and Mrs Smith were especially proud of the year group and are excited to be a part of their journey this year.

Charity day - Wear It Pink in Support of Breast Cancer This national charity day is on Friday 22nd October, however half term begins then so we are holding it on Thursday 21st October instead. Students are encouraged to wear 1 item of pink e.g. socks, shoes (including trainers), tie, t-shirt or jumper alongside normal uniform (school blazer, shirt or trouser must be worn though a tie is not required if a pink t-shirt is worn for example). Normal jewellery and hair colour rules apply. Those taking part are asked to bring in a £1 donation which will be collected during form time. Those choosing not to take part should wear full uniform as normal.

Preparing for Post 16 There are several open events coming up that we think our Year 11 students will be interested in;

- Lowestoft Sixth Form College Open Evening, Wednesday 3rd November starting at 5.30pm.
- Lowestoft Campus Open Saturday, Saturday 9th October starting at 10.00am.
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- Lowestoft Campus Open Evening, Wednesday 3rd November starting at 5.30pm.

Slots should be pre booked at many of these venues so please check out the details on websites in advance. We encourage all Year 11 students to go along to one or more of these events to see what is available. If they wish to talk more about this they can email our careers advisers, Mrs Julie Richings jrichings@ormistonden.co.uk and Mrs Marion Gibbons mgibbons@ormistonden.co.uk.

PSHE Upcoming Topics

- Year 7 - Promoting emotional wellbeing.
- Year 8 - Alcohol and drug misuse and pressures relating to drug use.
- Year 9 - Laws surrounding the ownership and trading of illegal drugs. Sentences guidelines informed by these laws.
- Year 10 - What is cancer?
- Year 11- Getting and giving help- mental health and wellbeing.

World Mental Health Day

In conjunction with World Mental Health day on Sunday 10th October, our [mental health](#) website page is regularly updated with useful guidance and links to supportive organisations, with a specific section for parent/carer mental health which can be found [HERE](#). We are also excited to announce a new partnership with the local Mental Health



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/OrmistonDenes

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Support Team, who will commence a bespoke series of workshops and 1:1 sessions for students from the next half term.

We are committed to supporting students with any difficulties they may have. Should they have a concern, please do not hesitate to contact us, or you can use the online reporting form found [HERE](#) on our homepage. Students can also use the worry and suggestion boxes located in the Entrance and New Hall.

CV19 Update

Following a recent communication from the local authority regarding levels of positive cases in the region, we have been advised that some settings have needed to reintroduce self-isolation for siblings of individuals with confirmed CV19. This is not the case for Ormiston Denes. Levels of transmission within the academy have not reached the threshold for external and compulsory control measures. As such, we are operating as usual, with the standard hygiene and isolation rules in place. I would like to thank you for the continued twice-weekly home testing so many of you are completing. If you need any assistance with any part of the testing programme, please click [HERE](#) or contact the academy.

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed you may be entitled to free school meals. Please follow this link to check eligibility and to apply. [Apply for free school meals](#)

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Williams', written in a cursive style.

Kate Williams
Principal