



Ormiston Cliff Park
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Orde Avenue
Gorleston-on-sea
Norfolk
NR31 6SZ

Phone: 01493 661523
Email: office@ocppa.co.uk
Web: www.ocppa.co.uk
Principal: Mrs L Watkins BEd (Hons)

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Dear parents and carers,

The Spring Term has got off to a fantastic start!

Personal Development Update

As an academy community, we've been thinking about the importance of 'belonging' in recent weeks and exploring ways in which we can support others to feel like they belong. Through assemblies and discussions, we are supporting the children to learn how they can play an important role in helping everyone to feel valued and important within our school. We are very proud of the many ways that our pupils care for and support one another.

This term has also seen the introduction of an emotional literacy programme called 'Zones of Regulation' into all of our classrooms. This supports the children to be able to recognise and name how they are feeling. Over the coming weeks and months, we will be supporting the children to learn a range of strategies to manage their different feelings in positive ways.

Y3 Norwich Castle Trip

Year 3 spent a really enjoyable day at Norwich Castle where they particularly enjoyed learning about life in Ancient Egypt through exploring the artefacts. They were excellent ambassadors for the academy, and their visit has supported their learning in history for the term ahead.





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Year 6 Visit to the Time & Tide Museum

It was wonderful to see our Year 6 pupils dressed in their World War Two era attire as they headed off for their wartime workshop at the Time & Tide Museum recently. It was a fantastic day, and the children represented the academy very well. These visits really help to bring history to life for the children and will no doubt help to inspire their learning about World War Two this term.



We are particularly proud of our Year 6 pupils who have also demonstrated excellent progress in their most recent assessments as they work hard to prepare for their SATS in May. All of the children are really committed to doing their best and we are delighted to see their confidence grow.

Sports Hall Athletics Event

We recently selected a group of Year 5 pupils to take part in the Sports Hall Athletics Event at Lynn Gove High School. The children worked really well as a team and enjoyed representing the academy as well as having the opportunity to



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work with children from other local schools. Well done to all those who took part!

Fire Restoration Works Update

We wanted to provide an update on the progress being made following the fire incident last summer and, first and foremost, to take a moment to once again thank everyone for the support shown to the school over the course of this period. The start of the new academic year understandably brought challenges that we had to navigate, but the way our pupils, staff, families and wider community came together was remarkable. It was a genuinely positive first term, and it was a real pleasure to see the children settle back into school life with such resilience, positivity and enthusiasm.

In terms of next steps regarding the fire recovery, Ormiston Academies Trust is continuing to work closely with its insurers and appointed specialists as part of the ongoing investigation into the incident. While this process remains live and limits the level of detail that can be shared, we can inform you that initial findings indicate that the fire originated during scheduled roofing works being carried out by contractors appointed by the Trust. These works involved the use of hot works, which is common practice, and all risk assessment due diligence was carried out by the Trust ahead of this work commencing. We can confirm it was not caused by the fire alarm activation earlier that day, or an electrical fault. As you know, as soon as the fire was discovered, the school took immediate action to contact the fire service who attended within five minutes of the alert and extinguished the fire, with all health and safety protocols being closely followed.

We have been offering ongoing support, advice and resources to children and families who need it following the incident, and this will continue as necessary. In the meantime, we have made a really positive start to the Spring Term and are focused on building on the strong start to the year already achieved, maintaining stability and supporting all pupils to continue to thrive at Cliff Park.

During the Autumn Term, extensive clearance and drying out works were undertaken in the affected areas of the building. We are delighted that the da Vinci room has now been fully restored. This has enabled us to relocate and re-open The Den, a provision where we offer supported play opportunities for the children over lunch times.



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The Trust is currently in the final stages of the process to appoint the contractors who will oversee the final stage of the restoration work. At this stage, it is anticipated that this work is likely to be complete by early summer.

We will, of course, share any further updates if and when we are in a position to do.

Enrichment Fridays

Last Friday saw the introduction of our new afternoon enrichment sessions. Initially, these sessions are being led by their class teachers although the children will have the opportunity to work with different teachers over the course of the year. The children enjoyed a wide range of activities, from exploring musical instruments to British Sign Language! Our aim is for the children to have the opportunity to try new activities and develop new skills and interests.

Changes to the Ofsted Inspection Framework

You may have seen in the media that Ofsted's new Inspection Framework was launched in the Autumn, with inspections under the new framework starting from December 2025. As the academy is moving into the inspection window, we thought it would be useful for parents and carers to have the opportunity to learn more about the significant changes to the framework and we will therefore be offering an information session for parents and carers at 2.15pm on Friday 6th of February.

Coming Soon.... OCPPA Little Explorers!

A reminder that we will be launching our 'Little Explorers' group on Thursday the 5th of February. This is a play-based group for pre-school children and their parents and carers. Sessions will run every Thursday morning during term time. Please see the website for further details.

It will provide a good opportunity for those with young children to get to know other families and for little ones to enjoy a wide range of play activities and make new friends.

If you'd like to come along, please drop into the office to collect a registration for or simply fill one in when you arrive.





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Upcoming Dates

Thursday 5th February 8.50am – 10.30am Little Explorers Stay & Play
Friday 6th February 2.15pm Ofsted Information session
Wednesday 11th February Reception 'Chinese New Year' Stay and Play
Friday 13th February End of Spring Term 1
Monday 23rd February Staff Development Day
Tuesday 24th February Start of Spring Term 2
Monday 2nd March Parents' Evening
Thursday 5th March World Book Day
Friday 6th March Bookworms Book Fair
Tuesday 10th March Parents' Evening
Friday 20th March Red Nose Day
Tuesday 24th March Reception 'Easter Crafts' Stay and Play
Thursday 26th March Easter Fayre
Friday 27th March End of Spring Term 2