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Principal: Mrs L Watkins BEd (Hons)

**Ormiston Cliff Park**  
**PRIMARY ACADEMY**

 **Anchored in excellence**

20<sup>th</sup> December 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

### Christmas Newsletter

As the year draws to a close, we have been reflecting on what has been a really successful year at Ormiston Cliff Park Primary Academy. The magic of Christmas has been evident across the academy, with the children enjoying a wide range of activities and events.

Here are just some of our recent highlights!

### **Christmas Performances**

It has been wonderful to see the support for this year's Christmas performances. Thank you to all those who came along to watch the children perform and for supporting your children with learning lines and sourcing costumes. I'm sure that you'll agree that all the children were amazing! These are such special occasions and will often be amongst the children's most precious memories as they leave primary school.



## **A Special Visitor**

The children were very excited to welcome a special visitor on his sleigh this morning when he delivered a small gift to each of the children as well as a class present for them to share!

## **Christmas Lunch**

Christmas Lunch was a fun occasion, with the children enjoying an excellent meal and celebrating Christmas together. We would like to thank our kitchen team for making this possible and for their hard work throughout the year.

## **Christmas Jumper Day**

Christmas Jumper Day was lots of fun! The children and staff really enjoyed wearing their festive jumpers!



## **Christmas Raffle**

Thanks so much for supporting this year's Christmas Raffle! We are delighted to announce that we have raised £704.00 which will be reinvested back into the academy to provide additional resources to enrich the curriculum for the children. Congratulations to our prize winners!

## **OCPPA Christmas Choirs**

Our choirs have taken part in a number of events in the lead up to Christmas.

We were so proud of our KS1 Choir when they took part in the Sounds for Christmas event at the Drill House. It was a magical evening and all of the children sang beautifully!

Our KS2 Choir were fabulous when they represented OCPPA at the Festival of Carols event at the Drill House over two evenings. As ever, the children were excellent ambassadors for the academy and they shone throughout the performances.



Our KS2 Choir have also been performing for residents and patients within our local community at two local residential homes and also at the Louise Hamilton Centre. The residents and patients really enjoyed their performances and the children took real pleasure in bringing joy to others through these events. We are incredibly proud of all of our singers.



### **Fritton Owl Sanctuary Visit to Reception**

To support their learning linked to the story 'Owl Babies', the children in reception were lucky enough to have a visit from Fritton Owl Sanctuary. The children were able to meet Fluke, the barn owl and Winston, the little owl, even getting to stroke Fluke very gently. They could not believe how soft he was! Both classes really enjoyed being able to have a close up look at real life owls.

### **Ormiston Academies Trust Panathlon**

Everybody loves bowling and some children from our academy were chosen to attend an OAT Panathlon Ten Pin Bowling Event at Wellington Bowl. The children were selected to provide them with a chance to represent the school, have fun and give them an opportunity to try something new. The children had great fun and were delighted to be awarded medals for participating in the event. Our bowling team were excellent ambassadors for OCPPA, demonstrating a great sporting attitude and also enjoyed making new friends from other local academies.



### **Renewable Energy Experience with East of England Energy Group**

Children from Year 5 had the opportunity to become engineers and develop their knowledge of careers in the wind turbine industry with skilled workers from EEEGR (East of England Energy Group). The workshops secured their current knowledge of renewable energy and introduced them to wind energy. It helped them understand how wind turbines work and the physics behind their construction. The interactive activities ensured the children were challenged and provided an excellent enrichment opportunity. Many thanks to everyone who worked hard to ensure the children had a fun and informative time at this event.





## **Ormiston Cliff Park Nursery**

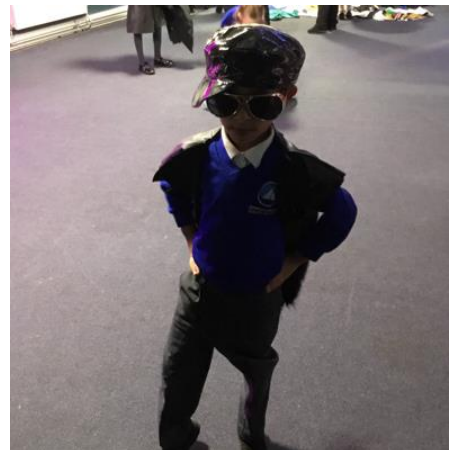
The new Nursery is looking fantastic! We have created a wonderful space for the children to enjoy and are really looking forward to welcoming our first pupils in January. It was a special moment when we welcomed the first of our new pupils to attend two 'Stay and Play' sessions in early December. Our next project will be to develop the nursery garden area, and we look forward to sharing our progress with you over the coming months!

If you are interested in securing a place for your child, either on a full time or part time basis, please contact the school office. We are still taking bookings for January and for the summer term and beyond. A reminder that places to start in January will be open to children who will be three by the 31st of December this year. We would like to invite you to join us as we officially open the new Nursery at 8.30am on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of January and our hope is that it will become an excellent resource for our school community for many years to come.



## **Time and Tide Museum Visit**

Year 2 had a fun-filled learning experience at the Time and Tide Museum recently. As part of their history topic about 'The Seaside', they went to discover more information about Great Yarmouth's history as a tourist destination from Victorian times to the present day. They started their journey in the 1860s where they found out about bathing huts, steam trains and penny licks. By midmorning, they were transported to the 1960s and discovered about the Mods and Rockers who loved to visit our seafront. The highlight of the day was a Punch and Judy show, which has been entertaining families for over 350 years. There was lots of laughter at a rather naughty Mr Punch!



## **Cross Country**

The academy took children from Years 3 to 6 to East Norfolk Cross Country Championships which was held at Bure Park. We were really impressed with the effort and determination that each individual child put in and we are incredibly proud of all their achievements. 11 out of the 24 children secured a top 10 place, meaning they then went on to attend the County Finals.



## **Girls' East Norfolk Football Tournament**

The girls' football team recently took part in the annual District Tournament. Nine schools from across Great Yarmouth were split into two groups, with the winner of each group playing against each other to decide the winners. We played in four group matches with a team predominantly made up of Year 5 children. We were very pleased to come away with three wins, against Caister (3-0), North Denes (1-0) and Moorlands (2-1). We suffered a narrow 1-0 defeat against Ormesby who won all four of their group matches. The final was played between Ormesby and Woodlands, with Woodlands winning the match after a penalty shoot-out.

## **Year 6 Residential Trip**

Earlier this term our Year 6 children enjoyed a fantastic three days on their residential trip at Norfolk Lakes in Lyng. Over the three days, the children have had such a magical experience and faced many obstacles and fears! They worked together and developed their teamwork skills, tackled heights by climbing up the wall and tried their hand at archery and rifle shooting. During the course of the visit, we saw the children's confidence and resilience levels increase in so many ways and we are incredibly proud of them all.



## Road Safety Week

We were fortunate to have the local community police officer, PC Carroll, attend school to lead a Road Safety assembly. She gave lots of useful advice to the children including telling them that wearing a hoodie or listening to earphones can restrict our awareness of others, particularly close to busy roads. It is always a pleasure to have PC Carroll attend our school as her assemblies are very informative and support the children to keep safe.



## Dates for your diary

### Reception 'Stay & Play'

Following the success of our recent session, we are pleased to invite parents and carers of Reception children to the following 'Stay & Play' events:

Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>'Chinese New Year'</b> 8.30-9.15am
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>'Guess How Much I Love You'</b> Story based session 2.00-2.45pm
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>'Easter Crafts'</b> 8.30-9.15am
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>'Keeping Healthy'</b> 8.30-9.15am
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>'Summer is Here'</b> 8.30-9.15am
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>'Celebrations'</b> 2.00-2.45pm

### Parent Information Sessions

To further develop our home/school partnership, we continue to extend our range of information sessions for parents and carers. All sessions will take place at 2.15pm and will finish by the end of the school day. Refreshments will be available.

### **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2.15pm (open to all) - Securing attention and building engagement with learning**

Mrs Barnes will share the range of strategies that we use across the academy to develop children's attention skills and to encourage them to participate fully in every lesson.

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2.15pm (open to all) - Promoting positive relationships/behaviour**

In this session our SENCO, Mrs Upton, will share some of the strategies that we use in school to promote positive behaviour and relationships, many of which might come in handy at home too!

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2.15pm (YR1-6) - Multiplication and Division**

Mr Walsh will explain how we teach multiplication and division and the links between them across Years 1-6.

**Regular SENCO Cafe dates (all sessions 8.30-9.15am)**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

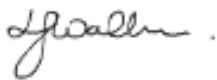
Please meet Mrs Upton at the Academy Office.

**Other Dates for Your Diary**

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Start of Spring Term 1
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 4 Trip to Norwich Castle
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Class Photographs
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 3 Trip to Norwich Castle
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 2 Tiny Magic Orchestra Performance at St. Marys Magdelene Church
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Year 6 Trip to Time & Tide Museum
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	End of Spring Term 1 – Academy closes at 3/3.05pm for half-term
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Staff Development Day – Academy Closed to all pupils
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Start of Spring Term 2
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents’ Evening for all year groups
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents’ Evening for all year groups

Thank you for your support throughout the year. On behalf of the staff and governors, I would like to wish you and your family a ‘Happy Christmas’ and send best wishes for the new year ahead. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> of January.

Yours sincerely



Mrs L Watkins  
Principal

