

# Venture VOICE

Edition 34: Spring 2022

Stay Safe

Ormiston Venture Academy

[OAT]  
AN OAT ACADEMY

Ofsted  
Outstanding  
2012/2013  
School



## Beauty and the Beast

## New UVS

Announcing 2022/2023 Head Boy & Girl

## Colour Run

Dust, Colour and more Dust!

## ENSSP Panathlon

At East Norfolk Sixth Form College

## Flash Mob

WOW! What a surprise!

and so...  
**Much more!**

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in the SPOTLIGHT

UVS  
of  
Venture Students



# What's going on at Venture Academy for 2022

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Keep up-to-date and follow us @OrmistonVenture from twitter.com

*Words can not say how excited*

**I am about the Spring term and heading into the Summer term.**

Our extensive enrichment opportunities and academy events are back!

It is so lovely to see everyone re-engaged and just having fun. It is the fun... the excitement... the joy combined with the academic rigour that makes a successful school...

**...that makes Venture the place it is!**

Our Senior Year are in their exams and we are so proud of the effort and dedication they have put in. What a remarkable group of young people.

I am sure you will agree that our students have once again set the bar high for their passion and achievements.

The impact that all our students have had on not just our local community but the international community is exceptional. It has been such a fantastic first half of 2022.

Regards

*Simon Gilbert-Barnham*  
- Principal

# TRAIN TO TEACH



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The OAKS is an Ofsted Outstanding provider of Initial Teacher Training, working with seven hubs spread geographically across the UK.

Our mission is to nurture future professionals and give back to the local communities through high quality teacher recruitment, education and retention.

The OAKS Norfolk will now maintain and enhance the current outstanding provision that The OAKS offer.

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## Receives Young Carers Friendly Tick Award



**Ormiston Venture Academy has received the Young Carers Friendly Tick award, following an accreditation process that showcased their dedication to supporting young carers.**

Young Carers created the Friendly Tick Quality Standards in Education to improve awareness and support for young carers and young adult carers. Following a rigorous renewal process by the Norfolk Young Carers Forum, Ormiston Venture was recognised for going above and beyond to support young carers and their families in the community.

Schools have to meet five standards in order to qualify for the award. These standards include: having a named member of staff as a Champion/Lead; consulting with young carers; covering issues relating to young carers/young adult carers in staff training; displaying information about young carers and projects that support them locally; and raising awareness of young carers with students in assemblies and/or PSHE/tutor time.

Throughout lockdown, the academy worked incredibly hard to support young carers, including weekly calls to parents/carers and the students themselves to ensure they were offering consistent support. The academy applied for and secured several grants to allow young carers and their families to go on a funded holiday over the summer. Additionally, all of the young carers had mental health training from The Children's Society, which provided further support.

Since the lockdown, Ormiston Venture Academy has set up safe spaces for young carers during break and lunchtimes, where they are offered additional help with work. They have also set up weekly meetings with Great Yarmouth and Gorleston Young Carers and have created a dedicated Twitter account to keep the community up to date with the Venture Carers and Venture Ambassadors and the wonderful work they do.

*James, a Year 7 student at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:*

*"It is so good to be in a group that will help you because if you get stuck on something there are always people there to help"*

Abbie-Gail, a Year 10 student at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

*"Before I came to Venture, I didn't realise I was a young carer and I now get help from my academy. They also referred me to extra after-academy activities and groups such as Great Yarmouth and Gorleston Young Carers, so I feel even more supported. As a young carer, it is so important that we are recognised at the academy"*



*Principal Simon Gilbert-Barnham, said:*

*"Having the Carer Friendly Tick award for our academy has highlighted the need to ensure we strive to keep supporting our existing Venture Carers while being aware of any students that may also be young carers as we know that in an academy of 890 students, we have more than 32 young carers.."*

*"We know this will be a continuous process but working alongside our local Young Carers group, we can ensure the awareness of our young carers is given an important focus in the academy."*

## STUDENTS VISIT WATFORD FOOTBALL CLUB



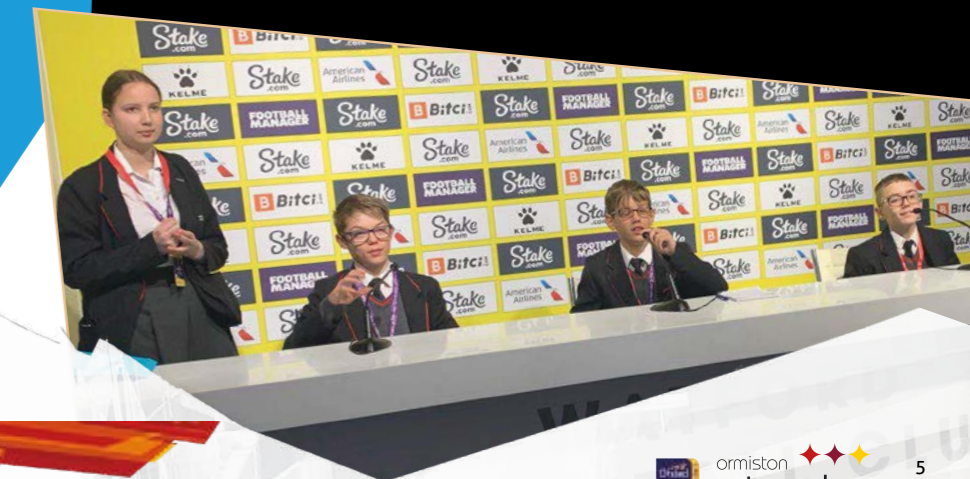
Year 8 students Harvey, Leo, Morgan and Scarlett accompanied staff from Norwich City Football Club's Community Sports Foundation to Watford FC's stadium – Vicarage Road.

They are working on a Premier League Inspires Challenge programme creating a sustainable product Norwich City FC could actually use on match days. The students met up with students from other clubs including Arsenal and Aston Villa to develop their presentation and delivery skills.

They were met by representatives from Watford FC and the Premier League and also had a full stadium tour including the changing rooms and director's box. The students were excited to have their photo taken with the Premier League trophy and meet Watford's mascot – Harry the Hornet!

Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that:

**"The students have worked hard developing a sustainable recycling scheme which has received some incredibly positive reviews from NCF. The exciting chance to experience a different working environment and stadium has been a real eye opener for them!"**





# COLOUR RUN



All staff and students at Ormiston Venture Academy were invited to take part in a charity Colour Run to raise funds for the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal as a fun way to kick start our Summer term.

Staff and students got changed into predominately white old clothes and completed laps of the field either running, jogging or walking. On the course were four colour gates where staff and members of the Union of Venture Students were on hand to douse all participants in a variety of colours, mainly Yellow and Blue in tribute to Ukraine. It was great to see all participants covered head to toe in paint, with lots of bright white smiles shining through the multi coloured stained faces.

It was a great spectacle seeing the plumes of powder in the air as staff and students ran through each checkpoint.

We have raised a total of £1865.50. Thank you so much for all of your kind and generous donations.



Mollie (Head Girl 20-21/OAT National Ormiston Student Parliament Secretary)

"To raise funds for Ukraine was a national priority from the students at Ormiston Academies Trust. At Venture we had previously wanted to do a colour run but unfortunately it had to be postponed due to Covid restrictions. It was so much fun, and great to see everyone enjoying themselves. I believe events like this and the spirit that the academy has really embodies the "Venture Way".



Mr Waters (Assistant Principal/ UVS Lead)

"It was a fantastic opportunity to work with the past and present UVS to put on a whole school event that appealed to all staff and students, and to raise money for a charity like the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis was so important at this present time.

I'm not sure who enjoyed it more the staff or the students, it was such a lovely atmosphere. It is days like this that make me feel proud to work at Ormiston Venture Academy".



## RND'22

The students attended the Academy looking amazing dressed in bright red, sporting this years red noses, sold by the UVS. Students made a contribution to the charity to show their support.

College clash points were received for the students who embraced the cause and were dressed to impress.

To raise funds the students were invited to watch an exhibition Netball match between the staff and the students. The staff team dominated early and flew into an early lead.

However Miss Ermini had clearly trained the students brilliantly and under pressure and adversity the students made a dramatic comeback and ended up winning the match.

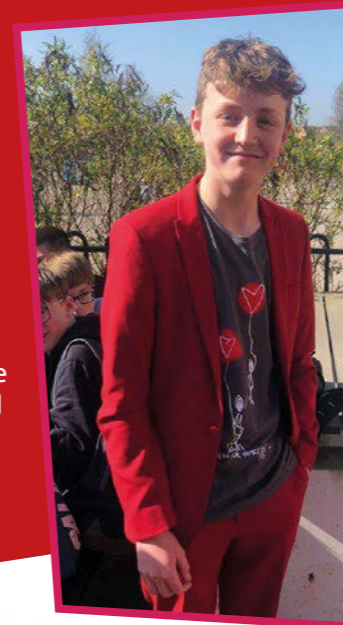


It was a great effort by all staff and students to raise money and some cheer for a great charity.

**In total we raised £661.99**

Fraia (Head Girl and Netball Captain) "It was so much fun playing against the staff, and we're really pleased we won so we can remind the PE team that we are the best"

Mr Waters (Assistant Principal, UVS Lead) "A fantastic day for all staff and students, dressing in bright red raising money for a great charity. Also a huge well done to the Netballers who beat the staff team"



## Ukraine Crisis Bake Sale

The amazing Union of Venture Students working with Ormiston Academies Trust decided to raise money for the Humanitarian Crisis in Ukraine.

At break and lunch time the UVS hosted a bake sale to raise funds for the charity. The cakes were awesome with a yellow and blue theme. Thanks to all the students and staff for their very kind donations, the UVS raised £106.00 to help the people of Ukraine.

Mr Waters who leads the Union of Venture students commented:

"I want to say a big thank you to all the Union of Venture Students who helped bake and sell cakes for this wonderful cause"



# Easter Egg College Clash Reward

As a reward for winning this terms college clash event which was calculated from the most number of visa points, attendance, completing the question of the week, and points from college clash competitions, was an Easter Egg hunt on the academy field and surrounding areas.

This was undertaken by the amazing Aspire College, on a sunny Wednesday afternoon for the rest of the academy to drool over having to watch Aspire students munch their weight in chocolate Easter eggs.

There were on the spot prizes to be found for students as well as a quiz, in which the students had to decipher an anagram to win one of the giant Easter eggs.

All students involved thoroughly enjoyed the experience which was organised by the Union of Venture Students.



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# Venture Students finally get to see the multi-award winning musical 'Chicago'

After a two year wait we were able to take a group of students to experience the story of "murder, greed, corruption, exploitation, adultery and treachery!"

The multi-award winning musical 'Chicago'. The students were wowed with the "Razzle Dazzle" of this live theatrical experience and for some staff and students this was their first time seeing a show in a theatre!



The Ipswich Regent is a fantastic theatre space and the students we're excited to be in a new town for an evening.

After learning all about Fosse choreography, the Performing Arts students were able to see the stunning technique in action and even discuss it after, a Year 10 student said, "How in sync they all are is incredible! The tiny gestures are just amazing"



## 2022 Diary Dates *What's coming up at Venture Academy...*

### June 2022

- 20th June - Year 10 Work Experience week
- 23rd June - Year 11 Prom
- 27th June - Staff Inset Day

### July 2022

- 4th & 5th July - Year 6 Transition Days
- 7th July - Academic Review Day 2.45pm - 7pm
- 8th July - Venture Games
- 14th July - Venture Stars Awards Evening
- 18th July - Summer Disco 4pm - 6pm

### July 2022 continued


- 18th July - Create Show 5pm - 7pm
- 20th July - Venture's Summer Fete
- 22nd July - Celebration Assemblies
- 22nd July - Students break for summer holidays at 12.15pm

### September 2022

- 6th September - Students return to the academy at 8.25am

### Keep up-to-date

Follow us @OrmistonVenture at [twitter.com](https://twitter.com/OrmistonVenture)



**Students, staff and professional musicians came together to deliver a mesmerising rendition of the Disney musical –**

# Beauty and the Beast

**The show ran over 3 nights and included over 50 performers and crew members.**

A rigorous audition process and numerous rehearsal and practice sessions from a totally dedicated group of students (and staff) led to some wonderful performances. The successful students had the unique opportunity to work alongside professional musicians, and delivered knock out performances to year 7 and 8 students in a matinée show, as well as sell out audiences in the evenings.

A tremendous display of lights and sound effects (thanks to Miss Cornwell) complemented stunning performances from the principal cast members including:

Grace as Belle | Michael as the Beast  
Alex as Gaston | Tiwalade as Lumiere  
Grace as Mrs Potts | Abbie-Gail as Cogsworth  
Gracie-Mae as Madame de la Grande Bouch  
William as Chip | Mary-Lou as Babette  
Max as Lefou | Dominic as Maurice  
Stephen as Monsieur D'Arque,  
and Millie-Anne as Enchantress

Ms Smith, Director and choreographer commented:

*"I was astounded by the number of students who wanted to get involved and they have worked incredibly hard showing a great level of professionalism throughout the whole process. The best thing about putting on an Academy production is the transformative change we see in the young people."*

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Peri-staff and other musicians who have given up their time and lent their expertise to the experience.

The Academy owes a huge debt of gratitude to all who have assisted in the production of the show, although a special mention must go to Miss Cornwell the tech operator, Venture Alumni member Cameron Hodds – stage manager and assistant director, conductor Mr Ward as well the students who have helped to promote and organise the production.

**Gresham's award scholarship to Ormiston Venture Academy pupil, Sama.**

Sama, who is currently in Year 11 and attends Ormiston Venture Academy in Great Yarmouth, has won a scholarship for a Sixth Form place at Gresham's School from September 2022. Gresham's is an independent boarding school for pupils aged 2 – 18 and encourages independent thought, tenacity and creativity to enable pupils to explore their own interests and futures.

Here, Sama will experience independent school life, benefitting from a multitude of enrichment activities, a wide range of sport and the Dyson Building, the new centre for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM) education, which opened this academic year. Sama will particularly benefit from this new resource due to her specific interest in the STEAM subjects.

After completing her A levels in which she would like to study Psychology, Chemistry and Biology, Sama would like to read Neuroscience at university, focussing on Surgical Practice, and progress to train as a Doctor. Alongside her academic aspirations, Sama is interested in studying Greek Mythology and French, and would like to travel to New Zealand one day.

Headmaster of Gresham's, Douglas Robb, said "We will be delighted to welcome Sama to Gresham's in September. Her aspirations and wider interests suggest that she will thrive at Gresham's and I wish her every success both during her time here and in the future."

Gresham's has partnered with Ormiston Venture Academy, to annually offer boarding places to aspiring pupils.

Last year, Gresham's awarded the OVA scholarship to Akshika, who is now in Year 12 and is studying Biology, Chemistry and Maths. She is also enjoying many enriching extra curricular activities and is involved in the school's Charity Committee.



**Ormiston Venture Academy student Mollie secures an amazing opportunity for her future with a Scholarship at Langley School in Norwich.**

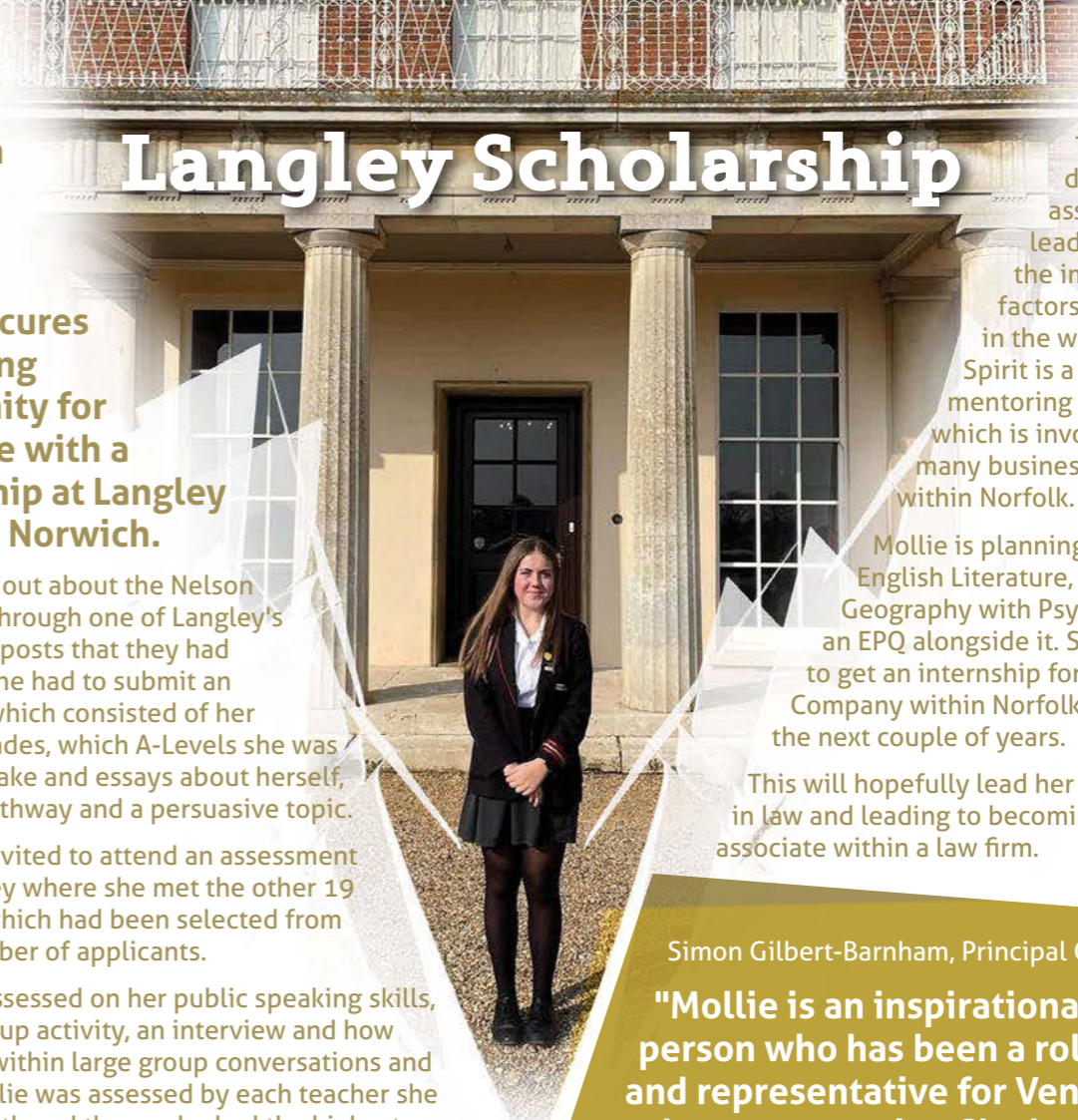
Mollie found out about the Nelson scholarship through one of Langley's social media posts that they had advertised, she had to submit an application which consisted of her predicted grades, which A-Levels she was planning to take and essays about herself, her future pathway and a persuasive topic.

Mollie was invited to attend an assessment day at Langley where she met the other 19 candidates which had been selected from the vast number of applicants.

Mollie was assessed on her public speaking skills, leading a group activity, an interview and how she reacted within large group conversations and projects. Mollie was assessed by each teacher she interacted with and those who had the highest score were put forward for the scholarship, the process was run similar to a post-graduate assessment and interview day. Two scholars were selected at the end and will be working closely throughout their time at Langley.

Mollie has been offered a fully paid scholarship for Langley sixth form to study the A-Levels of her choice and access to all additional facilities that Langley offer. The scholarship is being offered in conjunction with Nelson Spirit which will be providing personal leadership mentoring with Nigel Cushion.

**Langley Scholarship**



The whole day was assessed on leadership and the important factors of leaders in the world. Nelson Spirit is a leadership mentoring business which is involved with many business leaders within Norfolk.

Mollie is planning to study English Literature, History and Geography with Psychology as an EPQ alongside it. She is hoping to get an internship for a Law Company within Norfolk over the next couple of years.

This will hopefully lead her to a career in law and leading to becoming a senior associate within a law firm.

Simon Gilbert-Barnham, Principal Commented

**"Mollie is an inspirational young person who has been a role model and representative for Venture and our community. She has truly changed our academy for the better leaving a legacy that will have positive impact on our students for the years to come. I have no doubt she is destined for an amazing future and this step at Langley will support her on this path."**

**INTERNET SAFETY**

**A visit from Victoria Rush, Norfolk Constabulary's Safer Schools Team.**

It was great to have a 'live' presentation following the virtual, pre-recorded messages that the Safer Schools Team provided during the period of lockdown this time last year as students were accessing their learning via online lessons.

Internet Safety is a key part of the CASH curriculum (Community, Aspiration, Spirituality & Health), as not only has the online 'community' become a greater part of all our lives over the last two years, but it is an area that can also affect a student's mental health, especially when things go wrong.

Year 7 students study a module on internet safety in Computer Science and this was followed up on Internet Safety Week, prior to half term, with two further lessons. Year 8 students also received these.

Victoria Rush explained to students the dangers of Social Media and the importance of staying safe and it was great to see that Venture students could give examples of how when she posed them all the question at the beginning: Not giving your full name and address out to people you don't know, not accepting friend requests from strangers and the importance of using the Big Red Button (via our website) to report anything of concern were all given.

The session dealt with two key problems; Online Bullying and Sexting. Students were told what cyber bullying is and the consequences for bullies and their victims. It highlighted that bullying behaviour can be a criminal offence and to strategies to help students make better choices about what they post on the internet.

The sexting element of the presentation (making, sharing, sending or receiving explicit images or comments online) aimed to give students a better understanding of what sexting is, the consequences of this and what they can do if they, or someone

else is affected by sexting. The session involved an activity in which students are given a number of 'sexting scenarios', including watching an animated video that showed the pitfalls of sending someone an image you later regret. Students were also sign posted to a number of people and places to go for help.

A big thank you to PC Rush for her time, we look forward to welcoming the Safer Schools Team back for our Collapsed Timetable Week. They are due to give further presentations, on other aspects of the CASH curriculum, including the importance of Healthy Relationships.



## Year 10 Computer Scientists visit The Centre for Computing History, Cambridge



### The Computer Science Department at Ormiston Venture Academy took 38 students (35 Year 10 and 3 Year 9) to The Centre of Computing History in Cambridge.

We divided the students into 3 groups to partake in 3 activities throughout the day. These included a demonstration and lesson on the world's largest processor. Here students would consolidate and build on their knowledge of the CPU architecture. There was a programming session using Raspberry Pi and Python to program robots and a guided tour of the museum learning the history of the computer, adding vital context to students' existing knowledge. Our students were also able to spend time between sessions trying the extensive collection of retro games consoles.

The Centre presents a unique collection of artefacts with particular emphasis on the rise of personal computing from the huge machines of the sixties to the impact on us all today. Discrete displays in the main gallery present the technology through themes such as; the sixties, military machines, connected world, games, business machines, calculators and much more.

Our students were able to get up close and personal to these artefacts and see where we have come from and the vast improvements which have been made. Students were particularly impressed with how drastically secondary storage has developed in both capacity and physical size.

The megaprocessor was particularly interesting, as it allowed our students to see the Fetch Decode Execute cycle in action. It was created By James Newman between 2014-2016 and holds the Guinness World

Record for the largest processor. "Computers are quite opaque, looking at them it's impossible to see how they work.

What I would like to do is get inside and see what's going on. Trouble is we can't shrink down small enough to walk inside a silicon chip. But we can go the other way; we can build the thing big enough that we can walk inside it. Not only that we can also put LEDs on everything so we can actually SEE the data moving and the logic happening. It's going to be great"- James Newman.

Students also completed a workshop in the 80's style classroom. This was Pi Power and used Raspberry Pi and Python to control external objects. This was a really strong activity for our students given their experiences using Python so far. This allowed them to see how it can be applied in different scenarios to solve problems.

Head of Computer Science and Trip leader, Lewis Riches said

"The Visit to The Centre of Computing History embeds itself perfectly into our curriculum adding vital contextual information to support students existing knowledge. It is a place which we have enjoyed visiting in the past and plan to continue in the future for other groups of students. All students had a fantastic time and thoroughly enjoyed the experience! "Students were enthused throughout the day and asked plenty of questions. All were a credit to the academy.



## Meet our



## Union of Venture Students for 2022

We would like to congratulate these students on becoming integral members of the Union of Venture Students. This is the highest honour students can receive at the academy.

All the students were exceptional during both phases of the interview process impressing not just Mr Waters but Mr Gilbert-Barnham (Principal) too, articulating their vision of improvement for all students and what legacy they will leave behind.

The students will now be working together on various projects within the academy to increase the love of learning, culture and ethos for all students within the academy.

We are extremely proud and we look forward to working closely with the Union of Venture Students to affect positive change within the academy and in the local community.

Role	Students Name
Head Boy	Luke
Head Girl	Fraia
Deputy Head Boy	Oscar
Deputy Head Girl	Evie
Senior Prefect	Dominic
Senior Prefect	Grace
Guilds & Societies	Grace
Learning Gurus	Megan
	Ruby
	Alivia

Role	Students Name
Community & Culture	Grace
	Jessie
	Emily
Student Support	Lilly
	Sheniz
	Romany
College Clash	Hannah
	Jamiliah
	Lacy
Media	Alfie
	Gracie Mae





Venture students surprised by exciting...

# FLASH MOB

Ormiston Venture Academy, received an exciting surprise when an incredible live band took over their canteen and outside eating area.

The fantastically talented band played 90's club classic tunes on a variety of instruments for the students and staff at the academy.

The event came about when Sam Jinks, Programme Manager from Freshly Greated and Naomi Swain, Senior Youth Support Worker from Ormiston Families contacted the academy to ask them if they wanted to be part of this awesome event.

Freshly Greated commissioned the fantastic Mr Wilson's Second Liners, a New Orleans styled street brass band who played 1990s club classics whilst dressed as the Beatles from the Sgt Pepper era, to lead the exciting performance.

The band also led a thumping music street procession through three neighbourhoods across Great Yarmouth and Gorleston to lift people's spirits and bring the community together. Following this, the programme had approached local schools to see if they wished to bring some excitement and loud culture to students, to which the academy was keen to be a part of.

Freshly Greated is an Arts Council England funded community-led programme dedicated to increasing engagement with arts and culture in key neighbourhoods across Great Yarmouth and to the Magdalen Estate in Gorleston. Since 2021, the project has worked closely with local residents to create high-quality arts activities, events and experiences which have grabbed the attention and interest of the wider community.

These have included skateboard art workshops facilitated by professional skate artists, the creation of a rainbow wave mural down a main alleyway on the estate, and an animation light show projected onto buildings by projectors mounted on push bikes.

Owen Cooper, Head of Student Support at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

**"This was such an amazing opportunity; we were so lucky to be included in this fantastic event. It was so nice to see the shock and surprise on our students' and staff's faces when the band started to play their music and walk through and around the academy."**

"Given the last few years, it was a much-needed boost of fun and excitement which left our students buzzing, and continuing to ask to have them back. We are looking forward to working with Sam and Freshly Greated to plan more amazing events in the future."



Sam Jinks, Programme Manager at Freshly Greated, said:

**"It was a real pleasure to bring bangin' 90's club classics courtesy of Mr Wilson's Second Liners to the students and staff of Ormiston Venture Academy. The atmosphere in the cafeteria was incredible and it was great to see lots of smiling faces and dancing on the playground before we left."**

**"We were also delighted to see a number of Venture students bring their families and friends along for the 90s Music Procession later in the evening, with over 400 people joining the musical march through the Mag estate. A massive thank you to Owen Cooper and Naomi Swain for their help in making this possible."**



**To celebrate International Hot & Spicy Food Day on we had Chilli Heatwave Doritos.**

We also had our first Chocolate Bar out of the Venture Vault this term, congratulations Lucy, fingers crossed she doesn't eat it all at once.

We have had a **£5 Lucky dip** winner: Amy – Rose

**Venture Video Club** launched the last week in January as one of Venture new rewards that students could access at lunchtimes by cashing in 10 visa points. Venture Video Club kicked off their first video showing Hotel Transylvania, Transformania.

**Popcorn:** 19th Jan National Popcorn Day.  
**Croissant:** 30th Jan National Croissant Day.  
**Fortune cookie:** 1st February Chinese New Year  
**Funtastic Friday:** Gummi Pizza to celebrate National Pizza Day on the 9th Feb.

**Venture Vault Winners:**  
 Riley - chocolate bar. | Sophia - big bag of sweets  
 Archie R- chocolate | Nithana N - chocolate  
 Jazmin F - £5 voucher

**Funtastic Friday goodies** that students have been able to cash their Visa points in for:

- Spicy Crisps - 20 Visa | Popcorn - 20 Visa
- Fortune Cookie - 20 Visa | Croissant - 30 Visa
- Candy Pizza - 20 Visa | Easter Egg - 75 Visa
- Welcome Back Pencil Case -10 Visa
- St Patrick Day Goodie Bag - 30 Visa
- Mother's Day Card and Chocolates - 50 Visa
- Strawberry Sweets - 20 Visa | Maths Set - 30 Visa

**Lots more on offer next term, collect your visas and cash them in.**

# Premier League Inspires Venture

**Under-18 Norwich City Football Club scholars Osman Foyo and Finley Welch attended Ormiston Venture Academy to meet and work with year 8 students on the Premier League Inspires Programme.**

The players took questions from the group regarding becoming footballers, their influences and their lifestyle at the moment before working specifically with small groups on their projects.

Osman commented that if his school was more like Venture, maybe he would have behaved better when he was younger!



Finley was blown away by the maturity of the students he met and seemed really impressed with their designs for new NCFC branded drinking cups.

Students at Venture have been working with Aoife Linehan who is the PL inspires officer on character building initiatives and with the students selected for a separate challenge on branding and marketing. These students will soon have the chance to pitch their idea to Premier League representatives in the director's box at the NCFC stadium Carrow Road.

Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that:

"We are chuffed that the scholars were able to take time out of their day to come over to Venture and work with our students. Having these types of people to meet and look up to immediately gives the programme more gravitas, and you could see the pride the students took in their projects."



## Paul Hannaford... Came to Venture to talk with every year group across the academy.

His 45 minute workshop fits within our CASH framework of Community, Aspiration, Spirituality and Health and his life story actually touches on all of these.

Over the past 10 years Paul has built a successful career educating over 400,000 school children from multiple year groups ranging from Year 4 up to sixth form, tailoring the message appropriate to their ages. His talk focused on the dangers of addiction, drugs and alcohol as well as involvement in gangs, knife crime and county lines.

Through his own experiences as a former addict of over 20 years, he conveyed an incredibly powerful message, showing us all that making the right decisions at the wrong times is crucial to achieving your goals and aspirations.

He told his life story about how he began making poor decisions around eleven years old, how his life and dream potential career as a footballer came to an abrupt end. His life quickly spiralled out of control, leading to visits to court, hospital and ultimately prison on numerous occasions.

Paul's workshop with each year group ended with a question and answer session.

Paul says,

**"I believe passionately that every child matters, and that their future should be a bright one," and his goal of reaching 1 million students across the UK is almost half way there.**





### Ronnie (Year 8)

Ronnie plays rugby for Venture at Year 9 level, despite being a year younger than his peers.

He also regularly plays for the Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth first team for his age group in the full back position.

Ronnie says, "I have only been playing for about 8 months, but I think rugby is amazing."

# Achieve

Shania is in Year 11 & personally we think she has an amazing talent that she has not let on to her teachers or peers.

In 2015 Shania started to go to a circus skills group Drillaz at Sea Change Arts now The Out There Arts The Drill House, York Rd, Gt Yarmouth. There she found she had a natural ability for aerial skills. She has worked really hard & has found that she has a preference for silks & hoop. She now is one of the oldest children there & tends to do the highest in height performances.

She has performed at the Out There Festival & Drillaz fund raisers & other places. What makes this all the more amazing is Shania has battle over the last 4 years with crippling anxiety but with the support of the tutors & friends at Drillaz they have helped her come through this & give some stunning & breath taking performances. She is never more happy than when she is hanging upside down from one of the aerial rigs



# Innovate



### PRINCIPAL AWARD: Achieve -

Ryan was awarded the Principal's award for Achieve for being a terrific all round student and competing at Crufts with his dog for agility; ultimately receiving a call up to Team GB at the World Championships in Finland this year.



### PRINCIPAL AWARD: Innovate

Harley in Year 9 was awarded the Principal's award for having amazing attendance incredible attitude to learning in all subjects. Performing brilliantly for the Venture Elite PE programme for rugby.

# Create

Year 8 student, Ilyssa. Gave up 3 hours of one of her Saturdays to help clean up the Gorleston underpass – This is a community project that was set up on the Gorleston Facebook page.

One of the Volunteers said "Ilyssa was a delight to have there helping us and talked very proudly that she was a student at Venture.

Ilyssa got involved in the litter picking, she also scrubbed the tiles, swept up muck and carried/cleared up the rubbish bags and equipment. She was part of a team of 20 volunteers.



# in the SPOTLIGHT

Logan passed his refereeing football course in September 2021, and has been refereeing football games for Norwich City Academy and Gorleston Rangers, at Under 14's age group and below.

# Aspire



**PRINCIPAL AWARD:** Pritisha is always amazing in lessons, trying hard to make the most out of the learning she is being exposed to.

Even when a topic is new or different to how she originally comprehends it she strives to understand the content in more detail giving her deeper knowledge.



### PRINCIPAL AWARD: Create

Joshua was awarded the Principal's Award for having a brilliant attitude in all lessons, a positive role model for younger students. He has achieved and passed grade 4 in playing the trumpet and likes to get involved in groups and clubs outside of school. Joshua has been awarded an amazing number of Visa points and has great attendance. He is a student with bright future ahead.

# Premier League Inspires at Carrow Road

Business and Customer Services



Year 8 students from Ormiston Venture Academy travelled over to the Norwich City Football Club stadium on Carrow Road.

They toured to facilities inside and out including the stands, the club shop, the players' and directors' entrance, the viewing gallery and the first team players' lounge.

One group of students prepared an 'Apprentice' style presentation to some Community Sports Foundation staff who posed as dragons, as students 'sold' their sustainable ideas on improving fans' match day experiences. Ideas included drones to deliver food, pre-ordered refreshments, and more noise!

The other group delivered their challenge based presentation to a representative from the Premier League, the CSF schools programme manager and a partnership manager from NCFC who oversees 50 different partner companies.

The group delivered a presentation about recycling and reducing pollution and litter on match days and received some valuable feedback. The panel all agreed it was a super idea and one that could easily become a reality!

The next stage for the challenge group is to develop their skills at the development day that was hosted at Vicarage Road – home of Watford FC (please see page 5).

The group then learnt the importance of decision making skills – with Premier League Inspires officer Aoife Linehan, and had a chance to become the NCFC first team manager to select a team for the next match with a budget in mind!

Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that:

**"The opportunity to see 'behind the scenes' and the vast array of careers a stadium like Carrow Road and the CSF operate really opened the eyes of year 8 students, many of whom had never been to the stadium before. It's projects like this which demonstrate that students from Gorleston can achieve anything."**



We have been celebrating the 25th World Book Day, by dressing up as their favourite book characters.

# #WBD22



Both students and staff showcased their wonderful imaginations, talent and creativity through their amazing costumes. The costumes that filled the academy came from a wide range of books and comics, with staff and students dressing as different Harry Potter characters, Mary Poppins, and even a dictionary.

Students were also given the opportunity to participate in a range of activities throughout the day, from a 'guess the teacher' competition to afternoon tea in the library to celebrate reading.

The costumes and celebrations sparked some great conversations amongst students over what their favourite book is and everyone really enjoyed being able to guess which famous character their friends had come dressed as.

The World Book Day celebrations were a fantastic opportunity for the academy to bring students together to celebrate a range of wonderful literary stories, as well as inspiring everyone to read more.

Rebecca Kirby, Leader of Literacy and Humanities at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

**"It was awesome to once again be able to celebrate World Book Day in true Venture style this year and to have the whole academy engaged in a range of activities. Here at Venture, we put reading and literacy at the heart of everything we do and promoting World Book Day is just one of the many ways that we advocate reading for pleasure. It's brilliant to see our students so enthused about the wonderful world of reading."**



**Union of Venture students hosted their first ever whole school Baraza.**

**This was hosted in the main hall, and led by the Union of Venture students' executive board which is made up of head boy, head girl and the duty head boy and girl as well as the senior prefect team.**



The executive board decided on the agenda that they would deliver to the PL captain. PL captains are the student representatives for each form group.

There are now two PL captains for each form group, which meant that the event was delivered to and ran by over eighty students.

On the agenda was an introduction from the UVS, Mr Gilbert-Barnham delivered a speech to all students outlining how important their role is to all students at the academy, Mollie the 2020-21 head girl and also secretary of the Ormiston Academies Trust National Student Parliament discussed the national picture of student voice and how this can be led in our local community by Venture students.



**The UVS celebrated all of the actions that they had achieved or "You said we did" as they are called, set out their priorities of the summer term, as well as upcoming events and cultural days.**



After the speeches the PL captains had time to discuss a variety of issues and make suggestions on how to improve academy life for all students.

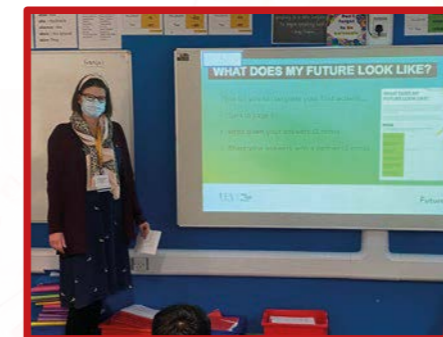
There have already been some suggestions actioned, such as one hundred and twenty new seats for students to eat outside around the outdoor eating area, more recycling bins to become more environmentally friendly, and also we have had some cultural food tasting experiences in the café at lunch time.



**The Baraza was a huge success and will be scheduled again for the summer term to build on suggestions and priorities for the Union of Venture Students.**

## Future Venture Stars

**Laura Bell from the UEA and her Outreach team visited Ormiston Venture Academy to deliver the Future Stars programme to the whole of year 7. The project aims to raise aspirations and open students' eyes to Higher Education.**



Students received an informative presentation about pathways through education and into Higher Education and university, before participating in an interactive fact finding session with student ambassadors from the UEA. Emily Patterson led the presentation about choices for GCSEs and then Further Education leading to apprenticeships, careers and Higher Education.

The students were able to quiz actual university students about their courses, accommodation, fees, hopes for the future and social life face to face – which was a welcome change to the last couple of years!



They learnt about potential careers, routes into university and other options as well.

Students then split into groups to continue work on a university fact file, and also had the chance to continue quizzing the student ambassadors about all things university.

Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that:

**"We are really pleased to facilitate this programme again and the benefits of actually being able to speak to current university students face to face, will remain with the students for many years. I hope they know see they are more than capable of attending a university if they want to in their futures".**



## ENSSP SEND Panathlon competition

We took a combination of year 7 – 9 students to take part in the ENSSP SEND Panathlon competition at East Norfolk Sixth Form College.

The event is designed to promote inclusion and participation for all students of any ability in a competitive setting. The students were buzzing as soon as we arrived and that continued throughout the whole event.

The students were split into two teams with Owen in year 9 and Diana in year 8 being the nominated captains. Each team then rotated around 7 events with the aim of working together to score as many points as possible in the events ranging from a football shoot out to curling.

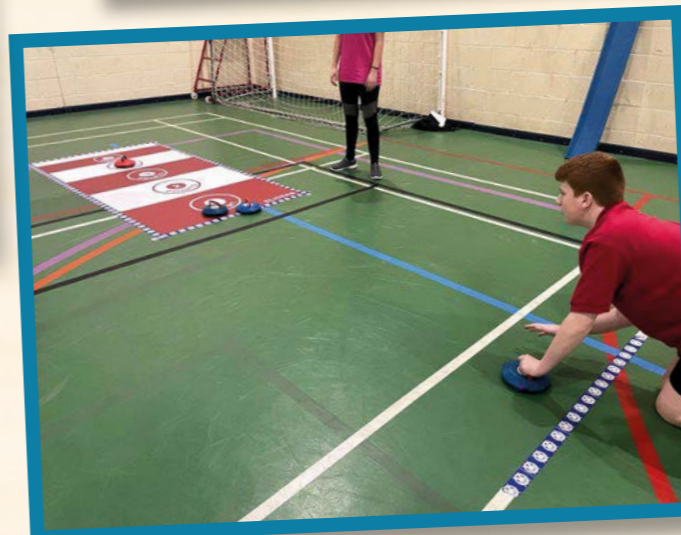
The students worked hard and performed amazingly coming in 3rd and 2nd place.



Year 9 students Rhys and Lewis said it was an

**"Awesome and wonderful day"**

and hope they have the chance to take part again.



For all of the students this is the first time that they have ever competed in a sporting event for the academy, they coped with the massive change in their daily routines and did us incredibly proud.

Ethan, Archie, Dylan and Evie were all selected to represent the East Norfolk District area at the County Cross Country championships held at the prestigious Langley High School.

Over a hundred students qualified for each race from different areas in Norfolk which meant the competition was incredibly tough. Dylan running for the first time at an event of this magnitude finished a credible 63rd in the year 7 race, whilst Archie matched that finish in the year 8 and 9 combined event. Ethan finished just 3 places further back – which was excellent for a rugby and basketball player! Evie managed a hugely impressive 18th place in the year 10 and 11 girl's race. The runners demonstrated immense resilience and commitment and are true Venture Elite role models for other students to look up to.



Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that:  
**"The guys did exceptionally well against the best of the best in Norfolk. It was great for them to challenge themselves and they should be really proud of their finishes".**

NETBALL

## Year 7 @ Flegg High Ormiston Academy

**TEAM:** Brooke, Imogen, Esme, Kira, Phoebe, Charlotte, Emily, Veronica, Ashleigh and Aubrey

Drew against Lynn Grove Academy 2-2, won against Cliff Park Ormiston Academy 2-1 and lost against Flegg High Ormiston Academy 2-1

A big thank you to Daisy and Alivia from Year 9 who came along as assistant coaches. Their support towards the Year 7s was fantastic. The girls played really well and showed some really promising passages of play. The ball kept moving up and down the court regularly due to lots of interceptions. Tip for the future is to work on accuracy of passes.

NETBALL

## Venture Staff v Venture Netball team

**Game on!**



NETBALL

## Year 10 @ Lynn Grove Academy & Ormiston Cliff Park Academy

**TEAM:** Fraia, Alivia, Daisy, Emily, Demi, Emiljah M, Alivia and Ruby.

**Win! 8-6 Lyn Grove | Win! 18-2 Cliff Park**  
Strong performance from the squad under the leadership of Fraia and Alivia who have remained unbeaten since Year 7.

NETBALL

## Year 7 @ Gresham's, Norwich High School, Reepham High School and Alderman Peel High School

Unfortunately lost every game, but they were tough opponents and the team did not give up.

**TEAM:** Brooke, Imogen, Esme, Kira, Phoebe, Charlotte and Emily.

Brooke took the team captain role seriously, with some support from Ashleigh.

They all played their best, but know they to train more often to improve. Some great interceptions were made, but some simple mistakes were taken advantage of by their opponents.

FOOTBALL

## Year 7 @ Lynn Grove Academy, Flegg High Ormiston Academy & Ormiston Cliff Park Academy

**TEAM:** Reuban, Dylan, Riley, Cohen, Harrison, Casey and Waylan.

**Won every match!  
Winners of the tournament!!**

Fantastic leadership from team captain Reueben who organised the team, coached them and made substitutions for each game, while Miss Ermini was organising the girls.

