

Venture VOICE

Stay Safe



Ormiston Venture Academy

[OAT] AN OAT ACADEMY

Edition 42:
Winter 2025



Venture Graduates the class of 2024



Aspire Achieve
Create Innovate



Festive Fayre

The UVS put on a festive treat

Science Visit

The Centre of Computing History

Online Safety

Venture is recognised

UVS 2024 - 2025

your new UVS is announced

**So much going on
at Venture Academy
for the start of 2025**



Union of
Venture Students

Teacher Training launches at Venture!

ORMISTON TEACHER TRAINING

From September 2024, our approach to teacher education is evolving as we enter into a new partnership with the National Institute of Teaching.

Ormiston Teacher Training – our School-Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) – will deliver high-quality teacher education across four regional campuses situated in the West Midlands, Staffordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

We have a commitment to high quality, evidence-informed teacher education and we are on a mission to improve the quality of teacher development across the system.

Why train with us?

Our vision is to transform the lives of pupils by nurturing the talents of teachers.

Our initial teacher training (ITT) programme, in partnership with the National Institute of Teaching (NlOT), is a fully immersive school-centred programme – aspiring teachers will be in the classroom from the very start. They are fully supported, and each have a dedicated mentor and core training sessions once a week with the Ormiston Teacher Training team.

As an Associate College of the NlOT, we are in the privileged position of being able to offer our aspiring teachers a programme that is rooted in national research whilst reflecting the local contexts of the schools and communities in which they will work. Our future teachers will learn from established experts, including teachers, teacher educators, and specialists in teacher professional development, all of whom are authorities in their fields.

By training to teach with us, you'll have the confidence of knowing that you are participating in a programme that was designed by some of the most experienced teachers and leaders in the country, drawn from four leading school trusts with decades of teacher training between them.

We also know from experience what headteachers look for in new teachers – so we'll ensure that you develop the skills necessary for finding an early career teacher (ECT) role. All our teacher training courses lead to QTS (Qualified Teacher Status), a PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education) and 60 master's level credits.

About the Norfolk Campus

The Norfolk campus will be based at Ormiston Venture Academy and plays a key role in the development of both new and experienced staff with over a decade of experience in leading training across East Anglia. Through successful delivery of initial teacher training, NQT/ECT programmes, teacher development programmes and leadership qualifications we are proud of the number of educational practitioners we have supported throughout this time.

By training to teach at Ormiston Venture Academy you will be joining an outstanding academy team that has a true ambition for every child and believes in social justice for all.

Our academy is committed to providing a world class education for all students through a relentless focus on personalised first quality teaching in the classroom, enriching opportunities and a supportive and positive pastoral system.

When you become a part of our Venture community you will become a champion for our students and our community.

Your school placements

Your school placements will take place in any of our OAT and non-OAT partnership schools. For this campus, they include:

- Benjamin Britten Academy of Music & Mathematics
- Broadland High Ormiston Academy
- Notre Dame Academy
- Caister Academy
- Flegg High Ormiston Academy
- City of Norwich School
- Ormiston Denes Academy
- Cliff Park Ormiston Academy
- Thorpe Academy
- Ormiston Venture Academy
- Ormiston Victory Academy

We are now recruiting for the September 2024 cohort. For more information and how to apply, visit the Ormiston Teacher Training website:

www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk/OTT-Norfolk

For more information about training to teach with us, please email us on:

info@ormistonteachertraining.co.uk

or speak with our director of initial teacher training (ITT), Kaye Patrick on:

kaye.patrick@ormistonacademies.co.uk



We look forward to receiving your application!

What's going on at Venture Academy for 2024

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A New Year, A New Chapter of Excellence – Welcome to 2025

As we step into 2025, we do so with immense pride and sense of purpose.

This new year marks the beginning of an exciting chapter, one that builds on the exceptional achievements of the past year. In 2024, our students secured remarkable results that placed them in the top 10% nationally- a testament to their hard work, resilience, and ambition, as well as the dedication of our outstanding staff.

At the heart of our academy is a shared belief that every child deserves a world-class education. We are committed to ensuring our students achieve not only academic excellence

but also personal growth, cultural appreciation, and social development. Our fantastic CASH curriculum, the many enrichment opportunities for our students and the way our students demonstrate our Venture Virtues daily makes our community the amazing place it is... both in Venture and beyond.

Our Venture Voice celebrates our students' incredible accomplishments and highlights the vibrant, supportive environment we deliver every day. Let us continue to work together to ensure

every child realises their dreams and strives for even greater heights in 2025 and beyond.

Here's to another year of ambition, growth, and success for our entire Venture community.

Regards
Simon Gilbert-Barnham
- Principal

#WeWillCare



Spreads Christmas Cheer at Lydia Eva Court

This Christmas season, the #WeWillCare leadership team brought the spirit of giving to life by visiting the residents of Lydia Eva Court, a local residential care home.

With a mission to ensure everyone feels the warmth of the holidays, the team delivered a collection of thoughtful Christmas gifts donated by our community.

The initiative was inspired by the desire to spread joy to those who might not otherwise receive a gift this year. Each present was chosen and wrapped with care, symbolizing the collective love and generosity of the #WeWillCare family.

Residents at Lydia Eva Court were overjoyed to see the team arrive with festive cheer, sharing smiles, kind words, and gifts that brightened their day. For many, the visit was not just about receiving a present but also about the sense of connection and thoughtfulness that it represented.

This heartwarming experience reminds us all of the importance of community, compassion, and looking out for one another during the holiday season. As we celebrate Christmas, let us continue to find ways to care for those around us and ensure that no one feels forgotten.

*Merry Christmas from all of us at #WeWillCare!
Let's keep the spirit of giving alive*



Careers and Aspirations day

Year 9 students from Ormiston Venture Academy recently took part in a Careers and Aspirations Day held at the Kings Centre in Great Yarmouth.

Organised by the Norfolk and Suffolk Careers Hub, the event brought together 24 local companies, apprenticeship providers, and careers advisers, who were there to meet students from local high schools and answer questions about future career paths.

Throughout the day, students attended talks covering sectors such as energy, community development, manufacturing, construction, and apprenticeships. They also had the chance to engage with interactive stalls set up by various companies.

Employees from different businesses shared insights on career entry routes, salary expectations, and advancement opportunities, providing students with real-world perspectives.

The day concluded with a brief tour of the Harfrey's industrial estate, where students visited local businesses and saw where East Coast College and East Norfolk Sixth Form are located.





Union of
Venture Students

Venture's Union of Venture Students (U.V.S) hosted its final Baraza of the calendar year, marking a pivotal moment for student-led initiatives within the academy.

Concludes 2024 with a Landmark Baraza

Rooted in the East African tradition of public forums, the Baraza serves as a platform for students to discuss and enact meaningful change. Director of Personal Development, Spencer Doggett, praised the event as **"the British Value of democracy in action,"** highlighting its role in empowering student leaders to vote on proposals—mirroring the processes of a national parliament. This December Baraza set a new record with 231 students in attendance, the highest turnout for UVS to date.

The event provided an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the contributions of the outgoing Year 11 UVS team while looking forward to the selection of a new Year 10 team through a rigorous interview process later this term. Key achievements were applauded, including the café menu updates, successful fundraising initiatives, international food celebrations, and the work of newly appointed prefects.

Highlights from the Agenda

Progress Updates:

Students reviewed accomplishments since the previous Baraza, including support for local charities. A total of £750 has been raised so far, benefiting Comic Relief, the James Paget Hospital, and Headway, a charity dedicated to supporting individuals with brain injuries.

Eco Project:

The ongoing 'Cut Your Carbon' campaign was revisited, with students reminded of the online collective created by Eco Ambassadors earlier this month.

New Menu Feedback:

Students had the chance to sample potential additions to the Spring café menu, including cherry bakewell

sponge with custard, providing feedback to help refine the offerings.

Future Opportunities:

Several new initiatives were introduced:

- Collaboration with the Youth Advisory Board (YAB).
- Participation in a Youth Council project led by East Norfolk Sixth Form College, where nine students expressed interest in attending six local meetings.
- Expansion of the Boys Mental Wellbeing (BMW) group, with plans for student-led promotion after the holiday break during Tuesday and Thursday breaks.

World Record Attempt:

Students enthusiastically debated the next World Record Attempt, scheduled for the January Student Training Day teambuilding session. After watching clips of potential challenges, they voted to attempt the teabag throwing record, currently set at seven teabags thrown into cups from over a metre away.

Creative Contributions:

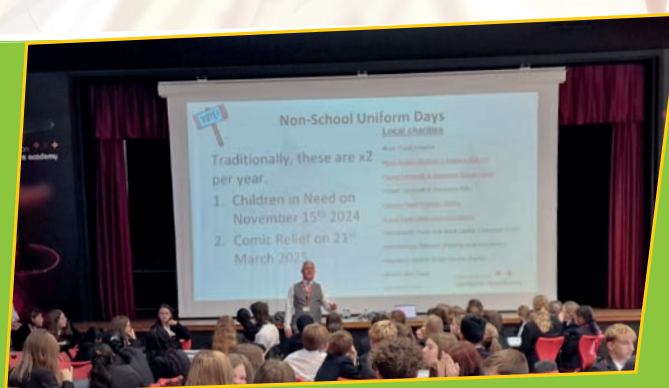
The Baraza concluded with discussions about upcoming College Clash events and rewards, with students submitting new ideas for Mr. Waters to explore further.

The December Baraza encapsulated the spirit of collaboration, innovation, and student empowerment that the UVS strives to foster. As the year draws to a close, Venture Academy looks forward to seeing these initiatives come to life under the guidance of the next cohort of student leaders.

The first Baraza of the 2024-25 academic year was held in October, bringing together an impressive 231 student leaders who have taken on new roles within the academy.

These roles include prefects, PL Captains, Wellbeing Ambassadors, Virtues Ambassadors, Eco Ambassadors, sports captains, and the senior Year 11 UVS representatives.

The Baraza, inspired by an East African tradition where communities come together for public meetings to discuss and inspire change, has been a powerful platform for student-led initiatives at the academy. Spencer Doggett, Director of Personal Development and lead staff member of the UVS, highlighted its significance, saying, "Baraza is Venture's democratic space, providing opportunities for student leaders across the academy to voice their ideas and even vote on suggestions, just like a national parliament."



This first Baraza of the year offered a chance to celebrate the UVS's achievements since September. Among the items on the agenda were acknowledging their efforts in marking national food days on the café menu, selecting four local charities to support throughout the year, and brainstorming new ideas for the College Clash.

The event demonstrated the ongoing commitment of the academy's student leaders to fostering positive change and building a stronger school community.

Year 11 Students Visit Van Gogh's "Poets & Lovers" Exhibition for GCSE Inspiration

Venture took a group of enthusiastic Year 11 students to the much-celebrated Vincent Van Gogh: Poets and Lovers exhibition at the National Gallery in London.

The visit was organized to inspire the students as they work on their GCSE art portfolios by allowing them to explore Van Gogh's world-famous masterpieces in person.



This special exhibition brought together some of Van Gogh's most cherished paintings from museums and private collections across the globe. Many of these works are rarely exhibited publicly, making the event a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for students and art lovers alike. What made this exhibition even more extraordinary was the pairing of Van Gogh's vibrant paintings with his remarkable drawings, offering a more comprehensive look into his creative process and emotional depth.

The students were captivated by iconic works such as *Starry Night Over the Rhône* (1888), a breathtaking view of the night sky illuminated by stars and reflected in the waters of the Rhône river. They also saw *The Yellow House* (1888), on loan from the Van Gogh Museum, a piece that reveals the artist's deep connection to his surroundings during his time in Arles. The National Gallery's own *Sunflowers* (1888) was a particular highlight, its bright yellows and rich textures reminding students of Van Gogh's ability to transform everyday subjects into something extraordinary. Another significant piece was Van Gogh's *Chair* (1889), a simple yet powerful representation of his own identity and artistic style.

The opportunity to see such masterpieces up close left the students inspired and motivated, fuelling their artistic ambitions. Their sketches, notes, and reflections from the day will serve as the foundation for their own art portfolios, helping them incorporate the boldness, emotion, and innovative techniques that Van Gogh is so well known for.

The visit to the Poets and Lovers exhibition was an unforgettable experience for the Year 11 students, as it not only brought them face to face with Van Gogh's artistry but also showed them how one's passion for life, poetry, and love can be channelled into creative expression. This exhibition may well influence their future work, encouraging them to take risks, explore new techniques, and view the world with the same depth of emotion that Van Gogh did.

All students showed amazing teamwork and resilience in the toughest weather conditions ever faced by students from Venture whilst at DofE! Everyone was a credit to both themselves and the school, and should be very pleased with what they achieved!"

Ms. A. Tomczak, also a DofE Assistant Manager, commended the students for their independence and problem-solving skills.

"Students who participated in the DofE weekend were amazing. They worked well as a team, showed resilience, and worked together through any problems. They were very independent. They set up tents, cooked dinner and breakfast, and planned their journey around the countryside on their own."

The year 10 students who attended the expedition were Daisy, Uche, Dylan, Ashnetha, and Kirstin. The dedicated staff members supporting them were Mr. Webb, Miss Tomczak, and Miss Lowe.

This expedition stands as a testament to the students' determination and ability to overcome challenges, embodying the true spirit of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Congratulations to all the participants on this remarkable achievement!



CCF Cadets:

Your mission, should you choose to accept it is at RAF Barnham.

Four Venture students from our Combined Cadet Force (CCF)—Poppy, Joe, Harry, and Ben—embarked on an exciting and challenging experience at RAF Barnham. The adventure tested their leadership, survival skills, and teamwork over the course of two action-packed days.

Day 1: Thursday - Shelters, Survival, and Navigation

Upon arrival, the students' first task was to hand over their mobile phones—a symbolic start to their immersion into the wilderness. Without distractions, they were immediately tasked with building their own shelters, using natural materials and resources around them. This exercise was designed to teach them the importance of shelter-building in the field, a crucial survival skill for any cadet.

After setting up their temporary homes for the night, the cadets were introduced to field cooking techniques and basic safety drills. Learning how to cook outdoors with limited resources not only tested their self-reliance but also prepared them for any scenario they might face in real-world operations.

As night fell, the cadets faced their next challenge: a night time navigation exercise. Led by the students themselves, this activity was designed to sharpen their map-reading, compass skills, and ability to move in low-visibility environments. The cadets successfully navigated the terrain, gaining confidence in their leadership and teamwork skills.

Once the exercise was complete, the students returned to their shelters to camp down for the night—sleeping in the very structures they had built earlier that day.



Day 2: Friday - Camouflage, Concealment, and Tactical Movement

Friday kicked off with lessons in camouflage and concealment. The cadets were taught how to blend into their surroundings using natural materials, a critical tactic for remaining undetected in the field. They then moved on to patrolling techniques and silent movement drills, focusing on minimizing noise and avoiding detection—skills essential for any successful mission.

The culmination of their training came in the form of a large-scale exercise. The group was split into squads and tasked with sneaking up on their instructors without being seen. The challenge tested their ability to apply all the skills they had learned—camouflage, teamwork, stealth, and strategy. Each team worked together, carefully planning their approach and using the environment to their advantage.

A Successful Mission

The weekend at RAF Barnham was a resounding success, with all four cadets showing tremendous progress in their skills and leadership. Poppy, Joe, Harry, and Ben demonstrated resilience, creativity, and a strong ability to work together in challenging conditions. Their time on base provided invaluable hands-on experience, preparing them for future CCF exercises and beyond.

Well done to all the cadets for their effort, focus, and teamwork throughout the weekend. This experience was a true testament to the spirit of the CCF—building confidence, resilience, and leadership through practical adventure.



Festive Fayre



The Union of Venture Students (UVS) at Ormiston Venture Academy hosted an unforgettable Christmas Fayre, spreading festive cheer across the student and staff community.

The event featured a variety of delightful stalls, offering treats like festive hot chocolates, popcorn, decorative cakes, biscuits, mince pies, and even "reindeer poo" (a quirky touch, we won't ask!). Entertainment was in full swing with performances by dancers, singers, and the school band, who delivered spirited renditions of Christmas classics.

Santa Claus made a grand appearance, accompanied by his reindeer and hardworking elves, ensuring the event was a magical experience for everyone.

The highlight of the Fayre was the raffle, which raised an impressive £1,000 to support guild and enrichment activities. The top prize, a Nintendo Switch, went to a lucky student named Ben. Other fantastic prizes included vouchers, an Echo Dot, and giant cuddly toys generously donated by Morrisons and Ocean Bay Amusements, all distributed by Santa's enthusiastic helpers.

Students left the Fayre with sweets, fizzy drinks, temporary Christmas tattoos, and glittery face decorations, ready to enjoy their well-deserved holiday break.



Mr. McNally praised the efforts of the UVS students, saying,

"The elves and reindeer did Santa proud, working together as a team to prepare and coordinate a wonderful event for everyone."



How to CPR

As part of Venture's CASH curriculum (*Community, Ambition, Spirituality, and Health*), students are taught essential first aid skills, including how to respond to asthma attacks, allergic reactions, and head injuries.

A key component of this curriculum is the inclusion of CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and defibrillator training, as required by the National Curriculum.

Since 2021, Ormiston Venture Academy has proudly trained around 800 students in these life-saving techniques, thanks to the invaluable support of the British Red Cross. This October, 180 Year 8 students participated in CPR workshops delivered by Capricia and her team as part of the Red Cross' Community Education outreach programme. In addition, Year 9 students who missed their training due to the Covid-19 lockdown were given the opportunity to catch up.

The three-day sessions aligned perfectly with the UK's national 'Restart a Heart' week on 18th October. Students learned how to place someone in the recovery position, perform chest compressions, and use a defibrillator. Capricia and her team used 'Little Annie' resuscitation dolls to give students hands-on practice with CPR techniques.



Jack, a Year 8 student, remarked, "It's really useful to know how to help someone who isn't breathing—it could save a life one day." Another student, Sara, added, "Practicing on the doll helped me understand how to do chest compressions properly."

Spencer Doggett, Lead for the CASH programme, emphasized the importance of the training:

"It's alarming to hear that over 6,000 people in the UK die each year because they aren't placed in the recovery position. This 60-minute training provides skills for life that could save a loved one or even a stranger. Capricia shared a story of a former student who used these very skills to save a life—proof that this training has a lasting impact."

Through these workshops, Venture equips students with vital life-saving knowledge, ensuring they are prepared to respond in emergencies now and in the future.

STOP THE PRESS! – STOP THE PRESS! – STOP THE PRESS!

Innovate College emerged as the triumphant winners of the College Clash, showcasing exceptional performance across a variety of activities.

Their impressive attendance set the tone for success, and they excelled in numerous areas, including securing a high number of visas and dominating Total Recall Week with their mastery of recall challenges tied to Venture's widgets and learning processes. Innovate College also shone in academic achievements, particularly in spelling, and claimed victory in a host of College Clash events.

Highlights included their standout performances in a pizza-eating contest, Mario Kart and FIFA tournaments, and a chocolate quiz, cementing their reputation as a force to be reckoned with.

Innovate Triumph in College Clash!

Diary Dates 2025

February 2025

- Half Term – Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February
- OAT Staff Training Day – Monday 24th February
- Students return to the academy – Tuesday 25th February at 8.25am

March 2025

- World Book Day Celebration – 6th March
- Year 9 & 10 Parents evening – 20th March 3pm – 7.30 pm
- SEND Parental drop – 26th March – 2pm – 3.30pm

What's coming up at Venture Academy...

March 2025 continued

- Red Nose Day – 15th March
- Year 11 Preparing for Exams Evening – 3pm – 7.30pm – 27th March

April & May

- Easter Break – Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April
- Students return to the academy – Tuesday 22nd April at 8.25am
- Bank Holiday – Monday 5th May
- Year 11 Residential – 9th & 10th May (non sleeping)
- Exam Block for Year 11 students start – 12th May



Science Visit to: The Centre of Computing History

The Computer Science Department at Ormiston Venture Academy took a mix of 45 year 9 and 10 students to The Centre of Computing History in Cambridge.

Students were divided into three groups to participate in 4 different activities throughout the day. One session included a lesson on the world's largest processor. This allowed students to consolidate their knowledge and understanding of the FDE cycle, which has just been covered in the curriculum.

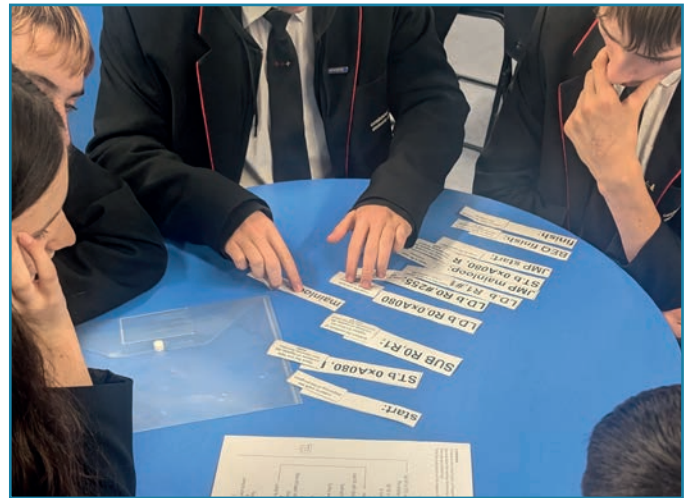
This session was particularly interesting, as it allowed our students to see the Fetch Decode Execute cycle in action. It was created By James Newman between 2014-2016 and holds the Guinness World Record for the largest processor. "Computers are quite opaque, looking at them it's impossible to see how they work. What I would like to do is get inside and see what's going on. Trouble is we can't shrink down small enough to walk inside a silicon chip. But we can go the other way; we can build the thing big enough that we can walk inside it. Not only that we can also put LEDs on everything so we can see the data moving and the logic happening. It's going to be great" - James Newman.

They were also introduced to early memory and shown how technology has reduced in size and cost but increased in capabilities.

This was delivered by Steven Goodwin who used to work in the games design industry and has also published several books. Game Development - The Career of Steven Goodwin - Veteran Game Developer - from the Marquis de Geek. It was great to hear this explained with Steven's level of enthusiasm and love for the subject.

Another session included a programming lesson, controlling external objects. This was called Pi Power and took place in the 80's style classroom. This was an opportunity for students to show off their programming skills to make a remote-controlled buggy to be programmed and move based on inputs from the code. This really helped improve some students confidence with programming and showed possibilities outside of the classroom.

The third guided session was a tour around the amazing artefacts the museum as curated. This allowed the students to add some vital contextual information



to the knowledge they have gained in the classroom. Specifically seeing how computers have developed over time. Students were shocked by how large old machines and technology were and I believe this has given them a new appreciation for the devices we use every day. This was delivered by Tim Hoverd who spoke of his experience writing early programs and the creation of chips/processors and gave an insight into how they are made so small (1 micron).

Students also had the opportunity to explore the games zone, where they were able to play a timeline of game evolution, playing original versions of favourites such as Tetris, Pacman, Sonic and Street Fighter. Students were all determined to set some high scores.

Head of CS and Trip leader, Lewis Riches said, **"The Visit to The Centre of Computing History embeds itself perfectly into our curriculum adding vital contextual information to support students existing knowledge. It is a place which we have enjoyed visiting in the past and plan to continue in the future for other groups of students. It is nice to see how the museum evolves between each visit and having industry expert volunteers makes the experience that much more impactful. Students were fantastic throughout the day and really valued their experience"**.

Many students commented on how they enjoyed the day and a number of them really enjoyed the opportunity to visit somewhere new. For many this was their first school trip.

"The day was really good, I had fun exploring the old games in the gameszone, Playing Streetfighter on the original arcade machine was cool" – Riley.

"I enjoyed the programming workshop, I was able to work through the task on my own and it was good to use programming in a different way" - Evie





Year 10 Students Explore Geology & Ecosystems at East Norfolk Sixth Form Centre

A group of enthusiastic Year 10 GCSE Geography students had the unique opportunity to delve deeper into their geology and ecosystems studies during a visit to East Norfolk Sixth Form Centre's Earth Science department.

The morning was packed with engaging, hands-on activities designed to enrich their understanding of key topics from their GCSE curriculum.

The students began their visit with an Earth Science lab lesson, where they explored the fascinating concept of biomimicry—the practice of drawing inspiration from nature's designs to solve human challenges. They learned why having a biology specialist in every design studio could revolutionize innovation by incorporating natural efficiency and resilience into products and structures.

Next, the students donned lab coats and took on the role of young geologists in an interactive geology lab. The highlight of the session was an experiment to investigate the impact of craters in different rock types. Using flour and cocoa powder trays to simulate surface layers, they created craters by dropping marbles from various heights.



The students meticulously measured their results, analyzing how the size and depth of the craters varied depending on the height and energy of the impact. From their data, they constructed graphs to demonstrate the relationship between impact force and crater size, applying key scientific principles to a real-world context.

Great Yarmouth Celebrates the 71st Festival with Joyful Christmas Performances

The 71st Festival in Great Yarmouth marked the beginning of the Christmas season for many in the local community. Held on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th December 2023 at the Drill Hall, the festival brought together students, families, and music enthusiasts for a celebration of carols and festive songs.

Planning for the event began as early as July, with rehearsals taking place throughout the autumn term. Students from local primary schools, alongside participants from Caister Academy and Lynn Grove Academy, joined forces to perform a selection of Christmas classics.

The event was organized by the Great Yarmouth Schools Music Association (GYSMA), a local charity dedicated to providing young people with opportunities to perform in choirs and ensembles. GYSMA hosts several concerts throughout the year, fostering a vibrant musical community in the area.

This year, 20 students from various year groups participated in the festival, showcasing their talent and dedication to music. A standout moment came on Thursday night when Paige, a Year 11 student, performed a solo during "Once in Royal David's City," following a successful audition.

Performing in front of two capacity audiences, the students demonstrated exceptional commitment, dedicating their time to rehearsals and delivering memorable performances. The festival continues to be a cherished tradition, spreading festive cheer and highlighting the musical talents of local students.





Christmas Shoebox & Foodbank Appeal

Christmas is a season of celebration and giving, and students at Ormiston Venture Academy have embodied the true spirit of the holidays through two remarkable initiatives aimed at supporting both local and global communities.

One of the academy's annual traditions is Christmas Jumper Day, where students are invited to donate food items for the local food bank instead of contributing the usual £1 charity fee. This year, the students and their families once again demonstrated their generosity, donating around 1,000 items to those in need. Reverend Matthew Price from St. Mary Magdalen Church gratefully accepted the donations on behalf of the food bank during the final week of term. Reflecting on the importance of this contribution, Reverend Matthew said, **"The food bank has been seeing increasing demand in recent months, so we are incredibly grateful to Venture for their support."**

In addition to supporting their local community, Venture students also extended their kindness globally through the annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Starting preparations as early as September, PL Groups and their tutors worked diligently to fill shoeboxes with gifts for children living in poverty across the world. This initiative, part of Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child, aims to bring joy to children who may not receive any other gifts this Christmas. This year, the academy packed 30 shoeboxes, with contributions from all four college groups. These boxes were delivered to a local drop-off point in Norwich, ready to begin their journey to one of 14 countries where they will bring happiness and hope.

The appeal has a long-standing impact, with over one million shoeboxes sent from the UK and Ireland last year, thanks to the efforts of 5,000 volunteers.

Mr. Doggett, Director of Personal Development and organiser of the appeal, expressed his pride in the students' efforts, stating: "It's fantastic to see Venture participating in this meaningful initiative once again. With this year's contributions, we've surpassed 200 shoeboxes in total. Our students are eager to help those less fortunate, and the support from PL Tutors and parents, who have generously donated items and gifts, has been invaluable."

Phoebe, a student involved in the appeal, shared her thoughts: **"We watched a video about the Shoebox Appeal in our collective, and it's incredible to think we can help others so far away."** Jake, another participant, added, **"It feels good to know we're making a difference, especially at Christmas. I'm curious to find out where our boxes will end up."**

Through initiatives like Christmas Jumper Day and the Shoebox Appeal, Ormiston Venture Academy students continue to showcase the power of compassion and generosity, proving that even small acts of kindness can make a significant impact on both local and global communities.

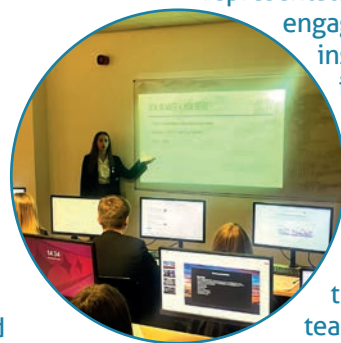


Guilds at Venture: Expanding Horizons and Discovering Passions

At Ormiston Venture Academy, Wednesday afternoons have transformed into a vibrant hub of exploration and creativity, thanks to the popular Guilds program. With 31 unique options this term, students are spoilt for choice, diving into activities that enrich their learning and broaden their horizons.

A guild is a focused enrichment activity, running for four consecutive weeks, designed to help students delve deeper into areas of interest or discover new passions. This innovative approach to education encourages students to step outside their regular curriculum and embrace mixed-age learning in a dynamic and inclusive environment.

Sports enthusiasts are spoilt for choice with options like football, Just Dance, and the exciting new Boxing Boot Camp, run in partnership with Kingfisher Boxing Club. Meanwhile, budding diplomats can hone their debating and leadership skills in the Mock United Nations guild, facilitated by students themselves.



For those looking ahead to life beyond Venture, representatives from East Norfolk Sixth Form lead engaging Law and Psychology guilds, offering insights into these fascinating fields and inspiring post-16 ambitions.

The arts remain a perennial favorite, with guilds for drama, music, arts and crafts, and clay modeling offering creative outlets. Meanwhile, guilds like Harry Potter, F1, and astronomy allow students to immerse themselves in specific interests, while brain-teasing games provide a mental workout.

Recognising the importance of mental well-being, the academy also offers workshops dedicated to relaxation, group collaboration, reading, and even podcast creation. These activities support students' emotional health while encouraging teamwork and creativity.

The Guilds program is a highlight with students eagerly anticipating the varied and exciting choices. Whether pursuing a passion, discovering a hidden talent, or simply trying something new, the guilds at Venture inspire a love of learning that goes beyond the classroom.

Get into Uni

Empowering Students Through Dynamic Workshops

IntoUniversity Great Yarmouth recently partnered with Ormiston Venture Academy to deliver a series of transformative workshops for students in Years 7 to 10.

Over two days, the sessions focused on providing students with key skills to break down barriers to higher education, in line with IntoUniversity's mission of expanding opportunities for young people.

Each year group participated in a specially designed workshop, aimed at helping them develop essential skills and boosting their confidence in their academic and personal futures.

- **Year 7: Choosing Success** – The Year 7 students explored the concept of success and how to make choices that align with their personal and academic goals. The session emphasized self-reflection, motivation, and decision-making skills, setting the foundation for future growth.
- **Year 8: Maximising Memory** – Year 8 students took part in a workshop on memory techniques and strategies for effective learning. This session equipped them with tools to enhance their study habits and academic performance by improving recall and information retention.
- **Year 9: Transferable Skills** – For Year 9, the focus was on developing transferable skills that will be valuable throughout their education and beyond. Students explored critical thinking, communication, teamwork, and problem-solving—skills that will help them excel in various fields and settings.
- **Year 10: Entrepreneurship** – The Year 10 workshop encouraged students to think creatively and critically about entrepreneurship, teaching them how to innovate, identify opportunities, and develop business ideas. This session provided insight into how entrepreneurial skills can open new pathways to success, whether through starting their own ventures or applying these skills in other careers.



These workshops serve as a lead-up to a second round of sessions scheduled for March 2025, all part of IntoUniversity's larger effort to inspire young people and encourage them to consider higher education as a viable option for their future.

Partnerships and Future Opportunities

IntoUniversity Great Yarmouth, which opened its doors in autumn 2022 in partnership with the University of East Anglia and Trinity College, Cambridge, is deeply committed to helping students from diverse backgrounds overcome the barriers that might otherwise prevent them from considering higher education. This collaboration with Ormiston Venture Academy exemplifies that commitment.

Looking ahead, Ormiston Venture Academy students will have the chance to visit Cambridge University in February 2025, an experience designed to give them firsthand exposure to the possibilities of higher education. This visit will further reinforce the themes explored in the workshops, giving students a tangible understanding of what university life can offer.

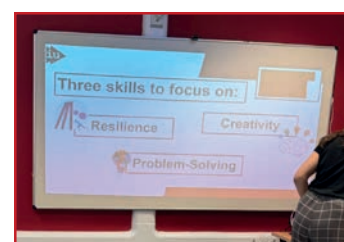
Empowering the Next Generation

A representative from Ormiston Venture Academy highlighted the significance of these workshops:

"The students have been exposed to some incredible workshops over the last couple of days, adding to their personal skill set in preparation for higher education and their career paths. The workshops have inspired our young people to remove barriers they may have in looking towards their futures."

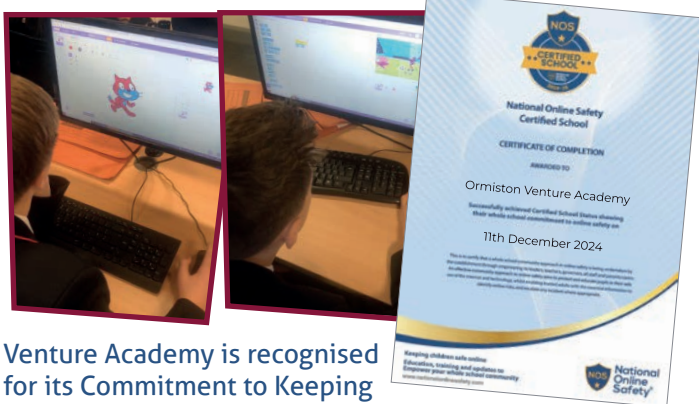
These sessions mark the beginning of a longer journey, equipping students with the skills, confidence, and vision they need to unlock their full potential.

By fostering a culture of aspiration and self-belief, IntoUniversity and Ormiston Venture Academy are creating a strong foundation for students to thrive academically and personally, ensuring that they are well-prepared to take the next steps toward higher education and successful careers.





Venture recognised for its commitment to helping pupils stay safe online



Venture Academy is recognised for its Commitment to Keeping Children Safe, Online and Beyond. Venture achieved recognition as a National Online Safety (NOS) Certified School, reflecting its dedication to ensuring the safety and well-being of children in the digital world and beyond. The academy's efforts highlight the importance of protecting young people and fostering a secure environment through education and community collaboration.

A Holistic Approach to Safety

The academy's achievement underscores its comprehensive approach to safeguarding children. By completing an extensive online safety training programme, Ormiston Venture Academy has demonstrated its commitment to equipping students, staff, and parents with the tools and knowledge needed to navigate the internet safely.

This certification is a testament to the school's proactive measures to address the evolving challenges of the online world.

The National Online Safety Certified School Accreditation is awarded to institutions that adopt a whole-school approach to online safety. This includes engaging all members of the school community—senior leaders, teachers, staff, and parents—in fostering a safer online environment for children.

Such initiatives are critical in ensuring that children are protected not only from online threats but also from the broader risks they may encounter in their everyday lives.

Supporting Education & Empowerment

National Online Safety, a multi-award-winning digital training provider, develops resources aligned with the Department of Education's statutory requirements. Its CPD-accredited courses and educational materials empower schools across the UK to educate their communities about online safety. These resources enable schools to stay informed about potential online dangers and equip them with effective strategies to safeguard children.

James Southworth, co-founder of NOS, said: *"Congratulations to everyone at Ormiston Venture Academy on becoming a National Online Safety Certified School. By completing our training programme, the school has shown its strong commitment to implementing an effective whole-school approach to online safety. It can be increasingly difficult for schools and parents to stay ahead of online threats and ensure both children and staff are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. We arm schools with the knowledge they need to understand online dangers and react in the best way possible to any problems."*

A Commitment to Ongoing Collaboration

Owen Cooper, Online Safety Lead at Ormiston Venture Academy, praised the collective effort that led to the certification: "This recognition shows the hard work and dedication of everyone here at Venture—the staff, students, and the supportive families within our community. Together, we have built a foundation of safety and awareness, and I hope we can continue working together to maintain and enhance this important work."

The Broader Importance of Safety Education

Teaching and schools play a crucial role in keeping children safe, both online and offline. By integrating online safety education into the curriculum and fostering open communication with families, schools like Ormiston Venture Academy ensure that children are equipped to make informed decisions and avoid potential dangers. Such efforts contribute to a culture of safety and responsibility that extends beyond the classroom.

Encouraging Broader Participation

Ormiston Venture Academy's achievement serves as an inspiration for other schools to prioritize online safety. Any school interested in discussing their online safety provision or accessing up-to-date online safety learning resources is encouraged to contact National Online Safety at 0800 368 8061.

Together, through education, collaboration, and a commitment to safety, schools can create environments where children thrive securely in both the physical and digital worlds.

Donation of Laptops for Our Most Vulnerable Students

We are thrilled to share that our academy has received a generous donation of laptops from Plug the Gap, a charity dedicated to bridging the digital divide. Their mission is to empower individuals and organizations by providing the tools, training, and knowledge needed to safely and confidently access the digital world.

Plug the Gap is a social enterprise established by Osiris IT with the goal of ensuring no one is excluded from the opportunities technology provides. In today's digital-first society, many individuals are left behind due to limited access to devices and the internet. Plug the Gap works tirelessly to reduce this disparity.

Last week, we were delighted to welcome Chrissie, Operations Manager, and Phillip, Managing Director of Plug the Gap, to our academy. During their visit, they delivered laptops specifically for our Young Carers, ensuring these students have access to essential tools for their education and personal development.

Owen Cooper, Young Carers Coordinator expressed heartfelt gratitude for the donation, stating:

"This incredible donation from Plug the Gap will have a transformative impact on our most vulnerable students. It allows them to access the same level of digital resources at home as their peers, helping to bridge the growing digital divide exacerbated by current financial challenges in our community. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Chrissie and Phillip, supporting their remarkable work to benefit not only our students but others across the community and beyond."

Emily Rollinson, a young carer at Ormiston Venture Academy, shared her perspective:

"Being a young carer can be challenging, as we often balance supporting our families with our education. Having access to these laptops means we can keep up with our schoolwork and also enjoy moments of escape, whether by going online or watching a movie. It's a huge support for us."

Owen Cooper added:

"Currently, we have identified over 30 young carers at the academy, but we are aware there are more. We are actively working to identify and support all our young carers, both within the academy and in the wider community. Through partnerships with local organizations like Great Yarmouth and Gorleston Young Carers (GYGYC) and Caring Together, we aim to ensure these students and their families receive the assistance they need and deserve."

We are deeply grateful to Plug the Gap for their generosity and commitment to making a difference. This initiative marks a significant step toward providing equal opportunities for all our students, empowering them to thrive in their education and beyond.



MACMILLAN. Cake Sale

CANCER SUPPORT



September saw, the Union of Venture Students host a successful bake sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Held during break time outside the Great Hall, the event brought together students and staff in a heartwarming display of community spirit and generosity.

The bake sale raised over £140, with all proceeds going directly to Macmillan Cancer Support, a charity that provides essential care and services to people affected by cancer. This outstanding achievement reflects the dedication and compassion of the Venture School community in supporting such a meaningful cause.

A huge thanks goes to the students and parents who generously baked and donated cakes, making the event a sweet success. Special recognition must go to Ms. Callaghan, one of our dedicated parents, who baked an impressive array of delicious treats that were a hit with everyone.

The success of this bake sale highlights the positive impact that small community efforts can have on a larger scale. Every penny raised will contribute to the vital work that Macmillan Cancer Support does for those facing cancer and their families.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this event such a success.

Your generosity will make a real difference!



EVENTS
@venture
STOP THE PRESS

Venture's **RECORD BREAKER Adventures!**

Every year, Venture takes on the challenge of breaking a Guinness World Record, fostering teamwork, creativity, and excitement among its students and staff.

Over the years, the academy has achieved several notable feats, beginning with an official World

Record for the most high-fives with a mascot—Vinny the Venture Raptor—in just three minutes.

Following that, in 2020, they set another record for the greatest number of paper airplanes in the air simultaneously.

After a hiatus due to Covid restrictions, the academy returned in 2022 with an unofficial record-breaking attempt: the highest number of times a balloon could be bounced on a cotton bud within 30 seconds. The enthusiasm carried into 2023 when they discovered a Birmingham school's world record for the largest PE lesson. Set in May 2022 at Edgbaston Cricket Ground with 645 students, Ormiston Venture Academy surpassed this in September 2024, with 843 students participating in a series of drills organized by the PE department.

In January 2025, the academy took on a completely new challenge. After researching indoor records, the UVS (Unified Venture Student council) voted to attempt the record for the most teabags thrown into a mug from 1.5 meters in 30 seconds. With the record standing at just seven, it was seen as a fun and achievable target.

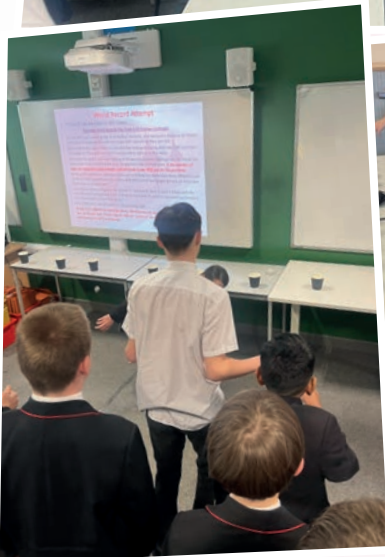
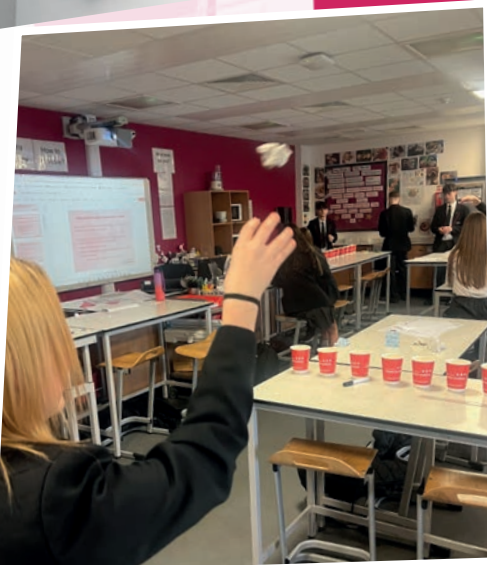
Students practiced diligently, with teabags and mugs provided for training sessions. Each college identified their top thrower, and the best performers were invited to the grand World Teabag Throwing Championship, held in the school café on Friday, January 10th. The finalists included Codey (Achieve), Cameron (Aspire), Ava (Create), and Ethan (Innovate). Representing the staff was Mr. Edwards, who had impressed during practice sessions.

With mascot Vinny cheering them on, the event culminated in an exciting showdown. Mr. Edwards tied the existing world record of seven on his first attempt, securing the top spot. Codey and Cameron followed in second and third places, earning valuable points for their respective colleges in the first College Clash of 2025.

Spencer Doggett, Director of Personal Development, reflected on the event:

"It's wonderful to see our students come together as one big team, enjoying themselves while taking on unique challenges. Attempting to beat a world record requires coordination and planning, but most importantly, it's about having fun—and it looks like everyone did just that!"

Ormiston Venture Academy continues to prove that breaking records is not just about the achievement itself but about fostering collaboration, creativity, and a sense of community.



Venture on Tour!

Year 11 GCSE Textile Design Trip



Natural History Museum

On a recent trip, Year 11 GCSE Textile Design students visited the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) in London to gather primary images for their "Structures" themed coursework project.

The visit gave the students an opportunity to take photographs and create sketches that will later inspire their textile designs. The group explored the museum's gardens, where they photographed architectural details and natural elements, drawing inspiration from the setting. Along the way, they were fortunate to view the temporary installations from the London Design Festival, showcasing cutting-edge designs and creative innovations.

"The V&A is a great place to visit because there is such an eclectic mix of exhibits and installations to view, and the architecture of the museum itself is spectacular," commented Miss Palmer.

One student said,

"The V&A was awesome! I particularly liked the Renaissance sculptures and the London Design Festival installations."

Students took plenty of photos to use as references for their coursework as they explored both the interiors and the outdoor spaces. As the weather was pleasant, the group enjoyed lunch outside in the V&A's scenic gardens before heading to the nearby Natural History Museum gardens.

These recently updated gardens offered further inspiration, combining biodiversity with modern landscaping. Miss Palmer noted,

"The new Natural History Museum gardens are also amazing."

The trip was an inspiring and productive experience, offering students both visual stimulation and practical materials to use in their upcoming projects.



Achieve Evie – Year 9

Evie is a happy and helpful member of Achieve college.

Evie is a student of many talents, listing both English and Religious Education as her two favourite subjects.

Evie is a key member of the UVS, taking on responsibility of PL Captain again this year, but also being selected as a Votes for Schools Ambassador-meeting with other schools online to discuss important topics that will be used as future Questions of the Week.

Additionally, Evie is into her sports. Having played for both the academy rugby team and clubs outside of the academy, she has just signed up for Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth.

We are very proud of Evie and wish her well in both her academic studies and her contributions to the UVS and her rugby teams.



Principal AWARD – Lily Year 7

100% attendance with excellent effort and attitude in and out of the class. Amazing at sports and represents the school and working at a very high standard in her lessons with excellent grades.



Create Lillie-Mae – Year 10

Lillie has overcome so many adversities in her life and has shown exceptional courage, determination and resilience in not only her studies at school, but also her ventures outside of the Academy.

Lillie has been a member of the Kingfisher ABA boxing club for a few years now and has made her bout debut this year winning at Witchford sports and social club. In February Lillie will be competing in the National school girl championships that will see her travel around the country competing every weekend.

The commitment Lillie has shown towards this demonstrates her own drive and self-discipline. With these attributes in an abundance, we are sure that whatever barriers life throws at Lillie she will punch through them and smash her way to success!!



Principal AWARD – Anabelle – Year 10

Anabelle is an exceptional student but a far nicer human being. She is always the first to demonstrate the Venture Virtues of kindness, neighbourliness, respect (for everyone) and resilience in particular.

She is performing amazingly in her subjects and impressing all of her teachers. Anabelle has been in performances and made 'student voice' a powerful tool.



Innovate Halle – Year 7

Hallie plays for the Norwich City Academy U12s team, where she takes on roles in both defence and midfield.

The team trains and competes at The Nest in Norwich. Hallie has faced strong opponents like Ipswich (in a thrilling 3-3 draw), Arsenal, Chelsea, Manchester United, and Leicester.

In addition to her academy commitments, Hallie also shines in grassroots football. She plays for two girls' teams—Gorleston Diamonds, who remain unbeaten for two years, and Kirkley & Pakefield Girls.

She also plays for the boys' team, Gorleston Hawks. Hallie's passion for football is undeniable!



Principal AWARD – Isabelle – Year 10

Isabelle is an incredible student who always challenges herself academically. She has an incredible set of grades achieving all 8s and 9s. Her behaviour is impeccable. And represents everything that is amazing about Venture.



Aspire Cameron – Year 10

Cameron travelled to Derby with his family to compete for the ICB Midlands Middle Weight Title for his age and weight class for Boxing.

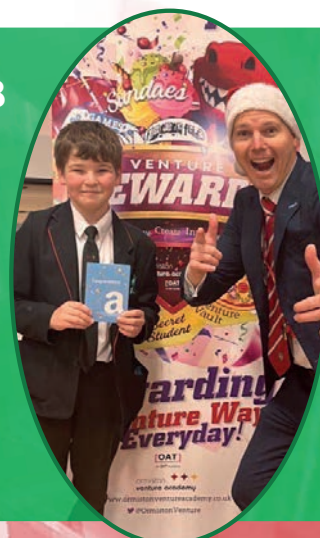
The bout saw Cameron take the belt, defeating his opponent. Cameron now holds three different belts - ICB Midlands Middle Weight Title, English Rookies Champion 2024, British Rookies Champion 2023.



Principal AWARD – Zack - Year 8

Since Year 7, Zack has continuously been a hard-working student who is a true representative of the ideal Venture student. He is always embodying what the Venture Way represents and is always happy to help his peers in all lessons.

Even when faced with a challenging task, Zack is keen to have a go at anything placed in front of him, his resilience is admirable. Each of the Venture Virtues are just who Zack is.



At Venture, our Union of Venture Students (UVS) exemplifies leadership and positive change. Students from Year 7 onward can step into key roles, with Year 10s vying for top positions like Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputies, and Head Prefects.

This year, we proudly appointed 50 prefects, 29 wellbeing ambassadors, 30 eco team members, 16 virtues ambassadors, and numerous PL Captains.

The 2024 selection process began in October with a briefing to spark interest. Twenty-six students applied, undergoing group interviews to showcase their skills. Current leaders Dylan and Ashnetha played an active role in questioning candidates.

Head Boy & Girl



Meet your new



Union of
Venture Students

2024 -25

Deputy Head Boy & Girl



Head Prefects



Media



Guilds and Societies



College Clash



Learning Partners



Twelve exceptional finalists faced in-depth interviews with Chair of Governors Lesley King, Mr. Gilbert-Barnham, Principal and Mr. Doggett, Director of Personal Learning. They shared their motivations, goals, and envisioned legacies.

Think UK and US elections are tough? Deciding on Venture's Head Boy and Head Girl was no easy feat!

Community & Culture



Student Support



We are proud to introduce the newly appointed leaders of our Union of Venture Students.



For Year 11 students gearing up for their IAE block, the Senior Year Residential offers a remarkable opportunity to combine intensive revision with exciting activities, ensuring students feel both prepared and refreshed.

Mirroring the May Residential in preparation for their formal GCSE exams, this weekend event is hosted at the academy and runs from Friday evening through to Saturday afternoon. The difference? Students stay overnight, fostering a sense of camaraderie and focus that is truly unique.

The Schedule: A Perfect Balance

Friday Evening

After the regular school day ends, the Residential kicks off with four hours of focused Maths and English revision. These sessions are tailored to target key topics, boosting students' confidence and understanding ahead of their exams.

To reward their hard work, students then transition into an evening of fun and teamwork. The sports hall lights up for Glow-in-the-Dark Dodgeball, followed by outdoor Laser Tag, providing a much-needed energy release and a chance to unwind.

Saturday Morning and Afternoon

The day begins with a hearty breakfast to fuel both body and mind. Another four hours of intensive Maths and English revision follow, ensuring students leave the weekend with an additional eight hours of study under their belts.

After the academic sessions, it's time to celebrate their efforts. Students can enjoy an inflatable assault course, test their balance in Jousting, and channel their inner warrior with inflatable axe throwing. These activities not only provide entertainment but also help build resilience and teamwork.

A Holistic Approach to Exam Prep

The Senior Year Residential is about more than just revision. It's designed to address the challenges Year 11 students face during this critical time, offering structured academic support alongside opportunities to socialise and destress.

As one student aptly put it:

"The weekend residential we have twice a year provides the whole of the Senior Year with an amazing opportunity to be better prepared for our upcoming exams, but also, equally as important, to have some fun at this stressful time."

By blending serious study with enjoyable activities, the Residential creates a memorable experience that helps students approach their exams with confidence and a positive mindset. This unique initiative continues to be a highlight of the academy's commitment to student success and well-being.



Year 11 students, this is your time to shine—study hard, play hard, and make the most of this incredible opportunity!

Ormiston Venture Academy proudly hosted its annual Graduation Ceremony, honouring the Class of 2024 for their exceptional GCSE achievements

Venture Graduates the class of 2024



This grand occasion invited over 100 students, their families, and staff to celebrate in true style, marking the culmination of years of hard work and dedication.

The ceremony began with a red-carpet welcome, setting a festive and elegant tone. The venue was dressed with vibrant balloons, and attendees enjoyed canapés and photo opportunities following the formal proceedings. The joyous atmosphere reflected the pride shared by all in attendance.

Students, resplendent in red gowns and mortarboards, received their diplomas as a testament to their accomplishments. In a symbolic gesture, each graduate turned their tassel from right to left, signifying the completion of this important academic milestone.

Special recognition was given to several students for their outstanding achievements, including Anneka, Louis, Jack, Joshua H, Tiana, Cayla, Isla, Olivia, Lewis, Katie Louisa, Ei Coe, Joshua K, Edward, and Emiliya. Their dedication and success were celebrated by all present, highlighting the excellence fostered at Venture.

Principal Simon Gilbert-Barnham expressed his pride in the graduates, saying, ***"It was a real pleasure to see our Class of 2024 formally graduate as Venture Alumni. We are so proud of them and the exciting futures they are embarking on – they've all grown into such exceptional young adults."***

Emiliya, speaking on behalf of the Class of 2024, shared heartfelt reflections, expressing gratitude for the support and opportunities provided by Venture Academy. Her words resonated with peers, staff, and families alike, capturing the collective spirit of accomplishment and optimism.

The evening also reinforced Venture's commitment to its alumni program, encouraging graduates to stay connected and inspire future generations.

With the academy's commitment, ***"Once a Venture student, always a Venture student,"*** former students are reminded they remain an integral part of the Venture community.

As the event concluded, the Class of 2024 left the ceremony with diplomas in hand and bright futures ahead. Their time at Venture has equipped them not only with academic achievements but also with the resilience and confidence to take on new challenges, ensuring that the spirit of Venture will always remain with them.





Friday Talks

We've proudly continued our popular 'Friday Talks' series at Venture, offering students engaging opportunities to explore topics that spark their curiosity and fuel their aspirations.

Organized through the Union of Venture Students, these sessions allow students to request talks or presentations in areas of personal interest.

The topics typically fall into three main categories:

Careers: Exploring potential professional paths

Hobbies: Delving into personal passions

General Interest: Broadening knowledge on fascinating topics

Since starting our Friday Talks, we have welcomed over 30 guest speakers, including individuals and companies. Attendance has ranged from 15 to 73 students per session.

During the Autumn Term, our lineup included a diverse range of speakers and activities:

1. A prison officer sharing insights into their unique career
2. Headucate, a mental health organization from the University of East Anglia, promoting awareness and understanding
3. Dragon Shields, an Anglo-Saxon battle re-enactment group, captivating students with a dynamic demonstration

These sessions continue to provide an excellent platform for students to learn, ask questions, and engage with subjects that inspire them.



STOP THE PRESS! - STOP THE PRESS! - STOP THE PRESS!



Year 9 squad; Josie, Emilia, Jess, Honey, Florence, Aaliyah, Freya and Star Player Ava.

The year 9 and year 11 Netball teams both qualified for the county finals again this year in November.

Both teams had some tough competition against teams such as Norwich High, Norwich Girls and Wymondham College.



Year 11 squad; Lake, Tegan, Tiwa, Taylor, Elisa, Saule, Ruby, Aaliyah and Star Player Abi.

year 7

Girls Triumph Against Flegg High Despite Being a Player Down...

The Year 7 girls' football team from Ormiston Venture Academy travelled to Flegg High Ormiston Academy with just eight players. Despite being a player short, the team displayed exceptional determination and teamwork, securing an emphatic 5-0 victory.

Lily led the attack with a brilliant hat-trick, while Jorja added her name to the scoresheet with a well-taken goal.

The highlight of the match, however, came from Ella, who scored a spectacular solo goal. Playing from centre back, she picked up the ball, charged the length of the pitch, skilfully bypassed three opponents, and finished with composure into the bottom corner.

The performance was a testament to the girls' resilience, work ethic, and skill.



Well done to the team for an outstanding result against the odds!

year 7

Boys Excel at Norwich City Football Club UEA Tournament

The Year 7 boys' football team from Ormiston Venture Academy delivered a stellar performance at the Norwich City Football Club UEA Tournament, finishing as runners-up out of 11 schools.

The boys dominated their group stage, winning all five matches, scoring an impressive 10 goals, and conceding none. Their flawless defensive effort and clinical attacking saw them top their group in 1st place and qualify for the final.

Congratulations to the team on a fantastic performance and a brilliant achievement!

A standout moment came in one of the group games when Cole secured a dramatic last-second victory with a brilliant header, ensuring their spot at the top of the group.

In the final, the team put in a valiant effort but fell 2-0 to CNS, claiming a well-deserved 2nd place overall.

Goal scorers for the day were: Kyle (3), Danny (3), Louie (2), Georgio (1), and Cole (1). The squad, comprising Danny, Parker, Cooper, Georgio, Cole, Elliot, Harry, Louie, Kyle, and Tyson, displayed outstanding teamwork, sportsmanship, and talent throughout the tournament.



The Y7 boys travelled to Wymondham Rugby Club to participate in the Norfolk School's County Tournament.

The squad clearly showed their growing in ability with each of their passing games, with the team's best performance coming against Langley.

The game started with an amazing solo try scored by George giving Venture the early lead, from that point, the match was very hard fought from both sides as both teams battled for superiority, with Aadhudev leading by example with some hard-hitting tackles.

year 7 Shine at Norwich City FC UEA Tournament

The Year 7 girls' football team from Ormiston Venture Academy showcased incredible skill and determination at the Norwich City Football Club UEA Tournament, securing an impressive 3rd place finish out of 10 competing schools.



The team dominated their group stage, winning four of their five matches and drawing one. Despite their unbeaten record, they narrowly missed out on first place, finishing second in the group on goal difference. In the 3rd place play-off match, the girls delivered a commanding performance, defeating Ormiston Cliff Park Academy with an emphatic 5-0 victory. The squad's attacking power was on full display throughout the tournament, with goals coming from multiple players.



Halle led the charge with an outstanding 8 goals, followed by Emily, who netted 5. Ella, Keeley, and Lily also contributed to the tally with one goal each.

The team consisted of: Lily, Ella (captain), Daniele, Jorja, Yvie, Skyla, Emily, Keeley, and Halle. Their teamwork, skill, and sportsmanship were a credit to Ormiston Venture Academy, and they left the tournament proud of their fantastic achievement.



year 7 FOOTBALL

We won 13-1, 8-0 up at half time. Played brilliantly hit the bar and the post multiple times.

An extremely dominant performance playing amazing football. We are playing Wyndham in the next round of the cup. Kyle score 5, Georgio scored 3 Danny scored 2, Zack scored 2 and Cole scored one.

Squad: GK Cooper, CB Cole, CB Tyson, CB Parker, RWB Harry, CM Louis, CM Kyle, LWB Danny, ST Zack. Subs Georgio, Elliott and Sammy.



Unfortunately, Venture wasn't quite able to hold on to the lead, narrowly losing the game 3-5 on trys due to 2 later trys from Langley.

Mr Webb commented:

"The performance from Venture was a very strong statement to all other schools in the county. All boys showed amazing effort and courage throughout the day, and he was really impressed with the squad's teamwork and high morale throughout the day."

Squad: Kian, George, Harley, Fletcher, Ollie, Marley, Luke, Leo, Dion, Aadhidev, Kayden, Harrison, Cooper, Theo, Winston

year 8 County Cup Game V's Lynn Grove Academy

In much improved weather conditions for the time of year the year 8 boys' team made the short trip to Lynn Grove in the second round of the County Cup football competition.

Playing a high line to negate the threat of the Lynn Grove strike force, Bailey marshalled the back four superbly with Luigi and Chadley making some crucially important tackles.

Toby linked with Kyle in midfield to cause the opposition all sorts of trouble and complimented Keegan's directness on the left. Dawson, Milo and Billy controlled the centre of the pitch playing some lovely passing football and picking up loose balls.

Wesley made the difference in the first half scoring 2 and causing havoc with his pace and strength upfront. It would have been 2-1 at half time had Joey not made the save of the season to tip a looping shot onto the crossbar and keep the opposition at bay.

The second half saw Wesley score 2 more (one a sweet strike into the corner) with Phoenix, Sully and Alfie entering the field of play and all making valuable contributions - especially Alfie who even though is a keeper at heart hit a stunning 25-yard strike into the net to seal a 5-0 win.

Mr McNally was incredibly proud of the desire the team demonstrated and the quality they had to finish their chances.

Squad: Joey, Sully, Alfie, Wesley, Dawson, Bailey, Luigi, Phoenix, Chadley, Toby, Kyle, Billy, Milo, Keegan



year 8 footballers travelled to Ormiston Denes Academy in Lowestoft to compete in a friendly fixture.

The squad passed the ball excellently in the early stages (through Harry R and Frankie) but fell behind to a stronger pacier set of year 9s. The boys battled hard and started the second half brightly scoring 2 goals from Elliot and Shaye. They were well on top against a year 8 team.

Solid debuts from Sid, Codey, Logan, Jarrod, Elliot and Oli representing the Academy football teams for the first time added to the excitement and even in defeat

the boys were buzzing. Harry P and Logan headed everything in defence whilst Harry A and Callum showed great footwork and vision.

Special mention to Harrie for taking the keeper gloves at late notice and exceptional performances from Codey and Mason - who played in 4 different positions!!

Squad: Harry A, Logan, Shaye, Codey, Harrie, Frankie, Elliot, Jarrod, Harry P, Harry R, Oli, Sid, Callum and Mason



A valuable experience for the squad who deserved a game for their commitment to training.

Year 8 Rugby

County Cup against Downham Market

The year 8 boys' football team started their County Cup journey in style this year winning 5-1 in the first round.

After success of reaching the quarter finals last year hopes were high, if a little reserved knowing the opposition would be strong after travelling over an hour to reach Venture.

An early goal from captain Bailey getting the final touch from a cracking corner from Billy eased nerves.

Further goals from Sacha and Wez gave Venture a 4-1 advantage at half time. The manager rang the changes, and the new players brought extra energy and zest to the game resulting in Luigi hitting a worldie into the top bins and securing the victory.

With Dawson pulling the strings and Jude marking the opposition captain out of the match, the boys saw the game through to the end and continue their progress.

Good luck in the next round boys.



Year 9 Football

Our year 9 girls football squad put in a strong defensive display against Cliff Park and came away with a 3-1 win.

We dominated from the start with Kelsey creating numerous chances and scoring our first goal. The pressure continued all the way until half time where we had a 2-0 lead thanks to a goal scored by our right back Ava from outside of the box.

The second half got off to a positive start with Lily getting on the end of a through ball and calmly slotting it into the bottom corner. A fantastic start to the season! A special mention for Hallie in year 7 who played years up and had a solid game.

The squad was: Chelsea (GK), Evie, Ava, Jess, Kelsey, Hallie, Kara, Phoebe, Ava, Bonnie, Lily, Aaliyah and Teagan.

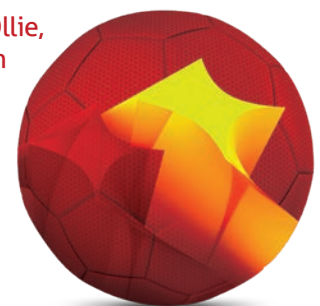


Venture's Year 9 Football team hosted Kings Lynn Academy in the second round of the Norfolk School's County cup competition.

Eyebrows were quickly raised when Kings Lynn Academy took an early 0-1 lead, but Venture never looked nervous or flustered.

The team dug in to quickly gain and equaliser and not long after, went on to take the lead and eventually finishing the game with a dominant 10-1 win, with the Goal scorers including, Shay, Jack, Luca, Ollie and Sacha.

Squad: Harry, Riley, Shay, Jack, Ollie, JJ, Frankie and Luca. With Dawson, Luigi, Sully and Sacha playing up a year group! Thank you to Saule and Natasha for being lineswomen for the game!



Sports News Round Up

Venture Academy promoting healthy life styles in active engagement through a rich sporting programme

Stay Safe
Team Venture!!!



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Year 11 Rugby

A fantastic effort from our Y11 boys Rugby Team as they narrowly crash out of the Norfolk Rugby Schools cup.



On Wednesday, the squad travelled to Aylsham High School, who were seen as strong favourites to win the cup, but the boys battled hard throughout the game and did even manage to lead the game, going into the half time break! All the boys showed excellent teamwork and determination until the final whistle blew, with Ronnie scoring arguably one of the best tries witnessed in school rugby and a tackling masterclass displayed by Oli, Harley and Ben. The boys left with their heads held high, and their eyes on the School's Rugby Norfolk Plate.

Sport Leaders

Back in September the year 10 Sports Leaders groups planned, organised and facilitated netball festivals for local primary school students.

Venture linked up with Ormiston Herman Academy and they sent over some of their year 5 students to learn and develop their skills. The following day we saw some of their year 6 students compete here at Venture too.

Vinny the Venture mascot made a surprise appearance and celebrated victory with the students. The Sports Leaders led warmups, managed teams, officiated matches and recorded all of the scores to calculate the eventual winners.

Kira and Harrison who led the year 5 session of the event commented on how nerve racking it was but pleasing to see all the younger children enjoying themselves and being healthy.



Year 7 Netball

Congratulations to the new Year 7 netball team for their successful debut at Lynn Grove on Monday, 7th October. The team showed excellent teamwork and skill in their first tournament, marking a promising start to their season. The squad included Tallulah, Izzy, Harmony, Ella, Lily, Danielle, Viole and Georgia.

A special mention goes to star player Danielle, who played goal defence. Her incredible effort, resilience, and quick grasp of the game made a huge impact on the team's performance.

Well done, Year 7!

