



OBA NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM 2022

Dear Parents and Carers



Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. Once again there has been much to celebrate this term. Just before Christmas the Performing Arts department were finally able to showcase the talents of our students in 'Rock of Ages'. It was a real privilege to see so many performers having the opportunity to put on a show for an audience.

Our pop-up uniform shop is proving popular. Now stocking coats, blazers, shirts, PE kits, sanitary products and covid testing kits, the shop will be open during half term in the shopping city. Check social media for updates. Parents have told us how much they value the shop in these difficult times. Pop in and say hello to Mrs Crane.

There is plenty happening over half term with revision sessions for year 11 and year 13 students. Check the schedule and encourage your child to attend. Mock exams take place straight after the holiday so this is a great opportunity to get some extra support from subject teachers.

I wish you all a happy and safe break.

Mrs Evans
Principal

Key Dates

Tuesday 22nd February and Wednesday 23rd February
OBA Community Pop Up Shop in Runcorn Shopping City.
(Based in the old MODE store, 9.30am - 3.00pm)

Thursday 3rd March 2022
Year 8 Progress Evening.

Easter break: 4th - 15th April 2022

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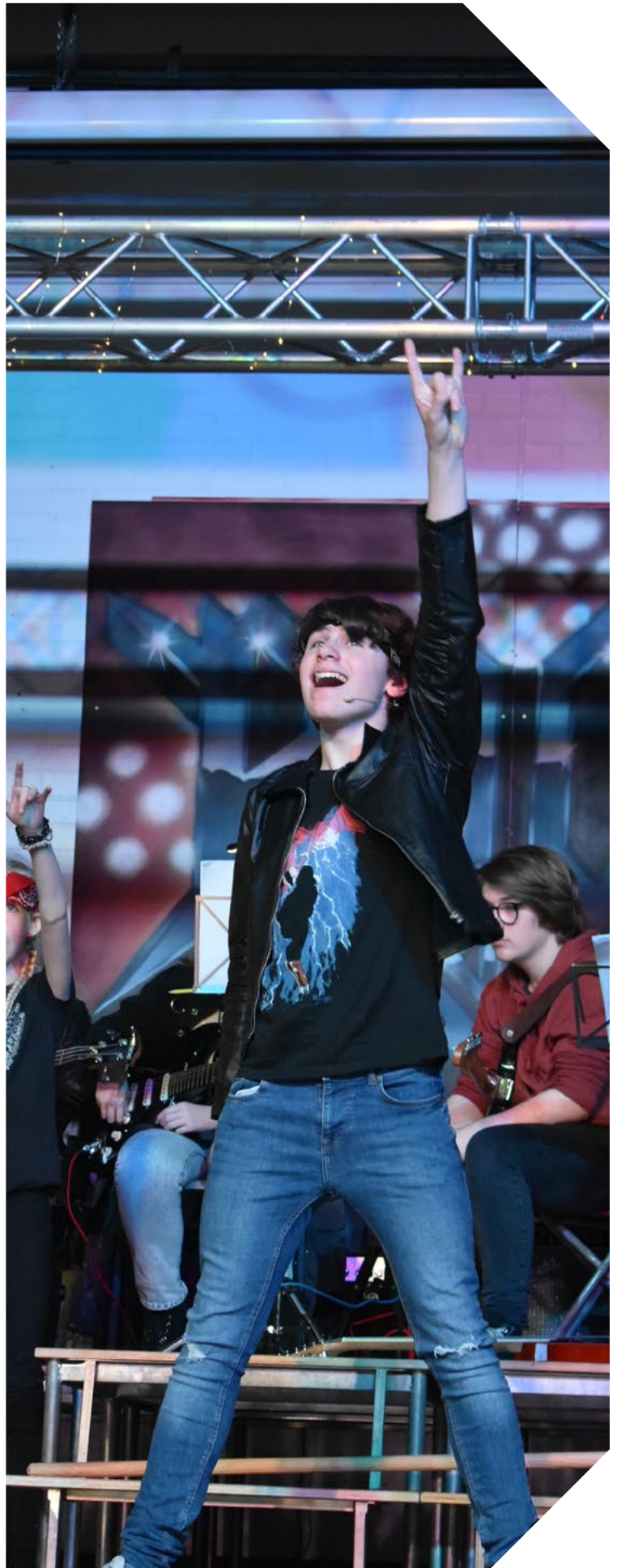
'Rock of Ages' takes to the stage!

Before Christmas, our annual school stage production took place. The cast and crew of 'Rock of Ages' really wowed their audience and gave our dancers, singers, actors and musicians a platform to let their talents shine. Defying all the odds and obstacles that this year threw at our cast and crew, the audience, for one night only, were treated to an outstanding performance and gave a rapturous and very well deserving applause to all involved. The feedback and praise from our special matinee performance for our own Year 7 students was equally enthusiastic.

Georgia Murrell (Year 10) told us, **"I played the character 'Lonny' who is everyone's favourite narrator! I gained lots of close friends from doing the school show. Having to learn my lines and scenes on top of school work really encouraged me to multi-task and to be more organised. Performing in such a welcoming and friendly environment really helped to boost my confidence both on and off stage. It was so much fun doing the show this year and I would definitely do it every year if I could!"**


Nathaniel Hay (Year 11) said of his part, **"I played the role of 'Drew Boley' in 'Rock of Ages'. It was a great experience being in the show; I made lots of new friends and it really improved my acting skills. Also, it definitely helped with my confidence. Overall, being a part of the show was amazing. At times it was a bit stressful making sure we had everything perfect. But where's the fun if it is easy, right?"**

Miss McKeivitt (Director) commented, **"Congratulations to all of the performers, and we need to give a huge thank you to the staff within the Performing Arts Team and all of the backstage and technical crew who worked tirelessly to deliver a flawless show. As they say, there is no 'I' in team!"**





Holocaust Memorial Day

A photograph of an elderly woman with short white hair, wearing a blue and white striped cardigan over a dark top, speaking into a microphone. She is standing on a stage in front of a large projection screen. The screen displays a historical black and white photograph of a snowy landscape with a building and a fence. The text 'LITWITZ BIRKENAU' is visible on the screen, and a red banner at the bottom of the screen reads 'HOLOCAUST SURVIV'.

During Holocaust Memorial Day this year, the year 9 students at Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy had the amazing opportunity to listen to the testimony of Holocaust Survivor, Eva Clarke BEM, who opened up about her harrowing experiences during the persecution of Jewish and other minority groups throughout Germany and Europe, to students across the country. This opportunity came at the end of the students completing a unit on the Holocaust and further genocide, fitting with the theme for this year's Holocaust Memorial Day's message of 'One Day'. Hearing this testimony, the year 9 pupils were incredibly respectful and listened intently to Eva Clarke's life story. The students were a credit to the school.

Miss Jaynes said that, "the year 9 students were incredibly respectful and 100% focused on every word of Eva Clarke's testimony. It showed to the students the impact this genocide had on individual lives."

A year 9 student said that, "listening to a Holocaust survivor makes what we learnt real, and how terrible an experience it was for those involved."

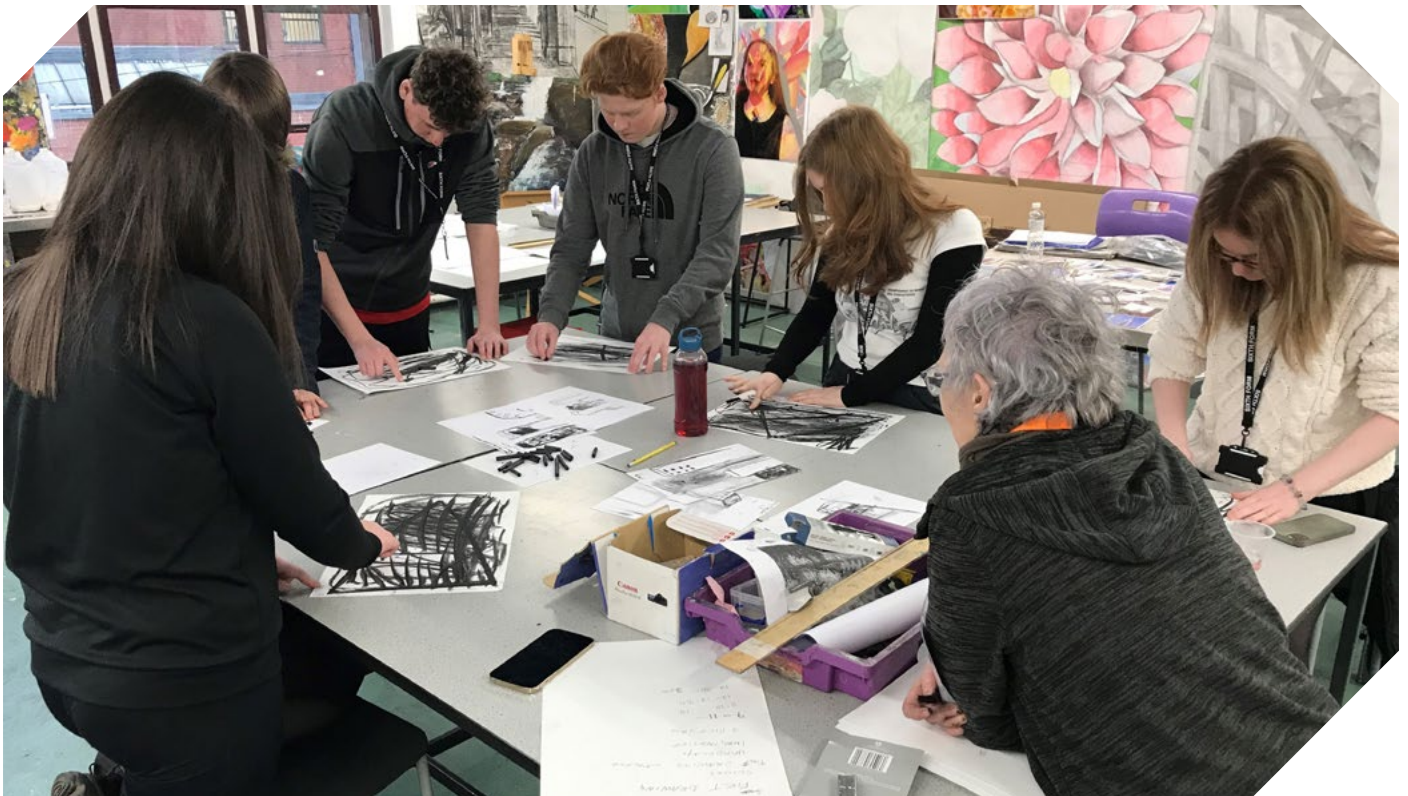
Sixth Form Art Experience

Yr12 art students were lucky enough to take part in a workshop with internationally recognised artist Jeanette Barnes last month. Barnes is known for her energetic large-scale drawings of urban landscapes and students were challenged to work in her style. They were pushed out of their comfort zones, using charcoal to produce observational and imagined drawings and had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the artist's creative process and her career as an artist and educator. Students worked with time limits and on a variety of scales; their work has further been developed in subsequent lessons to contribute to their A Level portfolio. The students said this of their experience:

“The workshop with Jeanette has helped me to expand my use of materials and also allowed me to expand my knowledge of mark making techniques. I have also been pushed out of my comfort zone by using abstract ideas to create a cohesive piece and think the whole experience will have been very beneficial to me.”

“Today I had the pleasure of meeting Jeanette Barnes and the advice I have received is amazing and unforgettable.”

“The workshop has taught me how to work at a faster pace and also to expand my range of materials that I am confident using. As well as this, I have learnt how to draw figures and I think that it was a valuable experience.”



OBA Pop Up Shop



Once again, OBA opened the doors to its community pop-up shop this term! The academy took over a unit in Runcorn Shopping City on Wednesday 5th January and invited parents/carers to drop in whilst shopping, to pick up items of necessity.

The shop was stocked with good quality recycled school uniform, new and donated winter coats, stationary, rucksacks, sanitary products and covid-19 test kits.

All items were available free of charge for members of the OBA family.

Mrs Snagg, Associate Assistant Principal responsible for community links at the academy said, **“We were really pleased to be able to offer our families an even more convenient way to pop and see us and access items such as uniform and coats free of charge. As the cold weather has moved in, we have noticed a significant number of students**

arriving to school with no coat on and we wanted to provide an option for everyone to be able to access one if they wished to do so. The shop was well attended on the day by parents and carers who enjoyed using the option and asked if we would be doing it again.”

Local MP Mike Amesbury has donated even more items to the initiative. Thank you, Mr Amesbury. We even had a member of the public, who was impressed with the shop, donate a substantial amount of uniform and supplies to us.

The academy’s popular uniform swap shop has been running really successfully this term and we are now running low on all items of academy uniform. If your child has outgrown any of the following items, please consider donating them to school;

- Blazer
- Jumper/Cardigan

- Pinafores
- Skirts
- Trousers
- White school shirts
- PE Kit

Donations can be made simply by dropping off items at the academy reception.

Alternatively, if you are looking to replace items of your child’s uniform for the new school term, please contact Mrs Crane (s.crane@ob-ac.co.uk) to enquire about available sizes.

*We still have a selection of new and good quality winter coats available for selection/collection too.

Due to the popularity of the shop, our next pop up shop will be open for 2 days in the half term holiday. It will be held at the same location (site that used to be ‘Mode’ shop) on Tuesday 22nd February and Wednesday 23rd February from 9am to 3pm.



www.oba-careers.co.uk

6th form - Apprenticeships - College - University - Resources - Advice



It's been a busy half term for careers education at OBA. We're delighted to be able to offer all of our Year 10 and Year 12 students the opportunity to carry out work experience, and students have been busy organising their placements in preparation for their week in the workplace. This is a valuable opportunity for students to develop the employability skills that will be crucial for progressing through their future careers successfully.

7th -13th February was National Apprenticeship Week, with students receiving an assembly on the wide variety of opportunities offered by apprenticeships,

including how to start researching this important area when planning for next steps. A good place to start is to visit www.oba-careers.co.uk and to click on the "apprenticeships" tab. Degree level apprenticeships are becoming an increasingly popular career route, particularly for 6th form students, many of whom now leave at 18 to begin earning money as they work and study towards qualifications.

Year 8 and Year 10 have also received careers education through their Lessons for Life curriculum, with Year 8 following a "Me and My Future" project and Year 9 receiving sessions

from Shaping Futures on Life at University, Labour Market Information and Alternative Pathways. Students have found out university is all about, which jobs are becoming more and less popular and the variety of routes that their education and careers can take both at 16 and 18 years old – and beyond.

OBA employs the services of two impartial careers advisors and we welcome any student in the academy to make an appointment, whether it is to discuss post 16 or post 18 options, to discuss the Year 9 options process, to talk about work experience or for anything careers related!



Regional Student Voice

OBA's Student Parliament has had a great year so far, having an important input into a number of important areas of academy life including safeguarding, enrichment and choosing a social action project for the academy (keep an eye out for news on our new #WeWill project!)

At the time of writing, we are about to elect representatives from OBA to sit on the OAT Regional Student Voice panel, who will meet with all of the other OAT academies in the north

of England regularly to help to shape and lead on projects and initiatives to improve the lives of all of the students across the northern OAT academies. Students across the academy will vote for who they want to represent their views and their academy and who will also have the opportunity to stand for election for the OAT National Student Voice in the future. We look forward to being able to announce the results in the next newsletter!

Curriculum Information Booklet

If you would like more information about what your child is studying this term, please click this link to access the Curriculum Information Booklet for the Spring term:

<https://tinyurl.com/ysjj7dp4>

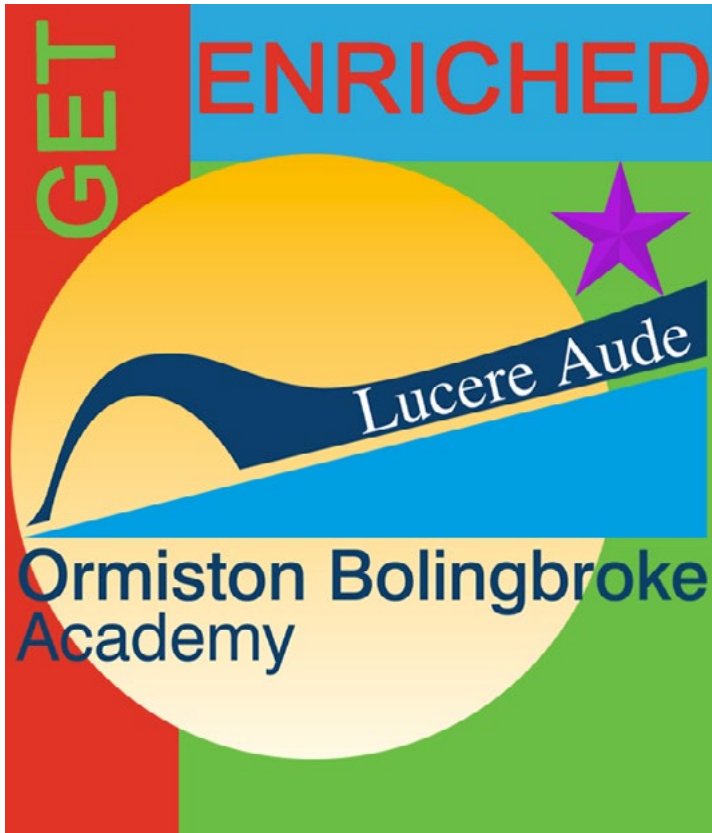
Here you will not only find information about what your child is studying but can also access additional resources for supporting and extending their learning at home.

My Hidden Chimp

This February half term the My Hidden Chimp program will be back for 8-13 year olds in the Halton area. My Hidden Chimp features easy to follow explanations and simple strategies to help children understand how their mind

works. With ten habits to put into practice, such as smiling, saying sorry and talking about your feelings, children can work on managing their behaviour and emotions, and understand why they sometimes behave and feel the way they do.

For more information on what My Hidden Chimp is, and to book a place on the program, visit their website chimpmanagement.com/books-by-professor-steve-peters/my-hidden-chimp/



OBA are proud to be able to offer our students more than 50 enrichment clubs every week, some of which run on more than one day.

These clubs include a range of academic, artistic, practical, cultural and sporting activities as well as catering for wider interests. For example:

- Academic includes subject support sessions and homework clubs
- Cultural includes music, DJing, drama, film and dance clubs
- Artistic includes art, art tech and photography clubs
- Sporting includes football, netball and basketball
- Wider interests includes British Sign Language, chess club and astronomy

We're always looking to expand on our enrichment offer and we welcome any new suggestions from students!

Enrichment at OBA



Monday

Extra-curricular	Greek Myths	Years 7 and 8	F025	Miss Campbell	
TA Support	TA lunch club	All years	Various	TA team	
Music	Open room	Year 13	G024	Music team	
Extra-curricular	BSL (British Sign Language)	All year groups	I-Zone	Miss Greenwood	
Library	Homework, reading and research	All years	Library	Mrs Rayner	

Tuesday

Art	Art club	Years 7, 8 and 9	Art rooms	Mr Dooley	
Sport	Girls football	Rec	Rec	Miss McAuliffe	
Sport	Boys football	Years 7 and 10	Rec	Mr King and Mr Barrett	
Drama	Drama club	Years 7, 8 and 9	Drama theatre	Miss Ryan	
Dance	Dance club	Years 10 and 11	Dance studio	Ms Power	
Art	Art and photography club	Years 10-13	Art rooms	Mr Smyth and Mrs Cleverly	
TA Support	TA lunch club	All years	Various	TA team	
Music	Djing	All years	Music rooms	Mr Gosnay	
Music	Keyboard club	Years 8, 9, 10 & 11	Music rooms	Ms Dougall	
Music	Songwriting	All years	Music rooms	Miss Whittle	
English	English intervention (Week A)	Year 11	English rooms	English staff	
Year 11 Options	Year 11 Option B intervention (Week B)	Year 11	Various	Various	
Library	Homework, reading and research	All years	Library	Mrs Rayner	
Extra-curricular	Club Lingo	All years	F025	Ms Crellin	

Wednesday

Extra-curricular	Pride group	All year groups	G017	Mr Houslay and Miss Holmes	
Science	Astronomy club	All year groups	G027	Mr Wynne	
ICT	STEM Club - Bloodhound Racing Challenge and engineering challenge	Year 7 and Year 10	F023	Mr O'Leary	
Maths	Dare to Shine Maths club	Years 9 and 10	F036	Mr Robinson	
Sport	Girls Netball	All years	Rec	Mrs Hasty and Miss Porschke	
Sport	Boys Football	Years 8 and 9	Rec	Mr King and Mr Barrett	
Dance	Dance club	Years 7 and 8	Dance studio	Miss Ryan	
TA Support	TA lunch club	All years	Various	TA team	
Extra curricular	Anti-Bullying Support drop in	All years	Intervention room	Mrs Musgrave and Mr Allen	
Subject support	Replay	Year 7	Library	Mrs Bagnall and Miss O'Sullivan	
Homework	"Just Do It" Homework club	Years 10 and 11	F020	Mrs Wallace	
Music	Keyboard club	Year 7	Music rooms	Miss Lamb	
Year 11 Options	Year 11 Option A intervention (Week A)	Year 11	Various	Various	
Maths	Maths intervention (Week B)	Year 11	Maths rooms	Maths staff	
Library	Homework, reading and research	All years	Library	Mrs Rayner	
Art	KS3 Art & Tech Club	Years 7, 8 and 9	G003	Miss Holmes	
English	Student's Voices debate club	All years	Library	Miss Harding	
Philosophy	Philosophy for Children (P4C)	Year 7	F016	Mrs Cooke	
Psychology /Sociology	Psychology and Sociology club (alternate weeks)	Year 10 and 12	G011	Miss Machin	

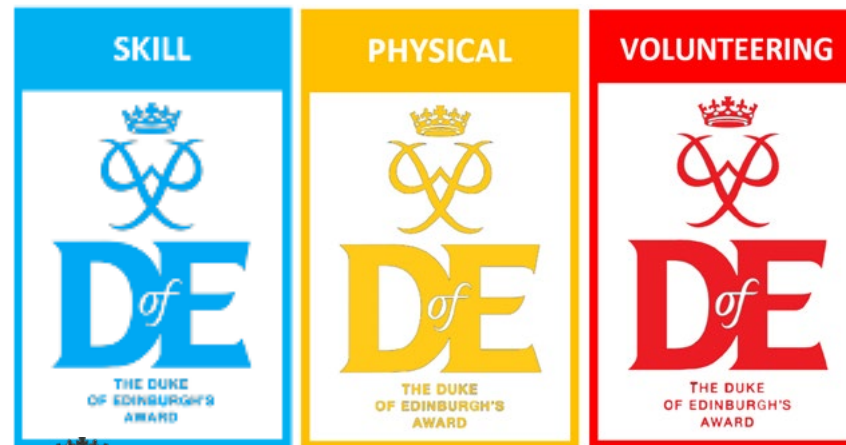
Thursday

English	Reading and creative writing	Year 7 and 8	Library	Miss Lacey	
English	School newspaper/Journalism	Years 7, 8 and 9	F008	Miss Voss	
English	Film Club	Years 7, 8 and 9	F006	Miss Walsh	
Extra-curricular	Chess Club	All years	G027	Mr Kendrick	
Extra-curricular	Social Communication group	All years	G017	Mr Houslay	
Dance	Dance club	Year 9	Dance studio	Miss Ryan	
Dance	Dance drop-in	All years	Dance studio	Ms Power	
Science	Team Innovation	Year 10	G021	Miss Jackson	
Science	Science Club	Year 7	G018	Mr Murray	
Sport	Girls Handball	All years	Rec	Miss McAuliffe	
Sport	Boys Handball	All years	Rec	Mr Barrett and Mr King	
TA Support	TA lunch club	All years	Various	TA team	
Art	KS3 Art & Tech Club	Years 7, 8 and 9	G003	Miss Holmes	
Music	Rock band	All years	Music rooms	Mr Pearson and Mr Reay	
Music	Woodwind club	All years	Music rooms	Ms Savell	
Music	O-Glee-A	All years	Music rooms	Miss Lamb and Miss Ryan	
Extra curricular	Duke of Edinburgh	Year 9	TBA	Mr Dixon and Mr McArthur-Greenall	
Science	Science intervention (Week A)	Year 11	Science rooms	Science staff	
Spanish	Spanish intervention (Week A)	Year 11	Spanish rooms	Spanish staff	
Humanities	Humanities intervention (Week B)	Year 11	Humanities rooms	Humanities staff	
Library	Homework, reading and research	All years	Library	Mrs Rayner	

Friday

Extra curricular	Duke of Edinburgh Drop In	Year 10	F027	Mr Dixon and Mr McArthur-Greenall	
Extra curricular	Chess	Year 9 and Year 10	F027	Mr Dixon and Mr McArthur-Greenall	
Maths	Da Vinci Club	Year 7 and 8	F036	Mr Robinson	
TA Support	TA lunch club	All years	Various	TA team	
Music	Guitar club	All years	Music rooms	Mr Looker	
Music	Open Room	All year groups	Music rooms	Mr Tallant	
Music	Year 10 enrichment	Year 10	Music rooms	Mr Buckley	
Library	Homework, reading and research (Until 3.30)	All years	Library	Mrs Rayner	

Students who are working towards a Duke of Edinburgh award can claim credit towards the following skills:



Lessons for Life Update

It has been another busy half term with our Lessons for Life programme this half term with a wide range of projects undertaken by our students as part of their Personal, Social, Health Education.

Year 7 students progressed through lessons about mental health and wellbeing and then moved on to cover an important project about online safety in their Lessons for Life learning journey. The timing of these projects is very deliberate as mental wellbeing can be a prominent issue post-Christmas and students' online safety project ties in with Safer Internet Day which takes place early in February each year.

Students in year 8 have had their first taste of careers education and have completed 'Introduction to My Career'. This project has raised students' awareness of the jobs and careers available later in life, skills required to be successful in the workplace, sources of advice and guidance with career choices and students have also used computer rooms to research and explore their employment preferences.

Year 9 students have recently been focussing on their future careers and have been learning

about the different career and educational pathways available to them in the future as well as the wide range of information, advice and guidance available to all OBA students. This project was enriched by a range of live online talks from our partners at Shaping Futures.

Students in year 10 have been covering 'Me and My Relationships' which aims to raise awareness of healthy relationships as students become older. Topics explored in this project include different types of relationships, marriage, divorce and forced marriage and responsible choices in a healthy relationship.

In year 11 students have covered the very important topic of drug, alcohol and tobacco education. This project raises awareness of the dangers to individuals and to society from substance misuse. This project is enriched with input from partner agencies including Cheshire Police and the Amy Winehouse Foundation.

Owing to our flexible scheduling and approach to Lessons for Life, we were also welcome guest speakers from the National Citizen Service

(NCS) to the Academy to present their 2022 Summer Programme to our students. The NCS summer programme is a two-week commitment after examinations have taken place which involves meeting new friends, navigating fun and exciting new challenges together, and learning life skills that'll help students smash their future goals. Students will also find out more about the local community and work together as a team to turn passion into action, delivering a social action project that tackles an issue.

Full details about the NCS programme can be found on the attached document and also on the NCS website: <https://wearencs.com>. Any questions or queries about this external opportunity need to be asked directly to NCS by clicking here: <https://wearencs.com/contact-us> or calling **0800 197 8010**.

Parents and carers can find out a bit more about our Lessons for Life provision on our website here.

You can keep in touch with all things related to Lessons for Life by following the [@lfl_oba](https://www.instagram.com/lfl_oba) on Instagram.

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 8th February 2022 students and staff at Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy joined the global Safer Internet Day campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology.

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technologies for children and young people and inspire a national conversation.

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries. The day offers the opportunity to highlight

positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community.

Led by OBA E-Safety Co-ordinator Mr Hussey, Safer Internet Day 2022 at OBA was marked with a range of activities to raise awareness across our Academy community. In the week leading up to Safer Internet Day Mr Hussey delivered assemblies to all year groups. These assemblies focussed on current trends around use of technology including conduct which is also known as our 'digital footprint' and commercialism online. These assemblies also

focussed on practical advice around safely using some of the most popular apps amongst young people including Tik Tok, Instagram and WhatsApp.

Further to this, an email was sent to all parents and carers on Safer Internet Day to provide guidance on how they can keep their children safe online. Part of this mailshot was a link to a pre-recorded presentation from Mr Hussey around parental online safety which can be viewed here at any time: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2k9VQGO_9A4

E-SAFETY @ OBA



If you or someone you know has an e-safety concern you need to take action

1



EVIDENCE

Get solid evidence of your concern by taking a screen shot or photograph.

2



BLOCK

Put blocks in place to disconnect from the person causing you upset.

3



TELL

Report your e-safety concern immediately.

You should report online safety concerns to Mr Hussey - E-Safety Coordinator or ANY member of staff at OBA

You can also report concerns anonymously using the SHARP system or click the CEOP report button on the OBA website.



Find out more about staying safe online:

Download the Safer Schools App for free

Visit the e-safety for students page on our website:

[OBA homepage >](#)
[Safeguarding & wellbeing >](#)
[E-Safety](#)



Follow us on Twitter & Instagram   @EsafetyOBA



New Arrival

A massive congratulations to Mrs Snagg who welcomed her baby, **Shay Snagg**, into the world on 18th January weighing in at an impressive 9lb 4oz.

Welcome to the OBA family Shay!

Goodbyes

David Bailey joined us as an apprentice within the ICT department and will be leaving to continue with his apprenticeship at another company.

Connor Dooley will also be leaving at February half term. Connor has worked at the school for 4 years and will be missed by students and staff.

Debby Ireland has been our catering manager for around 5 years and she has decided to take up a new challenge working at Liverpool Airport! Debby has been a tower of support for the school bringing in initiatives such as the themed lunches which have been enjoyed by all. She worked hard to use her create talents to ensure she made food for our pupils and staff that was both tasty and nutritious. Debby, we will all miss you!

After 28 years of service as



our school receptionist, **Lesley Bennett** will be leaving the academy at February half term. Lesley has played a very important role at the school being the first point of contact for our students, parents and carers and has been an amazing ambassador for the Academy. Lesley came over to the site from Norton Priory School when it was joined with Brookvale to create Halton High School, and she has seen the school transform into what is now Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy.

Jeff Hough, who has worked with Lesley for a number of years commented, "Visitors to our school feel immediately welcomed and this is because of Lesley". Mrs Platt added, "Lesley's warm reception on the day of my interview back in 2011 was one of the things that really drew me to the school - first impressions really count and Lesley created a good one!"

Lesley is going on to take over reception at Abbey School for Exceptional Children in Chester. Lesley would like to add, "I will miss the children, parents, carers and staff. I've made many friends over the years and have a lot of great memories. I've had the pleasure of seeing the children of ex-pupils come to the school and even had my own grandchildren study here. It has been my utmost pleasure to serve this community."

Lesley you will be missed by all of us!