

Venture VOICE

Edition 37: Spring 2023

Stay Safe

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Ormiston
Venture Academy



World Book Day '23



#WeWill

Celebration gathering at Venture

Gresham's 2023

This years scholarship award

Coronation

A 'right-good' royal celebration

MFL & History vists

Students' trip update

Venture Sports

Round-up & Results

**and so
much more!**

Annie

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What's going on at Venture Academy for 2023

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What a community we are a part of.

This will be my 20th year at this school, 10th as Principal and I find it hard not to be proud of the journey as a community we have been on.

Looking back at the many, many successes over the years and the barriers we have faced (heres looking at you lockdown) where we are now is a real achievement. Just looking through the successes

of so many in this issue of the Venture Voice shows a small part of what happens in the academy each and every day.

I know that it is a journey that we will continue. A journey that I and all of the Venture team are committed to. One that working together we can continue to ensure this community goes from strength to strength. Our continued focus on the Venture Virtues of Ambition, Kindness, Neighbourliness. Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and

Teamwork and how these will shape our young people in the future is key. Thank you for your support and know that it is working together that makes it all possible.

I am looking forward to working for our community for the next 20 years and all of the fantastic times it will bring for us all.

Regards
Simon Gilbert-Barnham
- Principal



#WeWillExplore celebration

On Friday 17th March 2023 we hosted the #WeWillExplore celebration award evening at Ormiston Venture Academy.



Over the past year students from Ormiston Herman Academy and Peterhouse Church of England Primary Academy have been involved in the youth social action project which is based around orienteering, geocaching and being out in the outdoor environment.

The pupils have put a considerable amount of time into volunteering both within schools and also in the wider community doing events such as a beach clean at Gorleston Beach and fundraising.

The evening started off with students being presented with the Silver and Gold Murray Awards from Jo Robson, OAT Regional Enrichment and Social Action Coordinator in the East of England. Whilst the awards were being handed out the students were treated to a pizza dinner courtesy of Domino's Pizza's.

After that it was off to the sports hall for a disco, games and some activities that the leaders wanted to put on for one last time. Special shout out to Owen and Max from the Union of Venture students Radio Team who were the DJ's for the event.



Cherelle Gogar, #WeWillExplore lead said, "It was a fantastic event for the students and staff that were involved to come together and celebrate and a nice way to finish up the #WeWill Explore Project for 2023".

#WeWill



All academy leaders including Personalised Learning captains, Venture ambassadors, and the Union of Venture Students were involved in a leadership entrepreneurial day hosted by the Ormiston Families. The day included information about different careers and routes into jobs. All students worked in small groups to discuss and create a business model and presented back to all the students.

Get into Uni' Day



The 'Into university group' came into the Academy to lead introductory higher education sessions for students in years 7-10.



They highlighted pathways into higher education, discussed what students can study and what enrichment they can get involved in whilst there.

Real life examples have brought the possibility of university into consideration for so many students as a result of these sessions. We would like to thank Amy and her team.





GRESHAM'S

ESTD 1555

Riley, 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 2023.

Here, she 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 STEAM education, which opened in 2021. The building, which incorporates Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths education, will be a particular benefit to Riley who aims to study a range of Sciences.

After completing her A levels in Biology, Physics and Chemistry, Riley would like to study Medicine at university and progress to train as a Neurosurgery surgeon. Her desire to make a difference in this field started following the passing of her sister 5 years ago. A focussed and hard-working individual, Riley commented on receiving her place:

"I am so grateful for the opportunity provided to me by Gresham's and Ormiston Venture Academy. I cannot wait to make the most of new opportunities and to help create new pathways to help me realise my dreams and ambitions."

Simon Gilbert-Barnham, Principal said:

"All of us at Venture are proud of Riley gaining the Gresham's Scholarship, she like so many at Venture has high aspirations that I am sure this next step to Gresham's will continue to drive her to succeed".

Dave Richards, Vice Principal said:

"We are so proud of how all of our students engaged in the Gresham's Scholarship process, all of the applicants showed an incredible amount of passion and resilience combined with exceptional oracy skills which shone in their interviews. Our partnership with Gresham's allows all of our students to aim for a unique life changing scholarship opportunity, and although ultimately only one student can be the recipient, between the residential opportunities in year 10 and the scholarship process in year 11, a large number of students have benefited from improved confidence and identifying their goals for future life. I have no doubt that the 2023 Gresham's Scholar, Riley, like those who have come before her will grab this incredible opportunity with both hands and be a brilliant ambassador for the academy and the process that will continue to benefit many more in the future".



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

About Gresham's

- Gresham's is an independent, co-educational day and boarding school for pupils aged 2 to 18. The school is set in 200 acres of beautiful countryside, just four miles from the North Norfolk coast, most of which is designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- In March 2016, the Nursery and Pre-Prep, Prep and Senior School were awarded 'excellent' in all nine categories following an inspection by The Independent Schools Inspectorate. 'Excellent' is the ISI descriptor for the Ofsted term 'outstanding'.
- The school was founded in 1555 by Sir John Gresham who went on to become Lord Mayor of London and forged close ties with the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers. Strong links with the City of London remain today.
- Old Greshamians have achieved great success in many fields and include the composer Benjamin Britten, the poet W H Auden and hovercraft inventor Sir Christopher Cockerell. More recent alumni include Oscar winning actress, Olivia Colman, film director Stephen Frears, international rugby players, Tom and Ben Youngs and inventor, Sir James Dyson.



DE Practice for their expedition

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Year 10 students who have embarked on the Duke of Edinburgh Award practised their hiking, cooking and setting up tent skills last week.



They will attempt the final qualifying expedition which consists of hiking for two days and one night of camping.

To prepare for the main event, the students along with 2 members of staff set out on a practise hike from Ormiston Venture Academy to Gorleston sea front, up the beach and along to Hopton, through the golf course then back through Gorleston to the Academy.

Along the way we struggled to walk through the sand – although the students managed it better than the staff did! We stopped off for a little break and played some games to keep spirits going. We had some lunch on the clifftops in Gorleston along with a Colin the Caterpillar cake to celebrate one of the student's 15th birthday that day!



Once we topped up on some energy with lunch and chocolate cake, we continued our journey back to the Academy. Back at the Academy we headed straight on to the school field.

The students gathered our supply of tents, Trangias, cooking equipment, dry pasta, cheese and ham then began to put the tents up on the field in small groups. The students worked well in teams following the instructions and successfully assembling the tents and ensuring they are sufficiently pegged to the ground.

Following the tent assembly, the students worked within their small teams to safely - with staff supervision, build up the Trangias and use them to boil pasta. The pasta came out a little al-dente, but with grated cheese and ham delicately sprinkled on top, the students devoured them! This was enjoyed by all of the students – and there were no left overs!!

We wish the students the best of luck with their expedition.

If you would like to offer any assistance or find out more about the Duke of Edinburgh Award at Ormiston Venture Academy please contact Miss Lowe at glowe@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk



In honour of our King Charles' III coronation on 6th May 2023 the students decorated the café with bunting and pictures to celebrate. The students chose to spread the joy by giving out treats at lunch time to all.

This included sausage rolls, doughnuts, and cookies, the favourites were the cup cakes decorated with personalised Kings Coronation insignia on them. These treats were gone in seconds and proved very popular. When speaking to students the vast majority said they were going to watch the Coronation on Saturday 6th May.

In line with King Charles' III ambition to help the issues with climate change, the Union of Venture Students have not only started a gardening guild but have also started a new initiative based around recycling and green waste for compost for the garden.

Students have managed to tie this in with the work of the Union of Venture Students are doing in regard to the Eco Schools Green Flag Award. This award is an annual award that the students have chosen to do in honor of King Charles.

Louis (Head Boy)

"It was great fun to celebrate with all the students an event that will make history."

Mr Waters (Assistant Principal)

"A lovely atmosphere for the staff and students focused on joy and celebrating change and a new era for our country."



Year 9 OAA Trip

We took our Year 9s to the Haubouis Activity Centre to give our students the chance to participate in some outdoor adventure activities.

These activities included, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, wall climbing and abseiling. Students from Venture thrived throughout both days showing some important skills and traits such as determination, problem solving, endurance, bravery, along with many more. Students not only impressed with their positive traits which was shown but also with their abilities, quickness to learn new skills and excellent behavior during the trip.

This year's Outdoor Adventure Activities (OAA) trip was run to give students the chance to participate in some outdoor adventure activities due to a new module being added into the Cambridge National Sports Studies specification. The new OAA module, focuses on different areas of outdoor adventure activities including, equipment, clothing, safety aspects of participation, planning for participation, increasing awareness of outdoor adventure activities, and evaluating participation in outdoor adventure activities.

With all students in year 9 being offered the OAA trip and the vast majority having participated, it is the Ventures' belief that these students will have obtained a much better understating of what OAA is which can be applied to their new unit within their sports studies as well as developing important character traits which will hopefully be transferred to students' everyday life.

One student from Venture stated,

"I thoroughly enjoyed the trip as a whole, I really enjoyed the experience of trying new sports that weren't normally accessible to me. I found the kayaking was my favorite part of the day as I enjoyed the chance to play games in the river with everyone in my group." Another said, "I really enjoyed the trip and I had some good laughs with my mates, a highlight for me was watching one of my friends hit into the wall while trying to abseil down the tower."

"It was amazing to see students show us a side of them we had not seen before, with students really impressing as to how quickly they were able to pick up brand new skills and the high levels of bravery and determination which they showed. We hope that students look back at the trip positively and will eventually think of it as one of their highlights during out time with us at Venture." Mr Webb



Venture Perform commands the Videopolis Theatre stage in Disneyland Paris.

40 of our wonderfully talented students successfully auditioned to take part in a professional performance in Disneyland.

After around 7 months of intense rehearsals we put together 5 performance pieces in a range of styles. The performance pieces were created by our student choreographer Isla-Jade alongside Miss Smith in Performing Arts, we selected a range of tracks that reflect the magic of Disney as well as our Venture spirit.

We were so lucky with the students who ventured on this adventure with us as they were all bursting the Venture Values we hold dear. They showed so much patience with us when the travel didn't quite go to plan! And neighbourliness in making new friendships across year groups to make sure everyone had the best time they possibly could. The resilience they showed in times of intense performance pressure was inspirational. All members of staff, including our lovely coach driver Andy, watched the performances and were amazed with the high-quality professional levels of work they produced. As the lights dimmed and the music started, we drew a large crowd of spectators to cheer on Venture Perform.

Prior to our afternoon performance on 1st April 2023 the students took part in workshops with Disney Imagineers in the disciplines of Musical Theatre and Dance. These workshops gave our students an insight into elements of Disney careers and what it is like to perform with these industry professionals.

The musical theatre group learned 'A Friend Like Me' adapted from the Aladdin number that is used within the parks and parades and the dance troop learned 'Stand Out' which is usually performed alongside the character Max on stage in the parks. The students loved this opportunity, and it has sparked some to research careers within character performing.

Within all subjects at Venture, and speaking from a Performing Arts perspective, we encourage our students to take risks and remind them "You must not let anyone define your limits because of where you come from. Your only limit is your soul" – Ratatouille.

Mrs Roper-Cornwell who supports the Creative Arts department in organising all trips said "I work behind the scenes in putting the performances and trips together and I am always aware of how hard the students are working, but seeing it for the first time live on stage at Disney was truly memorable and I will look back on this for many years to come with my heart full of pride for these wonderful students who I have enjoyed working with in their academy career. In the words of Moana I look forward to seeing "how far they'll go."

By offering a trip to Disneyland we help the students realise that sometimes their inner child needs to come out and they need to enjoy the magic,

"That's the real trouble with the world, too many people grow up. They forget." – Walt Disney

Isla-Jade student choreographer wanted to say

"I asked Miss Smith if I could support with developing the choreography for the Disney performances, I enjoyed the opportunity and challenge to be able to choreograph dance numbers for all students with a wide range of dance ability. It was an interesting way of being able to connect with other students and fulfil my role as dance captain. The whole trip experience was one I will never forget, my passion is dance and I hope to work in the industry as soon as possible, and this trip has inspired me to research career opportunities within the Walt Disney Company as it was something I had not considered before learning a routine from the dance captain in our workshop."

We ask all of our students to,

"Venture outside your comfort zone, the rewards are worth it" – Tangled

Miss Smith trip leader and teacher of performing arts said

"Although as a department we run a lot of trips per academic year, this was our first experience organising and running an international trip and I can honestly say it has been one of the most memorable parts of my career at Venture.

It is a running joke among students and Mrs Roper-Cornwell that I cry at everything and seeing our Venture Perform group perform makes me cry every single time. I have to make a note for the Year 11s who attended this trip as they have been a core part of all performances I have had the pleasure of working on and the stage in Disney will be the last time they perform for us as part of Venture.

I look back often on how far they have come since Year 7 and students who never believed in themselves or thought they would ever pick Performing Arts as an option can now add this momentous experience to their CV with pride.

With every trip I run I am always listening out for the students who are talking about never being outside of Norfolk or the buzz of excitement with the plans for the day(s) and in the words of Belle from Beauty and the Beast, I hope our students continue to seek

'Adventure in the great wide somewhere.'

I can talk all day about their talent and quality of their work but without the support of other staff in the building, their friends or support networks at home these events would not happen, so I would like to end with thanks to every single person who helped us bring this to our students, I hope they remember this trip as fondly as I will."

This experience is one we hope to continue offering to our students across the academy over the coming years as it truly was an amazing weekend full of laughter and making magical memories.

"When you wish upon a star, makes no difference who you are. Anything your heart desires will come to you."



Into University

21 year 8 and 9 students from Ormiston Venture Academy travelled to Cambridge to visit the prestigious Trinity College – part of Cambridge University.

As one of the biggest and most traditional of the 31 colleges that make up Cambridge University, students were shown the historical entrances, study areas and dining hall, where the student accommodation was and the chapel. Students were impressed with the range of societies on offer (including fish studies!) and were blown away by the architecture of the buildings.

Students attended as part of a programme exposing youngsters to Higher Education led by a company called IntoUniversity. Amy from IntoUniversity and her team worked with students from year 7 to 10 delivering Higher Education workshops and breaking down barriers to attending university in the future.

The students were able to have a taste of university life taking part in a History and Culture lecture led by Trinity College staff before heading back to Gorleston freshly inspired to go to university.

Assistant Principal Mr McNally commented that:

"The students have seen what one of the most prestigious and competitive universities in the world has to offer and were amazed by the environment. The students were buzzing about starting their university life after this experience!"

Tolhouse Trip

On Tuesday the 21st March, forty of our year 9 students were lucky enough to go to an interactive witch trial at the Tolhouse Gaol in Yarmouth.

This half term year 9 have been studying The Crucible by Arthur Miller and gaining an understanding of how hysteria and paranoia within Salem caused 20 people to be falsely accused of witchcraft and put to death.

On the trip year 9s met a woman falsely accused of witchcraft and found out all about the torturous ordeal that she was put through to extract a false confession. Students were given the chance to experience being in the stocks and finding out about other punishments for those who refused to conform such as the pillary and the ducking stool.



We then met a witchfinder who had been commissioned to seek out evil within Great Yarmouth, we heard all about the signs of witchcraft and students were surprised to find how many of the criteria some of them fit into such as 'having a pet' or 'ever having thrown away sour milk', this gave the students a real understanding of the mass hysteria and false accusations and made them understand that innocent people were often accused on false grounds.

Finally students were asked about real cases of accusations of witchcraft and had to vote on whether that person was a witch or not. The whole experience was made far more illuminating by the fact that we were in a building where real people such as Elizabeth Bradwell were accused and hung for witchcraft, and held in tiny cramped uncomfortable cells often only for the crimes of being poor or a woman.

This message really hit home for the students as one student Daisy said:

"The trip was really interesting, the actors brought The Crucible to life. I enjoyed the different activities such as reading out the accusations and learning about the attributes that made people suspicious and accuse you of being a witch. Although I was smiling, sitting in the stocks made me realise how uncomfortable this would be after a while. I have a much better understanding of the ordeals that the accused went through after this visit and when we revisit reading this play, I will be able to visual it more clearly. Fantastic trip."

Opportunities like this really help bring our texts to life and we would like to thank the brilliant team at the Tolhouse Gaol for such an amazing workshop and opportunity.



"The World Will Remember Us"

Venture Perform explored London on yet another fantastic theatre trip.



This time we went back in time to the 1930s to witness the story of the infamous American duo Bonnie and Clyde (Because "Nothin' rhymes with Clyde and Bonnie"). This musical has taken the West End by storm, for another limited run this year at the Garrick Theatre closing on 20th May 2023.

"So let's raise a little hell." The gripping narrative follows the Barrow gang and their love story as we travel through time and witness people clawing their way to the American Dream. Before driving our way back to 1930s America the students enjoyed some free time exploring Covent Garden.

Miss Smith teacher of Performing Arts and trip lead said,

"From the moment I saw Bonnie and Clyde 'off west-end' at The Arts Theatre last year I was hooked, I have listened to the cast recording non-stop and for some of our keen performers who love to learn new songs I recommended a variety of tracks to learn.

The minute the run at the Garrick was announced I put the plan in motion to take some of our Year 9 and 10 students to see the show for themselves, I pitched it to them as something a little different to what they usually study, something that is not a happy all singing and dancing musical but with more grit and emotion. It is always a gamble taking the students to see different musicals and plays because they are subjective, and not always to everyone's taste.

However, from the moment the interval started the students were buzzing with conversation of how incredible they thought the show was and they themselves were shocked at how much they were enjoying it."

Tiwa a Year 9 Performing Arts student said,

"I really enjoyed the full circle narrative and how it opened with the ending, the projections and staging elements were really intricate and added to the production. My favourite number was 'Raise a Little Hell' because of how the projections moved with Jordan Luke Gage who played Clyde, it made the scene more immersive for the audience."

"Some day they'll go down together, and they'll bury them side by side, to few it'll be grief, to the law a relief, but it's death for Bonnie and Clyde"



Elite Sports Awards Evening

Venture

The PE department at Ormiston Venture Academy celebrated the achievements of the students in sport from the last year at a prestigious invite only event held at Burgh Hall.

Awards for Star Play in numerous different sports preceded the highly regarded awards for 'Future Olympian, Future Leader, Team of the Year, Outstanding Contribution and Venture Spirit Award'.

Over 100 students attended the event which included a buffet and a classic disco to close proceedings, which had Fraia from year 11 as chief DJ.

The main winners were:
Future Olympian - Evie
Future Leader - William
Team of the Year - Year 11 Netball
Outstanding Contribution - Fraia
Venture Spirit Award - Aman

A display of the sports stars across the year from all different year groups looped over the big screen at the front as 18 sports trophies were presented as well as best dressed trophies (which went to Tiwa and Ronnie)

The PE department would like to extend a huge congratulations to all students nominated and especially to the winners of each award, and warmly encourage them to continue with their talents, passions and aspirations for the future in sport.



Year 9 Computer Science Students Visit Bletchley Park Museum

The Computer Science Department at Ormiston Venture Academy took 40 year 9 students to Bletchley Park.

We split into 3 groups to do a carousel of activities around the park. These consisted of a guided tour of some of the key exhibits around the 20-acre site. The tour guides were incredibly knowledgeable, and students found the high level of secrecy surrounding the site intriguing. We also took part in a workshop on cyber security, learning how easy it is for potential hackers to obtain our information and steps we can take to remain safe online. Our free time allowed us to visit the many exhibitions and explore the site, including the huts and the mansion.

We saw how Bletchley Park, a country estate, was secretly chosen to be a wartime base and how GC&CS began urgently preparing to increase its peacetime workforce of around 150 in order to cope with the huge codebreaking task that was coming to over 6000.

Some of the groups watched an incredible and moving cinematic experience exploring Bletchley Park's secret D-Day role. On 6 June 1944, the

largest amphibious landing in history was launched by the Allies. D-Day, codenamed Operation Overlord, saw tens of thousands of Allied troops land along the heavily fortified Normandy coastline.

Students observed the exhibit of Alan Turing, one of the most well-known Codebreakers to have worked at Bletchley Park. For the early part of the war, he was Head of Hut 8, working on decrypting German Naval Enigma messages. In this display, we discovered more about his genius at Bletchley Park, his later work on computing, and his ongoing legacy today.

We saw the largest and most comprehensive display of Enigma machines in the world, we saw different models and learnt how this fiendish cipher machine worked. Enigma machines were used to encode messages before and during World War Two

Lewis Riches, Head of Computer Science and trip lead said, "This is our second year of running this trip and it continues to amaze and intrigue our students. The day was enjoyed by all, with all students really throwing themselves into all of the activities and exhibits. Our focus on this trip is always on the code breaking aspect, the Enigma Machine and Turing Bombe. However, for the students to be able to understand the beginnings of cryptography and how this early and significant work played a vital role, in not only winning the war but in the tasks, we perform daily using the internet. The historical and cross curricular link is really moving and shines a light on the vital role of women during World War II."



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

June 2023

Year 10 Work Experience - Week commencing Monday 26th June
 Year 11 Prom - Thursday 29th June 7pm - 11pm

July 2023

Year 6 Transition Days - Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th July
 Academic Review Day - Thursday 6th July 2.45pm - 7.30pm
 Venture Games - Friday 7th July
 Venture Stars Awards Evening - Thursday 13th July
 Create Show - Monday 17th July 5pm - 7pm
 Summer Disco - Monday 17th July 3.30pm - 5.30pm
 Summer Fete - Wednesday 19th July

July 2023 continued

Last day - Friday - 21st July 12.20pm finish for all students
 Summer Break - Monday 24th July - Tuesday 5th September

August 2023

Summer School - Monday 21st August - Friday 25th August
 Year 11 Results Day - Thursday 24th August 9.30am - 10.30am

September 2023

All students return to the Academy - Wednesday 6th September at 8.25am
 Year 6 Open Evening - Thursday 28th September 5pm - 7pm

Year 11 MFL Paris trip – We can speak French abroad!

We left the Academy by coach at 2:30am with 24 Year 11 students and 4 members of staff. Despite the early hours, the students were extremely excited and enjoyed blasting a speaker with some of their favourite tunes.

There was an incredible feeling in the air as not only had the group not been on an international trip since before Covid, but also many of them had never been abroad. Glenn our driver took over at Folkestone and drove us with excellent time to Dover in order to catch the ferry. A few students exclaimed at seeing the white cliffs of Dover, thinking that they were already in France. The ferry transport was a last-minute change to the itinerary however it was great as it allowed students to walk around outside and survey the views of the channel.

We arrived at the Residence and settled into our rooms. Students were impressed by most of the rooms having balconies as the way in France. They were curious about the Residence since it was ran also as a primary school. Again, more surprise as all the children carried little suitcases; there was not one child without a bag! Y11 were amazed by the different structure to Venture; the children had Wednesdays off and their school days would finish at 5pm.



In the evening on the first day, Mrs Waring, Mr Malcolm and Miss Tungatt lead groups to explore the French village nearby, where several year 11's bought some typical pastries and enjoyed surveying French cuisine. Mrs Waring took the liberty of getting Y11 to translate as many shops and signs as possible into English.

After a traditional French dinner of cordon bleu cheese and ham kiev's and vegetables, students relaxed in the lounge where they could play card games and listen to music.

On the second day, we left early to get to Disneyland as soon as it opened. Mrs Waring split the students into groups with designated supervisors for the day and off we went on the rides which included Space Mountain, Big Thunder Mountain Avengers Assemble, Crush's Coaster and everyone's' least favourite Tower of Terror!

After a fast-paced morning of walking and going on rides; we had delicious subway equivalent sandwiches and crisps for lunch. While we were there, there was an amazing Disney parade with all the characters waving and saying hello. Disneyland radiated a heart-warming atmosphere of "happy land."

In the evening, students spent the remaining part shopping for souvenirs in the lego and Disney shops as well as going on a few rides for the second or third time. We stayed for the beautiful light and firework show in the evening, which was magnificent. As we left for the coach; we all saw Mickey Mouse waving goodbye which was a wonderful end to the day.



The third day was spent in the centre of Paris; we checked out of the residence and drove by coach to the bateaux mouches on the Seine river. By now, Y11 were acquainted with boats so they thoroughly enjoyed the tour and taking photos of the landmarks such as Eiffel Tower, La Louvre and Notre Dame cathedral. In their French curriculum, they had previously learnt about several landmarks in Paris and were curious about the fire in the cathedral a few years ago.

In the afternoon we walked to the parc de Luxemborg where we had our packed lunches and afterwards, we did a little shopping in the centre commercial for our friends and family back home. We then went to the Tour de Montparnasse where we took the lift up the 59 floors in order to view the beautiful views of all of Paris.

We all hurried to the coach where Glenn was waiting in order to catch the ferry home. There were many sleepyheads on the return journey.

Overall, it was a fantastic experience and many of the students were able to put their language skills to good use!

Students donned red in support of Comic Relief on Red Nose Day at Ormiston Venture Academy.

Students raised over £400 wearing non uniform, telling jokes, taking part in a penalty shootout and spectating or participating in a charity basketball match.

Mr Malcolm wore his keeper gloves at lunch time and dived about in a slippery goal to save shots from a long line of strikers. Mr Akers led the scoring charts in the charity basketball game, although year 10's Will and Ethan were exceptional.

A whole week of College Collectives highlighted BBC Radio One's Arielle cycling and DJ'ing around 5 northern cities raising awareness of the work of the charity tackling poverty in the UK and abroad. It also gave the opportunity to highlight bike safety (wearing a helmet, bright colours, lights and ensuring students' bikes are in good working order) as Arielle had to battle against wintery conditions and fatigue.

Mr McNally commented that:

"The way the Academy supports these large scale national charitable events shows students the value of volunteering and giving to the needy even in these difficult times for many families. We are very lucky to work with such a generous community."



Venture to Rome, they said...



9 members of staff and 73 students headed to Italy.

Day one – We travelled through the night to catch a very early flight at Heathrow airport. We arrived at Fiumicino Airport early morning, dropped our bags and headed for the Colosseum to look at the large amphitheatre that hosted events like gladiatorial games.

We then headed through the beautiful streets of Rome and onto the Pantheon. The Pantheon is famous for being the most preserved monument of ancient Rome. It was constructed as a temple dedicated to the Gods and became the burial ground for several important people including famous artists and kings.

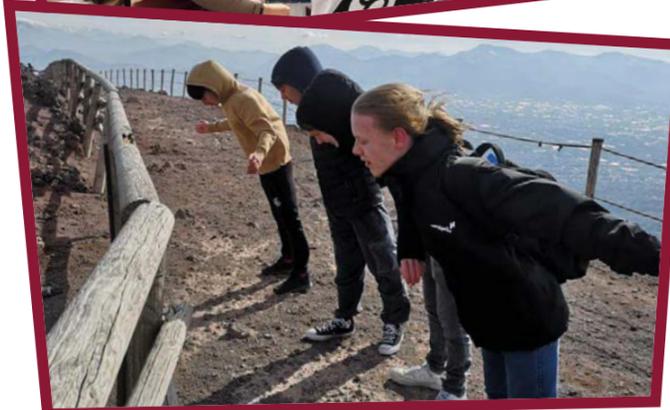
We then made our way to the Trevi fountain, one of Rome's greatest attraction, it's famous for its intricate artwork decorated in the Baroque style.



Day 2

On day two we went to the Vatican City, the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church. On the way we stopped at various places of interest and a fantastic viewpoint looking over the city of Rome.

We then went onto the Spanish steps, the longest and widest steps in Europe surrounded by beautiful fountains, restaurants and designer shops. After a delicious lunch we went back to the hotel, collected our bags and headed for Sorrento.



Day 3

On day three we climbed the awesome Mount Vesuvius. It is the only volcano on Europe's mainland to have erupted in the last hundred years. We then made our way down to Pompeii. The city of Pompeii was destroyed in 79 CE when Mount Vesuvius, erupted, covering it in at least 19 feet (6 metres) of ash and other volcanic debris. The city's quick burial preserved it for centuries before its ruins were discovered in the late 16th century.

In the evening we all went for a walk around the beautiful town of Sorrento. Sorrento is known for its citrus fruits and abundance of lemons. As you wander through the town, you can see small lemon groves and trees hidden among the buildings. Locals continue to cultivate the fruit as part of their culture and of course to make Sorrento's most famous export – limoncello liqueur.



"We had such a fantastic time this year visiting Italy. It is always a privilege to take our students on such an amazing trip. The five days were jammed packed with Italian history, geography and culture. We visited some unbelievably beautiful places that hopefully the students will remember forever." - Mrs Mallory



Day 4

On day 4 we began our tour of the Amalfi coast. The Amalfi Coast is famous for its pretty seaside towns, cliffs, and beaches. It's known for its attractive coastline and villages with steep and narrow streets. We stopped in Positano and Ravello for lunch and some unbelievable desserts.

Day 5

On day 5 we visited Herculaneum. Herculaneum was an ancient town, located in the modern-day commune of Ercolano, Campania, Italy. Herculaneum was buried under volcanic ash and pumice in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79. After an amazing 5 days, we headed to Naples airport and began our journey home.

"It was amazing to be given this opportunity to see some beautiful landmarks, like the Colosseum, the Pantheon and to climb Mount Vesuvius and visit Pompeii. My favourite part of the trip was touring the Amalfi coast and walking around the beautiful town of Sorrento. I loved the amazing views, quaint villages and tasting some delicious gelato. Thank you to all the teachers for an amazing time especially Mrs Mallory for organising such a special trip."

- Emily Year 11.

FLIPPIN Pancake

This years pancake flipping contest happened outside on the playground as a college clash event so all students could either join in or cheer on their team mates.

Kai from Innovate was the overall winner with 39 flips in 30 seconds, making Innovate the pancake flipping champions. This was closely followed by Bailey in Aspire with 33, Henry in Achieve with 30 and Lauren in create with 24.

All student had great fun trying to beat each other and also eating the pancakes afterwards.

A special mention goes to Mr Doggett, Assistant Principal for Achieve who flipped a very impressive 45 pancakes in 30 seconds beating Mr GB by 4!

Kai the winner said

"I'm really glad I won for Innovate and it was a bit of fun. The best bit was eating the pancake!"



Students and staff came together once more to bring you a rendition of the classic story 'Annie'.

The show ran over 3 nights and one afternoon matinee to local primary schools and included over 50 students on stage and back stage.

Following an intensive rehearsal process in the summer term 2022 we cast some of our wonderfully talented students in the many roles Annie Jr has to offer. Student dance captains contributed to the rehearsal process and led some sections of choreography. Without the hard work and dedication from our students we would not be able to produce such incredible productions.

Our principal cast members included a variety of students, some in year 8 taking the stage with us for the first time and others in Year 11 taking their final bow on the Venture stage. These include: Taylor as Annie, Tiwalade as Miss Hannigan, Grace as Grace, Stephen as Oliver Warbucks, Michael as Rooster, Jessica as Lily,

Daisy as Molly, Lily as Kate, Annabelle as Pepper, Lacy as July and Alanna as Duffy.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff volunteers and members of the site team who contributed to the rehearsal process and performance evenings, we had a well oiled machine of helpers supporting the students through. Mrs Roper-Cornwell in particular needs a standing ovation for all of the hours of hard work she puts in behind the scenes to ensure we achieve our licence, costume orders and have sound on the night!

Watch this space for the 2024 musical announcement, it is going to be epic!

Miss Smith, Director and Teacher of Performing Arts commented:

"I was delighted when Mr Gilbert-Barnham gave us the green light for a 2023 Jr production.

The students worked unbelievably hard on Beauty and the Beast 2022 and I was desperate to give them a chance to shine on stage again.

They gave up days in their half term and countless hours after school to bring this production to life and they definitely feel like they have had 'the hard knock life' this half term!

The young people at this academy are superbly talented performers and I am proud to say I have worked with them on multiple trips, workshops, performances and productions!"

Annie

"You're never dressed without a smile"

World Book Day '23

Ormiston Venture Academy's World Book Day was a resounding success – with so many of its students dressing up for the occasion.

At Ormiston Venture Academy, it's not World Book Day for just one day only – it runs all week through the strategic design of a comprehensive programme of activities that aims to get even more students to fall in love with reading. Some of these activities included students designing their own personal bookmarks, matching classic quotations to famous characters and the most 'a-peeling' of all: 'Design your own Spud!' Students used a mystical bag of creative items which included feathers, sequins, pipe-cleaners and glitter to rise to the challenge of turning their potato into a believable book character.

The list of characters that we saw taking their lessons on the main day were endless across both staff and students but just to mention a few, we saw: The Wizard of Oz's very own scarecrow with straw and all, Cruella

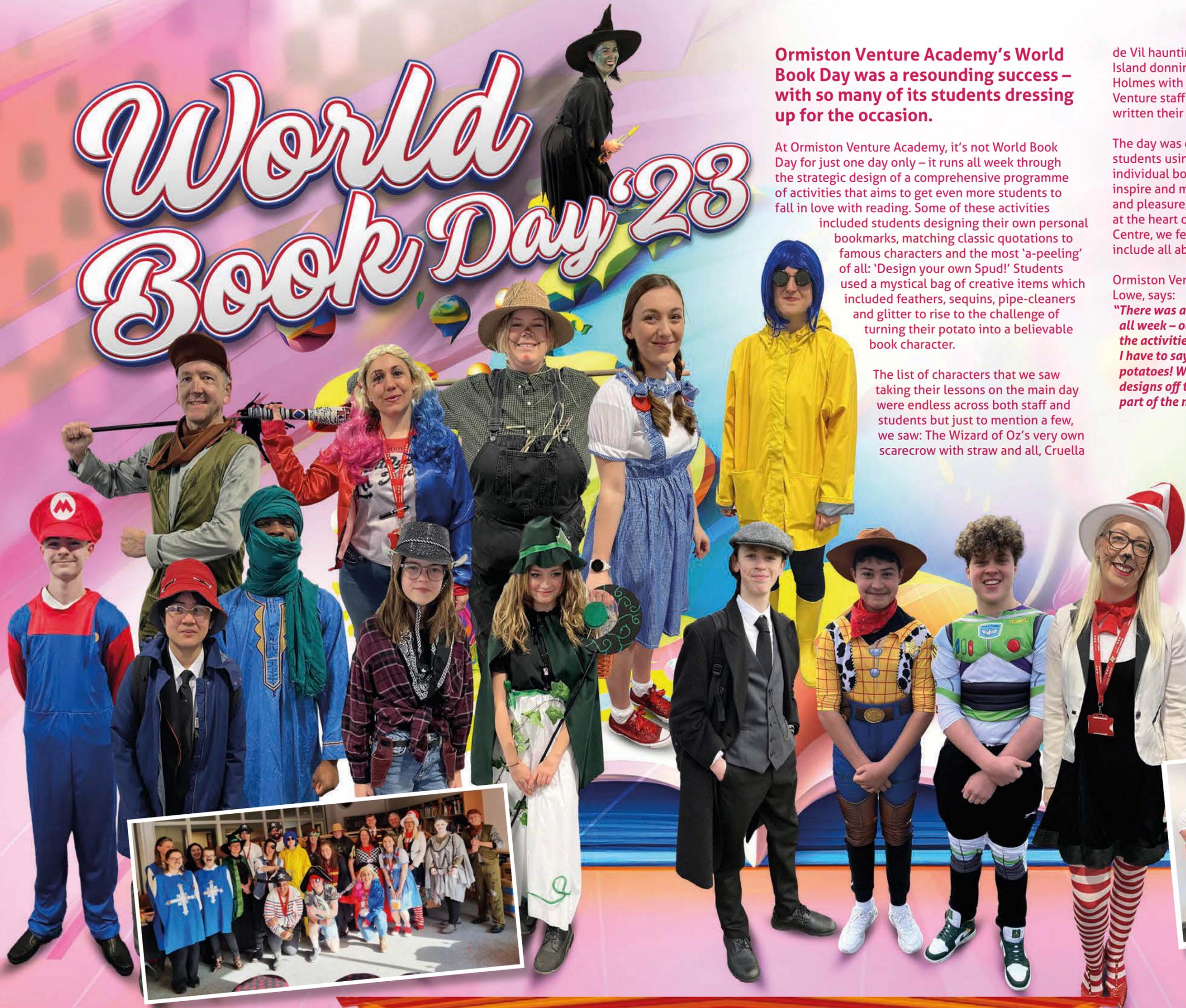
de Vil haunting the corridors, the pirates of Treasure Island donning peg legs and eye patches, and Sherlock Holmes with his full-length trench coat. One of the Venture staff even dressed up as a student who had written their own book in support of her talents!

The day was of course rounded off by Ormiston Venture students using their book tokens to receive their individual books to take home with them. We strive to inspire and motivate every student to read for purpose and pleasure, and with our main events taking place at the heart of the academy in our Learning Resource Centre, we feel that together we really were able to include all abilities of students in reading in some way.

Ormiston Venture Academy's Library Manager, Gemma Lowe, says: *"There was a real high energy buzz around the academy all week – our students get incredibly excited about the activities that we provide around reading, but I have to say, the real highlight has got to be the potatoes! We will be sending our students' spud designs off to the wider Ormiston Academies Trust as part of the national competition and we hope to win!"*

Ormiston Venture Academy's Principal, Simon Gilbert-Barnham, says:

"We know that reading is an integral part of students' personal development and future success and today is just another part of the jigsaw that fits neatly into our vision of supporting all of our students to achieve the ambitions that they so desire."



in the SPOTLIGHT



Achieve

Ezmae - Year 8

Ezmae always shows excellent effort and attitude in the academy, she is always happy to help others and really is a credit to the Achieve college.

Ezmae takes part in the academy girls' football on Fridays and also outside of the academy she plays for U13's Gorleston Diamonds FC and has done for about 4 years.

At present we are in a time where young ladies and woman all over the world are coming forward and making history in sports and hopefully, we will have our own future star!



Aspire

Evie - Year 7

Evie has recently finished an exciting year of football, as she has represented and played for the Norwich City PDC and Gorleston FC.

A highlight of her year in football, was a tournament, hosted by Watford FC, where she competed against the likes of Chelsea FC, Newcastle United and Liverpool FC.

Evie captained a side that reached the final.



Create

Miabella - Year 8

Miabella, a keen baker and chef from Create represented Venture in the regional Ormiston Academies Trust bake off competition.

Miabella also does cook at home and is keen to learn more and refine her skills in the future, but she does like to bake the most!

Miabella won Venture's internal competition with an amazing brain themed cake oozing with icing and cream back in October.

Now Miabella is considering a career in the industry – so watch this space we may have a future Great British Bake Off champion in our midst.



Innovate

Amalie - Year 7

Amalie is a fantastic student competing in every sports club and academic club time will allow for.

She embodies the Venture way by always trying her best, showing resilience when she needs and is humble when succeeds.

Recently Amalie has won multiple medals for competing in local gymnastics competitions.

Her dedication is unrivalled as she trains all hours under the sun and earns every award she receives.

[OAT] Bake Off!

Ormiston Academies Trust

Miabella from Create represented Venture in the regional Ormiston Academies Trust Bake Off competition.

Miabella had won the Academy's internal competition with an amazing brain themed cake oozing with icing and cream back in October.

Miabella then had to travel to Ormiston Denes Academy in Lowestoft with Miss Vincent as part of the next stage of the competition and was tasked with baking a classic Swiss Roll from scratch in unfamiliar conditions and under time limits.

Miabella put her own spin on the design (with the advice of Mr Stevenson, the Catering teacher from Venture) and went for a chocolate filling (well, it was nearly Easter after all!!!) and a more complicated sponge recipe.

The results were fantastic with a truly wonderful bake being presented. The judges were blown away by the skill and independence Miabella demonstrated and awarded her first place! A remarkable achievement especially as she had never made a Swiss Roll before.

Miss Vincent could not believe how calm Miabella was under pressure and how she coped in new surroundings so seamlessly.



Year 10 mixed elite netball against Victory Academy

Boys-v-Girls netball - Due to the impact and legacy of covid there have been less fixtures for the students so as a bit of fun the boys challenged the girls to a one off netball fixture.

We have had three boys train regularly with the girls and the boys have been participating in Netball during curriculum time so fancied their chances, and they were right to be confident!

A dominant performance based on speed of pass, strength and power and some expert shooting the boys won 12-0 over all.



Year 8 Basketball

Year 8 Basketball team played against Wymondham High and Ormiston Victory Academy. Venture came in third place. It was tough competition for the team who work extremely hard to compete to the fast pace of both teams. Some fantastic play from the team and well done all.



Year 9 & Year 10 Basketball

Year 9/10 Basketball 3 v 3 Tournament at East Norfolk Sixth Form College William. (Captain), Ethan, Uche and Callum played against Caister Academy winning 17- 7!

The Basketball development and training sessions for the students, were hosted by Great Yarmouth Basketball Club at East Norfolk Sixth Form. Each training session was intense but proving very useful or improving our players' skills.

This was then followed by a two match 3 v 3 tournament which saw our team dominate Caister Academy in both games!

Well done to the teams.



Venture Athletics

The year 10 athletics squad kick started the athletics season at Wellesley by winning the teatime competition.

Squad: Sam, Callum, Taylor, Connor, Ethan, Che, Tyler, Sienna, Tiarna, Winter, Holly, Alanna, Neave, Tegan, Rose, Caylaand Maisie.

Team manager Mr McNally commented:

"The whole squad pulled together and supported each other magnificently which was evident in the relays in particular. Let's hope they continue to train hard for the full day event in June".

Consistent top 3 finishes in pretty much all events secured the win for the team, although Alanna, Tiarna, Che, Ethan (twice), Tegan and Sienna all won their events!

The finale saw the girls' relay team bring home the baton in first place and ensure Venture won by the narrowest of margins. The whole squad were ecstatic especially after last year!

Y9 squad - Winners by 8½ points.

The Y9 tea time squad continued where the Y10s left off but in even more emphatic style winning by 8½ points.

Stand out athletes Ruby, Ronnie and Alfe all won multiple gold medals.

The Y9 squad have trained extremely hard and this will only get better when the squad grows for the main Wellesley competition.



Year 8 squad

On a cold and windy night at the Wellesley the Y8 squad did Venture proud achieving 4th place.

Unfortunately there were some students who were injured or couldn't make the fixture so there were some last minute stand ins and swaps, so a huge thank you to everyone who competed. We are confident that the main Wellesley date with a full squad the team will be back even stronger.

Year 7 squad

Year 7 squad did extremely well, achieving joint 2nd. This was a great achievement due to the fact that this was a new experience for the vast majority of students. All of the students gave it their best and did extremely well, whilst managing to also enjoy the sunshine. The main day event for the Wellesley Athletics sees the year 7 squad and more students join together with year 8, 9 and 10 squads to become 'Team Venture' and compete as one squad. This is a great way to finish the Teatime schedule at the Wellesley!

