

Venture VOICE

Ormiston
Venture Academy

[OAT]
AN OAT ACADEMY



Edition 27: Spring 2019



World Book Day

Harry Potter theme

Red Nose Day '19

#Lol-a-thon

Gresham's Scholarship

This year's scholar is announced

Venture's Italian Job

Venture students go on tour

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and so much more!



'to seek out new horizons,
to face new challenges and
to break new ground'

Venture into Success

OPEN EVENING '19

Thursday 19th Sept.
5pm - 7pm

*Our students are passionate,
engaged, happy and successful children...*

Ormiston Venture Academy brings state of the art facilities, a dedicated team of staff and exciting learning opportunities together to provide an **OUTSTANDING** education for all.

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What's going on at Venture Academy for 2019

Welcome from Principal Gilbert – Barnham	P3	Diana Awards 2019 hosted at Venture	P12-11
Alumni & Gresham's Scholar	P4	Pottermania - World Book Day 2019	P14 - 15
STEM Roadshow comes to Venture	P5	Venture's inspiring Italian trip	P16 - 17
Creative Arts	P6	World leading Psychologists' visit	P19
Venture's new executive board	P7	Red Nose Day '19	P20 - 21
What makes a school great? Paul Hann - Governor	P7	Nomination for Enrichment Champion	P21
Gresham's Scholarship for 2019	P8	Venture Elite Sports Awards 2019	P22 - 23
Young Epilepsy Purple Day	P9	Venture Sports round-up and Diary Dates	P23 - 24
Robots take over	P10	Keep up-to-date and follow us @OrmistonVenture from twitter.com	

The sun is shining

(long may it continue),
the academy is a thriving community (with happy students and staff everywhere) and most importantly the lessons are a buzz of learning (and exciting to be a part of).

Here we are at summer again and it is nice to see that although the weather is changing, Venture continues to be an exciting place to be a part of. Reading through this Venture Voice I am certain that you will agree that there is so much to be proud of.

The young people we are lucky enough to have in our community is something that always makes me feel that sense of pride.

There are too many achievements to fit into this Venture Voice and much more that goes unnoticed. The sense of community we have in our local area is special.

It is something that we are committed to ensuring everyone is a part of and we all feel that sense of togetherness.

I want to take this moment to not only congratulate those that are showcased in our Venture Voice but all those that are day in and day out such amazing members of our community.

Thank you for the big and little things that you do each and every day that make it such a pleasure to be a part of this community.

Simon Gilbert-Barnham - Principal

Alumni and Gresham's Scholar Ashley Returns

Ormiston Venture Academy in Gorleston welcomed former pupil Ashley Scarlett as he popped in to say hello and offer some wise words of wisdom to current students at the school.

Venture alumni and former Gresham's scholar Ashley took some time to meet the Union of Venture Students (UVS) and take questions from potential Gresham's scholars themselves, before returning to Queen's University Belfast to prepare for his finals to complete a master's degree in Chemistry.

Ashley kindly agreed to a recorded interview by the executive board of the UVS, made up of pupils Joe Jeremy, Yolanda Shirin, Mia Steward and Kieran Shearing. The interview is now set to be shared over the Venture Vibe airwaves in the near future.

Ashley is due to start a PhD in Metallurgy at Sheffield University in September, where the institution works in conjunction with Rolls Royce. Ashley graduated from Ormiston Venture Academy in 2012 with an incredible 21 GCSE's before joining Gresham's School on a full scholarship, which Ormiston Venture continues to offer to a selected pupil every year. The initiative has now benefitted ten pupils.

After a gap year in 2015, Ashley continued his thirst for knowledge and is now nearing the completion of his four years of study at Queen's.

He also works for the University on pedagogy and student voice in his free time and is due to travel to Paris to unwind with friends in the summer.

Ian McNally, Assistant Principal at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

"It was wonderful for Ashley to drop in again. He used to love his Sciences, so it is heart-warming that he is still studying in this area and is due to continue his research."

The pupils here can learn so much from people just like Ashley who have been there, done that and bought the t-shirt. He is a real inspiration to others."

Ormiston Venture Academy would love for any other former students to get in touch and share their stories by contacting: imcinnally@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk



Animator Luke Green visits Venture

On Wednesday 16th January, Norwich based animator Luke Green entertained a group of year 9 students from Ormiston Venture Academy, enlightening them into the world of animation.

Luke is a self-taught animator specialising in pixel art and hand-drawn animation; with his passion of the horror genre injecting thrilling scares into his work. Luke has produced several professional works with many high profile YouTubers such as Stop Skeletons From Fighting and Boundary Break, which in turn caught the attention of bands such as synth pop band WOLFCLUB.

The event was organised in conjunction with the 'Take Your Place' programme, delivered by the Network for East Anglian Collaborative Outreach (neaco) and Norwich University of the Arts (NUA). Luke is a postgraduate of Norwich University of the Arts, and spoke of his passion for drawing and animation growing up. He inspired the students as he recalled his journey through education to where he is now, working out of his own studio – StudioGoblin www.studiogoblin.co.uk.

The students also had a chance to design their own animated character with Luke and had some wonderful – and weird ideas!

The Take Your Place project is all about raising aspirations and uncovering hidden talents. It aims to increase the number of young people from under-represented backgrounds in higher education and degree level apprenticeships by 2020.

Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that

"This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to hear firsthand from a professional animator, about his life, career and experiences. Being resilient, following your passions and staying true to your desires are key character traits that Luke demonstrated though his presentation, and will stay with our students for a life time."



STEM roadshow comes to Ormiston Venture Academy

On Friday 22nd March the BAE Systems Education Programme Roadshow came to Ormiston Venture Academy to deliver STEM based information and interactive presentations to years 7 and 8.

The BAE Systems roadshow was delivered in conjunction with their partners the RAF and the Royal Navy demonstrating how data can be used on fighter jets and warships. The team provided detailed analysis on mobile phone waves, radio waves and infra-red waves using interactive displays and experiments.

Students were able to become mobile phone signals, control Sphero balls, search for items using night vision goggles and use maths to calculate rotations. The team showed how important technology is in modern day life and that engineering and coding is an exciting and engaging prospective career choice for both male and females.

Mr McNally commented that:

The roadshow was fun and interactive engaging students with STEM concepts. I am certain they take this inspiration and actively seek opportunities and careers within STEM. I can't thank the roadshow team enough for an amazing, professional, informative presentation which had the entire year group hooked!



Colby Duffield is an Aspire year 7 student who practises the art of Korean Karate.

Colby Duffield is an Aspire year 7 student who practises the art of Korean Karate.

He trains for an hour on Thursday evenings and between one and three hours on a Saturday. Colby's training also involves weapons, the bo, Tonfa and Nunchaku.

The picture shows Colby with his Medal for third place which he received on the 25th March this year. He travels the country for competitions. He is a Brown/Black belt. His recent competitions were 28th April in Harlow and 5th May in London, where Colby was thrilled to see the Shard.

His next competition is Sunday 12th May in Liverpool, where he hopes to bring more medals home.



Join the Aspire SPOTLIGHT

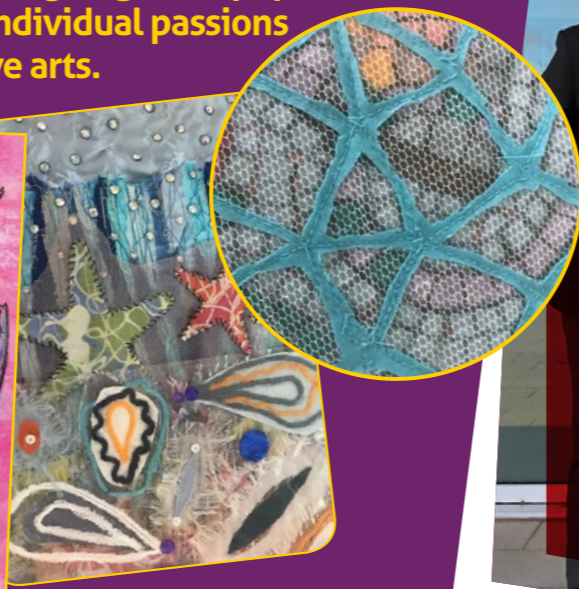


A fresh new Venture website



Creative Arts

Ormiston Venture Academy is always proud to see the creative skills demonstrated by students across the school. Here, the school's Create department shares just some of the wonderful work going on as pupils pursue their individual passions for the creative arts.



Mrs Anna Mallory, Head of Creative Arts commented:

"Every year I am increasingly inspired, impressed and proud with the quality of work our students here at Ormiston Venture academy produce. The Create department here strives to encourage and support our students to develop and master their creative skills.

I believe every student has a natural talent or gift, and here at Ormiston Venture Academy we aim to nurture and evolve those talents so all students reach their full creative and artistic potential."

Photography - Lia Aldous Woolton, Year 11

Lia is a naturally creative photographer. She has been exploring the idea of texture and surface with a focus on portraiture. She uses manual processes such as burning, scratching, ripping and scoring but also Photoshop filters to experiment with colour and lighting. Her experimentation produces some powerful, energetic and dynamic outcomes.

Art - Katie Parsons, Year 9

Katie is an extremely talented Art student and has been working on her drawing skills this term. She has produced some fantastic three-dimensional tonal drawings, where she has been experimenting with a range of drawing materials.

She has also been learning about composition, scale, space, shape and form. She produced this drawing from researching the theme 'Natural world', using a biro pen on cartridge paper to create lines and various tonal values.

Textiles - Mia Steward, Year 10

Mia is a very talented and gifted textile student. She works extremely hard exploring and experimenting with many techniques and processes. Her work is mindful, creative and beautiful and shows many developed and refined ideas. These pieces were inspired by her current project 'East Anglia', where she responded to various landscapes in the area.

Art - Casey Geary, Year 11

Year 11 have been working on the theme 'Decay' this year. Casey is a very creative, gifted Art student and decided her sub-theme would be 'Before and After.'

She has produced some beautiful and highly skilled observation of skulls and decayed objects. This drawing was a primary study of an animal skull, using a biro pen and coloured inks, to show the strong three-dimensional form and contrasting interesting textures.

Textiles - Holly Bennington, Year 9

Holly is a creative textile student, who has made fantastic progress this term. She is currently learning a wide range of textile processes and techniques. Year 9 students are encouraged to create personal responses to theme, while fully understanding and mastering textile processes and methods. This piece of work is an experiment using the technique called reverse applique.

New Exec' Board

Head boy: Joe Jermy

Head Girl: Yolanda Shrin

Deputy Head Boy: Kieran Shearing

Deputy Head Girl: Mia Steward



The main aims of this years cohort is to complete the green flag eco award, which is compiled of the bronze, silver and green flag award. They have recently completed the bronze award.

To celebrate the amazing work they are doing by publicizing it more with the rest of the students. They have been doing this via collectives, walking round PL groups. After half term when the purchases of the new usherette trays and recycling bins have arrived they will be doing the you said we did presentations for PL groups.

Finally the students would like to set up an Ormiston east youth parliament with other local Ormiston Academies to discuss relevant issues in the community.

Chloe Daly (year 8) took part in a successful fundraising event on Saturday 9th March at Oulton community Centre in Lowestoft.

Rachel Walker (mum) and her husband organised the family fun day in aid to raise as much as possible for their friend's little boy Jaymen who was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma cancer in January.

Chloe helped sell raffle tickets before the event day and designed all the stall posters for the day as well as holding her own stall at the event where she painted blue glitter hearts on people's cheeks!

She has been absolutely amazing. With Chloes help they raised an astonishing £3020.60!

#Pray4Jayman



A Word from the Gov'

What makes a school great? Not all schools are the same and not all "Ofsted Outstanding" schools like Venture, are the same. Yes, Venture students make really good progress, better than most schools, and the teaching and learning is varied and as good as anywhere else in Norfolk, but it is different. It is different because what has been created at Venture during the last six years I have been a governor, is unique.

Who has made this happen? Venture students: there would be no Ormiston Venture Academy without its students. This magazine is a record of their most recent achievements and strengths. Their involvement in the Guilds, a special feature of Venture is exciting. It broadens their horizons and ensures students' views are heard and helps inform the school's development. Venture is oversubscribed with many more students wishing to come here than we have places: a great school is a highly popular school.

Venture staff: All the adults at Venture know they are here for only one thing: to support the learning, well-being and development of all our students. Staff are committed, work hard and embrace change. They are good teachers, but it is not just achievement in examinations that is important: it is also how the staff and students together have created a supportive and caring environment, where students can feel valued and know where they can turn if they need support in facing life's challenges.

Venture leaders: Weaving all this activity together and setting the direction for the school is the role of its leaders. Our first Principal, Nicole McCartney, and after her, our current Principal, Simon Gilbert-Barnham, have led the school so well in developing a personalised approach to what is taught and how students learn. What they and the staff have achieved together is significant and the basis for the fine results the school now achieves. Lesley King, our Chair of Governors, has also had an important role in supporting Venture's successful development over time. Behind the scenes, she has shared her expertise and knowledge, offering wise advice and support.

Venture parents and carers: Researchers have long argued over who has the greater influence on a student's development- is it the teacher or the parent/ carer? In a recent survey, the majority of teachers thought the home had more influence over a young person's development than the school. The majority of parents/carers however thought the opposite, the school had more influence than the home. At Venture it is not an either/or question, it is both: the home and the school must work together closely.

That is the Venture way, a school community that works together so that our Venture students achieve great things.

Dr. Paul Hann, OBE - Ormiston Academies Trust Nominee Governor and Ormiston Academies Trust Chairman.



GRESHAM'S Scholarship



Ormiston Venture Academy has this week announced that pupil Jasmine Loades is the recipient of the prestigious Gresham's Sixth Form Scholarship.

The full scholarship will commence from September 2019 and will provide a full academic and boarding scholarship for two years, enabling Jasmine to fully experience all that Gresham's, a leading independent school, has to offer.

This year, Jasmine became the tenth pupil to receive the annual scholarship, as the long-running and highly successful partnership between Ormiston Venture Academy and Gresham's continues. The process of selecting a scholar takes several months, with candidates proceeding through several rounds of interviews and tasks before the final candidates attend interviews with the Gresham's senior team.

Jasmine has persevered and shown great desire and resilience in achieving the scholarship. After narrowly missing out on a separate opportunity in Year 10, she came back with a determination to succeed and is a thoroughly deserving recipient of the scholarship.

Jasmine is a member of the Union of Venture students and has been actively involved in fundraising events throughout her time at Venture, taking on roles of responsibility and helping to shape the school spirit. Staff members have stressed that she works exceptionally hard to achieve fantastic academic grades and will take this attitude with her to Gresham's, where she hopes to further her studies in maths and psychology before progressing onto university.

The school and its sponsor, Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT), are committed to enriching the lives of its pupils by broadening their horizons and raising aspirations. The Gresham's scholarship is reflective of the broad range of opportunities Ormiston Venture provides to its pupils, giving them every opportunity to succeed in life.



Jasmine Loades, on receiving the scholarship news, said:

"I am so overwhelmed with joy that I have the opportunity to involve myself in the amazing environment that Gresham's offers, and I am excited to dive right into the many different activities and experiences.

"I am so thankful to my family, friends and the teachers that have supported and believed in me so that I can achieve this. I know that this experience will help me achieve my dreams and I will make the absolute most of it."

Simon Gilbert-Barnham, Principal at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

"We are pleased to celebrate our 10th year in partnership with Gresham's with the announcement of the 2019 scholar. We are so proud of Jasmine and her impressive aspirations for the future.

"This is an exciting opportunity for all our students that has been running for the past decade. We are exceptionally proud of all of our pupils involved and know that there are many opportunities waiting for them in the future."

Young Purple Epilepsy Day

The new Union of Venture Students wanted to not only raise some funds for the Young Epilepsy charity, but also to raise awareness of a condition which can affect anyone.

Staff, students and the community came together to bake cakes, make bracelets and donate prizes for a raffle. This was to show support for the charity's national awareness day – Purple Day.

Year 9 Tia Hutchinson of Tia's Treasures made lots of unique bracelets (to symbolize that no two forms of epilepsy are the same) to sell on the day. This accompanied a superb raffle of 15 fabulous prizes kindly donated by local companies. Prizes included a paintball session for 5 from UK Paintball and an awesome Easter Hamper donated by the Tribal Trust.

Mr Smith the senior College leader was overjoyed that the Academy had chosen to support a charity so close to his heart and said "Epilepsy is a difficult disability for both staff and students to understand as seizures can come in different formats.

Purple Day at Venture was an important step forward into spreading the awareness and understanding of epilepsy. The passion the students showed today by donating goods, making cakes and creating purple bracelets for this important cause was an inspiration to all."

The Union managed to raise a fantastic £252 for the charity but also helped to raise awareness of the charity and the condition.



Secret Student?!

Out of the 870 students in the academy 2 student from each college are chosen to attend the Secret Student breakfast with the Principal each Friday, these students are chosen by their PL Tutor as students from their group that are just "The Venture Way" each and everyday.

the
Innovate
Spotlight

Shai joined the Oliver show at St Georges Theatre, 27.03.19.

Shai was playing a work house child in the chorus performing in total 4 times. Shai loved the experience and is auditioning for more shows at the Theatre, such as Wind in the Willows.

Shai is looking to do his work experience at the Theatre as he enjoyed the experience so much and would potentially like to go into performing as a future career.



ROBOTS Take Over

Over 120 Year 8 pupils at Ormiston Venture Academy, in Gorleston, enjoyed learning how to programme a robot in a very special session with University of East Anglia (UEA).

UEA's Outreach Academic Officer, Dr Carl Harrington, and student Joseph Shepherd, who is currently studying for a PHD in the School of Computing Sciences, went along to the academy with 12 'Raspberry Pi' robots to give the students a Computing lesson with a difference.

The pupils at Venture, which is sponsored by Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT), heard about the importance of robotics across the world from automated manufacturing to helping in situations which endanger human life and even in space. Setting up courses around the classroom, students got stuck in to the practical session and saw first-hand how robots can be programmed to carry out instructions, in a demonstration of just some of the extra opportunities available at the academy.



Dr Harrington said:

"The day aimed to show pupils that Computing and Computing Science is integrated into so much of the world around us today.

"This was demonstrated through the pupils programming Raspberry Pi robots and making them move around the floor, lighting up different colours and considering where these attributes might be useful, such as sending a robot to explore the moon.

"The pupils really enjoyed hearing about what university is like in general terms and studying computer sciences specifically, giving the event really useful context."



Kyran Smith, Head of Faculty at the Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

"This was an invaluable experience for our pupils to take part in a true masterclass with UEA.

Students involved throughout the day did not take long to add the spirit of competition into the sessions by racing and navigating around courses set up to test their programming skills.

The ability to solve problems really is best developed through the application of knowledge and skills to a real-world scenario, using specialist equipment just like a Raspberry Pi. Overall, as well as fun and excitement, the day gave our learners a taster of the vast array of employment opportunities available in Computer Science."



Colonel Sulle Alhalji Visit

Colonel Sulle Alhaji from the British Army visited Venture to work with fifty lucky students.

A very personable and lively character, he shared his experiences of forces life and the story of how he turned his life around after a turbulent beginning. He explained the importance of making the most of the opportunities available to you and to value your family, friendships and the people who care about you the most; including your teachers!

An inspirational and influential speaker, Sulle was well received, with students asking multiple questions throughout the four workshops. We will be working with him and his team again soon, with a focus on student leadership.



Up Skill training on public speaking



Diana Award Ambassadors from the academy went over to Aylsham High to join their students for some up skill training to learn how to be a public speaker, to build confidence and their presentation skills.

Using the skills they learnt on the day, they then gave a presentation on what Venture's anti-bullying ambassadors have been and will be doing at Ormiston Venture and how they will be supporting the community.



Create the SPOTLIGHT



Daniel has settled into Venture in Year 7 fantastically. He tries hard in all his lessons, is a pleasure to teach and has engaged in many Academy events already.

He is a vital part of his PL and contributes many ideas to discussions.

Daniel has tried many different activities outside of the Academy including sports, cubs and youth groups – however his most recent passion has been acting.

He has joined the Lowestoft Cantors theatre school and performed on stage dancing, singing and acting in History that made musicals. Daniel received a trophy for achievement in performance skills for his displays on stage. This has boosted his confidence and he has also now taken to the circus performing skills on a high hoop. This was with Circus Ferrel – practising around 5 hours a week over weekends. Daniel would like to pursue a future in Performing Arts and aims to perform on stage when he is older.

Miss Vincent commented that Daniel is a wonderful student who shows the others in Create the best way forward, and that we are very proud of him as a person.

Proud to host the
Diana

Awards

Educating young people across Norfolk to be anti-bullying ambassadors

On 29th January, 98 pupils from 8 different primary and secondary schools around the county took part in a one-day anti-bullying training session run by The Diana Award at Ormiston Venture Academy.



Bethany Cooper, a Year 7 student at Ormiston Venture Academy who attended the session, said:

"It was great to have so many different schools and age groups having fun and working together, all with the main goal of helping others. This training taught us how to help people being bullied and also the bullies themselves to make sure that our schools and communities are bully-free places"

Dominic Dlugosz, a Year 7 student at Ormiston Venture Academy also said:

"In my opinion the day really helped me evaluate the importance of anti-bullying and made me excited about the opportunity to run the anti-bullying campaign ideas with our team here at Ormiston Venture Academy".

Young people, aged between 10 and 15, worked together and acquired vital skills to enable them to change the attitudes and behaviours of bullying in their school by building their skills and confidence to address different situations, both online and off.

The training looked at bullying in different situations including face-to-face and online. At the end of the day, pupils made an action plan of how to approach bullying issues that may arise in their schools and committed to their roles as Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

The Diana Award's free Anti-Bullying Ambassador Programme which is available to schools across the UK, sees trainers working with students and other young people to change the attitude surrounding bullying. The programme has a strong peer-to-peer focus, with trainers giving young people the skills and confidence to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors to tackle bullying in their schools long after the training has finished. The Diana Award's anti-bullying work is recognised as world-class thanks to this sustainable approach.

Paul Hanmore, the Anti-Bullying Training Manager for The Diana Award, said:

"We were impressed at the commitment of the young people in being able to engage in positive social action to make a real difference to their schools. We feel confident in their ability in carrying on Princess Diana's legacy of compassion, kindness and service to others in their campaigns they will be running themselves."



Abbie Freal, Teacher at Ormiston Herman Academy commented:

"Our children had a great day at the Anti-Bullying Ambassador training at Venture. They are looking forward to spearheading a campaign to have a positive impact on life at Ormiston Herman Academy."

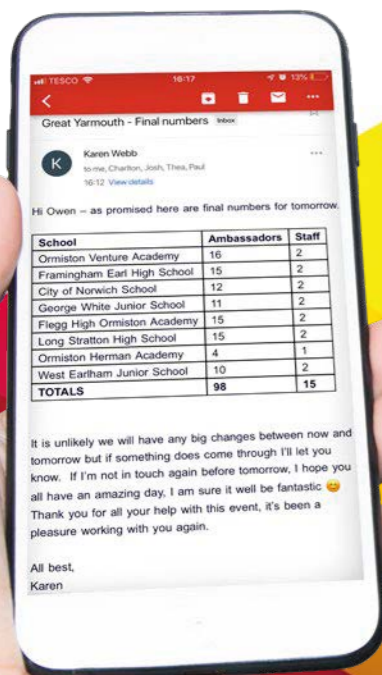
We thought the training was high energy and engaging and has given us some great ideas to move forward."



Commenting on the training Owen Cooper, Head of Upper School at Ormiston Venture Academy and event organiser, said:

"This is the 2nd year we have run this here at Ormiston Venture Academy. This training helps empower young people to work together to make not only their school but their community a better place. This training, led by The Diana Award, helps to ensure schools and communities have the dedicated up-to-date training needed for staff and students in both online and offline anti-bullying strategies."

At Ormiston Venture Academy we plan to run this event yearly to ensure we can train as many young people as we can to bring the message of the Diana Award to as many schools as possible and support the wider community.



'Pottermania'

descended upon the Academy recently as representatives from Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw and Slytherin turned up to bring a bit of magic to the school on World Book Day.

The Harry Potter series weren't the only books the school showed their passion for, with pupils dressing up as characters from The Hunger Games and The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, the 'Things' from The Cat in the Hat and Bill Sykes from Oliver Twist.

There was even a Wally and Wendy from the Where's Wally? books – who took a bit of finding!

Literacy is a key pillar of learning at Ormiston Venture Academy, which is sponsored by Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT). Throughout their time at the school, pupils will gain expertise in their specialist subjects, but teachers

recognise how important it is to expose them to a range of different works of literature.



Pupils enjoy a morning each week dedicated to reading, with excerpts from classic novels, children's fiction, graphic novels and poetry. Ormiston Venture truly believes that reading is for everyone, and the breadth of texts explored, not just on World Book Day but throughout the year, aim to show pupils the power and diversity of the written word.



What just popped?

Tom O'Donoghue, Science Teacher and Literacy Lead at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

"World Book Day is an amazing chance to celebrate the works of literature, great and small, that have stimulated the imaginations of our pupils. I continue to be bowled over by how articulate our pupils are about the books that they love, and I look forward to seeing where the next year of great texts will take us!"

Thank you @BA Airways.

49 Venture Students Eventful but Inspiring Italy Trip

During the February Half Term holiday 49 students and 6 members of staff from Ormiston Venture Academy took part in a trip to Italy to enjoy a cultural and historical two centre visit to Rome and Sorrento.

It was always going to be an early start on the Monday with the coach due to depart the academy at 3am in order to get us to Rome with time to enjoy the afternoon. However things did not quite go to plan.

The coach would not start again once at the academy, and unsurprisingly it was difficult to get hold of a replacement coach at 3:30am. The tour operator Travel bound were excellent, phoning round and doing all they could to find alternative options. In the end a coach was rushed over from Diss and two taxis were sent to pick the group up. The whole journey down was touch and go as to whether or not the 9:30 flight from Heathrow could be made.

The trip leader Mr Richards was in constant phone contact with the brilliant Reggie Thomas from British Airways who was coordinating efforts to either hold the flight or arrange alternative flight options. The coach got to Heathrow at 9:15 with the taxi's a little behind, unfortunately the flight couldn't be held, but the group were looked after so well at Heathrow upon our arrival, whilst Reggie and his colleague Gerry McEwan were working with their team to find space on other flights. There were only two seats free on further flights that day, so British Airways went above and beyond and arranged for a larger plane to fly down from Manchester to replace the 2:15pm flight and all 56 members of the group were booked onto that flight.

This was greeted by a collective sigh of relief and a huge thank you from students, staff and parents waiting by the phone alike. After a bit of time at the airport the group departed for Rome that afternoon and slight changes were made to the itinerary to make sure the students saw all they were due to see in Rome despite the reduction in time.

The next day was a full on day of sightseeing, the group started the day by visiting the Colosseum and having some time inside, before taking a trek across the middle of the historic city to enable visits to the Forum, the Pantheon, Trevi Fountain and finally stopping for lunch at the Spanish Steps.

A quick metro ride then took the group to the Vatican for enough time to send a postcard from the smallest independent state in the world before jumping on the coach to take the group to Sorrento.

This was complemented by a visit to Pompeii in the afternoon to see both the incredible ingenuity of the Romans with the way they built their towns, but also the scale of destruction caused by the eruption of Vesuvius. On the Thursday the group took a coach tour of Amalfi, stopping to take in the stunning sights of Positano, Amalfi and Ravello. Finally on the last day, a photo opportunity with the owner of our favourite Gelateria, Primavera to take a photo that we are sure will end up on his wall of fame rounded off our time in Sorrento. We headed off to the Airport in Naples via a quick stop at Herculaneum to explore more roman architecture. Thankfully the return journey was much more straight forward and completed a brilliant few days away which hasn't put the staff off of the idea of the trip running again for the 4th time in another 3 years!

Trip leader Mr Richards said
"It was a privilege to take this group of wonderful students away to allow them to learn so much about both Italian culture and history but also the impact that volcanoes such as Vesuvius can have on the people around them. The students were an absolute credit to themselves and the academy. I just want to take the opportunity to say a huge thank you to Reggie, Gerry and the team at British Airways and Travel bound for making sure we got to Rome on the Monday, we know that people went above and beyond what was necessary to ensure our trip went ahead, and all of us are incredibly grateful for this."



Rockin' it in Roma!



Last one to Finish...



Top of Mount Vesuvius

The days in Sorrento on this trip are always a little more relaxed, with a bit of free time in the town to sample incredible gelato, even in February, and excursions out during the day. On the Wednesday the group climbed to the top of Mount Vesuvius for amazing views both inside the most dangerous volcano in the world and out across the bay of Naples.



Strike a pose...



"Are we at the top yet?"



Venture @ the Vatican



Venture Adventures



Primary VR VISIT

"Our year 11 event operations group have organised several Virtual Reality educational events here at OVA."

This was for 2 of our local primary schools to give them an insight into some of the latest technology using our Google VR class sets. This included exploring under the sea, Nasa Space Station and visiting several of the "Seven wonders of the world" all from the comfort of a classroom.

These events allowed us to showcase our Computer Science classrooms and equipment, but more importantly enabled pupils to experience the wider world and

apply their knowledge to the chosen expeditions. The primary school students involved were immersed in the vivid imagery, and were blown away by how realistic the VR expeditions were at the event. Our fantastic year 11 event operation group, led the sessions well and showed potential to be great leaders or educators in the future. We hope to continue this project and open it up to all our local primary schools."



The Great Yarmouth Grammar School Foundation have granted the opportunity for Venture pupils to embark on a Languages trip to Madrid in 2020.

The Modern Foreign Languages department at Ormiston Venture Academy is delighted to announce that the Great Yarmouth Grammar School Foundation has awarded the school an incredible £7,175.00, to go towards a trip to Madrid in February 2020.

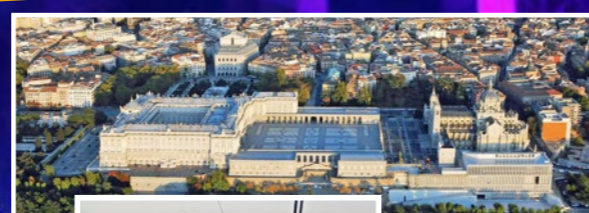
MFL teachers Mrs Waring and Miss Pellegrino have been keen to reintroduce a tradition of language trips at Venture and when we were given the details of this grant, we knew that we had to go for it! Mrs Waring carefully explained in the application the opportunity that it would present to our students and our community to visit the Spanish capital, and on the 25th of April, we were given the incredible news that we had been successful.

The Great Yarmouth Grammar School Foundation grants financing for projects and students at local schools throughout the region. Thanks to the grant, Ormiston Venture will now be able to considerably reduce the price of the trip, which is set to contain a range of exciting and beneficial activities.

On their visit, 40 students will receive an expansive three-hour guided visit of the most fascinating cultural spots in Madrid. The group will also take a ride on a cable car to enjoy the amazing views of the Spanish capital, alongside visiting an aquarium and zoo.

The football fans of the group are also excited to visit the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, home of the Real Madrid football team. Students and staff will also be lucky enough to watch a live Flamenco show, complete with dinner.

And finally, in order for the pupils to practise their Spanish skills, everyone will also have to complete a quest (in Spanish) through the town!



Miss Pellegrino and Mrs Waring commented:

"We are beyond excited at the opportunity that the Great Yarmouth Grammar School Foundation has given to our students and we can't wait to experience the first Venture MFL trip of many!"

Espana Awaits!

World Leading Cognitive Psychologists Speak at Ormiston Venture

On the 9th January 2019, Ignite Teaching School Alliance and Ormiston Venture Academy were extremely proud to be able to host a series of talks by the Learning Scientists.

The Learning Scientists are a group of cognitive psychological scientists based mainly in the United States who are interested in research on education with their main research focus is on the science of learning. The idea behind their work is to make scientific research on learning more accessible to students, teachers, and other educators helping to motivate students to study and increase the use of effective study and teaching strategies



The three members of the Learning Scientists who flew from the United States to speak at Venture as one of only three schools they visited on their short tour, were Dr Megan Sumeracki, Dr Cindy Nebel and Dr Althea Need Kaminske. In the morning they ran through their evidence based six effective study skills with a

group of 55 educators from all over the region, giving practical examples of how Dual Coding, Elaboration, Retrieval Practice, Spaced Learning, Interleaving and Concrete Examples can be applied in and out of the classroom.

The talk was inspiring and gave those in attendance a chance to collaborate on how it would work best in their setting and then quiz the experts on this. A thoroughly engaging and influential morning was capped by a networking lunch to further the conversations.

In the afternoon the Learning Scientists then spoke to 80 year 9,10 and 11 students about how they could use some of the strategies to support their own learning in an interactive session that focussed mainly on the benefits of retrieval practice and spaced learning. The students had heard about some of the ideas before but hearing the science behind it and hearing it from leading figures was really beneficial.



One year 11 student said

"It was really interesting to hear how I could improve my revision skills, I know we have been told before that re-reading material doesn't really work on its own and it is better to try and recall, but I didn't realise how much better forcing myself to retrieve information is in terms of remembering things in the long term. I am going to try to use the skills they spoke to us about and am going to look up some of the others from their website to try and improve the way I work in the run up to my exams."

Finally to conclude the day Venture Staff received a one hour workshop giving the main highlights behind two of the study skills that are easiest to replicate in every day teaching. Much of this is already being done as part of the curriculum at Venture but it was a good opportunity to reflect on this practice and refine it to make it even more effective in future.



Vice Principal Dave Richards who originally contacted the Learning Scientists and helped to organise the event said:

"We are so grateful to Megan, Cindy and Althea for coming and running the sessions today, I got so much from the staff sessions and it has made me think about how I plan to help students recall and retain information more effectively and from speaking to colleagues in the room I think that many felt the same way. The highlight though was seeing a group of our students receive input from world leaders in this field that will hopefully benefit them not just now in their studies but as life long learners."

The Academy emanated a red glow on Friday 15th March as the school came out in support for Comic Relief's Red Nose Day.

Staff and pupils got into the spirit with a red theme for non-Academy uniform for the day and were invited to donate to the charity, which supports disadvantaged people in the UK and abroad.

Venture RED NOSE DAY

#Lol-a-thon



A pie-the-teacher 'popularity' contest drew hundreds of pupils to the playground to watch Principal Mr Gilbert-Barnham, Mr Scotney and Miss Sweeney be pied at lunchtime.

The media co-operative alongside Mr O'Donoghue organised the very first Venture 'Lol-a-thon' joke competition, with pupils reading out their favourite funnies over the Venture Vibes radio station airwaves.



Mrs Hawes, who deserves a special mention for her hard work and commitment in setting up the stands and selling red noses across the school, said:

"I am so pleased to see everyone throwing themselves into the occasion with such good spirits, and so thankful to the people purchasing the Red Noses for what is a very worthy cause".

Nomination for Enrichment Champion Award (staff)

Jo as our Head of Physical Education has always been a champion for the importance of enriching our students, sporting lives.

From her appointment she has driven an innovative Venture Elite programme which is about linking students interested in sports with external clubs and coaches to give them a broader or new experience and to support talent pathways.

It also includes a way to celebrate their success at the Venture Elite awards evening.

This has been successful in a number of ways, from supporting our Venture Vixen cheerleading team at national competitions to utilising more expertise in helping the Venture Athletics Team win the district Athletics competition for the first time in over 20 years, a huge moment for the academy. But it has been most impressive in Netball.

Jo has gone out of her way to make new and deeper links with clubs and leagues, culminating in entering a student team into the local adult League.

Jo gives up her Tuesday evenings to play with the Venture girls in this league (even doing so whilst on maternity leave) providing them with valuable additional experience to the school schedule of matches.

She has developed extensive links with Gresham's School's netball programme and gives up her time to take the girls up to Holt to engage in coaching workshops and scrimmage games, and due to the increasing success of the Netball teams at all ages, has given up several Saturdays recently to take the teams to higher level competitions.

The level of development has been astounding.

Numerous age groups won the district league last year and are on track to do so again this year, the U14 and U16 teams qualifying unbeaten for the county finals where The U14 team finished third only losing one match against Gresham's and the U16 team not far behind in 5th place including a draw with the eventual winners Norwich High School for Girls. Individual recognition has been gained too with one of the U16 girls awarded with player of the tournament at the county finals.

Jo's ambition to do more is still obvious, as she does everything she can to get the girls to Netball World Cup games this summer in Liverpool, again willing to give up her own time to do so.

The success of the programme has been incredible, due in no small part to Jo's vision for improving school/club/development links and most importantly her passion for providing sporting opportunities for our students.

the Achieve SPOTLIGHT

Sarah has been involved in a huge amount of fundraising inside and outside the academy.

This has included bake sales and making bracelets. She is a big fan of all the college clash events and took part in the most recent poetry slam last month.

Sarah is incredibly enthusiastic and she is a superb student, with a variety of talents.

Apart from being fantastic at Music, Spanish, Geography, History and English are her best subjects; all Achieve subjects!



Venture Elite

Sports Awards 2019

– celebrating the achievements of Venture's sports teams.



On Thursday 28th March the PE faculty welcomed over 95 students to Burgh Hall's private function room along with the PE teachers to celebrate their individual and team successes over the past year.

Students were invited along to the evening if they have been a committed member of the following teams; Netball, Football, Handball, Cross Country, Rugby, Cheerleading, Athletics and Rounders. The students who were selected were chosen by their team coaches and PE teachers based on their high attendance at training and fixtures as well as a consistent positive attitude in all PE lessons.

The evening started by welcoming students with a slideshow photo presentation of some of the events over the last year, which included Netball matches, football matches, Vinny the Venture Raptor and Wellesley Athletics competition. Then we all sat down to eat some lovely hot buffet food while we waited for the much anticipated awards. The awards were presented in front of a lively crowd, who were clearly very encouraging towards all students invited and nominees of awards.



There were several awards up for grabs during the evening.

Below are the award winners.

Most improved (Rounders)
Jasmine Collings

Star Player (Rounders)
Shannon Howgate

Most Improved (Handball)
Saffron Braddick

Star Player (Handball)
Diesel Jacobs

Most Improved (Athletics)
Jaden Philpott

Star Athlete (Athletics)
Lauren Ward

Most Improved (Rugby)
Travis Philpott

Star Player (Rugby)
Aston Wiseman

Most Improved (Girls football)
Ruby Williamson

Star Player (Girls Football)
Evie Williams

Most improved (Cross Country)
Daniel Patinha



Star athlete (Cross Country)
Tyler Ellis

Most improved (Football)
Luke Gulliver

Star player (Football)
Joe Jermy

Most improved (Cheerleading)
Grace Rowland

Star Cheerleader (Cheerleading)
Maria Shurmur

Most improved (Netball)
Ella Scott

Star Player (Netball)
Lily King

Future Olympian
Fraia Wicks – Skating

Fraia came 2nd in the cup of Europe.

Team of the Year
Wellesley Athletics Squad

This is for winning the Wellesley Championship for the 1st time in 28 years. Over 100 students were involved in contributing to this success.

Venture Spirit Award
Alivia Powell

Alivia tries absolutely everything. She has a great attitude and always works hard. She never complains and is resilient in everything she does.

Future Leader: **Chantai Coleman**

Chantai has been the netball team captain since year 10 and regularly gives up her own time to umpire home netball matches against other schools. She has a real talent for umpiring and leadership.

The biggest award is Outstanding Contribution to Venture PE

Daisy Jennings

Daisy has been a part of every team since joining the academy, her talent and attitude is amazing. She is even the team captain of the County Netball Team.

"This is the third annual event and I look forward to this every year. It is a wonderful evening of celebrating success which we couldn't achieve without our amazing students, staff and parents. We had two new sports this year and over 100 certificates and 20 trophies to give out to our winners. We are still striving to develop deeper links with clubs in the community to increase participation levels inside and outside of school." Miss Joanna Ermini

Athletics

YEAR 10

Venture Academy v Cliff Park, Charter and Lynn Grove

An amazing performance by the whole team amassing a fantastic 101 points. 9 out of 26 athletes placed 1st in their events. This included Diesel Jacobs and Sienna Saunders winning both of their events.



16th May: OVA WIN!

1st Place athletes - Liam Revell, Jacob Hanton, Dylan Baldwin, Tyler Ellis, Cameron Edwards, Bradely Drury, Saffron Braddick, Brienne Dyer.

Special thanks to our 5 newcomers who haven't competed before.

YEAR 9

Venture Academy v Flegg, Charter, Lynn Grove and Cliff Park

An amazing performance by the whole team amassing a fantastic 101 points.

9 out of 26 athletes placed 1st in their events. This included Diesel Jacobs and Sienna Saunders winning both of their events. The most impressive performances were the relays which bodes well for the main event at Wellesley.



16th May: OVA WIN!

20 x Outstanding Students! That played the games, won there events and were ambassadors for the Venture Academy.

Football

YEAR 7

Football (Girls) Round 2

Even better team performance than in Round 1. Fantastic attitude and with previous Star Player Evie Williams leaving after 4 wins to attend Norwich City training, the remainder of the squad showed what teamwork and a positive attitude can achieve with 2 further wins. Finals on 18.6.19



13th May: Invited Schools

Evie Williams, Ruby Williams, Fraia Wicks, Darcy Howes, Alivia Powell, Olivia Marks

Football

YEAR 8

Venture Academy v FB v Caister

The most one sided draw I've seen in the history of football left a very frustrated Venture team. We hit the bar and the post, but found ourselves a goal down, Luckily Zach Woodhouse scored a last minute equaliser to save the day.



4th April Result: 1-1

Zach Woodhouse (capt.) Harlee Wicks, Harvey Harris, Taylor Kemp, Marley Drive, Ben Ashby, Tyler Mays, Andrew Blake, Alfie Adams, Alfie Thrower Jacob Smith, Josh Xavier, Kieran Monk.

YEAR 7

Venture Academy v Acle Ac

Fantastic effort from a committed team. The scoreline doesn't reflect the true nature of the game. Very proud that they kept going with a positive attitude and didn't drop their heads.



27th March: Lost 6-1

Evie Williams, Alivia Powell, Isaac Lee, Logan Kirk, Enrico Armando, Oscar Rose, Kellen Colson, Rio Railton-Grant, Alex Edelhski, Daniel Patinha.

YEAR 10

Venture Academy v Flegg

The team's first ever final and they ran Flegg close! TJ and Archie were magnificent in midfield, whilst Joe Jermy held together another new back 4. Callum was excellent in goal and Liam Revell was outstanding in the second half in particular. A proud moment for the squad and a much closer game than Flegg were expecting. Diesel got the goal that nearly brought the team back to level pegging.



28th March: Lost 2-1

Callum Burgess, Tyler Ellis, Conal Howard, Joe Jermy - captain, Leo Wright, Leo Lingwood, Archie Cohen, Aidan Philpott, Liam Revell, Tony Jephcote, Kieran Loes, Ollie Stephenson, Diesel Jacob, Macey Staff, Joshua Ellis.

Netball

YEAR 9

Netball Tournament & Team Teas @Acle

Madison Lee (captain), Jasmine Collings, Ella Scott, Ellie Kelf, Sophie Cotton, Maria Shurmur, Aimee Dickson, Phoebe Peach



4th April: Netball Tournament

'Nuff' said **"Won all our games!"** Against: Acle, Flegg and Cliff Park Academy

YEAR 10

County Netball Finals @ UEA

There were some tough games and a couple of easy games against some strong competitors. 3 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss. They missed out on 3rd place by 1 point. All the girls worked really hard. Star player Julianna Mercado who improved substantially as Goal Defence throughout the day.



23rd March: 4th in Norfolk

Lily King (captain), Saffron Braddick, Caitlin Perfect, Mia Steward, Julianna Mercado, Brianna Dyer, Madison Lee, Jasmine Collings, Ellie Kelf.

YEAR 9 & 10

Girls Handball county finals Sprowston

These girls have never played handball before until the qualifying rounds and we are so impressed at how quickly they have adapted to a new sport and that they won 2 games at the county finals to finish 3rd #proud. Star player - Saffron Braddick



12th February 2019

Brianna Dyer, Saffron Braddick, Lily King, Julianna Mercado, Mia Steward, Taylor Cooper, Ellie Kelf, Madison Lee, Jasmine Collings, Sophie Cotton

Years 7, 8, 9 & 10

Cross Country County Finals

All qualifying schools from Norfolk including Gresham's Thorpe Langley and Hobart. Top 3 runners (out of 100 in their age group). The competition including different distances for each year group. Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. The first time Venture have entered all four qualifying rounds and had 11 students qualify for the Norfolk County Finals.

All athletes completed their event, even though some runners from other schools were dropping out. Mr Bridges was particularly impressed with the Year 10 boys, Tyler Ellis and Joe Jermy who had to run... a much longer distance than their... qualifying races. A great and inspiring event which we hope to improve our results in next year.



22nd Jan 2019

Evie Williams, Angel King, Kelsi Adams, Jasmine Collings, Sienna Saunders, Daniel Patinha, Sebastian Thompson, Oliver Foden, Diesel Jacobs, Joe Jermy, Tyler Ellis

2019 Diary Dates

June 2019

24th June - 28th June - Year 10 Work Experience Week
25th June 4.30pm - Teachmeet
27th June - Year 11 Prom

July 2019

1st & 2nd July - New Year 7 Transition Days
4th July 11am - 7pm - Academic Review Day

What's coming up at Venture Academy...

8th July 5pm - Create Show
11th July - Venture Stars Awards Evening
23rd July - Sundaes in the Sun
22nd July - End of Term Disco
22nd July - Summer Fete
24th July - Venture Games
25th July - Last day of term students finish at 12.15pm

August 2019

22nd August - Year 11 RESULTS DAY
19th - 23rd August - Venture Summer School for Year 6 transition students

September 2019

4th September - All students return to the academy at 8.25am

