

# Venture VOICE

Ormiston  
Venture Academy



Edition 13: Autumn 2014



## Tim Coulson

Regional Commissioner Visits Venture Academy

## Fundraising Fun

Thirty-Seven Teachers Take the Challenge

## Bloodhound SSC

The World's Fastest Car Exhibition at Venture Academy







# Let us Ignite your Teaching Future

We are a Teaching School Alliance of cross-phase schools based in Gorleston, Norfolk but with partners across the East of England and the country.



For more information please contact:  
 Ormiston Venture Academy, Gorleston, Norfolk. NR31 7JJ  
 Phone: 01493 662 966 | Fax: 01493 660 329 | Email: [Info@ignite.co.uk](mailto:Info@ignite.co.uk)



To find out more follow us @Ignite\_TSA

## What's going on at Venture Academy...

Welcome back from Executive Principal McCartney and Principal Gilbert – Barnham	P3
Careers Fair & Senior Year Residential	P4
Humanities KS4 London Trip	P5
Record Breaking Fundraising Event	P6
Regional Commissioner Tim Coulson Visit	P7
Venture Open Evening 2014	P8 & 9
Bloundhound SSC The World's Fastest Car	P10 & 11

Venture Cooks	P12
Learning Community	P13
Year 7 'Wicked' London Trip	P13
Venture's Got Talent	P14
Mrs Smith Fundraising	P15
Senior Year Prom 2014	P16 & 17
Venture Sports Results & News Update	P18 & 19
Superb Sam & Venture Games 2014	P20



Nicole McCartney - Executive Principal



Simon Gilbert-Barnham - Principal

## WELCOME BACK...

One of the best parts of my role at OAT is being able to showcase the fantastic ethos evident in everything that happens at Venture.

When Venture students and staff commit to excellence (as they do every day) there really is no stopping them!

This was further demonstrated at a recent Macmillan fund raising event. Our wonderful Raising Achievement mentor Francesca Tedstone helped to boost the funds raised through the Ice Bucket challenge by volunteering to have her head shaved. She even gave her pony tail to charity! This care and consideration for others is part of what every day at Venture is about and further proof of what can be achieved when every member of the community works together.

This edition of the Venture Voice showcases the Venture Way and I am sure you will be as proud of our students as we all are.

It has been another action packed half term at Venture, as this edition proves and I am delighted to see how fantastically well our new Year 7 students have settled into the academy.

I know that they will be contributing lots to future editions as they continue to embrace life at the academy. So far they have been thoroughly inducted to Venture through the launch of their 1:1 devices, Widget training, inter college competitions, the Blood Hound challenge and much more.

Our older students have been excellent role models as prefects, Sports Leaders and active members of the Union of Venture Students.

I am sure that you will agree as you read this that they provide inspiration for everyone as they continue to get actively involved in charity work, sports competitions, trips and much more.



# Careers Fair

On Thursday 16th October 2014, Ormiston Venture Academy hosted our annual careers fair with 26 local businesses, training providers, colleges and universities in attendance.

The Careers Fair was open to the whole community to enable parents and students to find out about future careers, information, advice and guidance and the opportunities that are available for young people and parents in Norfolk and Suffolk.

Feedback from the evening was overwhelmingly positive from visitors with the wide range of employers and further education providers proving popular.

On behalf of all at Venture Academy, we would like to thank all the exhibitors for their support and making the event such a huge success.

The senior year students have also been busy this term visiting East Norfolk Sixth Form College, Great Yarmouth College and Lowestoft Sixth Form College to enable them to find out more about the qualifications and courses that are available to them post 16.

This was a fantastic opportunity for them to have taster sessions on individual subjects, discussions with the tutors of the colleges and get a general feel of what college is like.



Please contact: [abircham@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk](mailto:abircham@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk) if you need any information or advice about post 16 options.

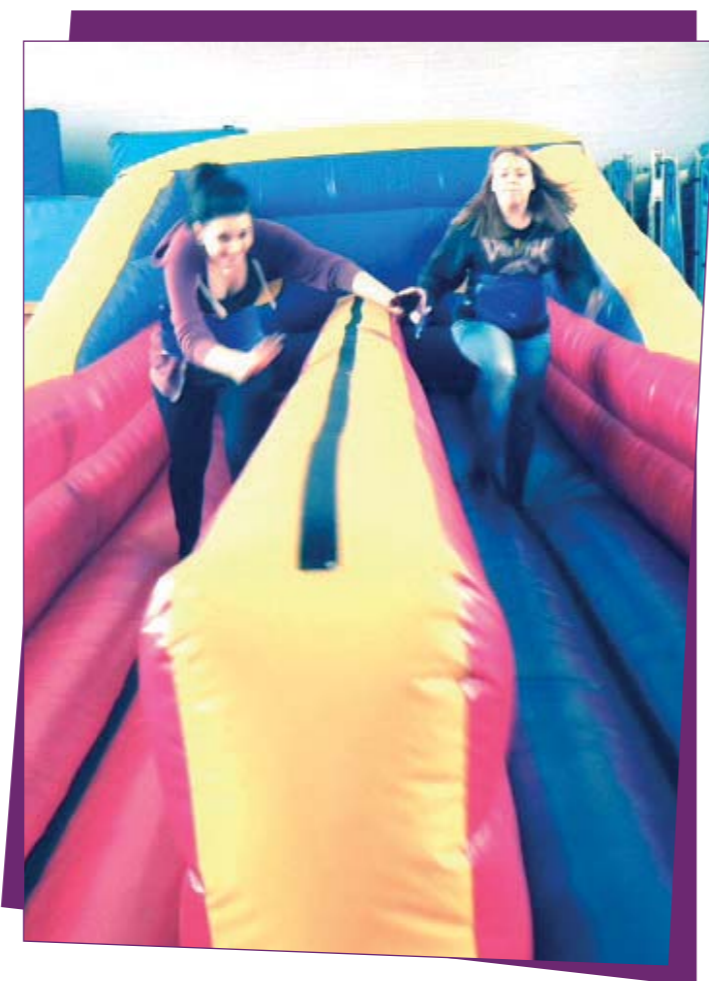
# Senior Year Residential

Fast becoming a Venture tradition, the Class of 2015 has just completed their first Senior Year Residential.

Students arrived at the academy on a Friday with sleeping bags and left Sunday lunchtime, tired but full of success, having completed a massive amount of work towards their Digital Media qualification.

In addition to lots of hard work there was masses of fun. Students enjoyed movie nights, time in the Games Room, Bungee Runs and It's a Knock out as well as Sumo Suits.

On behalf of the Senior Year we extend a huge thank you to all the staff involved who stayed and worked with the students, proving that Venture has the best staff and students going!



# Humanities KS4 London Trip

The Humanities faculty travelled to London in September with GCSE History, Geography and Leisure and Tourism students. What a glorious day! We were lucky with the weather but not so lucky with the traffic!

History students spent the morning at the Tower of London completing a specialist workshop designed for their Controlled Assessment task. Apart from some complaints about the number of stairs in the tower, a good time was had by all and the academy would like to thank HMP for using students to trial a new workshop and covering the cost of entry for this.

Geography students spent the morning at the Science museum, exploring the energy hall and atmosphere room, and then having free time to see the other exhibitions on display.

Leisure and Tourism students learnt more about transport in London looking at the London Underground and went on a famous "Duck Tour".

After some traffic problems, we all eventually made it to the London Dungeons for a gory and humorous end to our day. Miss Nicholls spent some of the trip locked in a cage and Miss Wilkinson was put on trial for being a pirate. We all made it out unscathed and had a laugh at Mr Ives after seeing his photo from the Gallows Drop ride. I think I speak for everyone when I say I am looking forward to doing it all again next year!



Keep up to date with all that is going on a Ormiston Venture Academy at: [www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk](http://www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk)

Here you can read about all that is available to the students and the community.

Lets get social on Twitter: [@OrmistonVenture](https://twitter.com/OrmistonVenture)

And... lets us Ignite your teaching future on Twitter: [@Ignite\\_TSA](https://twitter.com/Ignite_TSA)





# Record Breaking Fundraising Event



## Thirty-seven teachers at Ormiston Venture Academy – including the principal - had buckets of ice water poured over them for charity.

If this wasn't enough to encourage students and staff to donate to a worthy cause one member of staff, Miss Tedstone also had all her hair shaved off!

The spectacle, to raise money for MacMillan, took place on Friday 3 October at 2.45pm at the front of the Academy. The Union of Venture Students who devised the challenge had set a target of £1000 but they have in fact more than doubled it and the amount raised currently stands at £2350.

Venture head boy Mackenzie Lodge said: "We always choose Macmillan as one of the charities we focus on every year as it is a cause close to so many people's hearts. We have approached 37 members of staff who were willing to have a bucket of water and ice thrown over them."

Emily George, Venture head girl explained. "Students voted for the member of staff they want to see get 'iced' the most and a payment trigger system from £100 to £1000 was set up. Each milestone added a new teacher to the list with £1000 meaning that all 37 teachers got soaked."

Before the water started pouring, raising achievement mentor, Miss Tedstone, after a mass countdown, had her head shaved in front of a huge supporting crowd by Fusion Hair Consultants, and then swiftly moved to the front of the line to receive the first ice bucket from a student, triggering all 37 staff members being doused in cold water by smirking students, ending on a high with Mr Gilbert-Barnham receiving the contents of an 80L tub!

The event was a huge success that raised a phenomenal amount of money for charity. The Union of Venture Students want to thank everyone who helped donate, set up, volunteer or promote the event and are so proud to be able to send this money to such a worthy cause. Plus we have raised more in one event than was raised in the whole of last year!

Miss Tedstone also wants to say a special thanks for the support she received which was overwhelming. As well as sporting a new look her pony tail was cut off ahead of the shaving so she has donated the hair to the Little Princess Trust for young girls with cancer. She wants to support both charities due to family links,

**"Macmillan nurses have cared for members of my family so it is a very important charity for me and I wanted to do something extra to raise more money so decided to have my head shaved. My family thinks I'm crazy!"**



# Regional schools commissioner Tim Coulson visits Norfolk...

and vows to put its education back on the map

he said. "There's been a lot of criticism for education in this region but we want people to look at the region as a place to really envy education."

**"Rather than saying an academy is the preferred option for every school it has to be the right choice. We want every child in this region to go to a really, really good school."**

**"There is no magic but what will make you a good school is if the school knows why it wants to change to an academy."**

He added that he "was close" to finishing appointing the people from Norfolk or Suffolk to sit on his head teachers board.



**Norfolk's first regional schools commissioner for the east was welcomed by a handful of the county's academies during a visit to the area as part of his latest plans to put Norfolk back on the map for education.**

Tim Coulson spent the day visiting Ormiston Venture Academy and Ormiston Herman Academy in Gorleston before travelling to Norwich to Ormiston Victory Academy and the City of Norwich School (CNS) - an Ormiston Academy.



Dr Coulson toured each school, meeting pupils and staff and said he hoped the visit would allow him to find out more about how he can improve academies in Norfolk.

"I want to work with anyone and everyone to say how can we make this the best region for education"



Dr Coulson is the previous headteacher of William Tyndale School in Islington and was named the first regional schools commissioner for the North-East London and East

region after a new position was created to monitor the performance of academies.

His role primarily involves overseeing academies and free schools and challenge those that are failing. He will work with new national schools commissioner, Frank Green, and education secretary Nicky Morgan.



He will also help make decisions about the opening of new academies and follow-up concerns about the capacity of the Department for Education to deal with the nearly 5,000 academies across England directly accountable to it.



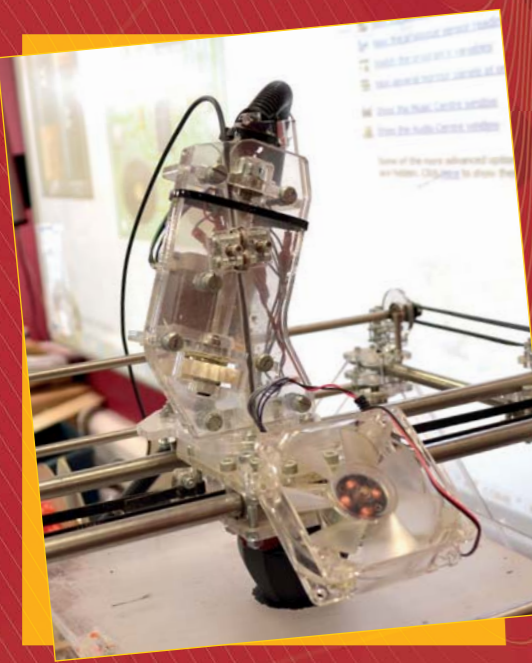


# Open Evening

Venture opened its doors to a record number of prospective students and their families this Open Evening with queues forming in advance of the evening beginning and use of the Lecture Theatre to beam the Principal's Address into an additional areas for those who could not fit into the hall.



It was a pleasure to meet so many people and to showcase the fantastic, staff, facilities and of course students that make Venture such a great place to study and learn.



Students got the chance to make rulers in Technology, decorate cakes, enjoy experiments in Science and visit our Diary Room.

*We look forward to welcoming more students than ever into the Academy next year.*





# Bloodhound SSC The World's Fastest Car

For three weeks during September and October Ormiston Venture Academy hosted the Bloodhound SSC crew along with "the world's fastest car".

The car is aiming to travel at 1000 miles per hour, breaking the world land speed record which is currently 763 miles per hour.



Over the three weeks the crew showed almost 1000 students from nine Norfolk and Suffolk schools. A life-size model of the car itself is in the Great Hall. Various workshops, including 3D printing and Mechano cars, were run throughout the day to highlight the use of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) in the designing, production and running of the supersonic car.



The 3D printer used PLA plastic, and it was brought in to make mini models of the car, which took about 45 minutes.

The car had lots of logos on the side showing sponsors of the project. The name of Ormiston Venture Academy will feature on the fin of the car – marking the Academy's place in the automotive history books.

Bloodhound Super Sonic Car (SSC) is 17 meters long, larger than the width of the Great Hall, and stands an impressive 3.5 meters tall. The real car also has a rocket, a jet engine, wheel loads, air breaks, speedometer, parachute and much, much more.

OVA student Carolina, of year 8, said "It has been a really fun day."







# Venture Cafe 5 Star Awards

We are delighted that the team in the Venture Cafe have been awarded 5 stars following their recent Environmental Health Inspection. This accreditation supports the high quality of our catering team the food they produce and the vibrant environment the students and staff enjoy their meals in.

We are looking forward to this continued success following the decision to bring the catering provision in-house with effect from September 2014.

*Well Done Team*

# Learning Community

We are pleased to announce that 4 of our senior year have begun apprenticeships with Hydramec this summer.

Lewis Sharman sealed his apprenticeship during his work experience visit, whilst Dayle Searby and Kaylen Barnes had to apply and successfully undergo a formal interview process before being offered a role. From this, an administration role also became available, in which Jessica Morais was successful with her letter of application and then interview.

We wish them all the very best of luck in the future and are confident they will represent Venture extremely well.

Venture is always looking to broaden the horizons of it's students and offer the work place some quality apprentices. If you are able to and wish to set up a link for future projects and apprenticeships please do not hesitate to contact Mr McInally at the Academy.



## Wicked

In name and nature. Year 7 were offered the chance to view first-hand the fantastic production that is Wicked in London. 2 coaches packed full of excited youngsters left the academy early in the morning heading to the Apollo Victoria Theatre in Westminster, London.

Packed lunches and sweets at the ready the group celebrated 2 birthdays and stopped off at Primrose Hill for lunch before the show.

The performance was so moving it left Miss Ditcham in tears!

The students had a 'Wicked' time and would like to thank Miss Cornwell, Miss Ditcham and Mrs Simms for organising the day.





# venture's got TALENT

**Wednesday 16th July. A massive outdoor stage with a pounding sound system. Blazing hot sunshine. Burgers, hot dogs and ice-creams at the ready.**

An expectant crowd. It could only mean one thing – Ventures Got Talent was back!!

Students from Herman, Hillside and Home field primary schools, joined forces with Venture staff and students to witness the spectacle at the academy. 10 acts keenly competed for the much coveted trophy won by Michael Meyer last year, performing on a large trailer stage.

The judge's panel comprised of last years' winner Michael Meyer, the Principal Mr Gilbert-Barnham, and the new Head boy and girl, Mackenzie Lodge and Emily George. Acts were judged on quality, stage presence and audience engagement.



The Venture Vixens cheerleaders repeated their feat of last year with a 3rd placed finish, while Jadyn Johnson was awarded second place for a fantastic vocal performance.

This year's winners were the duo of Olivia Secretan and Daniella Stevens with their version of Forget You by Cee Lo Green.

A huge amount of organizational work went into this event for which Miss Ditcham and Miss Cornwell deserve a great deal of credit.

Plans for an even bigger, better production next year, are already under way!



## Venture Students Support Mrs Smith In Bag Packing Fundraiser

On Saturday, 27th September 8 students from Ormiston Venture Academy joined visually impaired staff member, Mrs Smith, student support officer and her guide dog 'Unity' at the Gorleston branch of Morrisons to raise money for guide dogs.

Mrs Smith is running the London Marathon in 2015 for the charity with her guide Carl Jessup, from Jessups Clinic, Gorleston in aid of the cause very close to Mrs Smith's heart.

The students arrived to pack customers shopping from 9.00am until 3.00pm in the afternoon and with their outstanding personalities and manners raised £922.81 for Mrs Smith's cause.

This has been added to Mrs Smith's Just Giving site and she stands at a total just short of £2000.00 with her aim of £2500.00 getting ever closer.

Ormiston Venture Academy is supporting Mrs Smith with a range of activities incorporating World Sight Day and her marathon run. Keep tuned for news of a team Marathon in December where 26 teams running a mile each will help raise more money.

Mrs Smith would like to say thanks to the wonderful team of packers along with the staff and customers of Morrisons who were so generous with their giving and support.

Keep up to date with all the latest news from in & outside of the academy from the...



Union of Venture Students

Follow us @Venture\_su or search for us on youtube at SUnionVenture



# Senior Year Prom 2014

The excitement was all too much for some and this was evident as the students arrived in their various glamorous and sometimes outlandish modes of transport.

Once the students had arrived and their photos had been taken it was time to make their way through the hall onto the West Terrace for drinks. This was when the students could see the venue in its full glory and also see where they would be spending the evening saying their farewells and enjoying the reward for all of their hard work over the past year.

Summer  
2014  
Re-Cap



The prom this year was held at the impressive Somerleyton Hall and as the students pulled up outside, the sun shone. Around 100 parents and grandparents came to see the lovely dresses and suits and hundreds of photos were taken.



Prom King was awarded to Fletcher Thompson and Queen was Rhiannon Forder. A special mention should go to Mr Sewell for winning the impressive dance off.





# Sports Results

## FOOTBALL RESULT

U14 GIRLS

The U14 and U15 Girls football teams have been in action this term.

The U14s have shown fantastic resilience and improvement as they lost their first match 8-0 to Lynn Grove, only lost their second match 5-2 against Caister with Gabby Kirk showing great composure in front of goal and Sian Douglas scoring an amazing free kick which caught the Caister keeper off guard.

Their last match of the half term was against Gt Yarmouth which they won 2-0. Vice captain Grace Kent scored a fantastic powerful shot which flew into the top right hand corner, the keeper had no chance. Then Sian Douglas scored another scorcher by out pacing the Yarmouth defence and smashing it into the bottom left hand corner. The girls have improved so much and are looking forward to their other fixtures after half term.

### U14 Girls Football Team: Positions

CD- Zoe Gibbs	RB- Rebecca Garcia/Ellen Harvey,	LW- Alicia Carlyon
CD- Holly Roe/Chloe Brown	CAM- Sian Douglas	Striker- Gabby Kirk, Grace Kent
LB- Jenna Wood	RW- Bobbi Docwra	CDM- Kayleigh Rynn

## FOOTBALL RESULT

U15 GIRLS

The U15s have also had an amazing start to their campaign.

They drew 0-0 against Lynn Grove and in fairness we should have battered them about 3-0 if it wasn't for the heroic saves of their keeper. Chloe Hodgkinson captained at the back fearlessly and even played on after she dislocated her knee!!!

Megan Thrower was skilling up the midfield and working back and forward to keep the team going. Zoe Waite and Marianna Texiera both had amazing stints in goal to keep out Lynn Grove and both had chances saved when they played outfield. It was an amazing team performance which led to this result, I am confident at their next fixtures we will be victorious.

### U15 Girls Football Team: Positions

CD- Chloe Hodgkinson	CAM- Megan Thrower	CDM- Chantelle Kirton
CD- Lauren Williams	RW- Jessie Smith	GK- Marianna Texiera/Zoe Waite
Rhiannon McDonald	LW- Jade Stanton	
LB- Lauren McMurdo	Striker- Marianna Texiera	
RB- Jasmine Carrier	Zoe Waite	

*Keep it Going Ladies!!*

## CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

NORWICH

A new season brings new opportunities, and we have been able to sign an agreement with NCFC to become a hub site for numerous projects.

A number of new initiatives to boost participation in sport and healthy active lifestyles have recently been planned to compliment the fantastic work of the Kicks project. Opportunities to truly broaden experiences in many curriculum areas will now become available.

A major new program we have just developed is a 16-19 qualification led by NCFC and hosted by the academy. 15 Students from the local area have been offered a scholarship to study a level 3 BTEC in Sport and train as Futsal players as well, competing in regional and national tournaments. Jack Garrod from NCFC has been heading up the Kicks project and including an element of Futsal, in the free sessions hosted at the academy on Wednesday and Friday evenings between 5.30 and 7.30. For more information please see Jack when he is in the academy on Thursdays.



# Sports Results

## FOOTBALL RESULT

YEAR 10 BOYS

The year 10 Boys have had a positive start to this seasons league campaign. Their first fixture was a tough one against Caister who made the district finals last season.



From left: Trae Duffus, Dan Pinhero, Callum Gallant, Daniel Blake.

The boys battled really hard with Dan Pinhero in midfield working and tackling everywhere!! Daniel Blake put in a massive shift working backwards and forwards and putting in his trade mark brutal challenges which rattled the Caister strikers. Trae Duffus had some ambitious shots on goal that maybe on another day would have gone in, but it wasn't to be our day.

All in all a massive team performance meant we only lost the game 2-0. Some confident goal keeping from Callan Woods kept Caister out along with some valiant work from Yanish Bully and Mark Harte at centre back.

The boys have also received a new kit from NCFC and are looking forward to modelling it when we return after half term for the rest of our footballing fixtures.

*Well done Lads!!*

## Marvellous Manifold

The academy was lucky enough to call upon the expert knowledge and skills of a professional basketball player in the summer term.

Patrick Manifold returned to the area during his off-season and offered to work with students from the academy. He led sessions for the BTEC Sport group as well as running after academy sessions and summer workshops.

We wish him the best of luck next season, as he proves with hard work and commitment students from this area can achieve amazing feats.







## Superb Sam!

**Innovate Senior Year student Sam Waite has always had an obvious talent for athletics and has had many successes for the Academy at the Wellesley competition over the past few years.**

However in his final appearance at the competition he has achieved something no other Venture students has done previously.

Sam has won the prestigious Foreman Trophy, traditionally awarded to the most outstanding athlete in the Great Yarmouth borough. This means that out of all the students from the different schools who attend the summer competition, Sam was picked out as the best of the lot and added his name to a list of outstanding athletes going back to the first awarding of the trophy in 1966, some of whom have gone on to achieve further success in athletics including going on to represent their country in competitions such as the Commonwealth Games and the Olympics.

**Who knows maybe future Venture recipients of the trophy will be able to look at Sam as a role model for similar levels of success?**

## Venture Games 2014

**This year's Venture Games saw the whole Academy from staff to students, taking part in sporting events.**

Emerald Park hosted Capture the Flag which was commanded superbly by Miss Clarke and her band of support staff. Tennis was run by Mrs Dwight who led the students in a fun session of skills and matches. Rounder's was as popular as ever with 4 matches being played at once under the eagle eye scrutiny of Miss Nichols.

Our partners from NCFE ran some really engaging and exciting girls and boy's football sessions, and there was the usual dodgeball sessions for all those crazy students. A special thanks to all the teachers who managed to survive and officiate that particular event!

Over the course of the day students took part in three sporting sessions of an hour and a half, and as students were able to opt into a variety of sporting events there was something for everyone including yoga and sports animation.

### Looking forward to next year all ready!

Let us know what exciting new sports we can add to make it bigger and better than ever.

*"May the Games Be Forever In Your Favour"*

### Diary Dates

#### What's coming up at Venture Academy

##### December

**Wed: 3rd Dec** - Fun run Team Marathon in support of Miss Smith during the Academy day period 5

**Mon: 15th Dec** - Half Term Online Report available for parents

**Thurs: 11th Dec** - 'A Not So Merry Christmas Show' 7- 9pm

**Wed: 17th Dec** - Christmas Fayre for students during the Academy day period 5

**Fri: 19th Dec** - Break for Christmas Holiday's

##### January 2015 - Happy New Year

**Tues: 6th Jan** - Academy re opens from Christmas break

