

Message from the Principal

It's hard to believe that we are entering into the final term of our first year at Ormiston Venture Academy. As ever there is much to celebrate and this, the third edition of Venture Voice, does just that.

As all are aware from my previous letter, the efforts of our Year 11 students have been incredibly successful, and they have already surpassed their external targets. Nevertheless, this is not the time to rest on our laurels, and there is still much revision and examination preparation to complete. All staff are committed to those efforts, and are here to support both students and parents/carers in the final push to fantastic success for all.

The word of our success is out, and we have had several very important visitors to the Academy. MP Brandon Lewis, Bill Watkin, Operational Director of the SSAT, Christ Montacute, Strategic Director of Partnerships and Performance Networks of the SSAT and His Worship, the Mayor of the Borough of Great Yarmouth, Councillor Jeal, who came to present the trophy to Kaileb Bryant- the first ever 'Venture's Got Talent' winner. Without exception, our students were lavishly praised for their manner, their appearance and their academic efforts and success.

Our dedication to making sure that all students have a varied educational learning experience has been highlighted by our receipt of the Secondary Quality Mark, as well as International School Status. Congratulations to Mrs Gilbert-Barnham and Mr Gutierrez for leading up on those efforts and making sure we are recognised for our commitment to literacy, numeracy and global citizenship.

With Digital Media and Mathematics as our specialisms, students' enterprise skills are growing each and every day. Our success in the Norfolk Stock Market Challenge, appearance on Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Radio and our efforts for Comic Relief are proof that Venture students are entrepreneurs in the making!



Many of you will have attended the first annual 'Venture's Got Talent', where Venture students were able to showcase their creative efforts. It was a true community event where all came together to celebrate Venture's young people and their talents. A huge congratulations to Kaileb, who 'wowed' us all with her beautiful piano playing.

Our success in local and county-wide sports fixtures highlights that we have the hardest-working PE team in the county. As we go to print, the Year 11 boy's football team have been crowned District 7-a-side champions to lead the way in the District 11-a-side league with just one game to go. This is not surprising given that they also made it to the semi-final stage of the County Cup! Our wonderful Sports Leaders are making sure that a commitment to sporting success begins early in partnership with our local primary schools.

All of our successes have recently been reported by Peter Johnson, our School Improvement Partner (SIP), after his last visit. In his report, he states that 'the Academy is improving rapidly and the trajectory of transformation is sharply upward'. Further that 'the improved teaching, increasing academic standards and almost universal determination to achieve the Academy's vision for excellence are indications of the resurgence in staff morale'. Mr Johnson also highlighted the increased attendance, decreased exclusions and sharply improved systems within the Academy. Most importantly, he stated that Venture's 'commitment to equality is remarkably high' and that 'behaviour in lessons and throughout the Academy is outstanding'.

Of course, our most valuable feedback is from parents/carers and students. In recent surveys, 97% of parents/carers report that the Academy has improved the quality of education for all students and 98% of students stated that they enjoyed their time at the Academy.

I have no doubt that together we will go from strength to strength working together to make sure that all Venture students have a world-class educational experience!

Yours sincerely, Principal McCartney.

What's going on at Venture Academy...

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Stock Market Challenge

Ormiston Venture Academy Students are getting a real "taste of the City" as they raise their game to meet new share challenges.

At the start of the year each PL group was given £10,000 of virtual cash to spend on shares from five exchanges around the World. The portfolios are tracked in the Halifax Fantasy Trader system which is designed to be similar to a real online trading system.

Approaches to the challenge have varied from buying companies which the PL group like, to doing research into the company's finances. Many PL groups have found success by buying shares in shops they visit themselves. Tesco, McDonalds and some Sports shops are popular and students are able to assess how well they are doing by how busy they are. Other students have made strong links between retail periods (such as Christmas) and shares in companies who might do well like Nintendo and Microsoft with their new consoles / controllers.

Principal McCartney, stated

"This is a great opportunity for the students to embed both specialisms at the Academy and learn new skills".

Some students have begun to experiment and trade independently and two teams of Year 10s have been entered for the Norfolk Schools Share Dealing Challenge. This involves spending £50,000 of virtual cash on a portfolio (which must include at least one local company). The portfolio is then held for three months (nothing can be bought or sold) so the accuracy of the purchases is even more important.

The top teams in Norfolk will then go through to a Face-2-Face challenge in Norwich.

Mr Plume and Mr Thompson, the Specialism Directors, have been delighted with the enthusiasm from the students and they are now evolving the competition, which also initially included a staff category.

Mr Plume stated

"We've been very impressed with how quickly students have taken to the challenge. What we are doing now is shifting the focus slightly. We want students to be totally clear that investing in the Stock Market should not be seen as a short-term investment. Although many have made excellent short-term returns we now want them to develop their portfolios so they are sustainable in the long term".

In this age of Corporate Responsibility the students are now also being encouraged to consider Green or Ethical Companies for possible investment. Mr Plume, who is offering an extra prize for best Green or Ethical investment, said "If we are looking at long term investments it is important that we consider Green, Sustainable or Ethical investments. There are companies out there who think carefully about their impact on the environment, they look after their staff and are considerate to the local area they operate in. It is precisely these companies I want the students to consider investing in."



Talent

On Thursday, 7 April, ten acts competed against each other in the inaugural Venture's Got Talent show. And boy do we have talent! A lot of it.



With over two hundred people in the audience, including the Mayor of the Borough of Great Yarmouth, Councillor Jeal and Madame Mayoress, Mrs Jeal the atmosphere was electric. Venture were also delighted to welcome some of the residents of Magdalen House who appeared to thoroughly enjoy the vibrant acts. One of them commenting at the end.... "Those performances really came from the heart."

The acts included cheerleading, comedy sketches, solo singers, dancers and even puppets!

The audience were able to vote using their mobile phones – and over 700 votes were cast - as Ormiston Venture Academy truly embraced the 'Britain's Got Talent' format. Thankfully, Simon Cowell was too busy to attend!

The acts proved to be polished and well-rehearsed and voting was very close.

In the end, two acts went through to the final clap-a-thon. This resulted in a rapturous round of applause for the winner Kaileb Bryant who narrowly beat Miss Ermin's Cheerleading Squad. Alex Firth, on drums, was a very close third in the voting.

A fabulous award was presented to Kaileb by His Worship, the Mayor. All of our students performed brilliantly, and this was a great event that will be difficult to match next year.

Special thanks to all involved, in particular Mr Sorrento, Ms Ditcham and Jamie Skinner.





Ormiston Venture Academy Hits National Radio Airwaves

Arriving at 9:30am on 29th March 2011 at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital seven, nervous but equally excited, Ormiston Venture Academy students, entered through the doors of the Hospital's radio studio.



Year 7 students, Shannon Bartram, Faye Elliott, and Britney Lammin; Year 8 students, Victoria Hall, Serena Baxter, and Harley Blaxwell along with Jamie Skinner in Year 9, were all taking part in the Exchange Radio Project, offering young people the chance to make a radio programme, that was to air via the studios of Hospital Radio. With the broadcast starting at 10:00, using a mixture of live links, pre-recorded material and a selection of music, Venture students were very pleased to be offered the chance to provide the content for and present two one hour slots.

Our seven budding reporters prepared by interviewing staff members and fellow students at the Academy, on issues such as our recent success in the worldwide 'Mathletics Challenge', our Comic Relief fund raising activities and our exciting Games Room; along with a special report by Year 8 student James Kerr; interviewing Venture's Principal, Ms McCartney; all of which featured during the broadcast.

Three students, Victoria, Serena and Harley had the opportunity to visit our local feeder primary schools; Herman, Peterhouse and Moorlands to record a number of students reading their work. Some of these recordings were included in the first hour's broadcast, as the three Venture students kick started the Exchange Radio event – a very daunting task, which was successfully executed with a real sense of professionalism and enthusiasm.

The transmission which is also available online and has had previous listeners as far away as Australia, continued with another hour of entertainment courtesy of Britney, Faye, Shannon and Jamie, equally as brilliant as the first. The event provided all students with useful experience of a wide range of skills such as time management, organisational skills and problem solving, as well as boosting their confidence and self-esteem.

The Venture students all thoroughly enjoyed their time at Hospital Radio and were grateful for the opportunity to fulfil their dream of presenting. In addition to this, Jamie Skinner was very pleased to be approached to present his own children's Saturday afternoon show – a massive compliment and fantastic opportunity.

Red Nose Day 2011

Ormiston Venture Academy held a whole host of events to raise money for Red Nose Day on 18 March. Students paid £1 to do something funny for money by coming into the Academy dressed in their PJ's!

A cake sale to raise money took place at breakfast and before class the students took part in a fundraising raising dance-a-thon in our Games Room.

The day finished with a fundraising staff v students volleyball match in the Sports Hall.



Funny for Money

Ormiston Venture Academy held a Colour Day on 11 February in support of Childreach International. Students paid £1 to come dressed in their College colours: pink for Create, purple for Innovate, blue for Achieve and green for Aspire.

To keep uniform standards high and to raise even more money, members of the Senior Leadership team came dressed in the Venture Academy uniform!

Childreach International works in seven developing countries, in genuine partnership with local communities to help improve children's access to healthcare, education, and child rights and protection.

Ormiston Venture Academy raised over £600.00 to sponsor a friend of the Academy to climb Mount Kilimanjaro in June. At 5,895 metres (19,340 feet) Kilimanjaro is not only Africa's highest peak it is also the highest freestanding mountain in the world.

This will be an arduous trek and will require a significant commitment, both physically and emotionally, from all those involved in the climb. We wish them well and were happy to play our part in supporting Childreach International.



Yet another exciting reward for Venture Students who have achieved 100% attendance each half term is an invitation to afternoon tea with the Principal McCartney.

The lucky students who have reached this target are invited to attend a half an hour meeting with the Principal where they have the opportunity to chat informally to the Principal about anything they like while sipping tea served traditionally and nibble on cakes.

The first invitations went out at the end of the spring term with over 40 students attending. Conversations around the table varied from student's career plans for the future to plans for the half term break!

All in all the reward was a resounding success that both students and teachers found very beneficial and plans to continue these meetings are already in place for the coming term!



Raising Achievement – Summer 2011 Exams
Spring term, outside the new leaves are growing, flowers blooming and a hint of summer just around the corner. Inside Ormiston Venture Academy it has been hard-work, excellent attitudes and great progress made by everyone.

With after school study lessons, holiday booster sessions, support from Academic mentors and much more there is every reason for our students to strive for success. This year we have changed the way students approach the exams and it has shown in the excellent results received so far. Booster sessions, brain fuel and

Now is the time when every student needs the support you can give them at home. It is crucial that students are revising on a regular basis, completing past papers, making cue cards, sticking notes around the house, having a quiet place to study, attending extra sessions and making the last push to ensure they achieve their best in these exams.

If you have any questions about supporting your child in their exams please contact their teacher at the Academy or our Head of Senior Year, Miss Hoods
mhoods@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk

**We wish all our students
involved in exams
the best of luck!**

Disadvantaged Subsidy Fund

Over 55 students have made applications to the Disadvantaged Subsidy Fund enabling students in the academy to receive grants totalling over £13000.00

This has allowed students to receive part-funded or wholly-funded places on the trip to Berlin and Krakow later this year.

Six students have been able to take up or further pursue their interest in learning a musical instrument and also enable them to make further progress in their music lessons.

The fund has enabled two of our students to follow

their sporting ambitions. Ben Mitchell, one of our three world martial arts champions has received funding to enable him to take part in the British and World Championships. Jessica Applegate has received funding to allow her to compete in the National Swimming championships and grading meetings in London next year.

Students have also received funding to allow them to take part in a number of activities outside the Academy and this has allowed them to access diverse activities including gym memberships, Urban Scouts, Dismagrik dance classes and many other sporting and non-sporting activities.

Venture's safer

Ormiston Venture Academy is a part of the Safer Schools Partnership with Norfolk Constabulary and has a police officer based on the site to help all students stay safe within the community. PC Claire Palmer has worked with a number of students and taken a role in providing PHSE materials within citizenship in the Academy. She is soon to begin working with our feeder primaries to help with promoting safety and on transition projects with next year's students who are coming to Ormiston Venture Academy.

Venture is awarded the Secondary Quality Mark

Ormiston Venture Academy has been awarded the Secondary Quality Mark with the assistance of Advanced Skills Teacher, Jodie Gilbert-Barnham (pictured right).

The Quality Mark is an award that celebrates and supports continuous improvement in literacy and numeracy. It is awarded to a school to recognise their provision, practice and performance in literacy and numeracy, and is valid for three years.

A school or setting must demonstrate a whole school approach to improving standards in literacy and numeracy, with evidence of the impact of its approaches. Receipt of this award proves that we were able to demonstrate a consistent dedication to improving the literacy and numeracy progress of all of our students.

The Secondary Quality Mark award was first developed in 1996, with the help of local education authorities and secondary schools throughout England and Wales, to provide a framework that would promote, support and celebrate the improvement of literacy and mathematics in schools. It was revised in 2007 following consultation with a significant number of local authorities in the Secondary Quality Mark Partnership.



Diary Dates: Term Dates for 2011

- 27th May Venture closes for May half-term
- 6th June Venture re-opens to students
- 22nd July Venture closes for the Summer Holiday

Are you a fan of the new BBC The Apprentice TV series?

This year, see the girls team have named themselves Venture! Catch up with all the latest news via @OrmistonVenture or the BBC iplayer website at www.bbc.co.uk/apprentice/



BBC © 2011

The Smartest Uniform In Town....

Wearing it with style, pride and attitude

The introduction of a new uniform for the students returning to Ormiston Venture Academy was met with mixed feelings. Those in the upper school had got used to wearing black, a favourite colour for the majority, sloppy sweatshirts and ties worn decoratively between their chin and their waistline! The display boards showing the new, smart blazer, grey trousers and the controversy of boys only wearing ties triggered a few rumblings.

When the boys realised that the ties were on clips and that they could not wear them in a way that demonstrated a level of rebelliousness the flood gate were open and the serious moaning began!

Fortunately for us we had a fantastic amount of parents that welcomed the change and realised that the new uniform needed to make a statement; promoting quality, reflecting the changes in expectations and to encourage the students to feel proud.

Six months on the uniform is now recognised locally as being one of the smartest in Norfolk, our students are wearing it with pride and it has had the required impact on behaviour and attitude towards the new high standard of the Academy.

We have made contact with a range of suppliers who will be working with us in the near future to offer a few more variations in styles and alternative fabrics so that we can be more flexible with sizing and alongside this we can offer the best value for money.

A subsidy fund is available for families that may need financial support with items of uniform. Please ask at reception for more information about this fund.



We now need your help.

The Academy uniform is available for sale currently via Mrs Blow in the Attendance Office. We are looking at expanding this service and would like your opinion as to how accessible this needs to be for Parents/Carers.

- Q: Do you want a "shop" that is open after school on a designated day?
- Q: Do you want to be able to download an order form from the website?
- Q: Do you want a catalogue and order forms to take home?
- Q: Do you want a uniform exchange service for recycling quality used uniform?
- Q: Do you have any other fabulous ideas?

Please email: sremblance@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk with you suggestions!

STOP PRESS: Late News Update...

Ventures excellent relationships with the University of East Anglia (UEA) were further strengthened during February half term when Principal McCartney and Mrs Williams led a secondary PGCE lecture to 180 student teachers about the pastoral system at Venture. Principal McCartney spoke passionately about the need for a personalised approach to learning and the innovative student centred approach in place at Venture.

The feedback from the lecture confirmed that trainees had been inspired with subsequent interest in visiting the Academy to see Venture in action.

A fantastic well done to Principal McCartney!

State of the Art Games Room

The Venture Academy Games Room is the most state of the art provision for students in town!

The Venture Games Room is full to the rafters with equipment to entertain our students including PSP's, PS3's, Nintendo Wii, Kinect, X-Box's and more! The room its-self is decked-out in bright colours and comfy sofas all for the added reward experience for our students.

The students at Venture have a clear guidance on rewards for excellent behaviour and work. They receive merit stamps from teachers for any incidences of excellent working or behaviour and by collecting five stamps from the same teacher get a pass to the games room



Additionally, the games room is used for group rewards for students when highlighted by teachers as an opportunity to reward good teamwork and commitment to the academy such as 100% attendance.

The Games Room has also been used to raise money by completing sponsored tasks such as a dance-a-thon (pictured below). Venture also offers these facilities to its local primary schools to use as a reward for their budding pupils.

World Maths Day

Despite Year 10 and Year 11 being involved in exams and exam preparation, and needing most of the computers in the Academy, students from Year 7, 8 and 9 did themselves, and Venture, proud on World Maths day on the 1st of March.

Not deterred by being on the edge of an age group Year 9 led the charge on teams from 191 Nations. Many of the students had to play in the 14-18 age group alongside students as old as Upper Sixth Form but they met the challenge the Venture Way! Enthusiasm and organisation were very much the order of the day. Over 1 million students around the World took part

in answering nearly half a billion questions. Venture Year 7s and Year 8s also did us proud. Not only did they complete their own 100 rounds with record accuracy but they also joined Year 9 in coaching other students.



The Athletics challenge measures improvement by comparing the scores from the first three games with the last three and top improvers include the following students:

Name	Improvement	Name	Improvement
Nikita Sturman	1,295%	Courtney Kimber	408%
Redpath Georgia	825%	Bethany Gibbs	360%
Bruno Francisco	820%	Sam Read	353%
Jade Whitaker	703%	Saji Sachu	283%
William Morris	553%	Muckute Oresta	279%
Kaylem Barnes	505%	Frosdick Emily	253%
Thomas Harris	492%	Emily Smith	240%
Dayle Seaby	486%	Kieran Spychalski	200%
Ben Stilwell	483%	Chloe Palmer	194%

The United Kingdom, as a whole, didn't fare well against the rest of the World but Venture certainly showed everyone what it was all about. Just three year groups

took part (due to the exams) but the students still managed to answer nearly 200,000 questions during World Maths Day!

Venture receives International School Award

Ormiston Venture Academy has recently been granted the International School Award Intermediate.

The International School Award is an accreditation that recognises the work schools do to promote an international ethos, giving a global dimension to the students' school experience.

The Academy will continue to work to develop internationalism and as part of the programme students will have the opportunity to establish contacts with students in schools both in Britain and abroad and go on visits and trips.

The scheme provides recognition for teachers and their schools working to instil a global dimension into the learning experience of all children and young people.



The ISA supports schools to develop the following:

- An international ethos embedded throughout the school
- A majority of pupils within the school impacted by and involved in international work

- Collaborative curriculum-based work with a number of partner schools
- Curriculum-based work across a range of subjects
- Year round international activity
- Involvement of partner schools and the wider community in the UK

Gresham's Greats

Gresham's was founded in 1555 by Sir John Gresham, who converted Holt's Manor House into a Free Grammar School as a result of Henry VIII's suppression of the Monasteries

At the turn of the twentieth century, Gresham's was refounded under the direction of new and innovative headmaster George Howson. Under Howson, the School moved to the existing site on the edge of Holt and adopted a progressive curriculum which embraced the Sciences, encouraging independent thought and creativity amongst its pupils.

Gresham's expanded considerably over the twentieth century, yet it retains the warm community atmosphere which has become central to our ethos over the years. They continue to embrace new technologies and follow a modern approach to education, with the construction of facilities such as the Auden Theatre, the Cairns Centre and the Butterwick Centre in recent years. They remain committed to offering a high standard of education and promoting personal growth, shaping generations of confident and enquiring young people.

Ormiston Venture Academy works in partnership with Gresham's as a variety of ways to give our students the experience of such a nationally renowned establishment that Gresham's has become.

One part of this partnership is the fantastic offer of a fully-funded scholarship to Gresham's VI Form for two years for one of our Year 11 students.

It is a package worth in excess of £50,000 over the two years and covers all boarding accommodation, fees & 'reasonable extras' – everything necessary to be able to study at the school. It also offers the successful Venture student access to all the 'extras' that Gresham's extends to their pupils in terms of extra-curricular activities: flying; shooting; expeditions; performances; concerts in a boarding school environment.

Year 11 candidates are able to put themselves forward for the potential scholarship and in the 2010/2011 academic year 18 students were

willing to take on the challenge and fight it out for the prestigious scholarship!

After the group of 18 visited Gresham's in October 2010, they were then interviewed intensely in November by Principal McCartney and Head of Faculty Ms Haddleton to decide who would make it to the final 8!

The final 8 were announced just before Christmas 2010 and the candidates were: Jay Webster, Callum Cooke, Channon Watker, Ben Kirchell, Charlotte Barrington, Rikki Robinson, Faisal Al-Yousef and Charlotte Spalding. In the New Year the final 8 candidates were given more opportunity to spend time at Gresham's with some overnight residential, to really get a feel for how the education and lifestyle would be for a Gresham's pupil.



The final 8...

Principal McCartney and Ms Haddleton requested the candidates then write a report based on their experiences which would be used to support the Principals decision along with the final interviews to select the final four candidates.

The interviews to select the final four candidates took place in February and after a very difficult debate and much deliberation, the final four candidates were chosen: Rikki Robinson, Charlotte Barrington, Callum Cooke and Ben Kirchell.



The final 4...

These successful four were then given the opportunity to take their parents for a day at Gresham's and were offered plenty of interview prep sessions with our Senior Vice Principal, Gee Cook, before the big day, 29 March, when the Gresham's Headmaster and his team would interview all four candidates and choose a winner. In addition to the interviews all four candidates were asked to take registration tests to show off their academic skills.

And then there was nothing more to be done. The final decision lay with the Gresham's senior leadership team who took all the tests, interviews and academic data into

consideration when making their final decision.

Principal McCartney was finally informed, a couple of days later, that Callum Cooke had been successful in his application to receive this life-changing award. At a formal feed-back session, Principal McCartney, Ms Cook and Ms Haddleton fed back to all the candidates, highlighting their areas of strength and ensuring that they would look back on the whole experience, in the future, with enormous pride. All of the students proved to be great ambassadors of Ormiston Venture Academy.

And as for Callum? He was elated. Absolutely elated to be on the receiving end of this fabulous award. He immediately set about writing his letter of acceptance and is now looking forward to this new opportunity.

Primary Points... Catch up with news from our associated Primary Schools

Royal Wedding Celebrations at Moorlands

Moorlands Primary celebrated the marriage of Prince William and Kate Middleton with a Royal Wedding Banquet. Pupils and staff put on their Sunday best and dressed up as if attending a wedding reception. The event was very well supported with 119 family and friends joining us for the afternoon. We just about managed to squeeze everyone into the hall, eventually! Congratulations and thanks to all pupils, staff and parents who contributed.

Science @ Moorlands

Moorlands Primary celebrated everything science with a science themed week last term. The week was spent investigating, testing, experimenting and having lots of fun. Families were invited to take part in building the tallest bridge out of spaghetti and marshmallows which had to support a crème egg for ten seconds.



Many congratulations to the Maguire-Hill family for constructing the tallest at an amazing 53 centimetres. We also welcomed Banham Zoo, The Mini Beasts Roadshow and Laura the explorer into school for the week. Laura had many challenges for us to work on, including designing and making a hat, a pair of sunglasses, a lunchbox and an all-terrain vehicle to help her when she climbs Mount Kilimanjaro in July. To round the week off we all came to school dressed as explorers and held a science fair to share everything we had been doing and learning during the week.

This is a piece Laura Wilkinson (Laura the Explorer) has written. I was thrilled to be invited to participate in Science Week at Moorlands Primary School, not only to meet the children who attend the school but also to help promote the

100% Attendance Bunny

The importance of regular attendance even in the very youngest children is constantly reinforced at Herman Primary School. A weekly display keeps staff, parents and children informed of all



100% attendees. At a weekly assembly classes with the best overall attendance are rewarded, this is keenly contested. Certificates and vouchers are awarded



work of a charity called Childreach International. In July this year, along with a group of 40 other people, mostly students from the University of Leicester, I will be climbing Mount Kilimanjaro to raise money for Childreach International, hopefully raising over £100,000!

During the week at Moorlands the children helped raise over £300 and learnt about the wonderful work Childreach participates in, particularly in Tanzania, including School Improvement programmes, Vocational Training Centres and Carbon off-setting programmes.

If you wish to find out more about the charity please visit www.childreach.org.uk and if you would like to donate to this fantastic cause visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/LauraWilkinsonFundraising>.

Sports - super star - Jack Cottingham!

Jack won the Year 5 East Norfolk Cross Country Championships in January and qualified to represent East Norfolk in the County Championships before Easter. Running against the best runners in the County, Jack came 5th. A superb achievement, well done Jack!

terly for 100% attendance and the Attendance Bunny makes regular visit is issuing stickers and encouraging punctuality.

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Venture Wild Card

Interview: Guess the teacher!

- If you were a tree (or animal) what kind of tree (animal) would you be?
I would be a goat. Imagine... you would never get hungry because there is lots to eat when you are a goat because EVERYTHING is food! Also, if I were a mountain goat, I would get the most valuable views!
- If you were an Eastenders character, which one would it be?
Stacey Slater! She has just started a brand new life. She could be in Las Vegas. She might be in Lisbon. Wherever she goes, you can tell that Stacey will do well. She is a strong woman and a survivor.
- What is your favourite colour?
Red. It's strong and vibrant. Symbolises love. But also anger. It's a colour to take notice of! Ignore it at your peril!
- Why are manhole covers round?
What an absurd question! It's obvious. They are round all the better to reflect the sun and moon and allow for good night-time vision!
- What would I find in your refrigerator right now?
Last night's left-overs. Lots of juice. Taramasalata. Lots of cheese. Guir chocolate fondant. Green and Black chocolate. Broccoli. Carrots. Cauliflower. Green beans. Greek yoghurt.
- What is the last book you read?
The Madness of the Seduced Woman. A great story, based on a real-life murder at the beginning of the twentieth century. The story is about a woman who is obsessed with her husband. This obsession eventually brings on paranoid delusions and she ends up killing. Despite the sadness, it is a beautifully written story.
- If you could trade places with any other person for a week, famous or not famous, living or dead, real or fictional, with whom would it be?
Indiana Jones. He had the best adventures. He always beat the bad guy. And he always returned the fabulous treasures to the indigenous people. All round good guy.
- What was the last movie you went to see?
Black Swan.
- What is your favourite movie (song)?
Depends on my mood, but Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid has to be one of my favourites. Withnail and I is also a favourite.
- How would you explain art in two sentences to your eight-year-old nephew?
Beautiful chaos. But beauty and chaos are all in the eye of the beholder.
- How many petrol stations would you say there are in England?
I have no idea. More than Lithuania. Less than China!
- If aliens landed in front of you and, in exchange for anything you desire, offered you any position on their planet, what would you want?
Minister of Travel, so I could come back home easily if I wanted to.
- If you could be any character in fiction, who would you be?
When I was little, I wanted to be Nancy Drew. She was a really positive role model. She was smart, kind, independent and daring.
- If Hollywood made a movie about your life, who would you like to see play the lead role as you?
Halle Berry. We are the same age, so she would be perfect!
- If you could be a superhero, what would you want your superpowers to be?
I would be invisible. Imagine the endless possibilities...
- If someone wrote a biography about you, what do you think the title should be?
Oops, I did it again!

- If you had only six months left to live, what would you do with the time?
Family and friends. And making sure I apologised to the people I needed to.
- If you won £20 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?
Spend some. Invest. Give to charity. Make sure that my family had lots. And buy an Aston Martin. And lots of shoes!
- If you were a car, what kind would you be?
See above!
- Who do you like best, your mum or dad?
I love them the same!
- What kind of people do you dislike?
Bigots.
- What makes you angry?
See above. And wasted opportunities.
- How many close friends do you have?
6.
- How do you put an elephant in a fridge?
Open the door and put the elephant in.
- How do you put a giraffe in a fridge?
Open the door. Take the elephant out. Remove the shelves. Put the giraffe in.



A Sporting Venture

This term has seen a continuation of success within the PE faculty both within lessons and during extra curricular activities.

Outstanding practice in PE lessons has been observed this term with students actively learning by teaching and leading small groups. This has given them the opportunity to take more responsibility and learn skills in different ways. Personalisation, the use of Digital Media and AFL (assessment for learning) have been key focuses in PE lessons with students grading themselves and each other.

The BTEC Sport course is developing nicely with the large majority of students passing their latest assignment at the first attempt.

The GCSE PE students completed an extremely successful moderation period scoring incredibly high results (the best the faculty has recorded).

Aerobics and Cheerleading have become automatic hits since they have been introduced into the curriculum by Miss Ermini, even to the extent that the Cheerleaders are one of the favourites to win the upcoming Ventures Got Talent show.

The Under 16 girl's team also managed to reach the County finals which were held in Norwich.

The Under 15 girls Volleyball team experienced both District and County success winning the regional competition.

Both Under 14 and Under 16 boy's basketball squads won their respective District competitions and represented the region in the County finals held at the UEA.

Before Academy sports clubs have proven to be very popular with over 40 students attending volleyball, dodge ball, cricket, basketball and aerobics in the mornings.

With the return of Kickz to the frame and the excitement of athletics just over the horizon the future looks rosy for PE and Sport at Ormiston Venture Academy!

Mr McNally

PS. Thanks to all the PE staff for their hard work and commitment.

Leading The Venture Way!

Sports Leaders have been highly visible running sports festivals for our feeder schools, and the Sports Council have met once again to discuss important issues surrounding PE and School Sport.



Any students that wish to get involved in these areas and have their voice and opinions shared please get in touch with Mr Bunting. Miss Hollis organised another specific workshop for our identified Gifted and Talented students about nutrition and its effects on their sporting careers.

Yr 11 brings in the results!

The year 11 boy's football team continued their success after being crowned District 7-a-side champions to currently lead the way in the District 11-a-side league

with just one game to go. They also managed to reach the semi final stage of the County Cup beating Flegg, Great Yarmouth and Diss High School on route.

