



# Venture VOICE

Stay  
Safe



Ormiston  
venture academy

Edition 43: Spring 2025



# We Are Outstanding!



Italy



WBO  
2025

50 YEARS OF  
COMIC RELIEF  
RED NOSE  
DAY



## Personal Development

Pupils live and breathe the school's values through the 'Venture Way'. They make rich connections and articulate this with notable maturity.

## Leadership & Management

The school have sustained their vision for outstanding education over time. Staff "share a collective passion."

## Quality of Education

Pupils build rich knowledge over time... apply it with assurance in ambitious tasks. A tremendous sense of achievement. The curriculum is meticulously designed.



## Behaviour & Attitudes

Behaviour is superb. There is a palpable sense of purpose in classrooms. Pupils enjoy very supportive relationships with staff who go above and beyond to meet their needs.

Aspire Achieve  
Create Innovate



SCAN ME



Venture's  
Got  
Talent!

Ola!  
Barcelona!





# 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](http://www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk/OTT-Norfolk)

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

[info@ormistonteachertraining.co.uk](mailto:info@ormistonteachertraining.co.uk)

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

[kaye.patrick@ormistonacademies.co.uk](mailto:kaye.patrick@ormistonacademies.co.uk)



*We look forward to receiving your application!*

# What's going on at Venture Academy for 2025

Welcome back from Principal Gilbert – Barnham	P3	Year 9, 10 & 11 Italian Ski Trip	P14
Governor's Update & Baraza Spring Term Event	P4	Year 7 UEA's Future Stars & Woodland Trust	P15
#WeWill Project: Spreading Easter Joy	P4	East Norfolk Sixth Form & Venture Youth Council	P16
Red Nose Day 2025 & Maths Olympics	P5	World Book Day 2025	P17
Year 9, 10 & 11 Barcelona Trip	P6 - 7	In the Spotlight & Principal Awards	P18 - 19
Year 9 Bletchy Parl Visit	P8	Creative Workshops @ Yarmouth Winter Gardens	P20 - 21
Active Travel Ambassadors	P9	Venture's Got Talent 2025	P22 - 23
'IntoUniversity' Trinity College visit & Diary Dates	P10	Venture's Elite Sports Awards	P24 - 25
Year 10 Brainlabs & HPA visit	P11	Sports Results and Match Reports	P26 - 28
Year 10 Architecture Photography field trip	P12		
Year 9 experience UEA & History of Medicine	P13		

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

## We are Outstanding!

**It is with an overwhelming sense of pride, gratitude, and excitement that I share with you a monumental achievement: Venture Academy continues as Outstanding in every area. This is not just an inspection result — it is a reflection of the extraordinary dedication, passion, and vision we've shared together for over a decade.**

When we set our sights on becoming a world-class academy back in 2013, it was not a dream we held alone. It was a collective mission — a shared belief in the incredible potential of our students and the unwavering commitment of every member of our community. Today, as we celebrate this Outstanding Ofsted judgement, I feel an immense sense of pride in all that we've accomplished together.

"Pupils do excellently at 'Venture'." From the very first day they walk through our doors, our students are met with the highest expectations and the support they need to thrive. "There is a palpable sense of purpose in classrooms." Every lesson is a chance for our students to push boundaries, to think deeply, and to grow academically and personally. Our curriculum, described as "meticulously designed" by inspectors, challenges them to excel, to create, to innovate, and to leave their mark on the world.

This recognition is about so much more than academic achievement. It's about the growth of character, resilience, and leadership in every child. Our students embody our core values of *Aspire, Achieve, Create, Innovate* every single day. They "wear their badges with pride" because they know they are part of something truly special.

While the Ofsted report highlights many of the strengths of Venture, our Venture Voice showcases so much more. Our journey and our vision for a world-class education go far beyond what is captured in any inspection report. It is through the stories, achievements, and experiences shared in these pages that you will see how our ambition continues beyond the report.

I am beyond proud to be part of this incredible community — a community where every member plays a vital role in nurturing, challenging, and inspiring

our students. Our shared commitment to continual improvement, to excellence, and to always striving for more has shaped this academy into what it is today.

This Ofsted judgement is a moment to celebrate — but it is just a highlight of our ongoing journey. We are not finished. Our vision for Venture is bigger than any report, and we will continue to push for the very best in everything we do. The best is yet to come, and together, we will continue to seek new horizons, face new challenges, and break new ground.

*Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for being part of this journey.*

Together, we are making a world-class education a reality for every student who walks through our doors.

Regards,  
Simon Gilbert-Barnham  
Principal



## *All members of the local governing body at Venture know what a splendid teaching and learning community it is.*

Some of us have been involved since the beginning and have watched its development year on year with pride.

But how wonderful it was to read the recent Ofsted Report which confirmed our belief in such a detailed yet concise way, setting out clearly what has been achieved since academy status was granted.

I am only sorry that it was not possible to include the names of everyone who should feel personal pride in their part in making the academy a place to be proud of. This includes all staff, whatever their role in the academy, present and past students, parents and carers, members of the wider community,

trustees and employees of OAT and members of the local governing body.

But I want to pay a special tribute to the principal, Simon Gilbert- Barnham, whose vision, intellect, optimism, energy, determination, humanity and attention to detail has enabled the academy to become a learning community marked by shared respect and love, combined with rigour.

We are proud to have worked with him since his appointment and know that there is no danger of complacency as he and the academy continue to strive for even further progress. We look forward to an exciting future.

### *Lesley King*

Chair of the Local Governing Body,  
Ormiston Venture Academy.



## **Baraza Spring Term 2**



### **Just before Easter, Venture's Union of Venture Students (UVS) held its 4th Baraza of the academic year.**

The Baraza, named after an East African tradition, where villagers would hold a regular public meeting asking for change, has been responsible for genuine shifts from the students in our academy community. Director of Personal Development and lead staff member of the UVS Spencer Doggett commented, "It's the British Value of democracy in action, offering opportunities for student leaders across the academy to vote upon suggestions other members make; just like a national parliament does." Nearly 200 students were in attendance, with nearly 30 members also outside at the same time, planting 200 trees as part of our eco project.

The order of business was as follows; The progress made since the last Baraza, including the local charities students voted to support. A total of £750 has so far been raised, to be divided between Comic Relief, and also two local charities; the Freshly Grated (A local homeless charity) and Young Carers.

Students were reminded about the Eco Projects we currently have running; the 'tree planting initiative' and the Active Travel Ambassadors project; both of which should help us to achieve the Green Flag eco award this year. This was followed by a conversation about which mini CASH sessions they would like more input on in our PL Flexi Friday slots. More information on mental health was a clear winner.

Opportunities were discussed; working with YAB (Youth Advisory Board) during the afternoon session following Baraza and also an update on the 11 students who are participating in the Great Yarmouth Youth Council at the Town Hall.

Students also had the chance to voice their ideas on new summer games for the playground, which College Clashes they want added to in the calendar, food days for the café and which student 'Friday Talks' they would be interested in delivering.

### **#WeWill Project: Spreading Easter Joy at Lydia Eva**



### **As part of the #WeWill project, students took the opportunity to visit the residents of Lydia Eva to spread some Easter cheer.**

Armed with Easter eggs and warm smiles, the students made sure to brighten the day for everyone involved.

The visit was a great success, with students engaging in a variety of activities with the residents. They enjoyed creating Easter crafts together, played an exciting round of bingo, and personally delivered Easter gifts accompanied by heartfelt Easter wishes. The morning was filled with laughter, meaningful conversations, and moments of connection between the generations.

Both students and residents thoroughly enjoyed the experience, making it a truly memorable occasion. The students' kindness and enthusiasm were evident throughout, and the joy they brought to Lydia Eva was heartwarming.

We are already looking forward to our next visit and continuing to build this wonderful relationship within the community!





# Bring Fun, Charity, & Sunshine

Venture's Red Nose Day celebrations were a fantastic success, bringing together students and staff for a day of fun and fundraising.



In the spirit of giving, everyone was encouraged to wear something red for a £1 donation, with all proceeds going to a great cause.

This year, the Union of Venture Students took charge of deciding how the funds would be distributed. After thoughtful discussion, they voted to split the proceeds between Comic Relief and two local charities: Freshly Grated, a homeless charity, and Young Carers, an organisation supporting young people who care for family members. This decision ensured that both national and community-based causes benefited from the generosity of Venture's students and staff.

The lunchtime activities brought an extra level of excitement to the day, as students had the chance to take on the staff in a friendly but competitive game of volleyball on the playground. With the sun shining down,

both teams put on a fantastic display of teamwork and determination. After several thrilling matches, the final result was declared a draw—much to the delight of everyone involved!

Adding an extra treat to an already special day, Mr Gilbert-Barnham arranged for two ice-cream vans to visit the school. Every student and staff member was treated to a free Mr. Whippy, making the celebrations even sweeter. Enjoying ice cream in the sunshine was the perfect way to round off an incredible week at Venture.

The Red Nose Day event was a true testament to Venture's community spirit, highlighting the generosity, enthusiasm, and camaraderie that make the school such a special place. A huge well done to everyone who participated and contributed—your efforts have made a real difference!

## Year 7 Excel in the Maths Olympics Regional Final

*In an exciting and highly competitive event, Year 7 students from Venture School participated in the Maths Olympics final, competing against other schools from the OAT (Ormiston Academies Trust) network across the Eastern region.*

The event saw students from a variety of schools come together to tackle a series of challenging math-based activities, judged by a panel of experts.

The competition was fierce, with each team displaying remarkable problem-solving skills and teamwork. Venture's team, consisting of Maxwell, Freddie, Sammy, and Kai, showcased their strong mathematical abilities and determination throughout the day.



Their hard work and commitment paid off when they secured second place, earning enough points to qualify for the OAT National Finals.

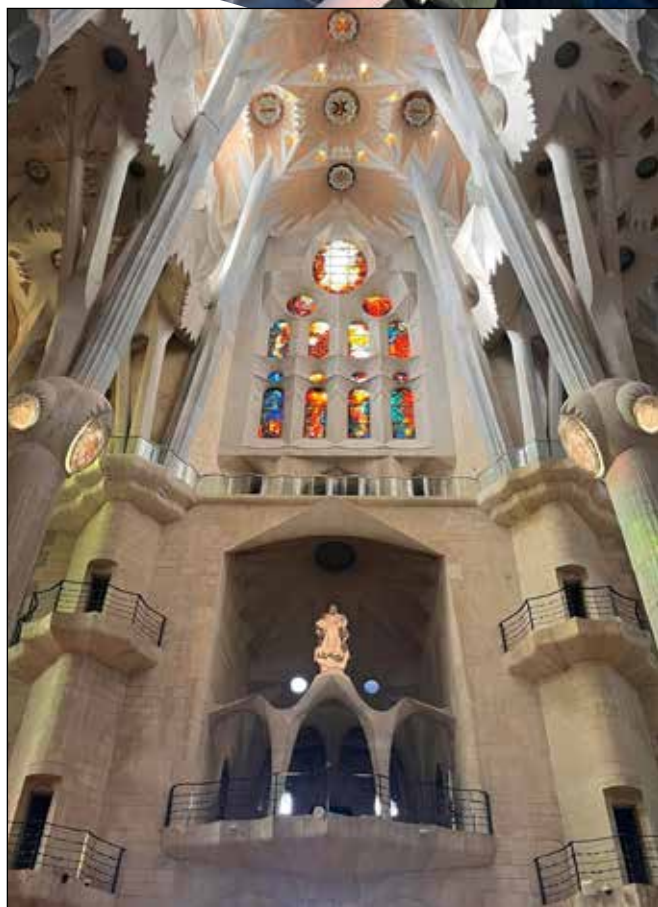
Although the competition was intense, with teams from across England competing at a high level, Venture's team came just outside the top four in the overall standings. This achievement is a testament to the students' dedication and talent, and they can be incredibly proud of their performance.

A huge congratulations to Maxwell, Freddie, Sammy, and Kai for their fantastic efforts and achievement. Their success is a great example of the power of collaboration and the importance of perseverance. Venture Academy is looking forward to cheering them on in the National Finals, where they will represent their school and region with pride!



# 'Ola! from Barcelona!

A Cultural Adventure for Year 9, 10, and 11 Students



## **A Journey Through Barcelona's Highlights**

Our adventure began at La Boqueria Market, a bustling hub of vibrant colours and enticing aromas. Students explored the market's vast selection of fresh produce, traditional Spanish delicacies, and exotic ingredients, offering them a firsthand experience of Barcelona's culinary heritage.

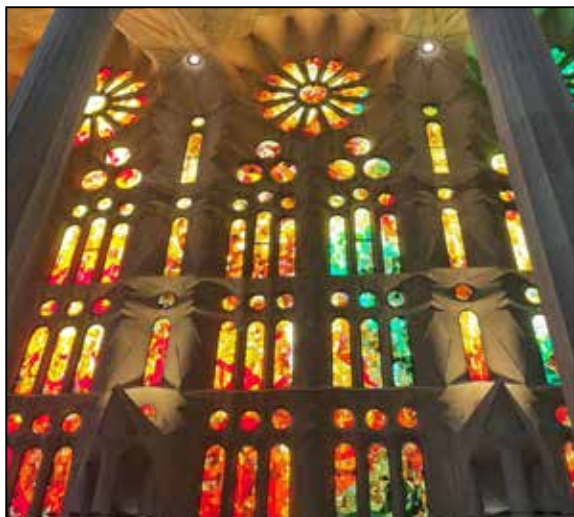
Next, we visited the awe-inspiring Sagrada Família, the most iconic architectural masterpiece by Antoni Gaudí. Students marvelled at its intricate facades and breathtaking stained-glass windows, learning about the history and ongoing construction of this magnificent basilica.



**February saw us embarked on an unforgettable journey with 50 students from Year 9, 10, and 11 to Barcelona, Spain.**

This trip was designed to immerse students in the rich Spanish and Catalan culture, with a focus on art, food, and architecture. Our carefully planned itinerary ensured that students experienced the city's most iconic landmarks and cultural treasures.





Another highlight was Parc Güell, a UNESCO World Heritage Site showcasing Gaudí's unique artistic vision. The whimsical mosaics and organic shapes provided a deeper understanding of his architectural genius, inspiring students with its surreal beauty.

Wandering through the Gothic Quarter, students stepped back in time, walking along narrow medieval streets lined with historical buildings. The visit to Barcelona Cathedral further enriched their appreciation for Gothic architecture, with its grandiose structure and serene cloisters.

At Ciutadella Park, students took a moment to relax and soak in the picturesque surroundings. The park's beautiful fountains, sculptures, and green spaces offered a peaceful break from the bustling city.

A visit to the Picasso Museum introduced students to the artistic evolution of Pablo Picasso. The museum's extensive collection allowed them to see how his style transformed over the years, deepening their understanding of modern art.

Finally, our trip concluded at Port Vell, where students enjoyed the stunning waterfront views and reflected on their experiences while strolling along the marina.

### ***A Transformative Experience***

The impact of this cultural trip was evident in the students' enthusiasm and curiosity. They not only deepened their appreciation for Spanish and Catalan culture but also developed a greater sense of independence and adventure.

Anna Mallory, trip leader, shared her thoughts: "The students were exceptional on this trip. They were curious, interested, positive, and grateful for all the different places we visited."

One student reflected,

***"Seeing the Sagrada Familia in person was incredible! The details and colours were even more amazing than I expected."***

Another added,

***"I loved walking through La Boqueria and trying different foods. It really made me appreciate Spanish cuisine."***

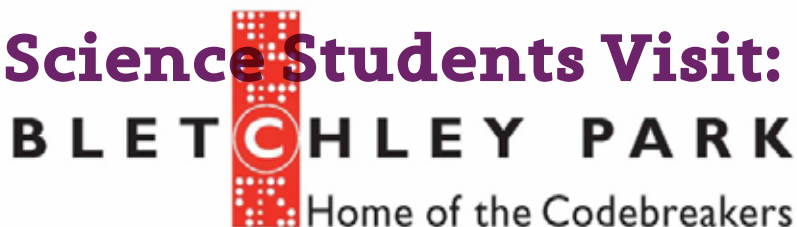
### ***Conclusion***

This trip was an enriching experience for all involved, allowing students to connect with Barcelona's rich cultural tapestry. By exploring its art, food, and architecture, they gained insights that extended far beyond the classroom.

We look forward to organising more cultural excursions in the future, continuing to inspire and educate our students through travel.



## Year 9 Computer Science Students Visit:



**At the end of Spring Term 2, 41 Year 9 students from Venture's Computer Science Department took part in an exciting educational visit to Bletchley Park in Milton Keynes—the iconic site at the heart of Britain's World War II codebreaking efforts.**

This popular annual trip, open to all Year 9 students, is a much-anticipated event on the school calendar. Upon arrival, students were organised into two main groups, which were then split into smaller teams to take part in a variety of independent activities.

A key highlight of the day was a guided tour of the Bletchley Park estate. Led by expert guides, students gained fascinating insights into the secret work carried out during the war. They learned about the strict confidentiality maintained on site, the daily routines of the codebreakers, and the key individuals—like Alan Turing—who played vital roles in breaking enemy ciphers. The students were highly engaged, asking thoughtful questions and showing great enthusiasm throughout.

Another memorable activity was a hands-on workshop on encryption and ciphers. Here, students explored a range of encryption techniques and compared them to the workings of the renowned Enigma machine. A particular highlight was the opportunity to use a fully operational Enigma machine—an extremely rare experience, especially given the machine's estimated value of £500,000. Bletchley Park is also home to the world's largest collection of Enigma machines.

During the visit, students were able to explore many of the original wartime outbuildings. They learned how the site, once a private country estate, was chosen as a highly secure base for wartime intelligence operations. The visit also illustrated the rapid expansion of the Government Code & Cypher School (GC&CS), which grew from around 150 staff before the war to nearly 10,000 by its peak.

Some groups viewed a compelling film presentation highlighting Bletchley Park's crucial role in the D-Day landings. The cinematic experience brought to life Operation Overlord—the largest amphibious invasion in history—revealing how intelligence gathered at Bletchley helped shape the success of the mission on June 6, 1944.

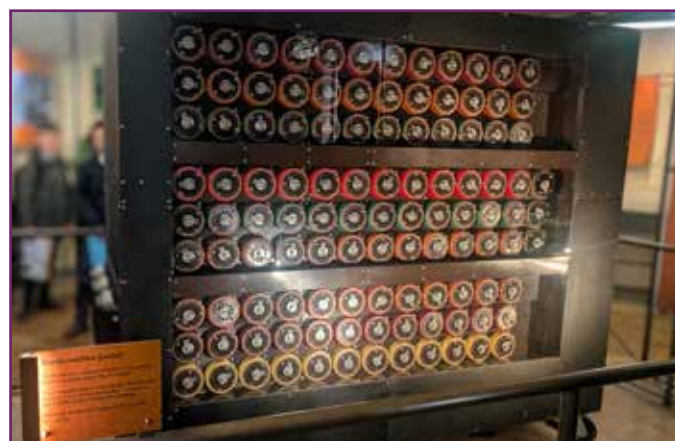
A visit to the Alan Turing exhibit offered students the chance to delve deeper into the legacy of one of Bletchley Park's most celebrated figures. The display detailed Turing's essential work in breaking the Naval Enigma,

his leadership of Hut 8, and his lasting impact on modern computing and artificial intelligence.

New to this year's itinerary was the innovative "Age of AI" exhibit. This interactive display connected the early computational breakthroughs made at Bletchley with today's developments in artificial intelligence. The exhibit featured a detailed timeline of AI's evolution and examined its effects on modern society, touching on both its benefits and the ethical and legal questions it raises.

Reflecting on the trip, Mr. Riches, the visit leader, shared:

**"All students had a fantastic time, capturing moments through photos and fully immersing themselves in history. The experience will provide valuable context for our upcoming lessons on encryption next half-term."**







## Active Travel Ambassadors: Campaign Junction

**Last year, the Union of Venture Students (UVS) participated in our very first Active Travel Ambassador (ATA) program.**

This consisted of 5 sessions in our training room, a presentation and the all-important campaign to make change. Part of this was an opportunity to present to a panel of experts at a 'Campaign Junction Event'; pitching ideas for more environmentally friendly travel to and from our academy.

So this year, we signed up again! The big event, presenting our ideas for more sustainable travel took place on Tuesday 1st April at County Hall in Norwich. Venture was one of four schools bidding for funding to put our ideas into action.



The travel experts listened to all the pitches, before deciding on funding of up to £200 for each school, with an extra £50 awarded to the academy with the best ideas.

This event was to share ideas, increase the profile of the ATA program and for schools and Local Authorities to meet and network.

The Active Travel Ambassador program's vision is for a society in which active and sustainable travel is the preferred mode of transportation, creating healthier spaces, healthier people and healthier communities.

By committing to the program, the ATAs at Venture hope to establish genuine change, while having fun.

**Venture's ATAs presented the following:**

- Spot prize reward for those walking/cycling to school on a Wednesday
- A Gold, Silver and Bronze bike lock to be placed on two winning bikes each Wednesday for a special prize
- Ice-cream for the PL group on each college with the most Wednesday walkers/cyclists

Additionally, an extra £50 was asked for, for an initiative for staff; two prizes to encourage walking, wheeling and lift sharing in the summer term.

**This year we took a ten person team, including three Year 7s. It was great to see our Union of Venture Students (UVS) working as one and having the confidence to present in the way they did. The expert panel commented, 'your presentation was amazing-well done.' The campaign took co-ordination and planning, but the students were up for the challenge and I am proud of the entire team.**





## Inspired by Visit to...

### Trinity College, Cambridge

**Twenty students from Ormiston Venture Academy embarked on an exciting trip to Trinity College, Cambridge, organised by IntoUniversity on 28th February.**

The visit aimed to give students a first-hand experience of higher education and encourage them to explore future pathways to university.

The day began with a guided tour of the college, where students explored its stunning historic grounds and gained insight into life at one of the world's most prestigious universities. A visit to the Wren Library was a particular highlight, where they had the rare opportunity to see books that are over 500 years old – including A.A.Milne's original 'Winnie the Pooh'.

Students also met two student ambassadors - one studying Medicine and the other Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) - who shared their experiences of university life. They spoke about academic challenges, the independence of university study, and the vibrant social opportunities available.

In the afternoon, students took part in a workshop, where they worked to present an invention or a discovery. The experience helped to build their confidence in public speaking and reinforced the possibilities that university could offer them.

A highlight of the trip was lunch in the Great Hall, an unforgettable experience as they dined beneath the imposing portrait of Henry VIII.



Reflecting on the day, the Head of English at Venture said:

**"It was truly inspiring to see our students so engaged in this incredible opportunity. Watching them explore Trinity College, ask insightful questions, and picture themselves in a place like Cambridge was fantastic. This trip has opened their eyes to the possibilities of higher education, and I have no doubt it will have a lasting impact on their aspirations."**

The visit was an invaluable experience, giving students the chance to see first-hand what university life is like and encouraging them to think about their futures.

***A huge thank you to Into University for organising such an inspiring day!***



## Diary Dates 2025

### May 2025

Monday 12th May – Year 11 GCSE exam block begins

Friday 23rd May – Students break for half term 2.55pm

### June 2025

Monday 2nd June – Students return to the academy 8.25am

Monday 23rd June – Year 10 Work Experience Week

Thursday 26th June – Senior Year Prom

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

### June 2025 continued

Monday 30th June and Tuesday 1st July – Year 6 Transition days

Monday 30th June – Year 6 Transition Evening 5pm – 7pm

### July 2025

Thursday 3rd July – Academic Review Day 3pm- 7.30pm

Thursday 10th July – Venture Stars Awards Evening

Thursday 10th July – Create Show

Friday 18th July – Students break for Summer 12.20pm



## Year 10 Brainlabs & HPA Students Visit Gonville & Caius College. University of Cambridge

The session emphasised the importance of early preparation, particularly in choosing the right A-level subjects and engaging in supercurricular activities that align with their academic interests. This forward-thinking approach aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in their future applications.

A key highlight of the visit was a Q&A session with current Cambridge students, who provided first-hand insights into university life. They shared their experiences of the application process, academic workload, extracurricular opportunities, and the unique aspects of studying at Cambridge. This interaction allowed Year 10 students to ask questions and gain a realistic perspective on what it takes to thrive in such a rigorous academic environment.



The trip had a profound impact on the students, many of whom left feeling motivated and inspired. For some, attending a top university like Cambridge had previously seemed an unattainable goal. However, after learning about the opportunities available and the steps needed to achieve them, many now consider it a realistic aspiration.

Feedback from students highlighted how the visit helped them understand the level of commitment required for a competitive university application. Many expressed a renewed determination to excel academically and take advantage of enrichment opportunities to strengthen their future applications.

Brainlabs continues to support students through high-level academic enrichment, ensuring they are well-informed about their future pathways. By providing such experiences, the programme helps students make confident, strategic decisions that will pave the way for their success in higher education and beyond.

As part of an initiative to raise aspirations and increase awareness of top universities, Year 10 Brainlabs and High Prior Attainment (HPA) students had the opportunity to visit Gonville and Caius College, University of Cambridge.

The trip provided students with invaluable insights into university life, the application process, and the expectations of studying at one of the world's most prestigious institutions.

During the visit, students were introduced to the concept of Oxbridge, gaining a deeper understanding of the collegiate system and the highly competitive admissions process.



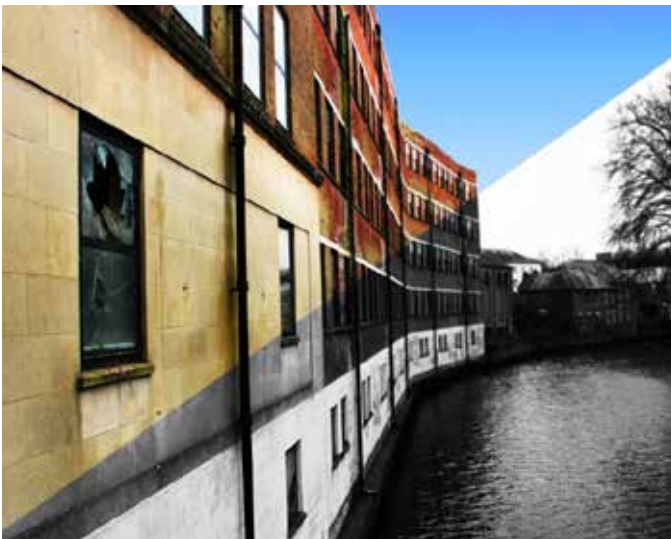


# Year 10 Students Capture Norwich's Architecture on Photography Field Trip

Recently, our Year 10 students embarked on an exciting photography field trip to Norwich, immersing themselves in the city's blend of historical and modern architecture.

As part of their GCSE Architecture project, students explored the unique streets, buildings, and landmarks, capturing a diverse range of stunning images.

The trip provided a fantastic opportunity for students to refine their photography skills, experiment with composition, and develop their artistic perspectives. From medieval structures to contemporary designs, Norwich offered a rich tapestry of architectural styles, allowing students to gather a varied collection of imagery to support their coursework.



Back in the classroom, students are now using their photographs to experiment with creative techniques, applying different artistic styles, and responding to their chosen photographers.



Their work demonstrates impressive creativity, technical skill, and a keen eye for detail.

A huge well done to all the students for their enthusiasm and dedication—some outstanding examples of their work have already been produced, showcasing the architectural beauty of Norwich through their lenses. We look forward to seeing their final projects!





## Mr. McNally recently accompanied a group of enthusiastic Year 9 students on an exciting trip to the University of East Anglia (UEA) to experience life as a university student.

The visit provided them with valuable insights into Higher Education, university studies, and student living.

The group set off from Venture eager to explore what university life entails. Their day began with an introduction talk, followed by an interactive Q&A session with current UEA students. This opportunity allowed the Year 9s to ask candid questions about university life, gaining first-hand knowledge and advice from those already studying at UEA.

Next, the students embarked on a guided campus tour, exploring key areas of student life.

They visited accommodation facilities, including a bedroom and communal kitchen, as well as the university library, a lecture theatre, the Hive (food court), and the LCR, a venue that hosts gigs and student events.

Seeing these spaces in person helped demystify university life and showcased the diverse range of facilities available to students. A highlight of the visit was a myth-busting session, where the students engaged in discussions about common misconceptions surrounding university life. This was followed by a well-earned lunch and a workshop outlining the benefits of pursuing a degree. To conclude the day, the group took part in a quiz on Higher Education and university life—an activity in which many of the Venture students impressively scored 9 out of 10!

Adding to the excitement, the students had an unexpected but delightful encounter with former Venture student Chloe, who was on her way to a lecture. This real-life connection reinforced the accessibility of university and inspired the students even further.

The trip provided an invaluable opportunity for the Year 9s to see firsthand what studying at university entails. Experiencing the vast campus, exploring student accommodation, and interacting with current students helped bring Higher Education to life.

Hopefully, this visit has inspired them to strive towards their academic goals and consider university as an exciting option for their future.

## Year 10 & 11 dive into the History of Medicine

*As part of their preparation for the upcoming GCSE exams, our Year 10 and 11 History students took part in a specialist Medicine Through Time workshop.*



The workshop is designed to build on their recent studies and enhance their understanding of the historical development of medicine.

The workshop, expertly arranged by Zeitgeist Tours and led by the engaging and knowledgeable Alison and Richard, offered a unique opportunity for students to explore how medicine and healthcare have evolved from the 1200s to the present day. Alison and Richard were "seriously impressed" by the enthusiasm and impressive recall shown by our students throughout the day.

Through a series of hands-on activities and close analysis of primary sources, students delved into medical practices from the medieval era through to modern times.

With guidance from experienced historians, they examined how societal attitudes, scientific discoveries, and technological advancements have influenced treatments, patient care, and public health over the centuries.



The session not only deepened students' knowledge of historical content but also significantly strengthened their critical thinking and historical analysis skills—key tools for success in the History GCSE. For our Year 11 students especially, the workshop helped boost confidence ahead of their IAE paper, reinforcing key themes and sharpening exam technique.

This incredible learning experience was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Chalke Valley History Trust (CVHT). As a charity committed to promoting the understanding and enjoyment of history, CVHT believes in the importance of connecting people of all ages with the past—both to better understand the present and to shape a more informed future.

We're hugely grateful to CVHT for enabling our students to take part in such a meaningful and memorable experience, and to Zeitgeist Tours for bringing history to life in such a powerful and engaging way.





# An Unforgettable

## Ski Adventure in Folgarida, Italy

*This year, a group of enthusiastic Year 9, Year 10, and Year 11 students embarked on an unforgettable skiing adventure to the stunning Folgarida Ski Resort in Italy.*



The purpose of the trip was to provide students with the opportunity to experience the cultural capital of skiing in the mountains, igniting a passion for the sport that may inspire them to return with their families or continue skiing as young adults. Over the course of the trip, students took part in an incredible 26 hours of ski lessons.

Their determination and eagerness to learn shone through, with two of the groups progressing so well that they confidently skied down a red run—an impressive achievement that highlighted their growth and skill development. Some students even took their abilities to the next level, attempting snow jumps and even executing pirouettes on the slopes!

Beyond skiing, the trip offered students the chance to embrace Italian culture and enjoy some well-earned relaxation. One of the highlights was a night at a local pizzeria, where everyone indulged in delicious, authentic Italian pizza.

Another evening was spent showcasing ice skating skills, while a trip to the cinema provided a chilled and enjoyable way to unwind after an action-packed day on the slopes.

Throughout the trip, our students embodied the values of the Venture Way, demonstrating kindness and respect to the local Italians. Several hotel staff and locals commended them on their courtesy and well-mannered behavior, reinforcing the positive impression they left on the community.



Reflecting on the trip, Aaliyah Harden shared,

***"It was fun and enjoyable! I loved being able to ski on my own with the school staff and would love to go again." Similarly, Aliyah Newman praised the instructors, stating, "The ski instructors were all amazing and so nice."***



Overall, the trip to Folgarida was a resounding success, filled with adventure, learning, and unforgettable memories.

Whether it was carving down the slopes, savouring Italian cuisine, or bonding with friends, every student came away with a newfound appreciation for skiing and the beautiful mountain landscapes of Italy.

***We can't wait for the next adventure!***



# Year 7 Students Shine at UEA's 'Future Stars' Event

Thirteen enthusiastic Year 7 students had the exciting opportunity to visit the University of East Anglia (UEA) in Norwich for the inspiring 'Future Stars' event.

This enriching experience allowed them to explore university life, engage in various activities, and learn from experienced professionals and students alike.

The day began with insightful sessions led by university outreach officers, Sportspark staff, and current students, who provided a fascinating glimpse into life at UEA. The students gained valuable knowledge about higher education, student experiences, and the many opportunities available to them in the future.

A highlight of the event was the chance to take part in physical activities, including an exhilarating indoor rock-climbing session and a fun and competitive game of pickleball. These activities not only tested their physical skills but also encouraged teamwork and perseverance.

In addition to sports, the students took part in a creative writing workshop led by published author Ashley Hickson-Lovence. Inspired by his engaging

approach to storytelling and poetry, they created their own unique pieces of writing. Using photographs and vocabulary cards, they explored the world through the perspective of a 'watcher'—observing everyday moments and uncovering their deeper meanings. Their creativity flourished as they crafted thoughtful and expressive narratives.

Throughout the day, the students were able to interact with university ambassadors who shared their personal experiences of studying at UEA. These conversations further ignited their curiosity and enthusiasm for higher education, leaving them inspired and motivated.

The trip was a fantastic success, with students gaining not only knowledge but also confidence in their aspirations for the future. Their visit to UEA's 'Future Stars' event has undoubtedly left a lasting impression, encouraging them to dream big and reach for their full potential.



## Students take the classroom outdoors

**Pupils from Venture took the classroom outdoors the week before the Easter holidays and they planted 210 free trees from the Woodland Trust.**

The school successfully applied for 2 packs - Wild Harvest (fruit and nuts) and Wildlife (local animals) from the Trust after hearing about the scheme on their website - Woodland Trust

Mr Doggett, Director of Personal Development said:

*"It was truly amazing to see our eco group working together to make this happen. What an incredible job they all did. Several students even have up their time during the Eater break to water the new trees, showing the level of commitment this group of students has. We are now looking forward to expanding the garden further with our £10,000 funding grant that we have just received."*

The Woodland Trust's Schools and Community Engagement Manager Karen Letten said:

*"Trees create inspiring learning spaces - natural, sustainable, and dynamic outdoor classrooms where pupils can mix mud with maths and spades with science while connecting with nature and having fun. It's these lessons that the children will remember well into adulthood."*

Woodland Trust commissioned research shows that children who plant trees felt that they were 'doing their bit' to help the environment and remember it as a significant experience.

The Trust has over a million saplings to give away each year, thanks to generous funding by lead partners Sainsbury's, Lloyds Bank, OVO Energy, DFS Furniture, players of People's Postcode Lottery, Joules, Bank of Scotland and Sofology.

Schools can apply by visiting the Woodland Trust website or searching for 'school tree packs' online. [woodlandtrust.org.uk/freetrees](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk/freetrees).





# East Norfolk Sixth Form College & Venture Collaborate on New Youth Council Initiative

**East Norfolk Sixth Form College has partnered with Venture to form a new Great Yarmouth Youth Council, inviting students from local academies to engage in meaningful discussions about the borough's future.**

This initiative aims to foster dialogue, debate, and decision-making among young people, ensuring their voices contribute to shaping policies and improvements in their local community.

The Youth Council held its first meeting in late January at the Council Chamber in Great Yarmouth Town Hall. The bi-monthly meetings will continue throughout the year, incorporating visits to various areas within the borough to further inform discussions.

**Venture actively participated by sending 12 enthusiastic delegates, eager to contribute to the process.**

The second meeting took place in March, focusing on the rules of the chamber, expectations, and the order of business. Students explored ways to initiate projects within their respective schools, supported by a potential budget of £3,000 to be shared among the four participating academies.

Taylor, one of the participating students, shared their excitement: "We discussed the potential of using some of the funding to help buy new sports equipment at Venture, so it is really exciting."

This initiative presents a fantastic opportunity for students to address issues important to them, engage in debates with their peers, gain a deeper understanding of the democratic system, and develop essential networking skills.



**We have an amazing group of students working for our UVS, but this opportunity is a little different. It gives students the chance to discuss and debate local issues in a real council environment, with others who also have an investment in the local area. It was also great to see so many ex-Venture students leading the discussions as members of East Norfolk Sixth Form College.**

By taking part in the Great Yarmouth Youth Council, students from East Norfolk Sixth Form College, Venture, and other local academies are making a tangible impact on their community, learning invaluable skills, and helping to shape the future of the borough.







# Celebrating WBD'25

On the 6th March, alongside many schools across the globe, celebrated their love for reading.



This year's festivities were nothing short of remarkable, bringing together readers of all ages and highlighting the love of a good book.

Staff at Venture dressed up as their favourite literacy characters, some great examples being The Hungry Hungry Caterpillar, Shrek and Charles Darwin. Students had the opportunity to exchange their £1 book tokens for a book of their choice from this year's great selection. The Learning Resources Centre was a thriving hub all day with students collecting books and participating in exciting activities.



During lunchtime, the excitement of the day continued with engaging activities based off the WBD books that were available to students. From creating Pokémon headbands to Paddington's sandwiches, students enjoyed crafting their way through lunch, creating a buzz at the heart of the academy.

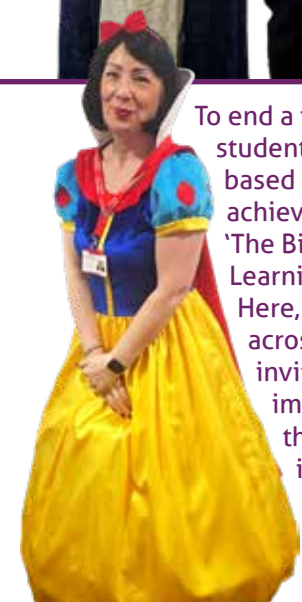
A unique 'Answer Smash' quiz was created for students based on Richard Osman's 'House of Games'. Students took part during afternoon registration where they were challenged to link the Venture-based question and pictures together to get the answer. There was a great deal of excitement to see all colleges taking part in the competition.



To end a fantastic day, students were handpicked based on their reading achievements to take part in 'The Big Read' hosted in the Learning Resources Centre. Here, selected students from across the academy were invited to unwind and immerse themselves in their favourite books in a serene and cozy environment.

As this year's World Book Day draws to a close, the day continued to grow in significance, not only for the fun activities that we hold here at Venture, but also for its ability to remind us of the power of literature; it's more important than ever to embrace the timeless joy of reading.

***With another successful celebration behind us, one thing is certain: the magic of books will continue to inspire future generations.***





# Achieve Nathan – Year 9

**Nathan is a great student, always smiling and really making massive efforts with his lessons.**

Always willing to help in any way whether it be helping his College or the Academy.

Nathan is also an Excellent Bass Guitarist which he has performed in Ventures Got Talent, Summer Fete and the Xmas Fayre.

**Nathan is in a band outside of the Academy called "Adolescence"**



## Principal AWARD – Joao Year 7

100% attendance - Excellent grades and excellent student. Always making an effort and there for everybody who needs him. Really is role model student and a credit to Venture. Always has a smile on his face.

Ethan works extremely hard across all subjects; this is shown in the fantastic grades that he has earned this year so far.



# Create Lexi – Year 9

**Being accepted to the English youth ballet for their upcoming production of sleeping beauty, and in school she is just an exemplary student who is a lovely person with a great work ethic.**

She has been dancing since the age of 4 and attends DPA. She has done lots of shows including the Snow Queen recently where she had to act a little too! She has chosen Performing Arts as a GCSE option for next year and hopes to pursue a career in dance maybe on cruise ships where she can travel the world and perform which she loves.

Lexi has recently started to coach some of the younger dancers including her sister, and trains 5 times a week herself - basically dance is life!



## Principal AWARD – Jon - Year 10

Jon has improved in every area of the Academy over the last year. He is becoming so much more independent and achieving better grades across the board. He displays resilience and hard work in every aspect of his life, studying and overcoming barriers. He is an inspiration to others to show what dedication and focus can achieve. He is a great friend to others, a good team mate to his class and a great brother! We hope he continues his drive for excellence into year 11.





# Innovate Jasper – Year 8

**Jasper, has been making waves in the world of martial arts, proving that dedication, hard work, and perseverance can lead to incredible achievements.**

As a committed member of the East Coast Black Belt Academy, Jasper has been training tirelessly in karate, and his efforts have paid off in a big way. Recently, Jasper competed in regional black belt karate competitions, where he showcased his exceptional skill and determination. His performances were nothing short of outstanding, earning him a well-deserved podium finish. This achievement was a testament to his years of training and passion for the sport.

But Jasper's journey doesn't stop there. His remarkable success in the regional competitions has secured him a place on Team GB, allowing him to represent his country on the world stage. Jasper has officially qualified for the prestigious World Games in Norway and Germany, where he will compete against top martial artists from around the globe.

## Principal AWARD – George - Year 7

George shows ambition and resilience in his academic work achieving 7s, 8s and 9s in a broad range of subjects. Attends after school clubs showing a range of talent. He is the epitome of The Venture Way and has made an amazing start to his time at Venture.



# Aspire Ishanvi – Year 8

**Ishanvi has been playing cricket for Lowestoft Cricket Club since she was 8 years old and recently began playing for Norfolk County.**

Last season she won two club trophies for her performance throughout the season - most improved player and a trophy for taking the most wickets.

## Principal AWARD – Ethan – Year 9

A quieter member of his PL group, this however does not stop him contributing his ideas in discussions.

A valued member of Aspire who is willing to join in the activities, he demonstrates all the Venture Virtues, in particular Kindness and Neighbourliness by raising monies and bringing in items for the food bank.





# Winter Gardens – Illuminate!



We have been lucky enough to experience a series of creative workshops that have taken place at Ormiston Venture Academy and the Drill House in Great Yarmouth, engaging students in photography, animation, and Sound. These workshops aim to foster artistic expression among the youth while connecting them to the town's rich heritage.

The Winter Gardens, a Grade II listed Victorian glasshouse first constructed in 1878, has been closed since 2008. Thanks to a £12.3 million grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and an additional £4 million from the Government's Town Deal Fund, the iconic structure is set to be transformed into a year-round destination featuring indoor gardens, entertainment venues, and cafes. The restoration project emphasizes community involvement, with plans to provide skills and training opportunities for 95 young people, including those not currently in employment, education, or training.

Winter Gardens – Illuminate! project is an exciting digital media exploration and celebration that brings together video, still images, sound, text, animation, archive materials, and new content. This artistic initiative will be shared with audiences both online and through a projected video installation onto and inside the Winter Gardens building in March and April 2025.

*As part of the ambitious restoration of Great Yarmouth's historic Winter Gardens, Illuminate is a project managed by Out There Arts in partnership with Great Yarmouth Borough Council and Funded by National Lottery Heritage Fund. The project involves 9 local schools and 220 students in total.*



Winter Gardens – Illuminate! project is an exciting digital media exploration and celebration that brings together video, still images, sound, text, animation, archive materials, and new content. This artistic initiative will be shared with audiences both online and through a projected video installation onto and inside the Winter Gardens building in March and April 2025.

## Collaboration with Local Artists

Fifteen of our students have had the incredible opportunity to participate in this project, working alongside talented local artists to bring their creative visions to life. Through a series of workshops, they have engaged with various aspects of digital media and historical storytelling.

## Exploring the Winter Gardens

The first visit took our students to the Winter Gardens, where they explored the building and its fascinating past. They learned about its original purpose and journey—from its origins in Torquay to its relocation by barge to Great Yarmouth. To deepen their understanding, students participated in a photography workshop, working in three groups to focus on architecture, texture, and history. Using props and costumes, they creatively captured different aspects of the building's story through their lenses.





## Bringing Stories to Life Through Animation

In the second workshop, held at the Academy, students collaborated with an animation artist. They first learned how to create a storyboard, mapping out their ideas visually. From there, they brought their concepts to life, working in either 2D animation or 3D clay modelling. Some students chose to depict the history of the Winter Gardens, highlighting its past use as a skating venue and its remarkable transportation from Torquay to Great Yarmouth.

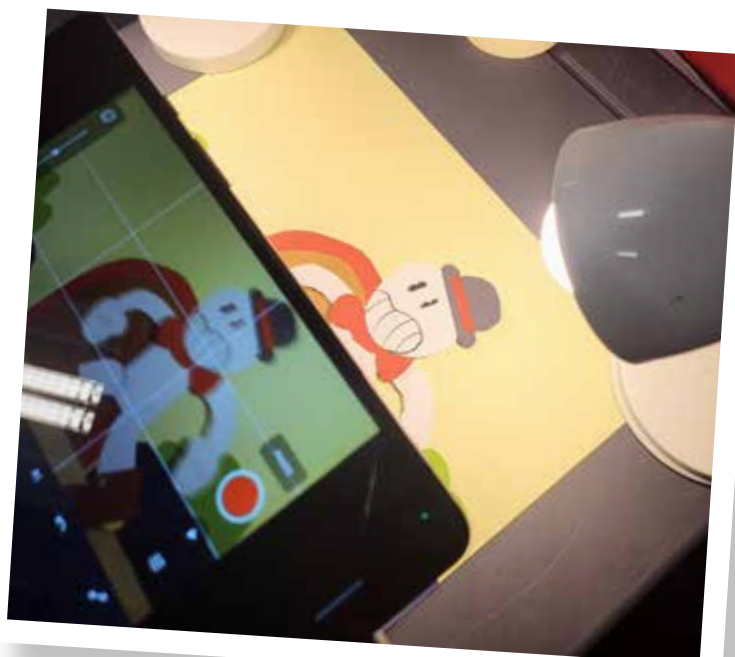


## Continuing the Creative Journey

The third workshop will build on the students' animation work, allowing them to refine and develop their projects further. This hands-on experience will enable them to enhance their storytelling techniques and digital skills.

## Exploring Sound and Music

The final workshop will introduce students to sound design, working alongside a musician. They will learn how to use sound creatively to complement their visual projects, adding another immersive layer to the final presentation.



## Year 7 Macbeth Trip N



**Year 7 had an incredible experience attending a live performance of Macbeth at The Norwich Playhouse.**

As this renowned 'Scottish play' is part of their studies, the trip provided a fantastic opportunity to see Shakespeare's work as it was meant to be performed.

The production was nothing short of mesmerizing—though certainly not for the faint-hearted! From the moment we stepped into the theatre, the atmosphere was electric. Dramatic lighting and an eerie set design immediately set the tone for the dark and suspenseful story to unfold.

One of the standout moments was the witches' scene, which was both haunting and spectacular. The use of eerie sound effects, swirling fog, and ominous shadows heightened the supernatural elements, keeping students captivated. The prophecies felt especially chilling, adding an air of suspense that lingered throughout the performance. Meanwhile, the battle scenes were expertly choreographed, featuring intense sword fights that brought the action to life in a thrilling way.

Overall, the trip to see Macbeth was an unforgettable first Venture experience for many. Year 7 students all agreed that witnessing the play on stage was an exciting and immersive way to engage with Shakespeare's work.

## Looking Ahead

As we move towards the final stages of the Winter Gardens – Illuminate! project, students will continue to refine their work, preparing for the grand showcase in March and April 2025.

This project not only allows them to engage with digital media and artistic expression but also connects them with the rich history of the Winter Gardens, ensuring its stories are illuminated for future generations.

**Stay tuned for more updates as our students continue their creative journey!**





***We recently held Venture's Got Talent, where our top three acts took to the stage in hopes of progressing further in the competition. From these, the esteemed judges from Ormiston had the tough job of selecting just two acts to go through to the Regional Finals.***

With an incredible 312 students from 31 academies taking part, the competition was fierce, and the talent on display was truly inspiring. Regional heats took place across the North, East, South, and West, culminating in a spectacular showcase at Ormiston Victory Academy, which welcomed both High Schools and Primary Schools for this exciting event.

Among the talented performers were our very own Aeryn and Lola, who both delivered captivating performances that left the audience spellbound. Aeryn, a Year 11 student and the winner of Venture's Got Talent, and Lola, a Year 9 student, both study Performing Arts and have been key contributors to our school's productions over the years.

**Their dedication and passion for performance truly shone on stage.**



Although our students narrowly missed out on a spot in the grand final at The Rep Theatre in Birmingham on Thursday, 10th July, they should be immensely proud of their achievements. The judges noted how close the final scores were, making it a nerve-wracking decision right until the end.

**We are incredibly proud of Aeryn and Lola for representing our academy with such talent and professionalism.**





# And the Winner?!

*Their hard work and commitment to the arts continue to inspire, and we look forward to seeing what they achieve next!*



# Venture Elite Sport Awards

## A Night of Celebration and Achievement



**Burgh Hall was alive with energy and excitement as Venture's Elite Sport Awards took place from 6-9pm.**

With a sold-out crowd of 120 students and over 150 invitations sent out, the event's popularity highlighted the academy's growing commitment to sports and excellence. Due to the overwhelming response, organisers are already looking for a bigger venue for next year's celebrations.

The awards evening recognised the dedication and hard work of students who have showed commitment to training and represented the academy across various sports teams at clubs and have an amazing attitude in PE lessons.

**From Football, Rugby, and Netball to Cross Country, Basketball, Athletics, Trampolining, and Handball, every student in attendance had played an integral role in upholding the academy's sporting spirit. The night also honoured individual excellence, with special awards for outstanding performances across different disciplines.**

Upon arrival, students were treated to a delightful buffet dinner, setting the tone for an evening of celebration. Dressed in their finest attire, they showcased an impressive display of elegance, with many opting for stunning outfits that added glamour to the event.





## The heart of the evening was the awards ceremony, an hour-long segment filled with cheers, applause, and moments of pride.

Students celebrated one another's achievements, reinforcing the camaraderie and team spirit that define Venture's sports culture.

### Sports and Winners:

- Cross-Country: Toby
- Rugby: Fletcher
- Basketball: Harlee
- Year 7 Netball: Evie
- Year 8 Netball: Ivey
- Year 9 Netball: Josie
- Year 11 Netball: Abi
- Year 7 Football: Louie
- Year 8 Football: Luigi
- Year 9 Football: Jack
- Year 7 Girls Football: Ella
- Year 9 Girls Football: Kelsey
- Year 7 Athletics: Mia
- Year 8 Athletics: Ava
- Year 9 Athletics: Izabelle
- Year 10 Athletics: Ronnie
- Sports Leader: Izabelle
- Commitment to Sport: Matilda
- Venture Spirit: Kelsey
- Future Leader: Saule
- Future Olympian: Jasper
- Super Skier – Alfie
- Team of the Year: Year 8 Netball



The celebrations continued with a lively disco, where music, dancing, and enthusiastic singing took over the hall. Saule, with the support of a group of Year 11 students, took to the microphone, leading the festivities with energy and enthusiasm. Their leadership and ability to engage the crowd were a true reflection of the academy's emphasis on student leadership and teamwork.

The Venture's Elite Sport Awards was a remarkable success, not only recognizing the achievements of student-athletes but also strengthening the bonds within the academy's sporting community.

**With plans already in motion for an even grander event next year, the future of Venture's sports program looks brighter than ever.**





## year 8 Secure a Thrilling Victory Against Denes

**Year 8 students recently visited Denes for an exciting football match, showcasing impressive teamwork & skill.**

The squad, expertly organized by Harry P, was captained by Shaye, who led by example throughout the game. Mason and Codey brought energy to the team, ensuring that everyone enjoyed the match.

Callum, Jarrod, Seif, and Shaye formed a solid defensive unit, clearing up at the back and keeping the opposition at bay. In midfield, Harry A, Ollie, and Oli dominated play, with Harry R skilfully pulling the strings to control the game. Up front, JJ, Elliot, and Muhannad caused havoc for the opposition's defence with their relentless attacking play.

Alfie started in goal, making crucial clearances before stepping out onto the field and scoring an incredible screamer. Codey, Muhannad, and JJ also found the back of the net, securing a well-earned 4-2 victory.

The team displayed excellent passing, skilful play, and a fantastic attitude, encouraging and supporting each other throughout the match.

**A fine victory that truly reflected their determination and teamwork!**



## year 8

**Venture students rise to the Challenge at County Cross-Country Event.**



**Twelve talented students from Ormiston Venture Academy proudly represented the Great Yarmouth and District area at the County Cross-Country Championships held at Wymondham College.**

The event brought together exceptional young athletes who competed over challenging cross-country courses, ranging from 2.4km for Year 7 students to up to 5.6km for Year 10 male participants. The demanding terrain, which included muddy grass and wooded sections, tested the determination and endurance of all competitors.

Despite the cold weather and tough competition, the students displayed incredible resilience and determination.

The runners representing Venture were:

**Toby Young, Dawson, Harrison, Wesley, JJ, Kyle, Harry, Ava, Jess, Kelsey, Lily and Ella.**

Mr. McNally, expressed immense pride in their efforts and determination throughout the event. To celebrate their hard work, he treated them to a well-deserved stop at McDonald's on the way home!

The academy commends the students for their outstanding representation and looks forward to seeing more achievements in future competitions.





## Year 7 and 8 students teamed up for a developmental friendly rugby match against Ormiston Denes Academy.

Year 7 boys travelled to Wymondham Rugby Club to participate 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 Aadhidev leading by example with some hard hitting tackles. Unfortunately, Venture wasn't able to quite able to hold on to the lead, narrowly losing the game 3-5 on tries due to 2 later tries from Langley. But 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 Mr Web was really impressed with.



Team: (Top row, left to right) Winston, Liam, Aadhidev, Keegan, Jasper, Keyain, Logan, George, Fletcher (Bottom row, left to right) Harry, Cooper, Harley, Ollie

in



## The Year 8 squad pulled off a thrilling smash-and-grab victory at Acle Academy in the County Cup quarter-final, showing resilience and determination to come from behind and win in dramatic fashion.

Up against a powerful Acle side, the boys found themselves trailing in the first half while also having to rest and rotate players. Despite the challenge, they battled hard, with Milo working tirelessly in midfield to keep the team in the game.

A second-half tactical switch saw Joey introduced up front as a battering ram, allowing the team to play more directly. This nearly paid off instantly when a goal was controversially ruled out for a soft foul. With Luigi stepping in at centre-back and dominating loose balls, the team pushed forward, and with just minutes to go, Joey spun brilliantly and fired a low, hard shot across goal to level the score.

Keegan almost snatched a last-minute winner, but the game went to penalties. Under pressure, Alfie, Chadley, and Wes all converted their spot-kicks, while Sully made

a crucial save. Leaving Dawson to coolly slot home the winning penalty, triggering absolute chaos as the boys piled onto him and Sully in celebration.

## A fantastic second-half display against a strong, physical Acle team — on to the semi-finals!

Squad: Sully, Alfie, Joey, Bailey, Jude, Luigi, Toby, Kyran, Milo, Billy, Wesley, Keegan, Chadley, Sacha, Harrie and Dawson.





## Year 8 Boys

### Fall Just Short in County Cup Semi-Final against CNS

The Year 8 boys put in a strong performance but fell to a narrow 2-1 defeat in the semi-final of the County Cup. It was a game they should have won, creating plenty of chances but failing to convert, while an unfortunate goal against the run of play proved costly.

The team started brightly, playing well in the first half and taking control of the game. Billy scored a fantastic header, and Toby was excellent at full-back.

However, they couldn't maintain their momentum in the second half, allowing CNS to get back into the match.

Despite the result, there were plenty of positives, including the return of Kyran to the squad.

**The boys gave it their all, and while it wasn't enough this time, there's always next year!**

Squad: Sully, Alfie, Joey, Bailey, Jude, Luigi, Toby, Kyran, Milo, Billy, Wesley, Keegan, Chadley, Sacha, Harrie and Dawson.

## County Finals Netball Team Success

**Congratulations to the U13s Netball Team— Ivey (Captain), Polly, Ellie, Ocean, Nanya, Sofia, Freya, Scarlett, Amelia, Annalise, and Evie (Year 7)— for their outstanding performance at the U13s Netball County Cup, held at the University of East Anglia in March.**

The team faced tough competition, playing against strong opponents such as Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form, Reepham High School and College, and Open Academy.

In round one, they played four matches, securing two impressive wins, one draw, and a close-fought loss. Their determination and teamwork earned them a spot in the semi-finals, where they battled hard in a tightly contested match. They then played another intense game in the playoffs, ultimately finishing in an impressive 4th place out of 10 teams in Norfolk.

A special thank you to Miss Flatt and Maidee for their dedication in training and supporting the team throughout the event.

Additionally, a huge well-done to star player Ivey for her leadership and performance, as well as to Evie for stepping up a year and adapting so quickly to the competition.

**The whole team should be incredibly proud of their achievement!**



# NETBALL