



Ormiston Cliff Park
PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Principal: Mrs K Rutherford MA BED

 **Anchored in excellence**

20th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Autumn 1 Newsletter

Once again, we have had a very successful start to the academic year, with our children experiencing lots of exciting learning opportunities, some of which we are sharing with you below.

Regional Student Voice Elections

Following our recent elections to determine our Regional Student Voice representatives, we were delighted to announce that Harry French and Chloe Wright have been elected on behalf of our academy. It was a very close race, and we are very proud of all the candidates for having the confidence to put themselves forward and make a speech in front of their peers. We look forward to updates from Harry and Chloe as they join the OAT Regional Student Voice Team. The opportunity to take part in a real-life election has helped to support our pupils' understanding of the importance of democracy and the important role that it plays in our society.



Sporting Successes!

Boogie Bounce – On Thursday 21st September the Academy organised a ‘Boogie Bounce Day’ to celebrate the fantastic start the children have made to the new academic year. This involved taking part in fitness and dance activities whilst bouncing on a trampoline! The children all enjoyed taking part!

U11 Girls Football - Our U11 girls' football team began their season with an impressive 8-1 win against Moorlands. The girls played brilliantly as a team and several players were also able to have the opportunity to play in their first match for the academy.



East Norfolk School Sports Partnership Opportunities

Over the past few weeks, small groups of pupils have represented our academy in a wide range of sporting competitions organised by ENSPP. We were delighted to celebrate a win for our bowling team in their first competition together. Pupils from Year 3 and Year 4 represented the academy in an athletics competition. A group of pupils from Year 6 were also able to take part in a sailing activity at Oulton Broad Sailing Club.

On each occasion, the children had fun learning new skills and developing teamwork whilst also being excellent ambassadors for the academy.



International Music Day

On Monday 2nd October, Year 5 celebrated International Music Day. This was a fantastic opportunity to appreciate the values of music and how it means so much to many people around the world. We explored a range of different musical genres, from polka to samba and incorporated our geographical skills when looking at their origins. We had the chance to listen to the different styles and reflect on our emotions, communicating how they make us feel. We discussed the range of instruments that were being used around the world. It was a pleasure to share in this musical experience across the year group.



National Poetry Day

We celebrated National Poetry Day across the academy on Thursday the 5th of October. As part of our celebration, the children enjoyed listening to favourite poems, chosen by teachers and found out lots of information about different forms of poetry as well as some tips for writing good poems. Pupils in Year 1 and 2 were very good at guessing famous children's book titles hidden within short Haiku poems!

Horstead

We are delighted that, once again, children can take part in residential visits. Earlier this week 55 children took part in a 2 night visit to Horstead Residential Centre. During their visit the children (and staff!) engaged in a whole range of exciting activities including canoeing, archery, tower climbing, zip lining, camp cookery and a range of team building games. All returned on Wednesday afternoon after a thoroughly enjoyable visit eventhough somewhat tired!



Lego Workshop – Y5&6

On 17th October, pupils in Years 5 & 6 had a wonderful opportunity to take part in a Lego workshop. They were able to explore different aspects of DT and computing skills which enabled them to bring their creation to life. Pupils worked collaboratively to build their constructions and used problem solving skills when working towards a finished product. The children also had the chance to use computing coding for movement, light and sound and were fascinated by all the different programming components. It was a thoroughly enjoyable learning experience for all – everyone had a fantastic time!

Dr DNA visits Year 4

Once again we were really pleased to have Dr DNA visit the academy and share her knowledge and expertise. During her recent visit she worked with children in Year 4 helping them to learn about static electricity. The year group had great fun taking part in a range of workshops, with the ‘hair raising’ Van der Graff machine being particularly popular!



Attendance and punctuality

As you are aware, the Academy is continuing to focus on the improving attendance and punctuality and we hope you have noticed our new banners and find them helpful.

We are delighted to inform that attendance and punctuality during the first half term has been relatively good with a significant number of children receiving awards for improved attendance.

Holidays

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of procedures for requests for leave of absence and holidays. All requests must be made via the yellow Requests for Leave of Absence forms which are available at the Academy Office. Requests should be submitted at least six weeks before the holiday/ absence is taken. Please note, in circumstances where there has been no notice of the holiday/leave being taken, the Academy absence procedures will still be followed ie the child's absence will be recorded as unauthorised and in some cases a Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued.

Staffing

I am delighted to inform you that following recent interviews Mr Phil Reid has been appointed as the Vice Principal of Ormiston Cliff Park Primary with effect from January 2024. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mr Reid on his appointment and wish him further success and happiness in his new role.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 30th October – Return to Academy

Tuesday 01st November – Parent Meetings

Wednesday 02nd November – Parent Meetings

Wednesday 08th November – New Reception Open Morning/Afternoon

Thursday 9th November – New Reception Open Morning/Afternoon

Thursday 16th November – Flu Immunisations

Thursday 23rd November – Year 1 Gruffalo Theatre Visit

Monday 27th November – Staff Training Day Academy Closed to All Pupils

Wednesday 20th December – End of Autumn Term

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Rutherford

Principal