

Venture VOICE

Edition 36: Winter 2023

Stay Safe

Ormiston Venture Academy

[OAT]
AN OAT ACADEMY



CLASS OF
2022
Graduation
Ceremony

New Union of Students

Full list of new Union of Students for 2023

Enrichment for all

See how Venture enriches the students day

#WeWill Explore

Venture explore the local area

In The Spotlight

Plus, Principal's Awards

Sport Success

For both Boys' and Girls' teams

***and so
much more!***



www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk



the
Principal's Award
SPOTLIGHT!

What's going on at Venture Academy for 2023

Welcome from Principal Gilbert – Barnham	P3	Venture Rewards & Children in Need 22	P16-17
Shoebbox Appeal & Xmas Jumpers	P4	BTEC Awards 2022 & Disney Auditions	P18
Xmas Fayre and Party	P5	OAT Conference on Mental Health in Schools	P19
Careers Fair & Diary Dates	P6	UVS Students 2023 & Remembrance Sunday	P20-21
CPR Training & Venture Vibe Radio	P7	OAT Bake Off & MacMillan Coffee & Cake Sale	P22
Graduation	P8-9	In The Spotlight & Principals Awards	P24-25
Enrichment & Computing Club	P10-13	Stars from the East at the Norwich Playhouse	P26
#WeWill Explore	P14	Year 7 boys football tournament	P27
Guinness World Record Attempt & Halloween Fayre	P15	Year 10 Rugby success & Year 7 girls Football Winners	P28

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

TRAIN TO TEACH



The OAKS Norfolk

Contact email address – oaksnorfolk@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk

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.

@OAKSNorfolkHub @InitalOAT

www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk/Oaks-Norfolk



Welcome Back

There is so much to be proud of throughout 2022 with our students and community achieving great things together.

This Venture Voice showcases just some of the events, achievements and successes over the past term and just goes to demonstrate the many reasons we are so proud of everyone who makes Venture the place it is.

We are aware that the year ahead will bring many challenges for families and our community. We can't influence the wider issues but we can place our community at the heart of all we do. This year will be about supporting our children in any way we can while still ensuring we offer them the same opportunities and experiences as any child in the country. This is a year to ensure that our wider community shines.

Our Venture Virtues continue to be a driving force for the young people of our community.

I hope you agree that our seven Venture Virtues are something that you also want to see the amazing young people in our community showcasing in all aspects of their lives. Ambition, kindness, neighbourliness, resilience, respect, responsibility and teamwork. These aren't just our Virtues but also the kind of community I am proud to be a part of both in and out of the academy.

Regards

Simon Gilbert-Barnham
- Principal





All students at the academy were invited to bring in a food item to donate to the local food bank at the Magdalen Church for our local community.

Xmas Jumper Day

We are always overwhelmed with the generosity of the students at Venture Academy.



There were some amazing jumpers on show this year to spread the Christmas spirit.



Shoebox Appeal 22

With Halloween and Bonfire Night over, the Christmas season was in full swing.

The students at Venture had already been thinking about this for several weeks. Following the launch of this year's Shoebox Appeal in collectives, and PL Groups, PL Tutors had been busily packing items ready to provide some Christmas cheer for less fortunate young people in Eastern Europe, Africa and as far away as Haiti.

The Samaritans 'Operation Christmas Child' is where shoe boxes full of gifts are created and then delivered to countries with children living in poverty as a Christmas present. These will often be the only gifts they will receive. A shoebox gift provides a connection between different cultures, backgrounds and nationalities. It bridges the gap between someone who has something to give, and someone who can't wait to receive it.

Students at Venture were told that over one million shoeboxes were sent out from the UK and Ireland last year, 5,000 UK volunteers help to prepare the shoeboxes for delivery and fourteen different countries will receive these valued gifts in 2022.

Exactly 28 shoeboxes were packed jointly by the four colleges and were delivered to the local drop off point in Lowestoft. Students were delighted to be involved in something so interesting that will bring so much joy to so many young people in parts of the world they may never visit.

Sara- "My PL Tutor showed us all a video about the shoebox appeal and it nearly made me cry. It is amazing that we can help others so far away, so easily."

Olivia- "It was fantastic to make up the boxes with lots of lovely gifts to children who will really appreciate it. We added a doll and colouring pencils to our box and I know it will make that child really happy".

Sam- "We told family about the appeal effort we were doing in our PL group and our Grandma helped by buying lots of things to include in my PLs shoebox!"

Xmas Fayre

Santa made an entrance to remember at the Ormiston Venture Academy Christmas Fayre this year.

Handing out chocolates to (already excited) students made him a firm favourite of the event!

The Union of Venture Students (UVS) at the Academy decorated the sports hall turning it into their very own grotto complete with disco lights, Christmas trees and of course the DJ booth!

They donned elf, reindeer and Christmas themed costumes in aid of the annual Ormiston Venture Academy Christmas Fayre.



On Monday 12th December 2022, over two hundred students celebrated the festive season at the second annual 'Merry Little Christmas Party'.

Students were rewarded with an invitation for following the Venture Way this term - having good attendance and demonstrating fantastic engagement in their learning throughout the last term.

Staff and students participated in a range of festive fun activities, whilst enjoying hot chocolate with marshmallows, and a Christmas buffet. Congratulations to everyone who was invited and for showcasing the Venture Way every day!



Students had been busy selling raffle tickets with top prizes including a PlayStation 5 and an X Box Series X (both kindly donated by CEX - Complete Entertainment Exchange in Great Yarmouth). They designed stalls, made festive treats and prepped hot chocolates ready for the rest of the Academy to enjoy.

The sweet treats, mocktails and Christmas themed games went down a storm as students bopped along to their Christmas favourites belted out by the student-led choir. Vinny, unsurprisingly, was the most popular person for festive photographs once again



Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that:

"The Fayre represents what a cracking bunch of students this years' UVS have been and how they throw themselves into everything. From decorating trees and making up hundreds of bags of sweets beforehand to wearing elf and reindeer costumes on the day - it really is spirit like no other!"



Careers Fair

Ormiston Venture Academy dedicated a whole afternoon (and evening) to careers-based education in order for students to consider their futures in more depth.

Mr McNally – Assistant Principal and careers lead, organised a strategic approach to careers education across the whole academy for the afternoon, where all students in years 7-10 took part in a range of activities focused on their pathways and futures.

Students discovered new and varied jobs, learnt about Further Education, apprenticeships, and Higher Education pathways. Students in year 9 discovered the value of volunteering whilst the year 10s explored the concepts of social justice and global citizenship.

Students in year 11 visited East Norfolk Sixth Form College for the afternoon and had a session led by staff at the 6th Form. Students and their parents / carers had the opportunity to meet with their child's Personalised Learning tutor later in the evening as part of their Academic Review Day process - where their career choices could be explored further on an individual basis. Students and parents were also able to research options by wandering through the Careers Fair in the corridors and the Learning Resource Centre at the Academy during the evening. Exhibitors from local Further Education and Higher Education providers were present alongside local employers and apprenticeship teams.

The Academy was recognised for its commitment to careers education, information, advice and guidance last year, achieving the Careers Mark Award, and working closely with Beacon East who provide a level 6 qualified careers advisor.



Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that:

"The fair represented an opportunity to hear from expert professionals and discuss career pathways in real detail after initially identifying educational choices, pathways and potential careers earlier in the day. Events such as these demonstrate the impartiality of our careers programme, and links directly to the Gatsby Benchmarks – I would like to thank all the exhibitors who gave up their time to be part of this crucial event for our students."

CPR Training

As part of our CASH Curriculum (Community, Ambition, Spirituality and Health), students study a unit on Basic First Aid.

This includes lessons on how to help someone having an asthma attack, how to aid someone who has an allergic reaction and what to do if someone has a head injury. However, the National Curriculum now includes the need to train students in CPR and the use of a defibrillator for emergency situations.

Ormiston Venture was very pleased to secure the training services of the British Red Cross again this year. Over the last two years, the Red Cross, via their Community Education outreach programme, has provided training for all students in Year 8. They also kindly agreed to train Year 9 students as well, who had their training postponed due to the Covid-19 national lockdown.

Trainer Bethany and her team of 'Little Annie' resuscitation dolls delivered workshops over three days to 180 Year 8 students. This included how to place someone in the recovery position, what to do in an emergency, when and how to give chest compressions and how to use a defibrillator to restart a heart.

As it was national 'Restart a Heart' week in the UK, it was the perfect time.



Year 8 student Harvey said,

"It was really useful to know and easier than I thought it would be,"

Katie said,

"I'm pleased I now know what to do if someone in my family needed that type of help from me."

Lead for the CASH programme Spencer Doggett commented, "It is great to see the Year 8 students all taking this training on board. When you see and hear the defibrillator machine talking to you and telling you what to do at each step, it takes the fear away and makes students more confident."

The 2022 training has meant that over 500 Venture students have been trained in this skill and the Red Cross has already been booked to train the next batch of budding paramedics in October 2023.



You Said you wanted the radio room up and running again so we did. The UVS (Union of Venture Students) have spent some of the money that has been fundraised on a revamp of the Venture Vibe radio system.

This involved a brand new system software update as well as brand new state of the art equipment. Russell Prue from Anderton Tiger radio company came in and delivered bespoke training to a handful of UVS media ambassadors. These students have then trained other students to lead on DJing sessions. The media team broadcast live lunchtime shows updating students on upcoming events at the academy, play music that students have requested and interview sports captains and staff on their thoughts and opinions on events or topics.

Alife Kitchener (UVS Media Team)

"This equipment is awesome, I'm so excited to use it, no other school has anything like this, we are so lucky"



2023 Diary Dates *What's coming up at Venture Academy...*

February 2023

Thursday 2nd February - Year 7 and 8 Parents Evening 3pm - 7.30pm
 Friday 10th February - 2.35pm - Student break for half term
 Monday 20th February - 8.25am - Students return to the Academy
 Tuesday 21st February - Thursday 23rd February - Academy show - Annie

March 2023

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day
 Thursday 9th March - 3pm - 7.30pm - Year 9 and 10 Parents Evening
 Thursday 30th March - 2.35pm - Students break for Easter half term
 Friday 31st March - Staff inset day

April 2023

Monday 17th April - 8.25am - Students return to the academy

May 2023

Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday
 Monday 8th May - Extra Bank Holiday for King Charles III Coronation
 Friday 12 & 13th May - Year 11 Residential
 Monday 15th May - 23rd June - Year 11 Exam Block
 Friday 26th May - Students break for half term 2.35pm
 Monday 5th June - Student return to the academy 8.25am

CLASS OF 2022 Graduation Ceremony

On 26th January 2023, Venture proudly welcomed back the Class of 2022 for the academy's annual Graduation Ceremony after a 3 year break due to restrictions.

This event invite families, students and staff to celebrate the excellent GCSE achievements of a year group in style.

Students wearing red gowns and mortar boards received diplomas to commemorate their time at Venture, and to recognise the passing of one phase of their education to another.

Ormiston Venture Academy operates an alumni programme which enables students to share successes and continue to be positive role models within the academy. Any former student who wants support is urged to get in touch, fitting the motto.

"Once a Venture student, always a Venture student".

Principal Mr Gilbert-Barnham said:

"It was a real pleasure to see our Class of 2022 formally graduate as Venture Alumni. We are so proud of them and the exciting futures they are embarking on – they've all grown into such exceptional young adults."

Mr Richards, Vice Principal Venture, said:

"The Class of 2022 will be remembered as wonderful year group who achieved incredible results both academically and in terms of their own personal development despite the disruption to their education over their final years. We are so proud of them and it was fantastic to be able to celebrate their success with them one last time".

Former Head Girl, Mollie who spoke on behalf of the class of 2022 thanked parents, students and finally staff her address saying :

"I would like to thank all the staff here at Venture, over the last five years they have worked tirelessly to ensure that we were able find our own pathways and not only make the Venture community proud but to be proud of ourselves through all the hard times. As we all make our way along our own journeys, I'm sure that each one of us will always remember words of support and encouragement from staff here at venture, I certainly will."



The Academy hosts over 60 enrichment clubs each week for students and staff to get involved with. From before academy breakfast clubs (starting at 7.30), lunchtime dodgeball and reading (not combined!) clubs to after academy academic tutoring, competitive sports fixtures and arts and craft sessions, there really is something for everyone.



Students can attend any club for free without the need to sign up beforehand. Students are encouraged to show commitment by attending the club on a regular basis, but they can also try out any other clubs they would like to as well.

There is something on every night of the week that students in any year group would be welcome to come along to.

Academic Tutoring

To support the coherently planned curriculum that the students actively enjoy, we offer tutoring sessions across a wide range of subjects.

Students are invited to take part in bespoke tutoring sessions provided by teachers that are personalised to improve the identified area of development from their learning. Building the cognitive skills of students is an integral component of our curriculum, and these sessions support and develop pupil progress to ensure that there are no gaps or misconceptions.

Raise Rooms

We are committed to offering a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Alongside our guilds, societies and extensive clubs that run, the Raise Rooms provide a space for quiet personal study in which pupils can extend and deepen their knowledge of subjects.

It provides an opportunity to complete homework or coursework in a computer room with a member of staff supporting. The Raise Rooms are open Tuesday - Friday after school for all pupils in Years 7 - 10.

Enrichment

Enrichment plays a key role in developing skills, finding talents, meeting new people and having fun.

Essential employability skills such as teamwork, leadership and using initiative can be developed in pretty much all of the activities on offer to really build cultural capital and character.

There is a clear link between enjoyment and well-being at the academy when enrichment accessed.

So whether you fancy yourself as the next lead role in a musical, as a budding musician, chef, designer, engineer, sports person or linguist, there is a club for you! Having said that if there is an activity you really want to run as part of our enrichment programme, let Mr McNally or the UVS (Union of Venture Students) know, and we can work on that together.



Take a look at the timetable, grab a friend and get involved!!

#Teamventure



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is a Maths and English tutoring session that runs on a Monday (Maths) and Friday (English) morning from 7.45 to 8.15am.

All pupils in Year 7-10 are welcome to attend and can come to the cafe at 7.45 for a free bacon roll and slice of cheese on toast before heading to the allotted rooms for their tutoring session.

The sessions are designed to support the curriculum they follow in class.

Pupils who regularly attend say they would recommend it to other pupils as they feel it helps build their confidence with the subjects.

Extended Schools 2022-23 Spring Timetable

Afternoon Clubs: 2.35-3.40

Clubs are free, no need to book, just turn up at the location on the day!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Textiles (Years 7-9) Lunchtime - G111	Textiles (Years 7-9) Lunchtime - G111	Textiles (Years 7-9) Lunchtime - G111	Textiles (Years 7-9) Lunchtime - G111	Textiles (Years 7-9) Lunchtime - G111
	Textiles (Years 7-9) G111	Textiles (Years 7-9) G111	Textiles (Year 10) G111	Textiles (Year 11) G111
	Performing Arts (rehearsals) - F207	Performing Arts (rehearsals) - F207	Performing Arts (rehearsals) - F207	Photography (Year 11) - F206
Art (Years 7 & 8) - F208	Crochet (All Years) - G163	Art (Year 10) - F208	Art (Year 11) - F208	Art (Year 11) - F208
	Music Rooms (Year 9)	Music Rooms (Year 10)	3D printing and Design (All Years) - F260	
Catering (Year 10 & 11) coursework - G110	Taste testing (Years 7-10) - G110	Catering (All Years) - G110		
	Book Club (Years 7 & 8) - LRC	Duke of Edinburgh (Year 10) - LRC	Duke of Edinburgh (Year 9 & 11) - LRC	
Sports Studies (Year 9) - F266	Basketball (All Years) - Sports Hall	Resilience explore (sports leaders) - G173	Computing Club (Year 10) - F250	
Kicks (Football) - Sports Hall	Fitness Suite (All Years) - PE	Trampolining (All Years) - Gym	Football (Year 7) - Field	Sports Studies (Year 10) - F260
Tennis Club (All Years) - Courts	Netball (All Years) - Courts	Football (Year 8) - Field	Football (Year 9) - Field	
	Basketball (All years) - Sports Hall	Football (Year 10) - Field	Football (Year 8) - Field	
	Raise Rooms (Years 7 - 10) - F262 & F263	Raise Rooms (Years 7 - 10) - F262 & F263	Raise Rooms (Years 7 - 10) - F262 & F263	Raise Rooms (Years 7 - 10) - F262 & F263
Raising Achievement (Senior Year) - RA	Science (Senior Year) - RA	English (Senior Year) - RA	Maths (Senior Year) - RA	Raising Achievement (Senior Year) - RA
Dodgeball (All Years) - Sports Hall Lunchtimes	Dodgeball (All Years) - Sports Hall Lunchtimes	Dodgeball (All Years) - Sports Hall Lunchtimes	Dodgeball (All Years) - Sports Hall Lunchtimes	Dodgeball (All Years) - Sports Hall Lunchtimes

*Catering on Thursday to cook any dishes you want to catch up on (NB you must provide your own ingredients)
*Taste testing happens every two weeks and is free for any student to attend
*Limited numbers for trampolining and fitness suite sessions if they get busy - sign up in PE office
*Activities subject to change and may be cancelled at late notice due to staff absence
*If you have your own ideas for a club (activity) please see Mr McNally

These clubs are in addition to the Academic Tutoring the Academy operates for selected students and the Comprehensive Guild Programme (Wednesdays period 8) assigned to broaden horizons and extend knowledge. Guild offers include chess, sports, arts and cultural opportunities. There are also regular College Clean competitions to get involved in as well as the games room at lunch times. More clubs, societies and activities will be advertised when they come on board.

Societies - If you have an idea for a club or activity you would like to see at the Academy, students can run their own societies! Come and see Mr McNally for further information.



Enrichment Continues...

Year 10 Computer Scientists visit The Centre for Computing History Cambridge

The Computer Science Department took 38 students 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. 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 artifacts 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 artifacts 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.

Computing Herstory!

Whilst at the Museum we were privileged to be able to see the "Computing Herstory" exhibition. An exhibition highlighting some of the significant work women have pioneered in Computer science over the last 70 years.

"A lot of attention is paid to issues of gender inequality in computing and the wider tech industries. In the UK, GCSE and 'A' level results continue to show a significant gender gap in technology subjects, despite a recognised STEM skills shortage in our tech industries. Interestingly, young girls perform better than their male counterparts at GCSE yet still seem to be less attracted to tech subjects. At 'A' level it is worse: young women deciding to take Computing 'A' Level are massively outnumbered by young men and in UK universities there are over 10,000 more men studying computer science than women.

This is despite the fact that in 2019, for the first time, more girls than boys took science 'A' levels; efforts to encourage girls into science generally seem to be getting through. But for tech subjects like Computer Science the gender gap continues to grow, despite the increasing popularity of the subject overall." (Taken from the Centre for Computing History).



Owen Cooper, Computer Science Teacher said, "The visit to The Centre of Computing History is a perfect opportunity for us to link our computer science curriculum to computer history and allows our students to see how computer science links to the real world of computing giving our students the ambition and social justice required to become world class students of today. 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, we look forward to running this trip every year.



Computing club is a great opportunity for students to further their knowledge and understanding beyond the classroom.

What can students do?

- Students can partake in robotics using our 'Shape Robotics' robot arms and our 'Lego Spike' kits, completing challenges and projects which are not always possible in 1 hour lessons.
- Learn about the inner workings of computers and build their own virtual machine using PC Building Simulator.
- Try their hand at games design using Python and Scratch. With the possibility of entering their games into the BAFTA Young Games Designer awards. This is a great opportunity to have some teacher input and assistance.

Students can also come along if they want some extra support with work or Computer Science homework.

Computing Club is open to ALL students 7 – 10, even if they have not chosen Computer Science as an option (Year 9/10).

The club is run by Mr Riches and is supported by Mr Clark and Mr Cooper most weeks. We also have Computer Science Ambassadors from years 9 and 10 who come along to support and look after the equipment.

COMPUTING CLUB

GAMES DESIGN

If you enjoy computing or just want more time to try practical sessions. Come along!

Run by Mr Riches and Computer Science Ambassadors

Wednesday 2.35-3.30 F250

#WeWillExplore

For the past year some of our year 9 students have been involved in the #WeWillExplore project.

The project involves youth social action within the academy and local community based around orienteering and geo-caching.

Venture teamed up with Ormiston Herman Academy and Peterhouse Church of England Primary School. Our committee members have been busy running a number of events in and around the local community including a beach clean, orienteering and geo-caching events as well as some great team building activities such as birdhouse building and making insect hotels.

The project itself leads to the Murray Award which is presented to members of the project hitting a minimum of 25 volunteering hours.

Our students have been incredibly pro activities and have given over 30 hours of their personal time volunteering, making them on track to be awarded the gold award.

Cherelle Gogar, #WeWillExplore lead commented

"We loved getting involved with the youth social action because it allows us to get involved with our local community and encourage young children to be more active in their day to day lives and also the opportunity to explore geocaching and orienteering." Kirstin T and Dylan P (Chair and Vice Chair of the #WeWillExplore project)

"The #WeWillExplore Project has provided a fantastic opportunity for students to practice and build on the basic leadership skills that are instilled into them from their PE lessons as part of their curriculum intent. It has also opened up the world of outdoor and adventurous Activities which I hope will provide them with another avenue of physical activity to get involved as they move forward towards adult life."



Every Year, Venture sets the challenge to break a Guinness World Record.

Venture is already official World Record holder for the highest number of High-Fives with a mascot (Vinny the Raptor) in three minutes and followed this up with the greatest number of paper aeroplanes in the air at the same time a year later, in 2020.

With Covid restrictions lifted, September 2022 offered the opportunity to do something a little differently to before. It was time for a balloon challenge. In February 2016, Pavel Durdik from Slovakia set an incredible record. He achieved 131 consecutive touches of an inflated balloon with a cotton bud, in just 30 seconds.

All students at Venture were tasked with beating the seemingly impossible World Record. Balloons were distributed and blown up, PL Groups watched the video of Pavel creating this World Record to see how he did it and then it was the turn of students to try and beat it in teams of three; one to attempt the record, while the other two carefully counted each and every touch of the balloon with the cotton bud. They then switched to try and beat each other.

Unbelievably, three Venture students all beat Pavel's original score of 131. Scores of 133, 140 and a truly incredible 155 were recorded during the challenge.

Michael, who scored the highest number of 155 said,

"It was fun and I really enjoyed doing it,"

before he asked to take the balloon and cotton bud home with him to keep trying.

Director of Learning Cultures, Spencer Doggett commented,

"It is always good to see our students working in teams and having fun at the same time. Attempting to beat a seemingly impossible record-before then actually beating it-is a brilliant way to begin the new year. I managed 66 touches myself, so it really was superb for so many to get close to this record and for three students to actually smash it."



On a lovely sunny Autumn day the UVS (Union of Venture Students) organised their first ever Halloween Fayre to have fun and raise funds for the UVS which will be spent on improving the academy for all students.

There were games and stalls which included apple bobbing, pin the tail on Frankenstein, wrapping up as a mummy and hook a pumpkin.

Evie, former deputy head girl whose idea this was said,

"I'm really pleased we have finally been able to celebrate this event as I know its something that the students will really enjoy"



Halloween Fayre





We started the year with Pencil Cases (20 visas) and Maths Sets (40). Miss Latchford tries to be sensible at the start.

We then went crazy with the sweets and had welcome goodie bags (30 visas). These were filled with sweets that are the Ormiston colours, Red Burgundy and Gold.

National Poetry Day was on the 6th October and what better way to celebrate than with Popcorn and Poems (20 visas), we had "If" by Rudyard Kipling, "I choose the Mountain" by Howard Simon, "Thumbprint" by Eve Merriam and "Blessing" by Imtiaz Dharker. To coincide with World Restart a Heart Day we had Haribo Jelly Heart Sweets (20 visas) our Year 8's also completed their CPR training (see page 7).

To finish the first half term we had the Halloween goodie bags (40 visas), a little early but as it's a popular item we didn't want to miss out.



As an Academy we have managed to source 90% of our jelly sweets as gelatine free, so this year's Halloween goodie bag was 100% gelatine free.

We returned with Guy Fawkes goodie bags (40 visas), alongside our assembly to raise awareness on the safe use of fireworks. This had good old fashioned Fizz Wizz Popping Candy.



With respect for Remembrance Day we had cupcake's which we topped with a sugar wafer Poppy (25 visas).

Mickey Mouse's birthday is the 18th November so we had Mickey Mouse key rings (35 visas). We then squeezed in a MonYAY (our first ever) to celebrate the first England game of the World Cup tournament by having mini bags of Haribo (10 visas).

To kick start the Christmas celebration we had selection boxes (75 visas) and our last Funtastic Friday of the year was Candy Canes to a Friend (10 visas).

Venture Vault Winners If students have ideas for future Funtastic Fridays they are welcome to complete a UVS suggestion slip and place it in the suggestion box at Student Reception.

Tillie-Mai - Year 9 Chocolate bar	Connor - Year 7 £5 Gift Card	Waylon - Year 8 Chocolate bar	Kyle - Year 7 Chocolate bar
Charlie - Year 7 Chocolate bar	Ilyssa - Year 9 Tangtastics	Cohan - Year 10 Tangtastics	
William - Year 7 Chocolate bar			
Waylon - Year 8 £5 Gift Card			

BBC 2022 CHILDREN IN NEED

Corridors were a sea of yellow on Friday 18th November at Ormiston Venture Academy as the Union of Venture Students (UVS) led a campaign to raise awareness of the work of 'Children In Need'.

Students were invited to wear something yellow instead of their normal Academy uniform for the day in exchange for a donation to the Children In Need charity who help countless less fortunate children in this country and abroad every day. The Academy raised over £420.

Pudsey bear onesies, t-shirts and jumpers, yellow sweaters and even a banana suit were worn by staff and students whilst playing the annual Staff Vs Year 11 football match drew a huge crowd at the end of the day. The staff team managed to avenge last year's loss with a 2-1 victory. Mr Parker and Mr Akers scored the all important goals.

Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that:

"The togetherness at the end of the day really demonstrates the closeness of the community, and the bond that the staff and students share. The commitment the academy shows to charities by supporting themes and working together is a real treasure and something the whole community should be proud of."



Grace was awarded the prestigious bronze BTEC Award for Performing Arts Learner of the year.

BTEC AWARDS 2022

Grace Chase

BTEC Performing Arts Learner of the Year 2022

Bronze



Grace was recognised by her teachers and peers for her outstanding efforts across the academy but specifically within the Performing Arts department. Her teachers have praised her for always giving 100% to absolutely anything she is asked to do. Grace was also recognised in her award nomination for being a delight to work with.

She has been a key part of the Venture Performing Arts Department, volunteering to support the academy on nights when it is not her rehearsal and goes above and beyond to be a role model and support network for others in the cast or her class.

Grace's hard work and dedication wowed the judges, who felt they were left with no choice but to recognise her with a bronze award. Everyone across the academy is incredibly proud of Grace for this fantastic achievement, her hard working in being a real inspiration to her peers.

Grace Chase, Year 11 student said:

"Performing arts is my passion. I have enjoyed every minute of the course and it has helped me to express myself in many different ways. It has introduced me to new perspectives, expanded my interests and has made me want to be a part of the creative industry in the future. Without studying Performing Arts at Ormiston Venture I would not have gained the confidence to take on the role of Belle in Beauty and the Beast 2022.

"This production made the most wonderful memories for me and was a true turning point in helping me decide firmly this was my future.

I am currently waiting to hear back about audition and workshop processes for Performing Arts colleges I have applied for, for my Post-16 study, this is the first step to my career in performing."

Disney Auditions

Venture Perform will be taking the stage at Disneyland Paris on the 1st April 2023.

We have been working extremely hard on a variety of audition pieces to wow the Disney Performing Arts on Stage team and we have been invited to perform twenty minutes of songs and dances!

We cannot wait to feel the Disney magic live on stage for ourselves. The students will also be taking part in a workshop in dance and musical theatre with Disney Imagineers to get a glimpse into working in the Performing Arts industry.

When researching for this trip we came across the opportunity and immediately investigated the audition process and pulled together some family friendly pieces.

Colette Smith, Teacher of Performing Arts commented:

"I am incredibly proud of the students for all of their hard work on the pieces, we are taking 40 students from across Years 9, 10 and 11. Not all are Performing Arts students so it is lovely to see them challenging themselves to try something new. Running trips is one of the main parts of my role that I love, bringing new experiences to students that won't always have these opportunities warms my heart and I am very excited to work on this incredible performance with the students."



Simon Gilbert-Barnham, Principal said:

"We're all hugely proud of everything Grace has accomplished, she has been a true role model for our younger students and showcased that hard work and determination can really pay off."

"I look forward to seeing what Grace goes onto achieve next, as I am sure she will continue to flourish."

OAT Conference for Mental Health in Schools

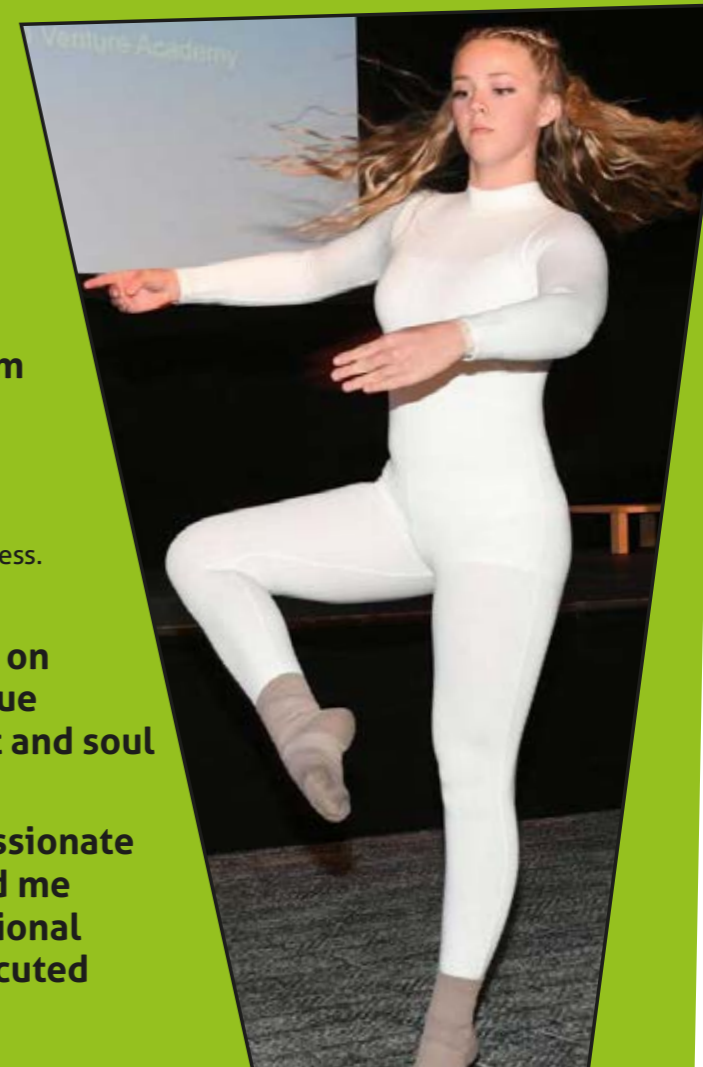
Isla-Jade was invited to perform to OAT leaders in collaboration with students from other Ormiston Academies.

Her show stopping performance opened the conference on the final day where she devised a dance piece to "Sarah" by We Three which emphasised the power of depressive thoughts in our young people and left the audience speechless.

Colette Smith, Teacher of Performing Arts commented

"I was thrilled to work alongside Isla-Jade on this project and as usual she acts like a true professional performer putting her heart and soul into every performance."

She is a very mature young lady who is passionate about performing arts and she approached me with her idea to make a hard-hitting emotional piece to close the conference and she executed it beautiful".



Venture is awarded...

At the recent Ormiston Academies Trust National conference we were pleased to accept on behalf of our amazing students recognition of their academic progress.

Celebrating the achievement of our class of 2022 with the highest overall progress and showcasing the remarkable outcomes they achieved.

Well done and we look forward to hearing about your amazing next steps as Venture Alumni continuing this success throughout your futures.



It is a sad and exciting time of year, when the current UVS reign comes to an end. We can celebrate all the amazing achievements they have done, however we can be excited about appointing a new Union of Venture Students.

The field was extremely strong with all applicants articulating many amazing ideas, experiences and how they would personally leave a lasting legacy.

The application process started with all students in Y10 being invited to apply for the role of Head Boy or Head girl as well as taking lead roles in the Union of Venture Students. Once the deadline had passed and the applications were submitted, every student in the academy completed an anonymous vote on who they thought they had the best manifesto. The applicants' slides were also given to staff to cast their vote. After all votes were cast Mr Waters, Assistant Principal, UVS Lead and Mr Gilbert Barnham, Principal interviewed all candidates with a series of questions. Mr Waters and Mr Gilbert-Barnham were blown away by the incredible ideas and depth that the students answered in, it was an extremely difficult decision to shortlist to a final ten students.

The final round of interviews was on a one-to-one basis with Mr Waters, Mr Gilbert-Barnham and Mrs King Venture's chair of governors. Each candidate had the opportunity to discuss ideas and strategies that they had written about in their application slides and about what passions they wanted to help drive forward to help Venture become a more inclusive place for all students.

After a very tough decision we would like to congratulate the following:

Head Boy - **Louis** Deputy Head Girl - **Isla** Senior Prefect - **Jessica**
 Head Girl - **Emiliya** Deputy Head Boy - **Edward** Senior Prefect - **William**

All other applicants will be leading different co-operatives that will have a significant impact on the academy life for all students.

Role	Student Name	Staff Link
Head Boy	Louis	Mr Waters
Head Girl	Emiliya	Mr Waters
Deputy Head Girl	Isla	Mr Waters
Deputy Head Boy	Edward	Mr Waters
Senior Prefect	Jessica	Mr Waters
Senior Prefect	William	Mr Waters
College Clash	Harley	Mr Waters
College Clash	Ethan	Mr Waters
College Clash	Russell	Mr Waters
Learning Partners	James	Mr Doggett
Learning Partners	Arden	Mr Doggett
Learning Partners	Drew	Mr Doggett
Community & Culture	Paige	Mr McInally
Community & Culture	Tiarna	Mr McInally
Community & Culture	Finn	Mr McInally
Guilds & Societies	George	Mr McInally
Guilds & Societies	Connor	Mr McInally
Guilds & Societies	Tegan	Mr McInally
Media	Owen	Mr Waters
Media	Jack	Mr Waters
Media	Alfie	Mr Waters
Student Support	Ei Coe	Mr Cooper
Student Support	Anneka	Mr Cooper
Student Support	Faye	Mr Cooper



Union of Venture Students For 2023



Head Boy: Louis



Head Girl: Emiliya



Dpt. Head Girl: Isla



Dpt. Head Boy: Edward



Senior Prefect: Jessica



Senior Prefect: William



Remembrance Sunday

Fraia and Luke our Head boy and Head Girl (for 2022) paid their respects at the Magdalen Cemetery in remembrance for all of those who lost their lives during the war and the families that have been affected.

Fraia and Luke laid a wreath on behalf of Ormiston Venture Academy and politely upheld a minute silence and listened and joined in with all prayers and hymns.

[OAT] Bake off

Ormiston Academies Trust

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Coffee and Cake Sale

20 excited young aspiring students congregated in the Catering room to see how their baking would be judged.

As part of the nation-wide OAT bake off competition youngsters had designed their own cakes, sourced ingredients and baked at home bringing in their creations as entry to the competition.

Bakes were judged on the quality of presentation (of which a number were worthy of special mention by Mr Stevenson – Catering teacher, who thought they were of professional standard), level of skill required to bake and assemble to cake, and originality of design.

Mari Holt won the staff competition with a classy spiders web topping design.

The student competition was hotly contested with 7 bakes making it through to the final judgment stage. After some deliberation from the judges (Mr Stevenson, Mr McNally and Mr Gilbert-Barnham) the overall winner was Miabella from year 8 with her incredible (and slightly creepy) monster effort. Miabella will go on represent the Academy in the next stage of the OAT nation-wide competition, where we wish her the best of luck.



Mr Stevenson commented that:
 "It was heartening to see so many students take time to design and bake such a vast array of amazing looking cakes. The thought and care that has gone into baking these is truly astounding and the students should be rightfully proud of themselves."

On Friday 30th September the Ormiston Venture Academy community came together donating, baking and selling cakes, all in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Hundreds of cakes were made and brought into the Academy for a bake sale at break time and after the Academy day. The Union of Venture Students decided that this was a cause close to their hearts and wanted to raise awareness of the outstanding work and support the charity offers.

The Academy opened up for community members to join staff and students at the end of the day for coffee and cake in the Learning Resource Centre, where they were treated to some of the finest cakes available – including extra special home baked brownies! A huge thank you goes out to all of the students and their families who donated cakes for the event as we looked to raise over a hundred pounds for the charity.

Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that

"It was fantastic to see our students, staff and community join together for such an incredible charity that means so much to so many. The effort and commitment our community has gone to providing and baking cakes is tremendous, and we thank them dearly."



in the SPOTLIGHT Principals Award

Darrell has been involved in helping the charity

FRESHLYGREATED

This is a charity that gets involved in such events locally as fire on the water and the wheels festival in Yarmouth. He has been helping with these events and others for a year now.

He is an excellent student, caring and wants to help whenever he can.

We in Achieve are very proud of him.

Achieve

Darrell in in Year 10 has been involved in Young Producers workshops run by 'MegaPhone' and 'Freshly Greated'.

He has been a keen supporter of the bands who rehearse within the Young Producer's space, and has attended workshops called 'Play, Produce, Promote', where he has learned skills surrounding the production of a small, local gig. During the Out There Festival, Darrell was actively involved in setting up and closing down the event and, alongside a local filmmaker, was involved in interviewing members of the public and recording the events of that weekend.



Furthermore, during the recent 'Fire on the Water event', Darrell joined performers as part of the Midnight Robber display, performing for five nights, including as a torchbearer for the Midnight Robber procession, dancing on stage, puppeteering, and posing for photos with members of the public.

Along with other members of Year 10, the Young Producers have also learned about creative methods of activism, including print making, zine making and lyricism. Students listened intently to the guest speakers, spoke passionately about causes that they believed in - trans gender rights, climate change, and education reform - and then used the skills that they had been learning about to create their own artwork.



Year 7: Kelsey (left)

Kelsey has made a fabulous start to the Academy. She has only been in the local area for a short period and has made lots of friends at the Academy already.

Kelsey has worked super hard in her lessons impressing her teachers and has taken part in pretty much every after Academy club going! She has also represented the Academy at basketball, cross country, netball and football so far!

Kelsey plays football outside of the Academy and is part of the Player Development Centre for Norwich City Football Club. Kelsey has played football since she was really young back in Luton.

Kelsey received an amazing report this term and has achieved some exceptional grades in her studies. She is polite, hard working and a real role model for her peers. We look forward to celebrating her successes with her in the future.

Create

in the SPOTLIGHT Principals Award

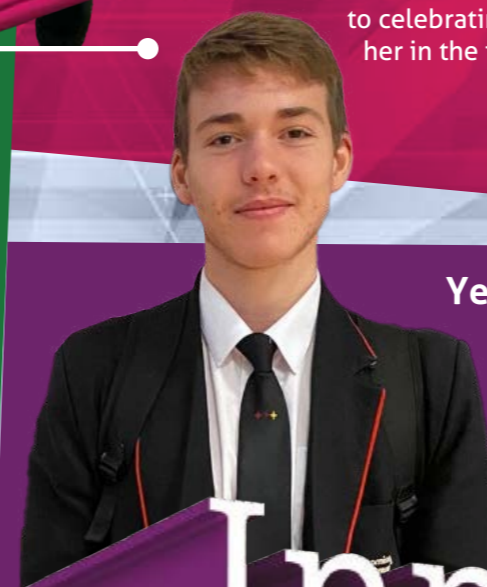
Aspire

Year 10: Cohen

For his amazing work outside of the academy, working in community litter picks around the local area on the Magdalen Estate. During this, he has great conversations with the public, and is showing he is a great ambassador for the community.

Year 9: Courtney

For outstanding work across the Academy, and is a great ambassador of the Venture Way and the Venture Virtues.



Year 10: Harley

Harley has had successful trials for Leicester Tigers Rugby club, this is due to him taking a lead role in coaching, playing and leading in the school rugby team as well has local Lowestoft and Yarmouth rugby club.

Harley had to attend the trial event that was out of 72 athletes, Harley has made this squad down to 48 players. He will now be training with the professional club, and will try to make the final squad of 24.

Innovate

Year 7: Amalie

Amalie is part of the student support helping others as a Venture ambassador. She embodies the Venture way trying her hardest at all times in all subjects.



in the SPOTLIGHT Principals Award



Year 10: Hunter

Hunter is a fantastic role model for younger students the demonstrates a great attitude in lessons and outside of the classroom.

He is also helpful, respectful and has impeccable manners, Create are very proud to have Hunter as part of their college. Hunter also represents rugby teams in and out of the academy.

in the SPOTLIGHT Principals Award



Stars From The East

at the Norwich Playhouse



Students across the Ormiston Academies in the East collaborated to bring a selection of performance pieces to an audience of friends, family and staff.

Our Venture students wowed the crowd with their pieces. The Venture Perform dance troop made up of Mya, Millie, Esme, Steph, Jenna and Isla-Jade dazzled the crowd with their routine to the track "It's Not Christmas Without You." Isla-Jade and William took the stage in a dance duo and warmed the audience's hearts to "Snowman."

We collaborated with students from Ormiston Victory Academy's performance group Victory Facade and created a high energy dance routine to "Oh Santa!".

Lily made her Venture Perform stage debut to sing "Love Is a Compass." Gracie-Mae sparked Christmas memories with "Where Are You Christmas" and Grace made the audience emotional with her soulful rendition of "The Power of Love"

We would like to thank Helen from Ormiston Victory Academy for organising this fabulous event in collaboration with Norwich Theatres.



Year 7 boys' football tournament



The year 7 boys' football squad from Venture competed in the annual OAT East football tournament on Monday 7th November.

The tournament was hosted at the University of East Anglia at the Sports park on the astro turf pitches, and facilitated by the Norwich City Football Club scholars. The scholars who represent NCFC at Under 18 and Under 23 level, are studying for their BTEC in Sport and as part of the course had to organise a tournament for youth players.

Shay led the Venture team brilliantly working with the assigned coach to the team, Ken. The team started brightly, beating Endeavor, but then losing to Victory. The squad reverted to a 3-2-1 formation and beat Flegg in the last round of the qualifying group matches.



Each Ormiston team were given the name of a professional club, with Venture being the German giants Bayern Munich.

Goals from Danny, Luca and Shay saw the team qualify for the main Champions League knockout stages where they narrowly defeated Cliff Park in the semifinal, before losing again to Victory in the final.

Riley was a rock at the back and Will's constant communication really helped give the team their shape. Kaedyn made his debut in goal pulling off some fine saves throughout the tournament.

The boys thoroughly enjoyed their day out and did themselves proud finishing as runners up out of the 12 Ormiston teams that entered the tournament.

Mr McNally commented

"It was great to see the interaction between our year 7s and the NCFC scholars who certainly brought the tournament to life with their enthusiasm and natural competitive instincts. The boys learnt a lot about a winning mentality from the scholars, which will no doubt hold them in good stead for the future"

Year 10 rugby success!

The year 10 boys' rugby squad from Venture travelled to Acle for a match in the County Cup confident of a good result.

The squad had been training weekly with coaches from Lowestoft and Yarmouth rugby club and were keen to put a few of their skills to the test.

The match was the first 15-a-side game many of the squad had ever played, however the last minute coaching from captain Harley helped to settle nerves and solidify a scrum.

Venture started brightly and scored tries through Keegan, and Ronnie. Harley then got in on the act, however the conversion kicking let the side down, as Venture could not add points this way.

Ms Gogar commented,

"It was great to see the things the boys had been working on in training come to fruition and it was pleasing to see us score so many tries."



Year 7 football tournament winners



Year 7 girls football won the UEA Sports Park along with a few Norwich City players attending as well. As you can see, when you win you NEED to celebrate with a TEAM BUNDLE!! Well done to all #Teamventure

