

# Venture VOICE

Stay  
Safe

Edition 38: Summer 2023

Achieve  
Aspire  
Create  
Innovate



## Prom 23 SUMMER Fete



## Results Day '23



**Year 10 D of E**  
A Transformative Journey

**The OAKS**  
Trainee Teachers Success

**Gresham's**  
Year 10 Residential

**Prom '23**  
A Night to Remember

**P.E Camp**  
Whittleingham Broad Campsite

**and so  
much more!**



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

## TRAIN TO TEACH



# The OAKS Norfolk

Contact email address – [oaksnorfolk@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk](mailto: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.



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## Welcome back & WOW!



It is always fantastic to read through the many wonderful achievements in this issue of the Venture Voice.

Exceptional, brilliant and inspirational are all words I would use to describe our students and our community.

With the new academic year comes some changes to our day... a slightly later finish of 2.55pm.

There are really exciting plans in place to make maximum use of this time through our Read Aloud programme, CASH (Cultural,

Aspirational, Spiritual and Health) personal development curriculum and the wide range of opportunities in our enrichment programme.

All areas that will support our students develop into the fantastic young people they will enter the wider world as it is. Enough to say that we are looking forward to an exciting year ahead in

which our students can continue to shine and we continue to ensure they have access to the very best education and experiences at Venture.

Regards

*Simon Gilbert-Barnham*  
- Principal

## A note from the governors

*On behalf of the local governing body I would like to welcome all new students and staff to Ormiston Venture Academy.*

You are joining an academy that is committed to helping you to be happy and successful here and which will make sure that your voice is heard. The governors come from all sorts of backgrounds but they share one aim, which is to make sure that everyone is valued equally, and that they each have the maximum support in order to succeed, whatever their previous background or achievements.

We have watched the academy in action over the last few years since the pandemic and have been in awe of the hard work and determination of staff and students alike as they coped with new challenges.

We watched as the latest year eleven group buckled down to their studies despite previous disruption in earlier years and

present challenges, and we congratulate them on their achievements inside and outside the classroom. They have developed into intelligent and sensitive young adults and we wish them continued success as they move on to the next stage of their education. They will always remain part of Venture!

Our thanks and congratulations go to all staff who worked with such determined optimism to support their achievements here. They have given one hundred percent and more. And now, everyone looks forward to a new school year with its new challenges and opportunities, which will lead to further success.

We are proud to be associated with such an exciting learning community and will watch and support yet further developments and successes with pride.



*We wish you well!*

# CASH Week

CASH week takes place annually during Year 10 Work Experience week in the summer term.

It offers students the opportunity to explore aspects of our Community, Ambition, Spirituality and Health curriculum (CASH). During this week, regular timetabled lessons are collapsed and students experience carousels of activities, talks from outside agencies and visits to places of interest. This week forms part of the statutory PSHE curriculum (Personal, Social, Health and Economic education).

Like CASH lessons on Wednesday afternoons with PL Tutors, it is a whole week when we investigate and ask and answer interesting questions, get involved in debates and discuss ideas. Our Venture values include; 'Enable students to be well prepared to respect others as 21st Century global citizens in Britain and beyond.' This is the mantra for CASH week and stitches the activities, visitors and experiences together.

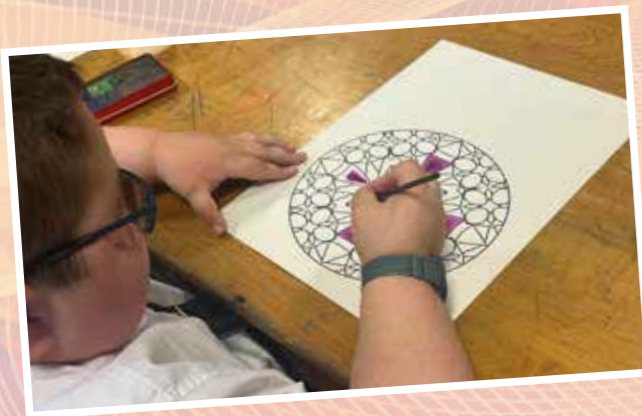
**The three year groups each had a theme for the week;**

**Year 7-Identity**

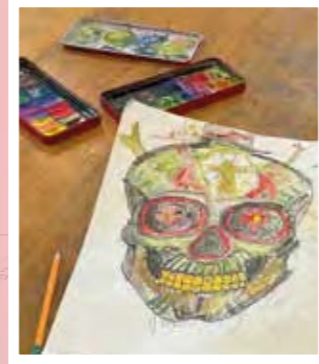
**Year 8-Justice**

**Year 9-Relationships**

Year 7 focused on the theme of identity and this included looking into Christianity, how we treat others-including a session named 'Bullying or Banter?', democracy, British Values and also included a 'Create Day', where students worked with one member of the Create faculty and baked, composed music, painted, made items in textiles and explored photographic techniques.



Year 8 focussed on justice. This include sessions of poverty, crime and drugs & alcohol. Year 8 also explored aspects of Christianity and had their own Create Day. Visitors included the Matthew Project who presented workshops throughout the day on the dangers of drugs and alcohol.



Year 9 focussed on relationships. As well as a day that concentrated on Religion and morality, Year 9 had workshops that included healthy relationships, the media, online relationships, awareness of different types of grooming and Relationship and Sex education (RSE)-including consent and finally relationships with money. Visitors included Norfolk Safer Police who presented workshops on Healthy Relationships and Grooming and the gambling charity Gamcare, who talked to students about the dangers of online gambling and the harm it poses.

One staff member said,

**"Students seemed to enjoy the Gamcare talk. It really showed them the dangers of how a gambling addiction can spiral and ruin someone's life."**

Spencer Doggett, who is lead for PSHE commented,

**"CASH week provides an annual opportunity for our students to explore topics and themes they discuss in their Wednesday afternoon CASH lessons on topics that may not be addressed in regular time-tabled lessons. It's particularly great to be able to invite outside visitors who are experts in their fields. It gives students real-life examples in terms of policing issues within the community, drugs and alcohol, the LGBTQ+ community, gambling and charitable trusts. The week really does complement the curriculum in a positive way."**

The Create Show 2023 at Ormiston Venture Academy showcased a remarkable display of talent and creativity from the students of Create over the course of the academic year.

## Create Show '23



The exhibition left visitors in awe as they witnessed stunning artwork and photography masterpieces adorning the corridors, a testament to the students' dedication and skill.

The event was a delightful experience for everyone in attendance, with soloists delivering pitch-perfect performances that captivated parents, staff, and fellow students. The tantalizing canapés served by students added to the enjoyment of the evening. As visitors explored the Create corridor, they were astounded by the exceptional quality of the Textiles pieces on display. Notably, the event welcomed back numerous Venture alumni students who were eager to see the incredible work on exhibit.

The music room came alive with the vibrant energy of the band, showcasing their impressive skills and creating an electrifying atmosphere. The dancers, too, left their audience spellbound with their mesmerizing performances. A particular highlight of the evening was the return of Daisy Abbots-Freeman, who took a break from her studies in Colchester to grace the stage with her captivating talent.

Anna Mallory, Head of the Create Faculty, expressed her astonishment at the exceptional quality of work in all areas, praising the students and staff for their outstanding efforts. The dedication and commitment demonstrated by both students and teachers were evident in the remarkable creations showcased throughout the exhibition.

Mr. McNally, Assistant Principal of the Create College, took the opportunity to acknowledge and commend the hard work of the teachers and support staff in Create, singling out Mr. Stevenson and Mrs. Roper-Cornwell. He emphasized that their contributions were vital to the success of the evening, underscoring their invaluable role in fostering and nurturing the students' talents.

The Create Show 2023 at Ormiston Venture Academy was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended. The event not only showcased the incredible achievements of the students but also highlighted the importance of a supportive and nurturing environment in unlocking their creative potential. As the exhibition drew to a close, it was clear

that the future holds great promise for the talented individuals who are part of the Create programme at Ormiston Venture Academy.

## Rockin' it!



# A Transformative Journey for Year 10 Students



**Friday the 16th of June marked an important milestone for a group of Year 10 students as they embarked on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition.**

This highly anticipated adventure would prove to be a transformative experience, allowing the students to develop crucial life skills, foster independence, and cultivate resilience. Accompanied by dedicated staff members, the students set out on a challenging two-day journey that would test their physical and mental limits.



The group, consisting of Liam, Louis, Edward, Emiliya, Ruby, Anneka, George, Olivia, Tegan, Ei-Coe, Joe, and Joshua, assembled at Venture early in the morning on Friday, eager and ready to tackle the adventure that lay ahead. Three staff members, Gemma, Will, and Agnes, provided guidance and support throughout the expedition. With their 65-litre backpacks packed and spirits high, the students bid farewell to their familiar surroundings and set off into the unknown.

Their destination was the picturesque area of Baconsthorpe, a place known for its scenic beauty and diverse terrain. The students would spend a minimum of six hours hiking each day, allowing them to immerse themselves in the natural splendour of the surroundings. The first day alone saw them conquer an impressive 43,665 steps, equivalent to approximately 9 miles, while the second day covered another 29,040 steps. This physical feat showcased their determination

and perseverance in the face of challenges.

Divided into two groups, with six students in each, the young adventurers worked together to fulfil a team goal or aim. These aims, set as part of the 20 expedition conditions, required them to pool their resources, communicate effectively, and collaborate to overcome obstacles. This aspect of the expedition emphasised the value of teamwork and problem-solving, skills that are essential for success in various career aspects of life.

Carrying everything they needed in their backpacks, the students faced additional challenges posed by the scorching weather. However, they persevered, demonstrating their resilience and commitment to completing the expedition.

It is important to note that while the students had



their phones with them, these devices were sealed and off-limits unless they faced an emergency. This restriction allowed the students to disconnect from the distractions of the digital world and fully immerse themselves in the present moment and the challenges that awaited them. By doing so, they learned to rely on their own resourcefulness and discovered the power of human connection.

The Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition is not merely a physical feat; it offers students an opportunity for personal growth and self-discovery.

As the students traversed the picturesque landscapes, they confronted their own limitations, pushed beyond their comfort zones, and emerged with a deep sense of accomplishment. Through overcoming physical challenges, they gained a renewed sense of confidence and an appreciation for the beauty of the outdoors.



Moreover, the expedition fostered the development of crucial life skills. The students learned effective communication, adaptability, and problem-solving as they navigated through unfamiliar environments. These skills will undoubtedly prove invaluable in their future endeavours, enabling them to face new challenges with resilience and determination.

The Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition empowers young individuals to embrace a spirit of adventure and cultivate a lifelong appreciation for the outdoors by engaging with nature and stepping outside their comfort zones



## Photography Day

*For the Create Day during Collapsed Timetable week photography students were tasked with creating a photo joiner of the Academy building in the style of British artist & photographer David Hockney to be used on the front covers for the upcoming Venture Voice and Venture Vitals.*

Students began the day learning what a photo joiner is. Being shown examples of David Hockney's work and how to take a series of photographs from different viewpoints and angles to be used in a photo joiner. Photos were uploaded to computers and opened up in Photoshop where students were taught how to copy and paste them into a new file and using the selection and image adjustment tools to move, resize and rotate their photographs to join them together to create one larger photograph made up of a series of smaller photographs.

At the end of the day Mr Gilbert-Barnham came to judge who had created the most interesting photo joiners. After much deliberation, (because the standard and quality from every student was high) he finally chose Emma from Create 8B and Mark from Innovate 8B as the overall winners.



# Exploring Coastal Management through Fieldwork

Venture Academy, recently undertook an extensive fieldwork project with their Year 10 students.



The focus of their study was the GCSE Geography Fieldwork, where they delved into the impacts of coastal management in their local area, specifically Gorleston and Hopton beaches. These young learners displayed remarkable dedication and enthusiasm while employing various fieldwork techniques to compare and contrast the coastal management strategies implemented in the two locations.

The fieldwork project provided an excellent opportunity for the students to apply their theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios. They were encouraged to explore the coastal environment, collect data, and analyse the impacts of different management strategies. Throughout the project, the students showcased their independence, teamwork skills, and effective collaboration. The students demonstrated an unwavering willingness to participate actively, showcasing their dedication to the subject matter.



The primary objective of the fieldwork was to compare and contrast the impacts of coastal management techniques employed at Gorleston and Hopton beaches. Through careful observation and data collection, the students were able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the management strategies in each location.

As the project came to a close, the students emerged with a deeper understanding of coastal management and its impacts. They learned to appreciate the complexity of balancing human needs with environmental preservation. The fieldwork project not only enhanced their geographical knowledge but also fostered important skills such as critical thinking, data analysis, and effective communication.

The fieldwork project on coastal management has not only empowered their students but also contributed to the larger goal of developing environmentally conscious and informed individuals. As these young learners continue to grow, they will undoubtedly play a crucial role in shaping a sustainable future for our coastal areas and beyond by appreciating the balance required between human needs and physical processes.

Matthew Sutton, Head of Geography commented,

*"The students embraced the opportunity to be geographers whilst appreciating the geography of our local area"*



The OAKS Norfolk

## Trainee Teachers soar to success

It's been another incredibly successful year for The OAKS Norfolk Teacher Training Hub based here at Ormiston Venture Academy.

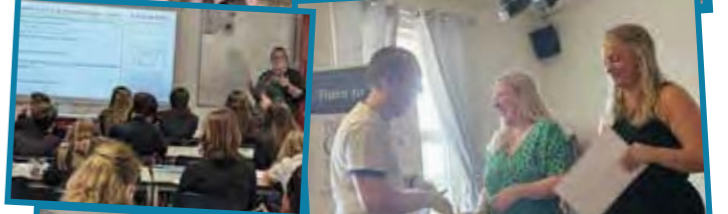
At Venture, we are lucky enough to be able to offer prospective teachers the chance to train with us here at the academy - we offer school-based training in-house with the ability to draw on the range of expertise from across OAT and within our partnership schools.

Our cohort this year have all successfully gained qualified teacher status (QTS) as well as having completed their PGCE theory element of the course with flying colours - all trainees have therefore secured employment within our local Norfolk schools for September.

"It's a pleasure to know that these talented educators now have the opportunity to work within our local communities; their depth of understanding surrounding their individual subject areas and their mission to engage, enthuse and better the lives of the students they work with is inspirational," says Director of The OAKS Norfolk, Amy Smith.

Our trainee teachers celebrated recently as they each received their certificates at their graduation ceremony, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements.

Do you think you might know someone who has the potential to become an educator? Or perhaps you're thinking about going into teaching in the near future? You could qualify for a scholarship or bursary of up to £27,000 depending on your degree subject.



### Diary Dates

- October 2023**
- Friday 20th Oct - Students break for half term 2.55pm
- Monday 30th Oct - Students return to the academy 8:25am
- November 2023**
- Friday 24th November - Staff training day
- December 2023**
- Thursday 14th December - Year 11 Parents Evening
- Wednesday 20th December - Students break for Christmas half term at 12.20pm

### What's coming up at Venture Academy...

- January 2024**
- Wednesday 3rd January - Staff Training day
- Thursday 4th January - Students return to the academy 8.25am
- February 2024**
- Thursday 1st February - Year 7 & 8 Parents Evening 3pm - 8pm
- Tuesday 15th February to Thursday 15th February - Academy Production of: *Home*



# SUMMER Fete

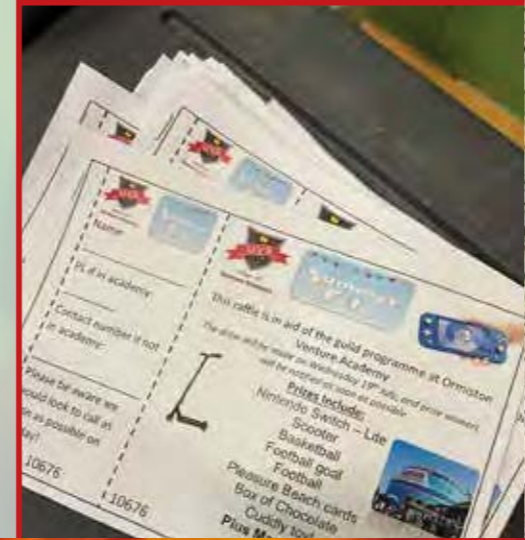
Mr Waters who leads the UVS commented:

**"It was fantastic to see our students, generate so much interest and high quality games and stalls for the Venture Summer Fayre. It was a lovely celebration of such a fantastic year, showcasing the amazing spirit of our Academy."**

**The Summer fete 2023 at Ormiston Venture Academy proved a great success with glorious prizes (if not weather) from the raffle presented to beaming winners.**

Ice creams, lollies and burgers kept hunger at bay as every PL group ran stalls feeding and keeping students entertained. The penalty shootout competition and the throwing wet sponges stalls drew crowds out into the rain, although the tombola and temporary tattoos proved most popular.

The Venture Vibe radio presenters kept the crowd entertained whilst musicians, netball shooting and target games raised the competition bar. Raffle prizes included a brand-new Nintendo Switch, a scooter and Pleasure Beach gift cards.



# GRESHAM'S Year 10 Residential

ESTD 1555

**Day 1:** Today four of our year 10 venture students started their residential at Gresham's school. Although nerves were initially running high, they quickly integrated extremely well into their new environment and with the other students of the school.

Tiarna was quickly enamoured with the different subjects she was learning, 'I was immediately interested and intrigued when I saw that I had both lessons on Latin and Mandarin as well the length of the lesson's themselves'. While the others were caught off guard with the options of food they were given at both lunch and dinner.

To finalise the day while the other students were having their prep time, they were given the opportunity to take a walk around the forest surrounding the grounds with one of the house dogs! This gave them a great opportunity to get a sense of the grounds and the other activities that occur there.

Finally, after dinner they settled into their boarding houses to get an insight into what life is like boarding at Gresham's ready for their next day of lessons and an afternoon of sport!

**Day 2:** After a well-earned sleep Michael, Tiarna, Katie and Annie were able to have breakfast with the rest of the Gresham's students. Outside of this the students were great fans of the houses being so close.

The morning started off relatively the same as any other day for the students with lessons until a roast at lunch which went down a treat! After lunch the day completely shifted to a day full of sports with some students competing against other schools.

While the girls partook in tennis and Michael partaking in athletics the real interest came after with nearly all the Gresham's students and Venture students coming together to watch the games of cricket and tennis against other schools. Michael claimed, 'there was a real sense of school spirit and it's nice being able to be out of a normal school day to watch the other students compete.'

Finally, during prep time, the students were able to take a walk through Holt to see the sights there and even potentially the village they could be living in when they get to college! Before finally settling into some much-needed downtime before and after some Spanish chicken!

**Day 3:** The final day for the Venture students in which their day was off to a unique start. After breakfast the students were invited to take part in the chapel service which also forms part of their assembly to take part in hymns with the rest of the school.

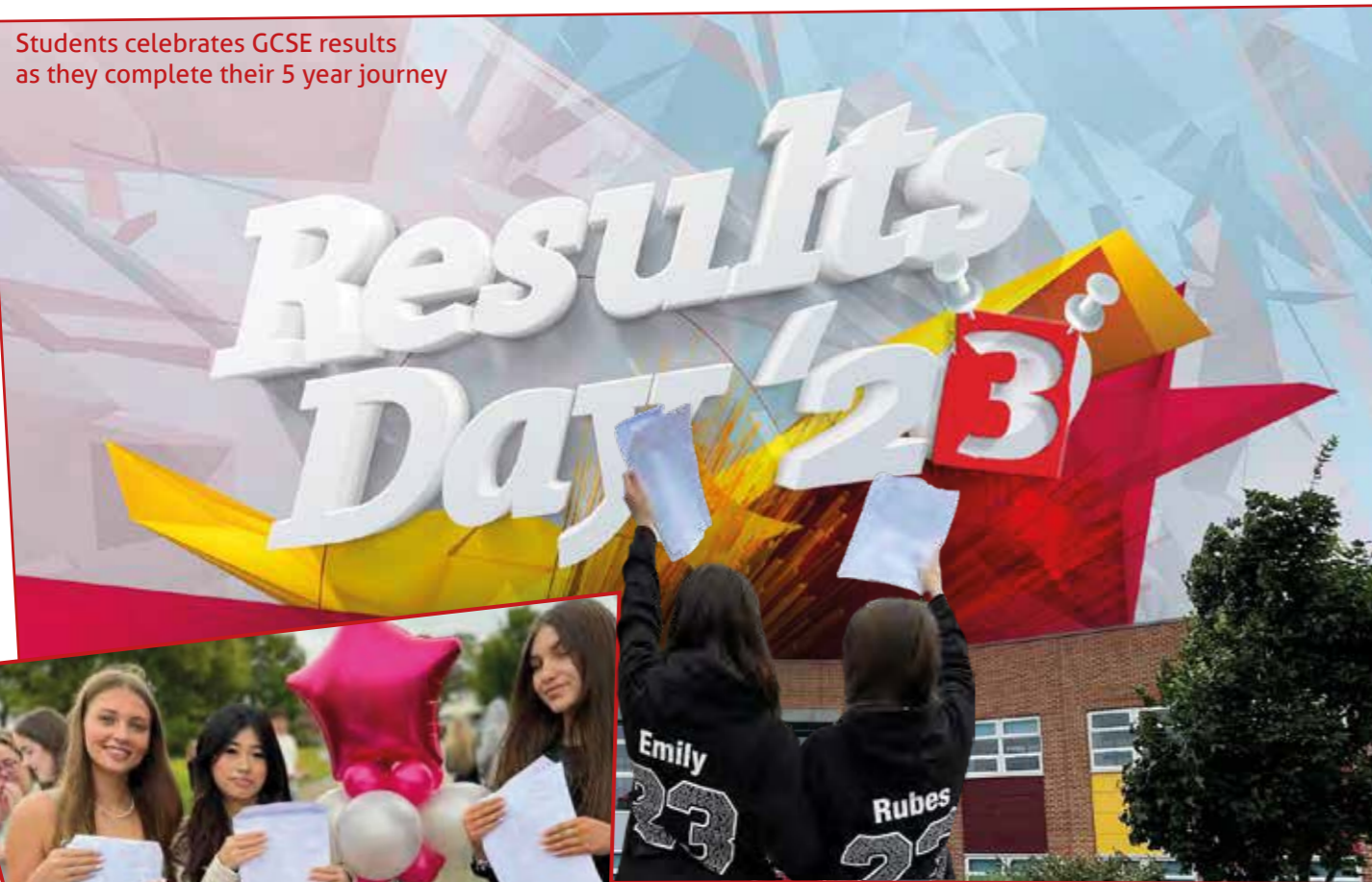
After their last few lessons, the students were treated to their last meal at the school; fish and chips! Unfortunately, due to having to get back to school our Venture students missed out on an opportunity of shooting and the widely popular event at Gresham's their 'Pop Concert' in the woods, but were all assured that if they continued on to the residential in February they would experience far more at Gresham's.

After some heartfelt goodbyes and some new friends (potentially to meet again at college!) the students departed with some new ideas on what may lie out for them after school!

The students have all done tremendously well and have truly done Venture a service as they really came into their own considering the short time they were there and should all be congratulated by their teachers!



Students celebrates GCSE results as they complete their 5 year journey



There have been many external factors impacting on children's education over the past 5 years but one thing has remained constant... the effort and focus of a remarkable group of students.

The students celebrated the fantastic outcome of their commitment over the past 5 years.

It is a moment that has been long in the making and worth the smiles and successes it brings. With so many exciting next steps ahead on the back of their achievements it is a real celebration for so many parents, family and staff who have come together for results day and in support of the students.

Alongside the continued success of the academy, which is sponsored by Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT), some particular individual highlights include:

- Dominic who should be extremely proud of achieving an outstanding set of results, achieving four grade 9's and four grade 8's in his GCSE's showing that the hard work he put in throughout his time at Venture really did

pay off. He will go on to Lowestoft 6th Form to study Computer Science, Physics and Maths in September.

- Similarly, Jessie was always conscientious in her studies, and grew hugely in confidence in her final two years, leaving Venture with two grade 9's and five grade 8's and will take a place at East Norfolk 6th Form next year.

- Evie achieved an incredible set of GCSE results to top off an amazing year of achievement outside of the academy. Evie who is part of Ipswich Town Women's U21 team has given a huge commitment travelling around the country on Wednesdays playing matches and earning herself a first team call up in the process. She has impressed in her performances to the point that she has received a scholarship to St Joseph's College in Ipswich to enable her to continue her journey with Ipswich Town and towards professional football. Many would struggle to maintain their academic standards and has four grade 9's across her subjects, along with a further two grade 8's and three grade 7's.

- So many students have overcome significantly difficult personal circumstances that make sitting exams even harder than normal, yet they continue to show unbelievable resilience to not let this stop them from achieving what they need to progress. Megan was one example of this who throughout the exam period experienced losses in her family yet achieved the grade 5's in English, Maths and Science that she needs to continue on with her studies next year and something we are all incredibly proud of.



Principal Simon Gilbert-Barnham, said:

*This year group, not just at Venture but nationally, have had a lot of challenges along the way. The way our students have not only achieved but come together as a real community to support one another is nothing short of remarkable. They should be proud of their achievements, of their resilience and of the amazing young people they have become. We are so proud of them all and I not only want to congratulate them on their achievements but also thank the staff, families and our community who have supported them in preparing for their next steps.*



# Prom 23



## Venture's Prom at Park Hill Hotel: A Night to Remember. Thursday, 29th June marked an unforgettable evening as Ormiston Venture Academy hosted its highly anticipated prom at the exquisite Park Hill Hotel.

With over 100 students in attendance, the event was a grand celebration of friendship, achievements, and the end of an incredible journey.

The evening was filled with excitement and glamour as students arrived dressed to impress in their finest attire. The Prom King and Queen contest added an extra layer of anticipation. The winners Enrico and Ellen were greeted with cheers and applause, recognising their popularity and contributions to the school community. Best dressed, voted for by the students went to Romany and Leighton.

The night kicked off with an incredible atmosphere, as the venue was beautifully adorned with the hard work and dedication of the Raising Achievement Team and Miss Parker. Their tireless efforts in setting up and decorating the event ensured that every detail was perfect, creating a memorable ambiance for everyone in attendance.

The sound of music filled the air, inviting students to hit the dance floor and showcase their best moves. The DJ spun a mix of popular tunes, selected by the students in their leaver survey, ensuring there was something for everyone's taste. The energy and enthusiasm on the dance floor were contagious, as students let loose and created memories that will be cherished for years to come.



One of the highlights of the night was the presence of a sweetie bar, offering a delightful assortment of sweets and treats. The sweetie bar added a touch of indulgence to the evening. The doughnut wall was another crowd favourite, tempting attendees with an array of mouthwatering flavours and toppings.

To capture the magic of the night, a photo booth provided a fun and interactive way for students to document their prom experience. The VW photo booth, with its vintage charm, offered an ideal backdrop for capturing candid and joyous moments. Students eagerly posed with friends, creating a montage of laughter and smiles that will forever be cherished.

None of this would have been possible without the support and contributions from various individuals and organizations. A heartfelt thank you goes to Park Hill Hotel for providing an exquisite venue and ensuring that every detail was taken care of. The venue's elegance and sophistication set the stage for an extraordinary evening.

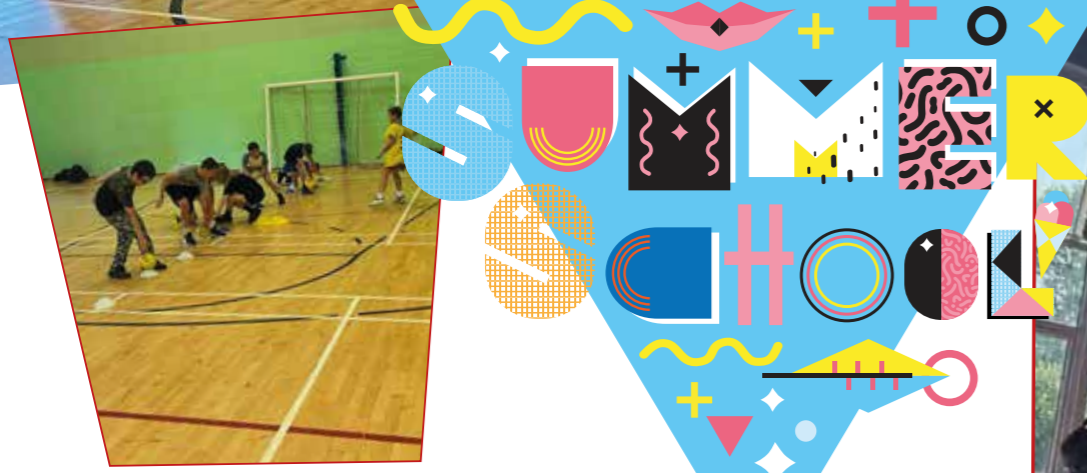
Last but not least, a special thank you goes to the dedicated parents who supported their children throughout their academic journey and made this event possible. Their unwavering encouragement and involvement have played a vital role in shaping the lives of these remarkable young individuals.

As the evening drew to a close, it was clear that the prom had provided an opportunity for students to create lasting memories, forge deeper connections, and bid farewell to their high school years in style. The event was a testament to the hard work and dedication of the organizing team, the support of the school community, and the indomitable spirit of the graduating class.

Dave Richards, Vice Principal commented **"Ormiston Venture Academy's prom at Park Hill Hotel will undoubtedly remain a cherished memory, serving as a testament to the incredible achievements and bright futures of the students who attended."**

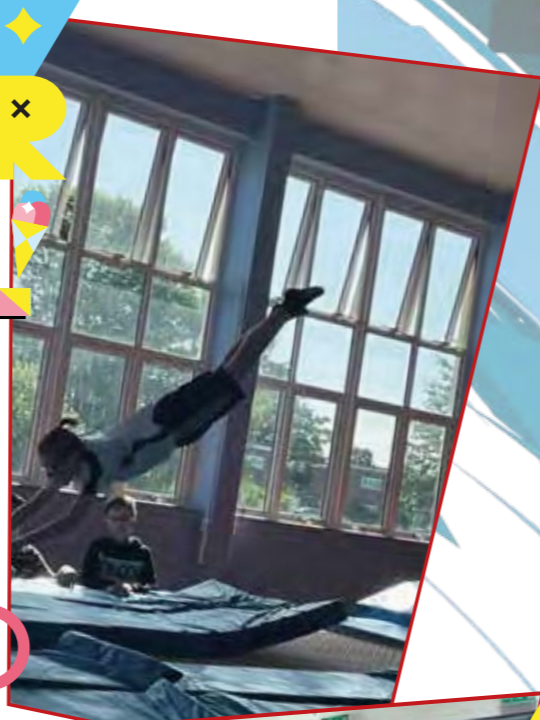


*This years summer school saw over 150 new year 7 students attend a range of sessions over a week of the summer holidays.*



Each day students could choose 3 sessions with activities that included, cookery, blast off, football, arts and crafts and several more.

With the week drawing to an end we saw our biggest celebration assembly with over 300 students, family members and carers join us which was then followed by a BBQ. On the final day of the week we enjoyed a fun filled day at Pleasure Wood Hills .



**Glamour, excitement, and an abundance of talent filled the air at Ormiston Venture Academy on Thursday, 13th July, as the school held its prestigious Venture Stars Awards.**

**This red carpet event celebrated the outstanding achievements of over 60 students who were awarded the highest honour, the Venture Star, for their excellence in a specific curriculum or extracurricular area during the academic year.**

The selection process for these coveted awards was rigorous, with only one student nominated from each year group across 16 different categories. The nominees stood out among their peers, showcasing exceptional work ethic, commitment, positive attitude, and academic accomplishments. They were truly the shining stars of the academy.

Adding even more prestige to the occasion, one student from each category received a special commendation award, offering them additional recognition for their exceptional performance. The atmosphere was electric as the nominees eagerly awaited the announcement of these commendations, with their friends, families, and the entire school community cheering them on.

However, the highlight of the evening was the presentation of the OAT Outstanding Achievement Award, bestowed upon a single student who had received the most nominations and demonstrated remarkable accomplishments across multiple categories. The 2023 Outstanding Achievement Award winner was none other than Kelsey, a remarkable Year 7 student who had left an indelible mark on the school. With a beaming smile and a glimmer of pride in her eyes, Kelsey graciously accepted her award from the academy's Principal, Mr. Gilbert-Barnham.

The Venture Stars Awards were not only a celebration of the students' achievements but also an opportunity to acknowledge the support of the local community. Several awards were sponsored by esteemed local companies and organisations, including EE Green, the Pavillion Theatre, LG Perfect, Thompsons Food Service, Ting Dene Lifestyle, NCFE Community Sports Foundation, Norfolk County Council Library Service, Crazy Hippo Crochet, and Folkes Plant & Aggregates. The sponsors, recognizing the importance of nurturing

young talent, attended the event and personally presented the four Venture Stars and special commendation awards in the categories they sponsored. Their presence added a touch of elegance to the evening and demonstrated the strong bond between the academy and the local community.

One notable guest at the event was Millie Daviss, captain of Norwich City Women's football team, who represented the NCFE Community Sports Foundation. Millie, a shining example of determination and success, hails from Bradwell, a testament to the extraordinary achievements that can be accomplished by individuals in the local community. In her inspiring keynote speech, she shared her own journey to success, motivating the Venture Stars to exhibit resilience and perseverance in their pursuit of greatness.

Dave Richards, the Vice Principal of, expressed his gratitude to the sponsors and presenters for contributing to the incredible atmosphere that permeated the event. He also extended his heartfelt thanks to Millie Daviss for her empowering words of wisdom to the award winners. Mr Richards acknowledged the exceptional qualities possessed by each Venture Star, emphasising that these young individuals exemplify the Venture Way and make the academy community immensely proud.

As the curtain fell on this unforgettable evening, it was evident that the Venture Stars Awards had not only recognised the remarkable accomplishments of the students but had also showcased the unwavering support and dedication of the academy, its staff, and the local community.

**The stage was set for the next generation of leaders, innovators, and achievers to continue shining bright, inspiring others, and leaving their mark on the world.**

**And your Venture Stars are...**



# Achieve Chinomso

**Chinomso has 100% attendance, an excellent attitude and gives 110% effort in all lessons.**

He is an incredible musician demonstrated in each lesson.

Always willing to help others without question and gets involved in the community by playing football for Gorleston Rangers Harriers.

A fantastic role model for the Achieve college.



# Innovate Jack

**Jack has an Incredible ability playing the piano and also played at our Create Show, to a live performance.**

**Jack plays at a high level on the piano outside the academy.**

An amazing attitude to learning in all subjects achieving amazing academic grades such as Distinction and Distinction\* grades in his vocational subjects as well as multiple grade 9's in his core subjects.

Jack is a very committed student who gives his all and always tries his best which embodies the "Venture Way."

## Principal AWARD - Chinomso

A young man who joined us mid-year and has had an amazing impact already, starting with his 100% attendance. He is an incredible pianist who played at some of the Venture events. Chinomso works incredibly hard in lessons and always puts in the maximum effort.

He shows the utmost respect and manners to all students and staff and is an absolute pleasure to work with in Achieve College. A fantastic addition to the academy.



## Principal AWARD - Erin

Erin embodies the venture way and everything that is positive. Amazing attitude to learning inside and outside the classroom, achieving fantastic academic performance. In the face of adversity shows the resilience to always be the best version of herself and does it with a big smile on her face.



# Create Ella

**Ella has excelled at Performing Arts this year.**

She is a talented actress (something she has had a passion for since a young age) and has now started to perform as a dancer and in musical theatre on stage. She has been working hard on her voice to become a triple threat. Ella has joined the Pavilion stage school and developed her stage presence and skills fantastically. Ella has performed in a number of events and had some really challenging roles, she has also learnt the drums at the Academy and is one of the lead characters in the Academy's musical 'Fame' coming up in 2024.

Ella is committed to learning about characters and puts lots of emotion into her voice with a unique perspective on developing personality. Not surprising that Ella is considering a career in the industry – so watch this space we may have a future West End theatre performer in our midst.

## Principal AWARD - Connie

Connie is an excellent all-round student who has an amazing attitude to learning and sees some really high grades. Connie has fantastic knowledge and recall in the extended learning and her lessons; she is always happy to help. Connie is polite, punctual, well organised, hardworking and a good friend as well as being a fantastic chef, loves baking at home, making cakes for birthdays as well. She also helped out at the Create show serving delicious canapes. Connie is basically an all-round super star and deserves recognition for this. We hope in year 10 she finds her passion and develops her interests in clubs inside and outside of the Academy as she works towards an incredibly bright future.



# Aspire Reece

**Reece is a Gymnast and has competed in Eastern Counties Competitions winning gold in the vault event and 2 bronze medals for the bar and floor.**

Reece travels all over the country and has been competing for 2 years now. He is also a brown belt in Karate and has been competing for the last 3 years with his last grading 2 months ago.

## Principal AWARD - Daisy

Daisy is a student who put in 100% effort in all of her lessons and has shown fantastic progress this year.

She is kind and courteous around the academy and has shown resilience and respect to others.



**Achieve College can be recognised around the academy via the blue badges students wear.**

Led by Assistant Principal Mr Doggett and College Leader Mr Ives, Achieve has three major subjects areas; English, Humanities (History, Geography and RE) and Modern Foreign Languages. These faculty areas will therefore have a tutor groups in these areas of the academy.

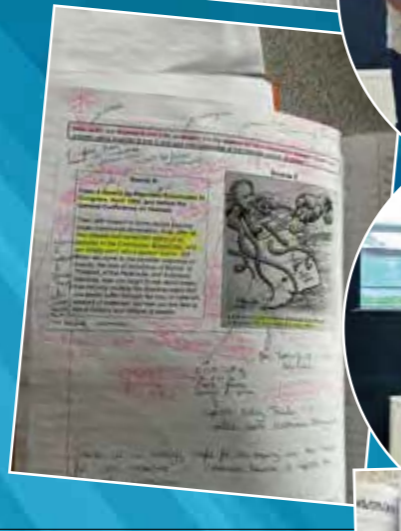
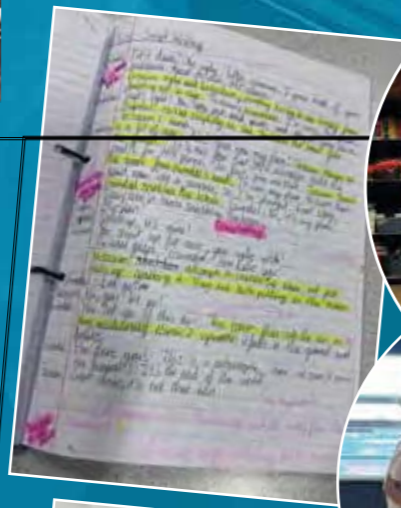
Students study a broad curriculum that prepares pupils to be experts in all areas of study. Our vision at Venture is to provide World Class education to all and provide opportunities for our students to be subject specialists in all their subjects.



**The Aspire College has had a year full of success across the board with all of our amazing students!**



# Achieve



Therefore in English, students have the opportunity to study Shakespeare, analyse poetry, write creatively and all students are also exposed to both modern and pre 1900s texts.

Trips to the theatre (to see Hamilton this year) and the Globe Theatre are popular annual events. The English team also always leads the way with our annual World Book Day celebrations and runs key events such as the 'poetry slam' when all colleges compete against each other and the annual spellathon, run by students for local primary school students.

Our Modern Foreign Languages incorporate French and Spanish; both very popular choices for budding linguists at GCSE level. Key topics include the theme of identity and culture, school, the local area, future plans and the international global dimension.

Beyond the classroom, MFL offers inter-school debating competitions and you may spot students proudly adorning 'master linguist' badges, attained in either subject for excellence in examinations or extended learning. Trips to Disneyland Paris, Belgium and Madrid have been organised for the coming year and are sure to further enhance the reputation of this burgeoning area of the academy.

Within the Humanities faculty, History students are taught about the development of Britain following the Battle of Hastings through to colonialism under the reign of Queen Victoria, while international topics are explored such as apartheid in South Africa and the French and Russian Revolutions.

In Geography, students learn about the eco-system and the impact climate change has on rivers and flooding as well as other hazards and the causes and consequences of population growth all over the planet. Local fieldwork on our coast, as well as trips to Poland and the First World War trenches are always well received. Finally, Religious Education has been a popular addition to our CASH curriculum, but from 2023-24, RE will be taught as part of a well-rounded Humanities offer in Year 7-9.

# Aspire

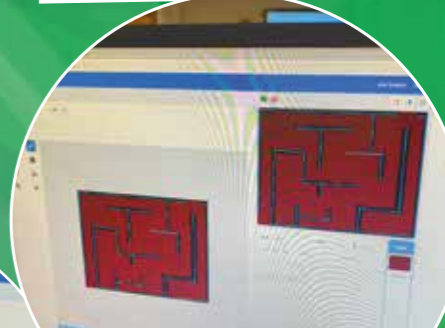
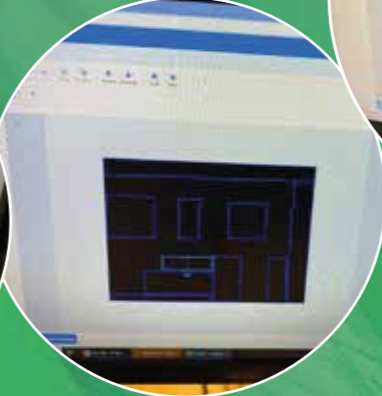
**Aspire college is led by Assistant Principal Mr Scotney and College Leader Mr Malcolm.**

Within Aspire, we have Maths and Computer Science. Seeing students challenged and supported in topics and allowing them to strive and succeed in our well-developed curriculum is part of the day-to-day routine.

We cover topics in number, algebra, geometry and statistics, giving all pupils the opportunity to become mathematicians. This year has seen amazing work in the maths classrooms, but also success beyond - with students coming second in the national OAT Maths Challenges!

Pupils enjoy a variety of Maths speakers and trips, including a trip to Norwich Castle, Storming the Castle! Computer Science is an incredibly popular subject at Venture. It sees student develop skills are becoming increasingly relevant within the technological world.

As well as learning about E-Safety, hardware and software, the programming skills pupils learn readies them for technical jobs that don't yet exist. They also had an amazing visit to Bletchley Park discovering the wonders of the enigma machine and more!



**Led by Assistant Principal Mr McNally and College leader Mrs Vincent, the Create College is made up of a team of highly dedicated and enthusiastic staff and students.**

The Create subjects include Art, Catering, Music, Performing Arts, Photography and Textiles. Best practice and expertise is shared on a daily basis, within the faculty, but also outside of the Academy through Ormiston Academy Trust links.

The Create College is one of the most enjoyable places to be for staff and students. It operates a broad and balanced curriculum for students in Key Stage 3, with an option of further development in year 9, studying favourite subjects in more depth.

Key Stage 4 offers GCSE and BTEC qualifications and is hugely popular. An incredible number of students go on to study at least 1 Create subject from year 10, and many leave with aspirations of further study in this area after achieving some exceptionally high results.

# Create

**A Showcase of Outstanding**

Students go on to study these subjects in more depth in Colleges and Sixth Forms. Apprenticeships in engineering and scholarships at Greshams are also available. We have had success with Callum Cooke then going on to study Fine Art at Oxford University and Daisy Abbots-Freeman dancing in Colchester College for example.

The extra-curricular opportunities within the Create College dominate the Academy's provision. Clubs and activities such as Musical rehearsals, choir and orchestra (Venture Vivace), photography skills and street dance amongst others, complement sessions based on improving qualification grades. Peri lessons enhance musical talent, and we are very grateful for the team of staff who come into the Academy for this.

Creative guilds such as film special FX make up, dress making, crochet, pom pom making, band skills, photography and textiles experimentation also contribute to the programme, and are often massively oversubscribed!!

Showcase events such as the bi-annual musical sell out audiences and the Create show is a representation of the fine work produced by students in Create. The show includes incredible Art and Photography exhibitions, phenomenal Craft and Textiles products, spine tingling musical entertainment, singing and performances as well as a breathtaking fashion show demonstrating the high quality pieces of clothing made in Textiles.



The faculty ran a musical last year – Annie, which sold out for 3 consecutive nights, making it the most popular show we have ever had!

The College is prominent in the local community attending carol services, lantern parades and performing at the Hippodrome concert. The Performing Arts students also performed in the recent Ormiston Academies Trust annual talent showcase.

Guest artists, graphical designers, animators, photographers, chefs, singers and dancers have graced our College and many trips to exhibitions and the West End theatre companies have occurred, broadening horizons and showing students the fruits of what can be achieved in this area.

Mrs Vincent, College Leader commented on how amazing the young people are and that is down to the talented and committed staff we have".

**Innovate college is led by Assistant Principal Mr Waters and College leader Miss Teasel. students in Science have had a fantastic opportunity to complete practical experiments and engage in the awe and wonder that is science knowledge.**

Practical skills are so important, and it creates the love of learning that our students so often talk about. For example in Year 7 we are investigating how shape effects streamlining using wallpaper paste and plasticine models and year 8 have been investigating acids and alkalis. In year 9,10 and 11 students have been completing rotations of science subjects benefiting from subject specialist teaching, enhancing every opportunity in the science curriculum.

The Science Faculty has invested in a 3D printer and are now redesigning and 3D-printing equipment that allows students to work more safely and more efficiently in lessons. Redesigning test tube rack that is more stable and allows observations to be made more easily, a bespoke stand for electrolysis equipment that reduces the risk of it tipping over in the middle of an investigation, a beaker lid that holds a thermometer upright in the centre of the beaker and a mini quadrat so that ecological sampling can take place whatever the weather. Many other improvements to commercially available equipment are in the design phase and a College Clash competition and enrichment clubs to design improved science equipment are offered on a weekly basis.

# Innovate

**P.E (Physical Education)**

**The students at Ormiston Venture academy complete six sports across each year with fitness built in throughout each sport.**

The students complete these sports as it is a progression from primary school building on prior knowledge, it also links into the academy fixture cycle in the local area to give all students the opportunity to excel beyond the classroom creating links with local sports clubs.

In years 7 & 8 and 9, students focus on learning the fundamental key skills and knowledge in a variety of team and individual sports referenced in the national curriculum. In Year 10 & 11 students opt into three bespoke sport pathways. These are OCR Cambridge National Sport Studies qualification, Leadership award achieving the UK Sport Leaders Level 1 and Level 2 award, and Health and Fitness, achieving a gym instructors qualification on completion of the course.



The students complete the OCR Cambridge Nationals Sport Studies qualification because it develops their understanding of a range of sports which can lead to increased participation rates, enjoyment and wellbeing whilst with us and post 16.

Within this the students complete a compulsory exam unit, leadership unit which permeates through the curriculum from year 7. Leadership in sport is linked to our curriculum intent promoting the skills and qualities the students will need to become rounded good citizens.

As this is a priority to us at Venture focusing on ambition and the qualities students will need some students will be completing a sports leadership qualification route.

Health and Fitness will be taught to raise students knowledge on how to eat healthily and how to train to improve their fitness for a variety of sports.



Another amazing term of rewards for students from Sundaes in the Sun, Summer Rewards BBQ, Celebration assemblies to students cashing in their visa points to be Venture Vault winners, supporting Armed Forces day, National Fudge Day and many more.



# SUMMER BBQ

*Despite the unexpected rain showers, Venture Academy's Summer Rewards BBQ was a resounding success.*

Students from Year 7,8,9, and 10 were invited to the amphitheatre area of our school which transformed into a vibrant outdoor gathering to honour the students who displayed exceptional attendance and embodied the Venture Way throughout the Summer Term.

Under the expert skills of Mr. Gilbert-Barnham and Mr. Richards, mouthwatering burgers and hotdogs sizzled, filling the air with tantalizing aromas. The students eagerly indulged in these delectable treats, revelling in the camaraderie and joyful atmosphere. The event was not just about food, though. It was a day filled with engaging activities that fostered teamwork, laughter, and friendly competition. The students wholeheartedly embraced the spirit of the occasion, eagerly participating in a thrilling tug of war. The atmosphere was electric as teams battled it out, demonstrating their strength and determination.

In addition to the exciting tug of war, there were other thrilling games and challenges to keep everyone entertained. The students tested their agility and reflexes in hot potato games, but with a twist —

using reusable water balloons, promoting environmental awareness and sustainability. Laughter echoed through the air as they eagerly passed the "hot potatoes" and dodged the water-filled surprises.

Music played a vital role in setting the energetic ambiance, with catchy tunes pumping through the speakers, encouraging spontaneous dance-offs and creating an upbeat atmosphere that was hard to resist. The infectious melodies brought together students, teachers, and staff, fostering a sense of unity and celebration.

But the fun didn't stop there. The students embraced their competitive side, engaging in a battle of wits and strategy with giant Jenga and Connect 4. These larger-than-life games added an extra element of excitement and challenged the participants to think strategically and make decisive moves.

Venture Summer Rewards BBQ was an opportunity to celebrate the achievements and dedication of our students, but it was also an occasion to gather valuable feedback. We value the opinions and suggestions of our students, and we believe that their input can enhance future events. If any student has ideas or suggestions for next year's Summer Rewards BBQ, we encourage them to reach out by email to [slatchford@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk](mailto:slatchford@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk). Their feedback will help us create an even more unforgettable experience next time. Venture's Summer Rewards BBQ exemplified the vibrant and inclusive nature of our school. It was a testament to the hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm of our students, teachers, and staff. As we bid farewell to another successful Summer Term, we look forward to building on these experiences and creating even more rewarding events in the future.

## Sundaes in the Sun

With the weather being so warm, the opportunity to bring back 'sundaes in the sun' was just too irresistible. It was always going to be a popular reward for students with high attendance across the academic year, but with the humid weather was particularly well received. The event was held on the final Thursday, the day before students at Venture left for their long summer holiday. Following lunch in the Venture café, students had the chance to wander outside into the sunny playground and take their place in line to receive a delicious frozen treat of their design. Chocolate, toffee or strawberry sauce was poured generously over Cornish ice-cream by the fair hands of our very own Principal, Mr. Gilbert-Barnham, before being decorated with smarties, nuts and hundreds and thousands by Vice-Principals Mr Richards and Mrs Rossage.

Mrs Latchford, who works in the Learning Cultures office and helped to scoop the ice-cream commented, *"It was great to see students rewarded once again for having such great attendance and behaviour. The sundaes looked very professional and more staff than last year joined the queue!"*



# PE Camp:

**A Rewarding Adventure for Ormiston Venture Academy Students**

**Seventeen enthusiastic students recently embarked on an unforgettable experience at Whittleham Broad Campsite and Adventure Centre.**

This special camp was organized to celebrate their outstanding attitude towards learning in physical education (PE) and their unwavering commitment to extracurricular clubs. The students, handpicked for their remarkable achievements, were eagerly looking forward to this well-deserved reward.

Nestled amidst the picturesque surroundings of Whittleham Broad, the campsite provided the perfect backdrop for an exciting and action-packed adventure. Upon arrival, the students were greeted by a serene environment, with lush greenery and the shimmering waters of the broad stretching out before them.

Over the course of two nights, these young adventurers came together as a team to construct their tents. Working collaboratively, they quickly transformed the campsite into their temporary home, setting the stage for an unforgettable experience.

The highlight of the camp was undoubtedly the range of exhilarating water sports activities. The students spent a total of four hours engrossed in activities such as paddle boarding and kayaking. These thrilling pursuits allowed them to test their physical capabilities, pushing themselves to conquer the challenges posed by the water. Some found their balance on paddle boards, gliding gracefully across the surface, while others embraced the excitement of navigating the waters in sturdy kayaks. Regardless of their individual preferences, all the students revelled in the invigorating experience.

In addition to the water sports, the camp also offered an opportunity for the students to engage in traditional PE games. Matches of cricket and volleyball brought out their competitive spirit as they battled it out on the campsite. These games not only provided entertainment but also fostered teamwork, communication, and sportsmanship among the students. The joyful atmosphere resonated through the air as cheers and laughter filled the campsite.

When the sun began to set, the students gathered around the campfire, cherishing moments of relaxation and reflection. The crackling flames and the warmth of the fire created a cozy ambiance, encouraging them to share stories, forge new friendships, and bond with their peers. The campfire became a symbol of camaraderie, a place where memories were made and lifelong connections were formed.

One student, Harley couldn't help but share his personal experience. He humorously remarked,

*"PE camp was very eventful, it was great fun, and I got very wet! Maybe paddle boarding isn't for me!"*

Harley's willingness to step out of his comfort zone and try something new is a testament to the adventurous spirit that permeated throughout the camp.

His words encapsulated the essence of the trip—an opportunity for students to explore their interests, discover their strengths, and embrace new challenges.

PE Camp at Whittleham Broad Campsite and Adventure Centre was not just an exciting excursion; it was a tangible recognition of the students' dedication to physical education. It celebrated their perseverance, enthusiasm, and commitment, while simultaneously fostering personal growth and teamwork. As they returned to Ormiston Venture Academy, these students carried with them cherished memories, valuable life skills, and an unwavering passion for the field of physical education.

The success of PE Camp serves as a testament to the importance of acknowledging and rewarding students for their achievements, both inside and outside the classroom. By providing opportunities for experiential learning and personal development, schools can empower their students to reach new heights, explore their passions, and discover the joy of lifelong learning.

## The Venture Games event was a highlight for all year groups (7-10) at the Academy.

Students had the opportunity to participate in two sport sessions of their choice, which lasted for one hour and 40 minutes each. The event took place across various locations within the school grounds and the local park.

The main hall, fitness suite, gym, sports hall, games room, playground, field, tennis courts, and netball courts were all utilized for different sports activities. Additionally, the students had the chance to play cricket and capture the flag in the nearby park. The weather was perfect for outdoor sports, with clear skies and sunshine, necessitating the use of water and sun cream to keep everyone protected. Venture Games is an annual event that allows students to engage in sports within their respective year groups. It provides an opportunity for friendly competition among friends and enables students to excel in their favourite sports or try out new ones that they may not have recently participated in. Mr. Waters, the Assistant Principal for Innovate and a PE Teacher,



expressed his enthusiasm for Venture Games, describing it as a fantastic day. He mentioned that the school grounds were filled with students wearing red PE shirts, and there was an abundance of smiles and laughter throughout the event. The local community also appreciated seeing the students actively involved in playing sports in the area.

Ollie, shared his experience of participating in Venture Games for the first time. He thoroughly enjoyed the event, describing it as fun and inclusive. Ollie appreciated the freedom to choose which sports to engage in, as it allowed him to participate in activities he genuinely enjoyed.

## Venture Students Excel at District Athletics Comp'

The students of Ormiston Venture Academy recently showcased their remarkable athletic abilities at the District Athletics competition, joining forces with other schools in the local community. A total of 120 talented students from years 7 to 10 proudly represented the academy in a range of track and field events, leaving a lasting impression on both their peers and spectators alike.

The collective efforts of the Ormiston Venture Academy students resulted in a commendable overall performance, with the academy securing an impressive third place finish in the competition. Additionally, the year 9 and 10 teams demonstrated their exceptional skills by securing second place in their respective year groups.

However, the outstanding achievements of the day belonged to two remarkable individuals—Holly from year 10 and Ronnie from year 9—who left a lasting impact on the competition. Holly and Ronnie truly smashed all of their events, leaving no doubt about their exceptional athletic prowess.

Mr. McNally, the Assistant Principal at Ormiston Venture Academy, was full of praise for the students' remarkable efforts, saying, "It was an amazing day with lots of medallists and personal bests achieved. The dedication and hard work put in by our students truly paid off, and we couldn't be prouder of their accomplishments."

Reflecting on her success, Holly expressed both her initial worries and immense pride in herself and her fellow athletes. "I was so worried about competing,



but then so proud of myself and all of the other athletes that represented Venture - even though my legs kill now!" she exclaimed. Holly's determination and resilience not only earned her personal triumph but also inspired her peers to give their best.

Tegan, another participant from Ormiston Venture Academy, spoke about the fantastic atmosphere and enjoyable experience at the competition. Despite initial nervousness, Tegan found solace in the support of her teammates and the thrill of running.

The District Athletics competition was a resounding success for the students of Ormiston Venture Academy, as they showcased their exceptional athletic talents and achieved commendable results. The outstanding performances of athletes like Holly and Ronnie exemplify the dedication, determination, and skill nurtured within the Academy's athletics programme.

The Academy's pride in the students' achievements, along with the athletes' own reflections on their experiences, further highlights the significance of this event and the lasting impact it has had on the students involved. Ormiston Venture Academy's strong presence at the District Athletics competition serves as a testament to their commitment to excellence.