



BELIEVE

ACHIEVE

SUCCEED

### Welcome to our half-termly newsletter

#### Principals Message

I would like to say thank you to all our students, parents and staff for a fantastic end to 2019! We have had such a busy, exciting and packed half term, details of which can be found inside this newsletter but highlights include:

- A Whole School Production of We Will Rock You
- Our first Year 7 Residential to Laches Wood
- Continued support for local and national charities

I wish you all a happy, safe and restful Christmas break, and look forward to seeing all of our students **return to school on Monday 6th January 2020 at 8.45am.**

Best wishes,

Leigh Moore, Principal



### Students go GAGA at Wodensborough Ormiston Academy

Students and staff at Wodensborough Ormiston Academy (WOA), in Wednesbury, are displaying their creative talents in their forthcoming production of 'Schools Will Rock You,' based on the hit music of Queen and a script written by Ben Elton.

Over 50 students have worked tirelessly with staff from the Performing Arts faculty at the academy since September to create the visual and musical spectacular, set in a bleak future where rock music is banned and the world is cruelly led by The Killer Queen and her Globalsoft Corporation.

Helena Rock-Sawyer, Head of Performing Arts, and producer of the show said:

*"We are extremely lucky to have our own theatre space and facilities, and we Will Rock You has really pushed the limits! We have managed to create a dystopian, futuristic world thanks to our fantastic set created by a local scaffolding company. Our students are ready to Rock! They have shown resilience, hard work and real commitment to this production and we are so proud to be able to share it with friends, families and our local community of Wednesbury."*

Leigh Moore, Principal at the academy, said:

*"I have popped in to a few rehearsals and I know the show will be, without doubt, one of the best we have ever staged. WOA has a long track record of success in the arts area, with record results at key stage 4 year after year so we are certain that the quality of our acting and singing will be second to none. It has been really heart-warming to see our older students being such professional role models for the younger students in the cast."*



### What's Inside?

ALSO LOOK OUT FOR:

- Our WOA Stars
- Design the Knife Box Winners
- PE Opportunities

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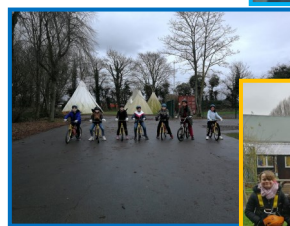
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**WODENSBOROUGH**  
**ORMISTON ACADEMY**

# YEAR 7 RESIDENTIAL

On the 9th of December 84 year 7 students travelled to Laches Wood in Coven for three days and two nights of outward-bound activities. Students were able to try their hand at archery, rock climbing, caving, high ropes and a BMX trail. We were really impressed with their teamwork and how they encouraged others who were feeling nervous about joining in with some of the activities. Eight students who, at the beginning of the week, were unable to ride bikes all left very pleased with themselves now able to do so thanks to Miss Morgan and Mrs Brittle. Miss Goodridge really got stuck in with the activities and Mr Smith, Mr Martin and Mr Franks were especially impressed with how sensible the students were on an evening and during the night. It was a wonderful few days.



On Friday 6th December, the Science club visited the Think Tank museum in Birmingham. The day started off with a look at the variety of future technologies current scientists are working on to improve everyday life for those people working in a number of different industries. The students were able to program machinery to follow commands from playing a set of different sized drums to a robot reading out speeches to visitors.



On one floor the students read about spitfire construction, the old railways and tramways and finished off just before lunch by visiting the science garden, using all of its pulleys and levers to hoist themselves up on an unusual type of swing.



After lunch the students participated in a lesson on coding a basic computer to play a maze game and many of the students progressed to the challenging tasks; some even creating games that were challenging for the staff to complete!



A great day was had by everyone in attendance and the students thoroughly enjoyed the range of activities and investigations that helped to deepen their understanding and knowledge of science in the real world.



Science club meets every Monday at 3:10pm - 4:00pm and the students are currently working on their Bronze CREST award which is recognised by many colleges and universities during the application process. This is an opportunity to develop their scientific skills and there is always fun and laughter had along the way.

Merry Christmas from the Science Club Team, Ms Hunter and Ms Ramsey-Service





# WOA ATTENDANCE

ATTEND TO ACHIEVE  
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Fancy a free trip to the beach?

WOA WILL BE TAKING ALL STUDENTS IN YEARS 7  
AND 8 THAT HAVE 96% ATTENDANCE BETWEEN  
JANUARY AND JULY...



BE IN IT TO WIN IT!!!!

Group	% Attend
Year 7	95.9
Year 8	95
Year 9	92.2
Year 10	94.3
Year 11	94.2
Totals	94.4

CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 7  
FINISHING 2019 AS THE  
BEST ATTENDING YEAR GROUP

YOUR'RE ALL STARS...



35% of the school will receive the first 100% award Bronze badges on Friday due to achieving 100% attendance from September to December - WELL DONE AND BE PROUD TO WEAR THEM!



## HOUSE SYSTEM

Well done to the new house leads this term:



Ms Stephenson - Warwick

Ms Newman - Kenilworth



Ms Akhtar - Dudley

Ms Hickman - Ludlow

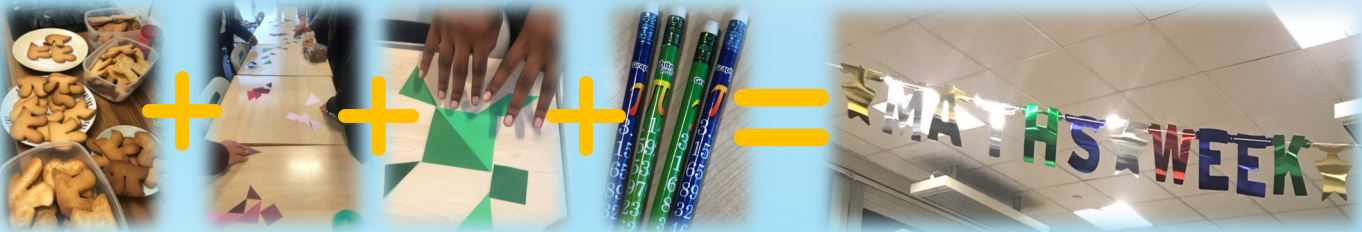


House Captains stood for election this term and have been voted in! Our students represented themselves proudly - well done! All captains will receive badges and certificates in Friday's rewards Assembly. As with all leadership jobs it has to be earned, so they all have a busy term ahead of them.

- Good Luck -

Please join us in giving a warm WOA welcome to Mrs Z Bagshaw and Miss N Howen who have recently joined our reception team





We had over 70+ entries each day across all year groups for various competitions including maths problems and puzzles with Chinese tangrams. Lots of prizes were given out including pi biscuits, pi pencils, Chinese sweets and chocolate. The final winner was Corey Hill in Y7 who won a calculator. Well done to all who got involved in **Maths Week**.

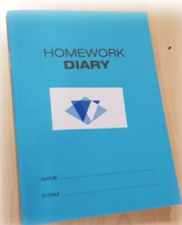
## Congratulations to the Homework Ambassadors!

Huge congratulations to the students below who were successful in their applications to be KS3 Homework Ambassadors for this academic year. All students submitted excellent applications outlining how they are going to support their peers and put forward ideas to improve the homework provision across the Academy. We are very excited by what this group can achieve at WOA this year.

**Year 7:** Tazeen Q, Imaan A, Amina Q, Hope N, Sonia B, Naya B

**Year 8:** Lexi H, Vanessa O, Karim O, Keelan T, Trejaun H, Krish K

## Year 7 and 8 Homework Diaries



All Year 7 and 8 students were provided with a Homework Dairy to improve the organisation and independence of our students. The diaries have had a great impact so far and with more students meeting homework deadlines. We hope that parents/guardians can support students with their organisation to instil good habits for the future.



Winners of the **Design the Knife Box** competition this term were **9 JAD**

Well done!

The box will be going around Sandwell and will be used to collect knives. It will also be seen at local police stations. These students have worked extremely hard to beat other schools in the area.



This Autumn Term has been very busy for the **Gifted and Talented** and **Most Able** pupils here at Wodensborough. We have identified our most able pupils, and created two new cohorts; the **SHINE** cohort who are the pupils who have the highest potential, having come from primary school with the highest grades, as well as our **HATs** who also came from primary school with very high grades. Subjects and faculties have also identified their own G&T pupils. We met with many of the parents of our Year 11 **SHINE** cohort, as these pupils approach mock exams and GCSEs, as well as parents of our Year 7 **SHINE** cohort as they start their journey with us. The parents of other year groups will have the opportunity to meet us in the new year.

### SHINE & HATs Academic Coaches

We are very lucky to have 3 academic coaches who work with our **SHINE** and **HATs** pupils, both on a 1:1 basis, as well as in small groups. Mrs Cooke and Mr Bandy focus on English and literacy, with Mr Bandy also working with History pupils in Year 11, whilst Miss Wyer works with Year 11 mathematicians.

### SHINE & HATs Opportunities

Some of our Year 10 **SHINE** cohort visited Oriel College Oxford where they met students and took part in a debate. Some of our Year 11 **SHINE** and **HATs** pupils went to NEWA, an Ormiston School in Wolverhampton for intensive work to push for the top grades in English, Maths and Science.

Watch out for more **University visits and enrichment opportunities in the new year.** Mr Harris.





## WOA6 WORK EXPERIENCE

WOA6 pupils have experienced a 'work day' at Home Farm Livery – where they 'mucked out' and had the opportunity to ride the horses. We look forward to working with Home Farm in 2020 as they have agreed a partnership with us to enable further WEX days to take place.

## WOA6 AND SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

We are pleased to announce our successful employer engagement partnership with 'Blakemore's' who will be supporting our 'internship' programme. This programme provides training and skills that our WOA6 pupils need to gain employment over the next few years. We look forward to working with Blakemore's in 2020.

## FANTASY FOOTBALL

Starting in January 2020 is WOA's very own 'fantasy football' league. This is a 5 a-side tournament for year 7 and 8 pupils taking part at lunch times in the sports hall. To take part you must ask a member of staff to sponsor you, complete your entry form and hand it in to Mr Webster. There are lots of prizes to be won and fun to be had. The deadline for entry is 10th January 2020.

## Manchester United ENRICHMENT EVENT

40 of our students went to see Manchester United play at Old Trafford to reward 100% attendance and participation in after school activities. A fantastic experience was had by all!

# CAREERS

## Year 11

NCS have awarded us with the Bronze award for our commitment and recruitment on their summer programme. So far we have 47 pupils signed up on the scheme that will give pupils valuable life and employability skills as they move into the next phases of their lives. This is a record number for the Academy. We are now working towards the Silver standard. Further details are available on the website under 'Careers'

## Year 10

Over the Christmas period pupils are encouraged to look for work experience placements. Work experience forms and advice are still available in reception from Miss Plover.

## EMBEDDING CAREERS INTO THE CURRICULUM

Caitlin Campbell is one of 12 winners of the Sandwell College Christmas calendar competition. The theme this year was famous attractions and Black Country landmarks. We look forward to seeing the final printing and publication of the calendar and presenting Caitlin with her £50 Amazon voucher.



# IN THE COMMUNITY



Health and Social Care and Catering pupils in year 10 have welcomed the community into school with the annual Christmas party event. 20 residents from the local residential care home were invited for a Christmas lunch complete with entertainment. It was a fantastic afternoon with carers, residents, staff and pupils all working together.



The Food Bank this term has been amazing. Not only have we managed to fill a room from donations, we have also made blankets for the homeless and their pets through the iWILL team and completed a clothes bank collection as well. This will all be distributed this week. Thank you for your kindness.



## CHILDREN IN NEED AND ANTI-BULLYING



This term we have not only supported Children In Need but also promoted Anti Bullying week.

We have held 'Crazy Hair Day' and 'Odd Sock Day'.



Thank you for all of your support with these charities. We are so grateful for the participation and contributions.



**Scarlett Farnell** represented WOA at the Trust National Conference this term talking about social action. Scarlett has been selected to be a member of the National Student voice for OAT which is a huge accolade as there are only 9 students across 38 schools chosen. So far this team has designed a website to support mental health projects in schools; this will be launched in January. At the conference Scarlett had to speak to a room full of Headteachers and senior staff around these issues. We are really proud of her and all she is achieving with this team WELL DONE!



We hope you have enjoyed all of the festive activities and rewards this last week—you had to be in it to win it! Well done to all our lucky winners—next time it could be YOU!

### CREATIVITY GALORE IN ART, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Year 7 have settled in and enjoyed developing new skills in Art, Design and Technology. All students made an Alessi themed torch and packaging, demonstrating fantastic imagination and creativity, well done Year 7. Students are now settling into their new subject rotation in either Food, Art or 3D Design.

Continuing with the congratulations, Year 7 entered a Health and Safety poster competition and the winners were Jamie Cadman, Angel Turner and Tazeen

Qureshi. Their winning entries will be displayed around the Art, Design and Technology Faculty as a continual reminder of the importance of following health and safety rules.

Year 8 students have attended an afterschool activity in Textile Design, making their own Christmas themed stuffed reindeer. Mrs Brittle and Ms Sterling have been very impressed with the students who have attended break and lunchtimes to ensure each reindeer is completed to take home for Christmas. Well done, Year 8.

In November, Mr Law arranged for the Year 11 students to go out for a slap-up two course meal at The Fairlawns Hotel in Walsall. As part of their Hospitality course, students had the opportunity to experience what it is like to be a customer and find out about silver service. Thank you to Mr Law, Mr Fitzgerald and Mrs Clarke and Mrs Law for organising and supporting the trip.

Mr Phillips is running a photography club and it is proving very popular with Year 8 and 9 students. If you have any older digital cameras no longer being used, Mr Phillips would be very grateful for the donations, as would the students. They can be handed into reception or Mr Phillips personally, but please do leave your name so we can thank you. This is a great way to make some space and support recycling as part of the 6 R's, something the faculty teaches and supports.





# SMSC/SRE

The safety and well-being of all our students is at the forefront of everything we do at WOA.

We've had a very busy term working through our SMSC and SRE curriculum.

So far we have covered:

Peer-on-Peer Abuse

Bullying

Healthy Relationships also supported by Brook Advisory

Managing Emotions

Mental Health & Well-being

Grooming & Exploitation

Online Safety & Sexting

Substance Abuse

Serious Violence

Next term we will be covering:

Hate Crime

Gangs

Extremism

FGM

E-Safety & the Law

## REMEMBRANCE 2019

On the 11th November, WOA staff and students came together, led by our Marine Cadet Detachment, for two minutes of silence to remember and honour the sacrifice made by so many.



A big thank you and well done to our very own Bradley B for performing The Last Post.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR Y11

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION TIMETABLE - JANUARY 2020

Wednesday 8th January - Sports Studies 08.45am in S19

Wednesday 8th January - Creative Media 13.45pm in Sports Hall

Thursday 9th January - Patterns of Child Development 13.45pm in S11

Friday 10th January - Travel & Tourism Sector 08.45am in Conference Room

Friday 10th January - Hair & Beauty 10.30am in Conference Room

Monday 13th January - Animal Health 08.45am in Conference Room

## SAVE THE DATE

Monday 6th January 2020 - Y11 Raising Achievement Conference

Wednesday 22nd January—Y9 Parents Evening

Wednesday 1st April—Y8 Parents Evening

Wednesday 13th May—Y7 Parents Evening

Wednesday 8th July—Y10 Parents Evening

Wednesday 13th July—Awards Evening Years 7-10



WISHING YOU A SAFE AND VERY  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
BEST WISHES FOR 2020  
FROM ALL AT

WODENSBOROUGH  
ORMISTON ACADEMY

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