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on OAT

What's going on at Venture Academy...

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Welcome back to another fantastic year at Venture.

Seeing our students return really does make me proud to have the opportunity to work with so many amazing young people each and every day.

As you read through this issue I am certain you will agree that there is so much to celebrate once again from our students, staff and community. It is this spirit of togetherness that enables our students to flourish.

I want to share with you a phrase from Rita Pierson that represents what all our students possess. A belief they should carry with them at every step. A mantra that they should read and see within themselves.

I am somebody

I was somebody when I came
And I will be a better somebody when I leave
I am powerful and I am strong
I deserve the education that I get here

I have things to do, people to impress and places to go

Together we are going to make this an exceptional year!

Simon Gilbert-Barnham - Principal



niston nture academy



2nd Annual Mathsathon

Ormiston Venture Academy was proud to hosted the second annual Gorleston cluster Mathsathon.

Over 100 pupils from Ormiston Herman Primary Academy, Peterhouse Church of England Primary Academy, Southtown Primary School, Cliff Park Junior School, Cliff Park Ormiston Academy and Ormiston Venture Academy enthusiastically competed across years 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 to take the trophy of Mathsathon champions.

Teams from each year group competed in two challenging rounds head to head. A final multiple choice heat combined speed and skill to add to the overall total.

Mr Ashman said...

"with the wide age ranges from both primary and secondary, attending it brought a lot of competition, excitement and noise! The pupils were excited and their support was fantastic for all.

The use of new technology which gave instant feedback to students on who was winning after each question added to the excitement. The noise when the lead changed was deafening. The enthusiasm from all the pupils was amazing, and fitting for solving mathematical problems. I had a great time leading the quizzes as the excitement and enthusiasm was infectious."

The winners and runners up were:

Year 3: Winners: Ormiston Herman Academy Runners up: Cliff Park Junior School

Year 4: Winners: Peterhouse Church of England Primary Academy

Runners up: Ormiston Herman Academy

Year 5: Winners: Peterhouse Church of England Primary
Academy

Runners up: Ormiston Herman Academy

Year 6: Winners: Cliff Park Junior School Runners up: Peterhouse Church of England Primary Academy

Year 7: Winners: Ormiston Venture Academy Runners up: Ormiston on Venture Academy





Everybody likes Fridays.
But at Ormiston Venture
Academy, the final day
of the school week is
just that little bit more
special; with 'Funtastic
Fridays' running
throughout the year.

This provides an opportunity for students to trade in their Visa reward points for something specially selected by the Learning Cultures Team.

The list of items available included:

- Chocolate from around the world
- Space dust sweets!
- Games room passes
- Pancakes

- Maths kits
- Pencil cases
- Scientific calculators
- Ginger bread men
- Ice-pops



However, there was the opportunity to exchange Visa points for something that little bit different on a completely selfless level. These included Father's Day cards, Mother's Day gifts, Fair Trade fruit, sending a 'thank you' gift to a person of choice in the Academy and my personal favourite, a donation of money in the student's name to Bernado's children's charity.

Miss Seyforth who works in the Learning Cultures Team said,

"Every Friday really is fun.
Students build up their Visas
to make sure they can
exchange their points on a
regular basis and they are
always asking me what is on
offer the following Friday. One
Year 7 boy swapped in lots of
points this month for ice lollies
for him and his friends."

And the range of prizes will only increase in 2017-2018.

So watch this space!

Sundaes Everybody likes warm weather and surely everyone enjoys ice-cream?

So 'sundaes in the sun' was always going to be a popular reward for students with 100% attendance across the academic year. The event was held on the penultimate Friday of term, just in time for students to start daydreaming about the school holidays.

Following lunch in the Venture café, students had the chance to wander outside into the sunny playground and take their place in line to receive a delicious frozen treat of their design. Chocolate, toffee or strawberry sauce was poured generously over Cornish ice-cream by the fair hands of our very own Principal, Mr. Gilbert-Barnham, before being decorated with smarties, nuts and hundreds and thousands by Vice-Principal Mrs. Williams.

Mrs. Stewart who works in the Learning Cultures office and helped to scoop the ice-cream commented,

"It was great to see students getting into the spirit of summer and being rewarded for having such great attendance at the Academy. The sundaes looked so delicious, even most of the staff joined the queue."









Starting out at 7 am, students began their journey to London where their first stop was a flight aboard the Coca Cola London Eye. The weather was kind, allowing students to see many of the famous landmarks London has to offer.

After the flight students then had the opportunity to visit the Shrek Experience. An amazing two hours of fun, singing, shouting and laughter was had as students toured the Dreamworks spectacular.

The Rain Forest Café was the destination for dinner before heading to the theatre to see the award winning musical 'Mamma Mia'. Although many students were exhausted they did manage some singing and dancing in the aisles.

Day two saw an early start as students headed off to experience the animals at London Zoo.

The students were true ambassadors of the academy as one zoo keeper commented on how impressed he was by their behaviour.

The two days were an amazing experience for the students.





Venture is excited to continue working in partnership with **Spencer McCormack, the Director** of BWell Health Club on a range of opportunities for our students.

Four of our senior year students have successfully completed a 12 month scholarship working alongside Mr McCormack and his staff at the club.

They have undertaken many key responsibilities roles including customer relations, personal training and general maintenance of the club.

During this fantastic opportunity they have received expert advice about running a business and creating entrepreneurial opportunities whilst enjoying the benefits of free gym membership for the year.

The group visited Potters resort as part of the program to experience how a big business

Thiri, Rhiannon, Megan and Yasmin all completed the year successfully.

Students had to write an initial letter of application, meet with Mr McComack and impress in an interview. Initially 12 students progressed to the interview stage. All of the candidates conducted themselves admirably throughout the whole process and were a credit to the academy.

Mr McCormack commented that:

"For those that started and finished the programme they are now looked upon as part of the BWell family, and as families do, we will be there for them whenever they need us. That, in business and in life is priceless, especially if you want to achieve your dreams, which I'm sure these committed, hardworking individuals will."

The students have begun a legacy for future students to follow in their footsteps as we provide opportunities for students to 'Venture into Business'. The new group has already begun their application process, and we wait with baited breath to observe their progress.

We wish them all the best in the future and will support and monitor their development with enthusiasm. On the 24th August the Great Hall was packed with students, their families and staff, eager and excited to find out how the Class of 2017 had fared in the first year of the reformed, more challenging GCSEs.

Silence, followed by the sound of envelopes ripping open, swiftly followed by shouts and tears of elation, pride and joy filled the room as students read what their hard work had achieved.

Class of 2017 achieved great results in the reformed subjects of English Language and Mathematics along with excellent outcomes across the curriculum. Ormiston Venture Academy will be in the top four secondary academies in Ormiston Academies Trust in 2017. And looks very strong, demonstrating the great work across all subjects.

Amongst the many success stories were Thiri Nyan Coe and Tiah-Paige Davie who achieved 18 top grades between them. Thiri worked with determination to master English and to ensure she achieves her goal of becoming a doctor. She achieved two eights in both English's, the new top national grade of a nine in maths and seven A to A*s. She said...

"I am really proud of my results. I want to thank everybody for helping me to this stage of my journey."

Tiah, who begins her Gresham's Scholarship in September described her exam experience as one crazy roller coaster ride but now I have received my results I am feeling awesome."

Another student who embraced all opportunities was Liam Davyduck. Liam arrived in the UK earlier this year and was accepted as a student at Ormiston Venture Academy after being told by other schools it was too l to achieve anything in the school year. He started at th academy in March, but has gone on to achieve a six in both English Language and English Literature, a five in maths and A* to C in two other subjects.

Principal Simon Gilbert-Barnham said:

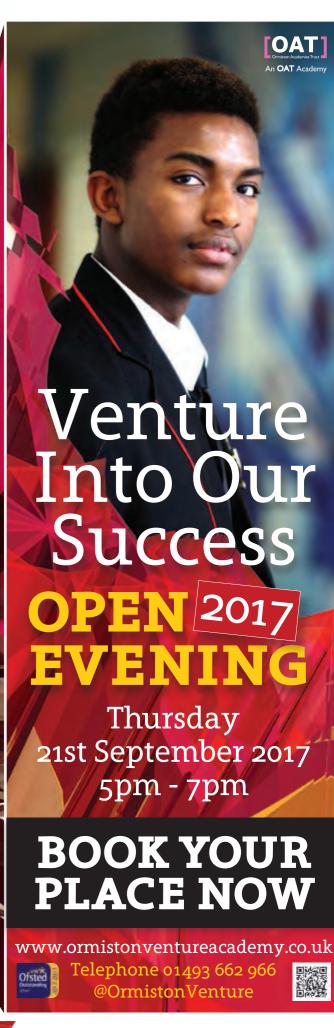
"The hard work and dedication of our students, parents and staff has resulted in fantastic achievement across the academy including achieving the new top national grades. I would like to congratulate every one of our senior year for their success and wish you all the very best in the future."



Although the Class of 2017 will now move onto the next stages of their lives, Vice Principal Kate Williams reminded students

"Once a Venture student, always a Venture student"

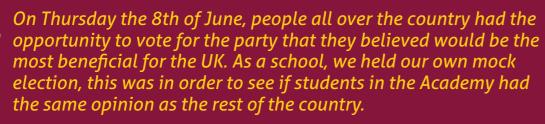
reminding the Alumni to stay to touch, to come to Venture if they ever needed any help and most importantly to make sure Venture had an opportunity to celebrate all their future successes.











MOCK Election

It's safe to say that there's a clear difference in results; the general election, in which no party achieved a majority, left the country divided. Whereas it was resounding Labour vote within the academy.

Almost half the 80% turnout were in favour of Labour. However, it was a marginally close between the other parities. The Liberal Democrats consistently received the fewest amount of votes in each year group. Conversely, the amount of Conservative votes varied massively when year 8 appeared to be more in favour of their campaign than any other year. The recent visit from local Green candidate Harry Webb clearly swayed the opinion of some students and left the parties votes neck-a-neck with Conservatives.

Year 10 student Alexandria, believes the mock election "really showed what young people believe is best for the UK.

> "The mock election enabled all of the students with in the academy to have a taster of what it's like to vote,

> > as well as an insight into current politics. It's safe to say that Labour had our vote".

College Symmer 2017

This term's college clash is a neck and neck race between Create who are looking to retain their title for a third time pushed on by incredible attendance and for cleaning up at the Big Quiz event, and Innovate who have been cleaning up on Visa's, spelling and won the recent Retro Sports Day event.

The Union of Venture Students are changing some of the arrangements for the events, Spellings, attendance and visa points will still be added every week but the events will now be bi-weekly and be given a bigger profile to try and get more students out representing their college. The Retro Sports day was a great start to this with a good turn out for the egg and spoon race, bean bag throw and the wheelbarrow race amongst other events, prizes were won by people for individual events and for taking part as well as the points on offer for the colleges. The last event of the term is worth double points and



is all about how much profit each college can make at the summer fete.

It should be a brilliant afternoon and because half the money goes to charity everyone wins in the end. In September there will be some different and new events to get people competing again!





"You make me feel like dancing!"

On Monday 17th July, 200 students across the Academy attended the summer disco.

This invitation only event was just one of an event packed, end of term calendar that makes Ormiston Venture what it is.

Either side of traditional party food of pizza and sausage rolls, students had the opportunity to dance to disco beats and play party games run by the staff.

Director of Learning Cultures Spencer Doggett said,

"Students who attended had a great time. Events such as this give them the chance to relax with their friends at the end of what has been another very hard working year for our young people.

They have put a huge amount of effort into their studies and recent exams and it was terrific to see so many having so much fun."



Kate Williams Vice Principal said,

"The evening was a fitting tribute to some of the incredible students that the staff at Venture are privileged to work with every single day"

In addition to subject specific awards, the third annual Venture Star's evening provided an opportunity to reflect on the immense talent, dedication and resilience shown by Venture students across the academic year, with whole academy awards recognising attributes including philanthropy and spirit.

Guests were also inspired by author Alexander Gordon Smith who engaged listeners with tales from his childhood and what he learnt from them.

Matching Venture's own ethos he reminded students to make sure they never give up.







OAT EAST Outstanding Achievement Award & Outstanding Visual Award





The Extended Learning Award





Achievement Beyond the Curriculum Award





MasterChef of the Year Award









Award



The First Class

Outstanding Computer Science Performance Award & Venture Philanthropist





The English Laureate Award





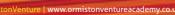
Innovative Scientist of the Year Award





Ultimate Sports Personality of the Year Award





August 2017

During the summer holidays 131 new year 7 students participated in a week of exciting activities, all led by Venture staff, to assist their transition to secondary school



Highlights from the week included students making their own candles and bath bombs...

developing their craft skills with Miss

with Miss Brand.

Mr May and a great Round Robin football Miss Nichols and Miss Teasdel.



I am pleased to have this opportunity, on behalf of all members of the local governing body, to send good wishes to all students and carers at the beginning of the new academy year.

We would like to send a special welcome to all those starting here for the first time. The governors

here come from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences, but share a total commitment to the values of Ormiston Venture, which reflect a determined optimism about the chance for happiness and success here for every single student, whatever their background or previous attainment.



You might have read of schools across the country that seem to be run for the

senior management and staff rather than for the students. If individual students threaten to bring down their position in the league tables they are asked to leave and continue their education elsewhere. This is the direct opposite of the philosophy here which is based on the notion of affording equal value to all students.

Venture staff do not give up on their students, combining rigour and personal care in order to provide a well-rounded education to suit every student.

All staff here have worked beyond expectations to make sure that everyone succeeds. Headline news from this year's examination results show that students have benefited greatly from their time here and have the qualifications and wider skills to take full advantage of the next stage in their education.

There has been excellent progress for our students in a wide range of curriculum areas, with students from disadvantaged backgrounds performing as well as others in many cases and overall much better than nationally.

This is a learning community where I am proud to be the chair of governors and am looking forward to even further successes this year.

Good luck to all! Chair of Governors



On 29th June 2017 Fritton Lake provided a beautiful backdrop to the Senior Year prom for the Class of 2017. The sun was shining as students arrived in a dazzling array of vehicles, wearing beautiful dresses and some very sharp suits. The best dressed awards went to Luke Earle and Beatriz Valeriano, with Prom King and Queen awarded to Hannah Warner and Charlie Soanes respectively.

Students and staff enjoyed mocktails on arrival, a delicious barbeque a taxi photo booth and packed out the dance floor to enjoy a range of tunes. There was even a conga line and the Okey Cokey (played after three student requests)!

ormiston ++ enture academy Ormiston Venture Academy Prom 29th June 2017

The evening was a fantastic way to say farewell to a wonderful year group who will be missed by everyone at



the academy.







Ormiston Venture Academy Prom 29th June 2017









Ormiston Venture Academy Prom 29th June 2017













The Crock SHOW 2017

The quality of the work on display in this years' Create show left the audience astounded. Art and photography exhibitions lined the corridors whilst soothing musical interludes from the orchestra and numerous singers reverberated around the building.

The evening began with Jack and Kain playing some soothing jazz numbers on their guitars as guests entered with a glass of complimentary fruit punch.

The fashion show wowed on-lookers with a fantastically well-rehearsed routine and plenty of fierce poses! Evening dresses, everyday wear, children's outfits and accessories donned the catwalk. Guests commented on the amazing quality of the work and the confidence of the students to parade in their work.

Nibbles (made by Mrs Ewers and some of her catering students) and drinks were much appreciated by the visitors as they meandered around the corridors analysing the many different pieces of work on show. The singers were in complete harmony and left listeners mesmerised. We must make a special mention and thanks to Mrs Clayton and Mrs Salton for their marvellous input to the evening as well.

Anna Mallory, Head of the Create Faculty commented that:

"I am once again blown away by the achievements of the students this year. The quality of the work on show this year is astonishing. I am really pleased that so many parents came to see the wonderful creativity of our students, which I am lucky enough to see, encourage and nurture on a daily basis."

Mr McInally, Assistant Principal of the Create College, was keen to highlight and praise the hard work of the teachers in Create, but also the invaluable behind the scenes work of Miss Cornwell and Miss Teasdale organising the event.





In addition to achieving top grades in all her subjects Daisy has been highly successful at the European 2016 Roller Skating Championships representing her country skating in Italy.

It is not just in roller skating that Daisy shines as she has also represented the county in Netball and has been the champion shot putter at the Norfolk School Games.

She is also studying for her 2nd Dan black belt in Karate. Daisy truly showcases Venture's by words of Achieve, Aspire, Create and Innovate and we wish her the very best in all her endeavours.

Want to be the SPOLIGHTS
get in touch with College Leader.

colleg 8



130 Teachers engaging in sharing best practice

On Tuesday 27th June 130 teachers from around Norfolk, Suffolk and some as far away as Bristol converged on Ormiston Venture Academy for the first ever Ignite Early Career TeachMeet. A completely free event open to teachers to hear around 25 speakers, to network and share best practice in their own time.

The event sponsored by Ormiston East, Travelbound, Votes4Schools, GCSE Pod and Cozies Restaurant saw attendees receive a bbq dinner, drinks, ice cream and sweets provided for free as a thank you for giving up their precious time, but by the end of the event most felt the value of the training they got from the evening was more than worth their time.

The event kicked off with Nicole McCartney sharing the power of words before Tom Sherrington shared his thoughts on successful teaching in the first key note. After several other excellent talks the event broke for dinner and a series of workshop before resuming to Tim Taylor leading a great interactive keynote which inspired several to want to try out the mantle of the expert in their next lesson. Our very own Mr O'Donoghue and Mr Osborne spoke in the second half before the event closed with the raffle,

where prizes such as an Xbox One, educational books

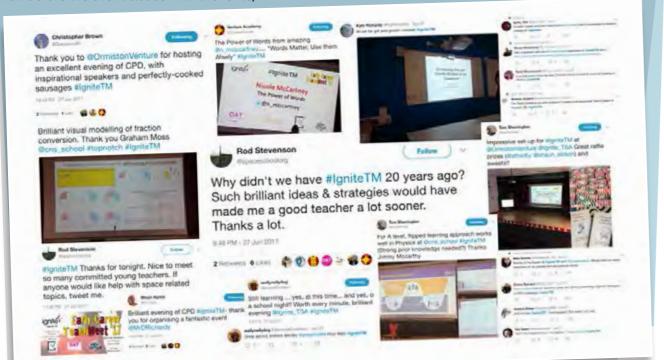
and even a break in France kindly donated by Travelbound were snapped up by the lucky ones whose evaluation forms were drawn.

Feedback for the event was overwhelmingly positive and summarized best by Rod Stevenson who said



"Why didn't we have #IgniteTM 20 years ago? Such brilliant ideas and strategies would have made me a good teacher a lot sooner. Thanks a lot."

Mr Richards who organized the event for Ignite said "It was great to have so many teachers of different experience come together and share their ideas and practice to the benefit of everyone in attendance, can't wait to get started on planning next years event!"





Union of **Venture Students**



The Union of Venture Students for 2017 have been working hard already. They ran the election process including going out to take part in a hustings event in Belton and interviewing the Green Party Candidate in the school.

They then helped review your questionnaire responses in shaping the ready to learn idea with Mr Dogget. Once this was out of the way their attention turned to answering some of your suggestion box ideas.

In their short time in charge we have already seen the Sub Bar go into the café with great success, one of our best "You Said We Did..." examples yet, pulled pork subs mmmmm!

Another thing that you have asked for that we have recently introduced is a radio station.

On Friday 14th July Russell Prue from Anderton Tiger came and did a day of training with our first group of students who will be DJ's on Venture Vibe radio station.

Initially the Media Cooperative are going to oversee a before school 20 minute show and a lunchtime show daily and it will roll out from there, so if being a DJ interests you make sure you sign up to take part!



Right now the team are focussed on helping you all to raise as much as possible from the #SSFFD fete on the 19th July.



The Union have so many plans for September, a new prefect duty rota will launch along with a relaunch of the Peer Mentoring system at breaks

and lunch and a school shop.

They want to interact and get more ideas out of vou and will be launching ways of this along with encouraging more of you to get involved in the cooperatives.

They also want to completely reinvent the experience from College Clash and have already done this partially through events like the Ouiz and Retro Sports Day

which was really popular.

Finally, along with the usual fundraising plans they are working on one of the best recent suggestions from the

suggestion box -

"Can we find a way to make a bigger deal of academy spirit?"

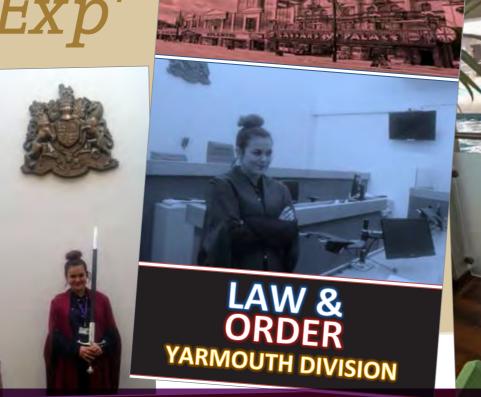
they have taken this and run with it and will have a really exciting announcement as soon as we come back in September, but we can't say too much yet.





WORK Exp'

Work experience is an educational activity designed to give students an insight into the world of work. The students had to self generate a placement researching, identifying and then contacting suitable employers.



Work experience builds confidence, self esteem, communication skills, whilst also in many cases, developing team work and problem solving skills.

We are incredibly grateful to all of the local employers who accepted our students over the week and wish to extend our thanks once again.

If you would be in a position to offer a student a placement for next year, please do get in touch with Alex Saiche at the Academy on ASaiche@ ormistonventureacademy.co.uk



bration Of Tuch Success

On the final day of term, Venture students once again woke up to the sweet smell of success as all four colleges held their Celebration Assemblies.

Excited students waited patiently as their names were called out to receive certificates in recognition of effort and achievement throughout the academic year in every subject area.

As always, it was a terrific opportunity for students to herald the huge variety of triumphs throughout the Academy and see how their hard work and devotion had paid off. There was even the occasional mini fist-pump to demonstrate just how much the students value this end of year Academy celebration as their colleges gathered together for one final time before the summer break.

Having received individual subject awards, students were also rewarded for 100% attendance and their work within the local community. Some of the big winners on the day were Isaac Carpenter for 100% attendance, Lewis Green, who won the Principal's award for Create and Alisha Cowan, whose Visa Points total meant she was presented with a cheque for £300 to spend on an area of the Academy of her choice.

Director of Learning Cultures Spencer Doggett said,

"It was fantastic to see so many talented students so pleased to receive an award.

There most definitely appears to be a greater number of students working harder and giving their best year on year. Students should be proud of their achievements and return to the Academy in September refreshed and once again ready to accept the challenges that lay ahead over the course of what is sure to be another exciting year for Ormiston Venture Academy."



It was also quite something to see so many students exiting the celebration and then high-fiving Mr. Gilbert-Barnham on their way back to their PL tutor rooms, ready for the summer.

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BTEC Sport Residential

Senior year kicked off their residentials in style starting with BTEC Sport.

All students worked extremely hard Friday night and Saturday. As a department we were astounded by the commitment and work ethic of the students. As a reward they had some fun relay games on Friday night, Football darts, and Zorbing on Saturday.





Year 8's had an introduction to BTEC Sport undertaking fitness tests, weight training and plyometric training, with some fun sports games mixed in. Year 9 had the privilege of Norwich City CSF running a glow in the dark Handball session.

All the students were buzzing when they came out with one particular student saying,

"This is the best thing I've ever done in my life"!





UVS Union of

Venture Games day is a lovely whole academy celebration of PE at Venture.

All students take part in three sports of their choice, having fun playing mini games and competitions, with all staff joining in and supporting.

This year there was a twist on an old classic with the Union of Venture Students running retro sports day events such as the egg and spoon race.

counders

Another successful year of Rounders at Venture with the Year 9 and 10 team winning their tournament against all the local schools. Year 8 came 2nd, and the Year 7 team won their Ormiston Cup fixture.





Sports **News** Round Up



Edition 22: Summer 2017

Venture had a great run up to the Wellesley Athletics competition with various students from all year groups attending after school coaching sessions.

This translated into a very successful Wellesley Tea Time Track Meet. This is a smaller version of the main Wellesley Day time event.

The Year 7 team achieving 1st place with 6 golds medals, 7 silver, 4 bronze. This is the second year in a row that our year 7's have won the Tea Time track meet. Consistant finishes from the other year groups as the Year 8 team achieved 3 golds, 6 silver, 10 bronze medals.

Years 9's 2 gold, 6 silver, 9 bronze medals, and Year 10 achieving 3 gold, 5 silver, 5 bronze medals. At the main athletics Wellesley track meet against all the local schools it was very close with the other schools, to see who got 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Our target of 3rd place was in sight, as all year groups were winning gold medals, and achieving lots of 2nd and 3rd place finishes. Overall we finished 3rd very close to achieving 2nd! Lots of hard work next year and this is a possibility for Team Venture.



After re-launching the Ormiston Cup (Cliff Park, Denes, Venture) it was Venture's turn to host the softball and rounders competitions.

The year 7 team had a dominant victory winning 21-7 in the softball and 19 - 10 in the rounders. Year 8 and 9 backed up the year 7 victory with the girls winning the rounders, leading to us regaining the trophy.



2017 Diary Dates What's coming up at Venture Academy ...

October 2017

Thursday 21st September -Year 6 Open Evening (5pm – 7pm)

Thursday 12th October -Academic Review Day (11am-7pm)

Friday 20th October - Staff Training Day

Monday 24th Oct - Friday 28th Oct -Autumn Half Term

Monday 30th Octobe Students return to the academy 8.25am

December 2017

Thursday 7th December 3pm - 8pm Year 9 and Year 10 Parents Evening



