

Venture VOICE

Ormiston
venture academy

Edition 9: Spring 2013



Jessica-Jane
Applegate

Gold medal winner
of the 200 metres freestyle
Paralympic Games 2012

Jess' MBE

Receives MBE
for her achievements

Trust Fundraiser

Fund raising for the Ormiston Children
and Families Trust

Red Nose Day

All the news from the day...



What's going on at Venture Academy...

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Welcome to the Spring 2013 edition of Venture Voice.

Each time I write, I am delighted to inform you of even greater success enjoyed by our students and fellows - we have much to celebrate and even greater times lie ahead in our new building later this year. Such exciting times to study at Venture...

The first student I am compelled to mention is our Paralympian gold-medallist, Jessica-Jane Applegate. Difficult to put out do winning gold in London in the 2012 games? Not for Jessica! She went on to receive her MBE for her achievements - we are so proud and look forward to Jess being our guest of honour at the grand opening of our new Academy building.



Jess will also be visiting the Academy this term to update us on her journey as a gold-medallist so far and to sign autographs for her younger fans. Secondly, we are delighted to announce our first Venture graduate to become an Oxbridge entrant. Callum Cooke has been accepted to Oxford to study Fine Art - what an incredible next step in his learning journey, given he was the second Greshams's

Parent Voice

Thank you to all Key Stage 4 parents who recently took the time to complete our Parent Voice survey. Your feedback helps us to continue to make Venture an outstanding place for our students to learn and we were delighted to hear that 99% of parents were pleased with their child's progress and that 96% believed they were taught well!

*Principal
McCartney*

Thank you all, as ever, for your support of most of the glorious spring weather, at last!



A congratulations to Naomi Palmer, Vice principal at Ormiston Venture Academy on her appointment to the post of Principal at Ormiston Victory Academy.



World Maths Day

TOP 10 Highest Scores

Top 10 Correct Answers	Top 10 Highest Scores	Top 10 Most Improved
1. Brad Lacey 11YDC1	1. Kalen Bentley 11YDC1	38 Boreham Summer y8-11800%
2. Kirik Allwright 10YDC1	2. Gallant Callum y8-2	35 Jones Demi y8-2 900%
3. Ethan Webster 11YDC1	3. Andy Knight 10YDC3	35 Logan Swallow 10YDC1 654%
4. Megan Horsewood 11YDC1	Kaileb Bryant 11YDC1	35 Ebony Goodwin 10YDC3 634%
5. Katie Hodgkinson 10YDC1	Brad Lacey 11YDC1	34 Owen Treanor 10YDC3 630%
6. Weihua Zhu 10YDC3	Ebony Goodwin 11YDC1	33 Diana Nesukatyre 11YDC3 585%
7. Jared Thom 11YDC1	Lilie Nichols 11YDC2	33 Tia Dalrymple 9YDC2 539%
8. Joshua Duthie 11YDC1	Coner Murphy 9YDC1	32 Ben Mitchell 11YDC3 533%
9. Daniel Symonds 10YDC2	Smith Benjamin y8-4	31 Shane Holmes 11YDC4 482%
10. Jessica Ripley 10YDC2	Tomasz Zajac 11YDC2	30 Sian Thompson 11YDC2 469%

Uniform Update



PMG Schoolwear are delighted to be the approved supplier of school uniform for Ormiston Venture Academy.

You are now able to order online at your convenience for direct delivery to your home.

We will attend the school intake evening and will be happy to assist in any way we can when you place your order.

When you visit our website you will see that not only do we stock school uniform, but also everything your child could need for school days. We pride ourselves on offering outstanding Quality, Value and customer service.

To place your order visit www.pmg-schoolwear.co.uk

Or call our customer services team on 01895 809 321 where a friendly and helpful service is guaranteed.

All PMG Schoolwear products are specially selected designed and manufactured to perform in the demanding world of school uniform.



A short note from Venture's local Governing Body

It is good to be able to formally introduce readers to the Governors at Ormiston Venture Academy.

All schools have a Governing Body whose job it is to support the school and its Principal, and to make sure that they are doing their best to provide an excellent education for the students. We meet regularly to discuss progress and some of us have things that we keep a special eye on like how the Academy provides for children with special educational needs or making sure that your children are safe in the academy.

The Governors at Venture all come from different backgrounds. Some are, or have been, involved in education themselves. We include a past secondary principal (me), a senior member of the Department of Education's original Academies Team, the present headmaster of Gresham's School, a local primary headteacher and a teacher and support staff member at Venture. As well as these, there are other people who live and work in the local community and have, or have had, children at Venture, as well as local politicians and officers and key members of the business community.

Although we come from different backgrounds, we are all totally committed to the success of the Academy, and have been thrilled with its progress so far.

If you want to know more about the Governors and what we do, watch out for more about us in this newsletter, talk to us at various events like careers fairs and celebrations at the Academy or contact us via the Academy. We would be glad to hear from you, because the more we know about what you think, the more we can do our job properly!

With best wishes

Lesley King

Lesley King., Chair of Governors, Ormiston Venture Academy



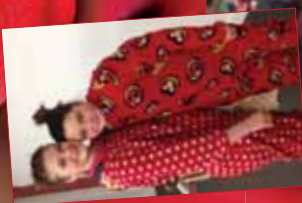
Diary Dates

April	15th April - Academic review Day	June	3rd June - Academy open	July	1st & 2nd July - Year 6 Transition Days
	29th April - Yr 11 Star Light Productions presents "Is there anybody out there?"		June 26th - Senior year Prom		3rd July - Venture's Got Talent World record Concert
May	27th May - Academy closed - Half term		June 27th - Academy Closed, Norfolk Show Day		8th - 12th July - Yr10 Work Experience week
					24th July - Break for Summer Holidays

Ormiston Venture Academy raised £620 for 'Comic Relief' this year by paying £1. to wear red. Students also donated by pledging money towards a teacher who they would like to see get a custard pie in the face.



Mr Richards was the overwhelming winner with over £50 pledged against his name. Ebony Goodwin had the honour of pieing Mr Richards whilst a large crowd of expectant students watched on.



"So You Think You Can Dance Winner Matt Flint visits Ormiston Venture Academy"

Matt Flint came into the Academy to promote "Can You Dance?" which he is hosting at the UEA on 19th May 2013.

Matt taught pupils a street dance as well as leading a discussion about his role within the industry. He also kindly watched a performance choreographed by one of our students Star Kent, Star said "He was brilliant and he gave me tips of how to improve my performance, I am so pleased he came in!"

Sarah Simm - performing Arts Teacher said "Matt was fantastic with the students, he was so encouraging and created a real buzz across the Academy"



KS3/ Literacy Update

This term over 80 - students across Years 7, 8 and 9 have access the Success Centre Intervention Team, working hard to improve spelling and reading.

The Academy is tremendously proud of their success with the average student making at least 7.7 months of progress in their spelling ages during a five week intervention block. All students in the academy have been embracing our drive to raise standards of Literacy.

PL groups have been competing each week in spelling tests with last half term's winner Achieve 3 enjoying pizza and a games room session. We have also seen some brilliant individual efforts with Susan Hart, Callum Irving and Paris Carroll all achieving their Classic Reader awards which is an extraordinary achievement.

Students also celebrated World Book Day on the 07th of March. Some Key Stage 3 students were lucky enough to work with the prizewinning children's author, Annaliese Matheron whilst others enjoyed spending their book tokens and competing in a book quiz. Staff and students also harnessed their creative skills making potato book characters. Entrants included Harry Potter, Sherlock Holmes, Miss Haversham, Brave, The Woman in Black amongst others.

Achievement Update

Students across Years 9,10 and 11 are celebrating some fantastic results this Spring.

Results from November and January exams mean that Venture is on track to exceed the 2012 results which saw us achieving the highest results in the local area and some of the best results in Norfolk. 55% of our Senior Year have already achieved at least a C in English and Maths and many are set to achieve this and better in the summer. Recent results also show that Venture students are on track to better the impressive 24% of students who achieved at least 3 A-A*'s in 2012.

These outstanding achievements from our students and teaching staff and we are proud of them all.

Venture students are truly able to aspire, achieve, create and innovate!



Over 15 stories were completed, including book reviews from visiting students from neighbouring Herman Primary School. As a result of the day, many students received both their Bronze Reporter and Bronze Coaching badges for the work that they put in.

Check out their outstanding efforts at:
www.makewaves/venturestudentmagazine/c/bbcnewsreport2013



On Thursday, 21st of March, students took part in the annual BBC School Report, producing news stories throughout the day and posting them on a special page of the students' eMagazine.

www.makewaves/venturestudentmagazine

Primary Schools Spreading the Word about Maths!

The Venture Team worked with our primary colleagues on a Space themed Maths week, our student journalists covered their activities and we ran a maths masterclass here for the super Y6s who have shown an aptitude in maths. The next step? A science masterclass and some cool activities to be enjoyed across all age groups - more news on this next time.

UEA - Venture's Training Ground for the Best!

We've enjoyed a visit from the University of East Anglia's PGCE students who heard from a variety of in-house Venture speakers and observed learning in action - feedback from the visit was super!

Aspiring teachers are welcome to contact us and find out more about our bespoke packages.

@Venture Learning & Teaching

Another Outstanding term for Learning and Teaching at Ormiston Venture Academy! Again, staff have worked relentlessly to provide a first class education for our students.

The Ormiston review in March recognised the incredible work our staff do on a daily basis and gave the Academy an Outstanding grade for Teaching. As an Academy we have focused on the Venture 4: active learning; personalisation; assessment for learning; and the learning of reading, writing, communication and maths over the last term. Whole staff INSET has developed these key priorities.

Last term staff focused on embedding Academy widgets (strategies to support learning) to help students transfer learning across all subject areas. This term we have moved forward on this as PL tutors have trained students on the use of these widgets during PL Learning to Learn sessions.

In January we had another highly successful termly Super Learning Day, which is a termly feature of the Academy calendar to help students develop independent learning skills and allow time for more in-depth study.

During the SLD this term Year 7 worked in Maths; Years 8, 9 and 10 completed option taster sessions to help them make informed decisions for their options next year; and year 11 worked in digital, media, science or English to support them as they approach the end of their courses.



Annaliese Matheron

The pictures below were staff and students that recorded there personal book reviews in our video diary room.



World Book Day



World Book Day was celebrated in style this year as students received their free book tokens, bought book themed cakes and completed a 'decorate the potato' competition.

As part of World Book Day, Year 7 and 8 students were also treated to a visit from children's author Annaliese Matheron, writer of 'Ninja Nan'. Well done to all involved in making the event such a success.



QUORN & VEGETABLE STIR-FRY

What to do:

1. Put the rice on to cook in a large saucepan of simmering water. Brown rice will take 30-35 minutes to cook; white rice will take 12 minutes.
2. When the rice has 8 minutes left to cook, start the stir-fry. Heat the vegetable oil in a wok or large frying pan. Add all the vegetables and the frozen Quorn pieces and stir-fry over a high heat for 6-7 minutes, or until the vegetables are cooked, yet still crunchy.
3. Add the Chinese five spice powder, soy sauce and sweet chilli sauce (if using) to the stir-fry. Season with some pepper and stir well. Share between 4 plates or bowls.
4. Drain the rice and serve with the stir-fry.

Tip 1: Instead of preparing your own vegetables, take a short cut by using fresh or frozen packs of stir-fry vegetables.

Tip 2: With any stir-fry, it's important to cut the vegetables into even-sized pieces so that they cook in the same amount of time.



- Ingredients:**
- 1 leek thinly sliced
 - 150g broccoli broken into small florets
 - 300g frozen Quorn chicken-style pieces
 - 1 pinch Chinese five spice powder
 - 1 tsp sweet chilli sauce
 - 1 carrot cut into fine strips
 - 1 courgette cut into fine strips
 - 200g easy cook white or brown rice
 - 1 tsp vegetable oil
 - 4 spring onions trimmed and finely chopped
 - 1 peppers, any colour deseeded and finely chopped
 - 1 pinch ground black pepper

TASTY CHICKEN WRAPS

These delicious wraps are ideal for packed lunches, making a welcome change from sandwiches.

Serves: 4 adults • Preparation time: 15 mins • Cooking time: 0 mins

- Ingredients:**
- 4 soft flour tortillas
 - 4 soft lower fat soft cheese
 - 4 tbsp low-fat natural yoghurt
 - 120g skinless, boneless roast chicken breasts chopped
 - 100g sweetcorn
 - ¼ cucumber
 - 1 pinch ground black pepper
 - 2 handfuls lettuce leaves

What to do:

1. Lay out the wraps or tortillas on a clean work surface.
2. Put the soft cheese and yoghurt in a bowl and mix together until smooth.
3. Add the chicken, sweetcorn and cucumber. Season with some pepper, then mix well. Spread an equal amount over each wrap, then top with the lettuce.
4. Roll up each wrap tightly, slice in half, then wrap in cling film. Keep cool until ready to serve.

Tip 1: If you're not keen on cucumber or sweetcorn, use grated carrot or some of your favourite veg instead.

Tip 2: If you're packing these wraps into a lunch box, try to remember to put a small ice pack in with them to keep them cool and fresh.



SPAGHETTI BOLOGNESE

This easy version of a classic Italian recipe will ensure everyone gets their 5 A DAY as well as a yummy and filling meal. You can make the bolognese sauce in advance and freeze in batches.

Serves: 4 adults • Preparation time: 15 mins • Cooking time: 25 mins

- Ingredients:**
- 300g extra lean minced beef
 - 1 large onion finely chopped
 - 2 garlic cloves crushed or finely chopped
 - 400g chopped tomatoes
 - 2 tsp tomato puree
 - 2 tsp dried mixed herbs
 - 1 red pepper deseeded and chopped
 - 3 handfuls mushrooms (cup or button) sliced
 - 1 carrot finely chopped
 - 1 courgette chopped
 - 150ml reduced salt vegetable or chicken stock
 - 300g dried spaghetti
 - 1 pinch ground black pepper

What to do:

1. Heat a large saucepan and add the minced beef, a handful at a time, cooking it until browned.
2. Add the remaining ingredients, apart from the spaghetti. Bring to the boil, then lower the heat and simmer gently for 15-20 minutes.
3. When the sauce has been cooking for 10 minutes, start to cook the spaghetti. Bring a large saucepan of water to

the boil, add the spaghetti and bring back to the boil. Stir well and cook for about 8-10 minutes, until tender.

4. Season the bolognese sauce with pepper. Drain the spaghetti and serve with the sauce.

Tip 1: If you don't like one of the vegetables, swap it for another to get more of your 5 A DAY.

Tip 2: Use linguine, tagliatelle or any other pasta shapes instead of spaghetti.



From Friday 15th to Tuesday 19th of February, 29 students (mainly from GCSE geography and history) went on a trip to Rome and Sorrento.

At 4 am in the morning on the Friday, we all met outside Ormiston Venture Academy to get on the coach. From there we travelled to Heathrow airport, boarding our flight to Rome's Fiumicino Airport at 10:35 AM. The flight lasted for a couple of hours, and by the time we had checked into our hotel 'Hotel Luciani', it was around 3:00 PM. After dropping off our cases at the hotel, we went to visit the Spanish Steps, Piazza Navona and Trevi Fountain, which included some free time where we were able to relax and take everything in. To end the day, after enjoying a lovely dinner at a local restaurant, we arrived back at our hotel.

Humanities Trip to Rome & Sorrento

By
Victoria Hall

The next day, after breakfast, we left the hotel at around 9:00 am. From there we visited the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel, until stopping for lunch at around 1:00 pm. Next there was the visit to the Colosseum, Forum and Palatine Hill, ending at around 5:00 pm so that we could pick up our luggage from the hotel and transfer to the hotel in Sorrento, 'Hotel Tourist'. The coach trip from Rome to Sorrento lasted a couple of hours, so when we arrived we checked into our rooms and had dinner in the hotels restaurant before settling into our rooms for our second night away.

We woke up slightly earlier the next morning, in order to prepare ourselves for the day ahead of us, climbing Mount Vesuvius. It was an amazing experience, the snow and ice made the attempt of climbing hilarious! Once back on lower ground, we ate our lunch and began the visit of Pompeii which was the city destroyed by the pyroclastic flows from Vesuvius' last eruption. We headed back to the hotel, for some free time before going to bed.

9:00 am, Monday 18th February, we departed from the hotel by coach after breakfast. On this day we visited Volcano Solfatara, which is an extinct shield volcano. As it was a shield volcano there was not a lot of climbing, although, due to sulphur, the whole place had a horrid smell of rotten eggs! Once we had looked around the volcano, we had some free time and were able to buy souvenirs and enjoyed a slice of Italian pizza for lunch. Next, we got back on the coach to Herculaneum, the town hit by the actual lava from the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. It was more preserved than Pompeii, with double-storey buildings still intact, and you could even see stains on some of the walls of where the lava/volcanic mud reached. After that we got back on the coach to the hotel. After dinner we sung happy birthday to Aaron Olley, and had free time before having our last night of sleep in Italy.

For the last day, after breakfast, we left the hotel at 10:00 am to go to a local market. From there we walked to the town square, where we had lunch and around 4 hours of sight seeing and shopping. We then had to make our way back to the hotel to collect our cases, and get on the coach to Naples Airport, taking in the lovely views of Naples for the last time. The plane departed at about 6:45 PM and landed at Gatwick Airport for just after 8:30 PM. There was a stop at Birchanger, a service station, on the coach journey home and we arrived back at the school at 1:15 AM.



Everyone enjoyed the trip. It was so much fun and incredibly interesting; an amazing experience. Let's hope there are more trips like it in the future!





New build update

The Academy is excited with the progress being made with the new build programme, currently the build is ahead of schedule and will be complete in time for students to return to in September 2013.

The building is now water tight with the roof complete, windows installed and Principal McCartney is due to lay the last brick on 25th April 2013. Inside the building walls are being erected, plastered and on the first floor offices and classrooms are already receiving their first coat of paint.



We are delighted to advise that the Academy has appointed Aquilla Business Products Ltd to supply furniture for the new classrooms, Library and Senior studies area. The new building and refurbished areas within the school will provide the students and the community of Gorleston with an exciting resource for use for community events, sporting activities and clubs.



The Academy intends to open the sport facilities at weekends starting in the autumn term, this will enable members of the community to use the fitness studio or hire a badminton court for a nominal contribution.

We are very excited about the future facilities and look forward to inviting you in to our building in the Autumn term.

New Challenge for Charlie

Former Venture student, Charlie King has continued his motorbike racing career this year by competing in the Triumph Triple Challenge, a supporting race in the British Superbike series.

The season has started well for Charlie and after the first round at Brands Hatch he was fifth overall and joint first in the Cup Class which is awarded to the best rider under twenty years of age.



In round two at Thruxton he gained sixth place in Race 2 with Race 1 being cancelled because of poor weather conditions. This race will now take place in Round three at Oulton Park. Still looking for sponsors the apprentice engineer is hard to miss on his bright yellow bike numbered 76.

You can follow Charlie in British Superbikes live on the Eurosport channel or at www.triumphtriplechallenge.com. Future races will be held on the following dates:

- May 4th – 6th Oulton Park
- June 14th – 16th Knockhill
- July 5th – 7th Snetterton
- July 19th – 21st Brands Hatch GP
- August 9th – 11th Oulton Park
- August 24th – 26th Cadwell Park
- September 6th – 8th Donnington Park
- September 20th – 22nd TT Circuit Assen
- October 4th – 6th Silverstone Grand Prix
- October 18th – 20th Brands Hatch GP



Sports Leaders

Some sports leaders went to Diss Rugby Club to assist with the Schools Games Rugby Finals. Their behaviour was exemplary.

They had to do some media coverage, taking photos, interviewing staff, students and parents, as well as blogging and tweeting some of the information they had gathered. Ellen Douglas wrote a great blog which was used to promote the success of the event. We can't wait to run some sports leader festivals at Venture next term

Sports Hall Athletics

The year 7's competed brilliantly against the other schools in the area; the girls' team managed a hugely credible 3rd place finish. Zoe Waite, Lauren Williams and Amie Flood were particularly successful. James Horton and Lewis Cotton performed well for the boys.



UFEA

A group of year 7's who hadn't represented the Academy before in any form of sport attended a Sports Hall athletics competition at the University of East Anglia. The team had been selected to represent the district at an aspirational event. They managed to win overall and came home with individual medals and a large trophy. Shae Yaxley, Jake Soards, and Helia Amaro impressed.

Sports News

Yr9 Boys – League Winners

The second half of the football season has continued where it left off with the year 9 side winning games against both Lynn Grove and Flegg. They were victorious against last year's league and cup winners, Lynn Grove in a 3-2 thriller, and then smashed Flegg 6-0. Sam Waite scored 5 (all before half time!) This result ensured Venture shared the spoils at the very top of the league for the first time in our history.



The team also progressed to the semi-finals of the District cup competition but unfortunately could not make the final. The best season yet for a Venture football team, Derry Rose led the team with real desire, whilst Regan Devine, Jake Western and Solomon Webster also made valuable contributions.

Yr8

The year 8's had their first game of the season against a very strong Flegg side. The team did really well and came out of the game with their heads held high. Daniel Blake and Yannish Bully impressed in particular.

Yr7

The year 7 side finished their season with a battling performance against Flegg. The side came back to win the second half with the returning Tyler Yeoman scoring 3. Arron Lawrence made some great saves in goal whilst Charlie Soanes and Daniel Ellis played well.

Yr11

The year 11's played well to give last year's league winners a really good game, only going down 2-0. They then beat Flegg in the quarter finals of the district cup, 6-2. Sunny McKay scored from near the half way line and Jayden Smith bagged a hat trick.

Unfortunately they lost out at the semi-final stage, but have had a decent season to finish their time on. Bradley Goldsmith, Charlie Thrower, Reece Tiley, Todd Nixon and Jay Senior all played their parts in a more impressive campaign.

Yr7&8 Girls

The year 7 +8 girls' football side came 4th in an 8 team, 5-a-side tournament held at Norwich City Football Club's training facility on Carrow Road. The side started brightly and gave the overall winners one of their closest games. The girls may have made it to the later stages had star player Chloe Hodgkinson not injured her ankle.

Sports News



U13 Girls Football Team at the NCFC Football tournament.

The U13 football girls attended the tournament with Chloe Hodgekinson captaining the side.

To add to the already talented year 8 team, we had some fantastic year 7 additions in Megan Thrower, Zoe Wait and Lauren Williams. The girls were playing well with Lauren Williams tackling hard, Jessie Smith running around as the engine for the team (when she wasn't hand balling!!) and Lauren Mcurdo making some lovely passes to Megan Thrower to finish in the back of the net. After beating Yarmouth a whopping 5-0 we went into our final game looking to secure our place into the next round.

However disaster struck as the mighty Chloe Hodgekinson came off injured after a crunching challenge from a Taverham player. The team without their captain struggled to regain form and ended up finishing a respectful 4th place just missing out on a qualification place.

However, the experience was invaluable for the girls, who all played their socks off and represented the Academy impeccably.

We will have them next year!!