

Welcome from the Principal



As we approach the end of another busy half term, I would like to congratulate Years 11, 12 and 13 on the way they have conducted themselves in their GCSE and A level exams so far. This can be a stressful and emotional time for students and the staff have been on hand to offer revision sessions and be a friendly face when reassurance is needed. Exams continue after half term. During the break there will be revision sessions offered Monday to Wednesday.

In line with the Jubilee celebrations, the academy will be closed on Thursday and Friday but should you need to contact us you can email admin@ob-ac.co.uk

Once again, this term our students have proved how amazing they are. I was privileged to watch the dance show and witness spectacular performances from students in all year groups. They should be very proud of themselves.

I hope that you all have a restful break and stay safe.

Mrs Evans
Principal

Key Dates

Monday 4th July to Friday 8th July 2022

Y10 Work Experience week

Monday 20th June to Friday 24th June 2022

Y12 Work Experience week

Monday 18th July

Sports Day

Tuesday 19th July 2022

Summer Term ends

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Buckingham Palace visit for OBA student



On Wednesday 11th May, one of our Year 13 pupils Engy Hamido Desouki attended the Queen's Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Engy and her father were guests following on from Mr Hamido's recent British Empire Medal Award which meant that he was a recognised member on Her Majesty's honorary list. He was awarded the British Empire Medal in recognition for services provided by his organisation 'A Better Tomorrow Halton C.I.C.' to supporting refugees and asylum seekers in the community of Halton Borough during the COVID-19 pandemic. The organisation provided necessities such as food, toiletries, and clothes. In addition to this, he made lots of well-being phone calls to help improve their mental health.

Engy commented on the day, "We enjoyed an afternoon tea party in the Palace gardens which included meeting members of the royal family such as Prince Charles and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall. We were also able to walk around the Royal Palace's gardens and meet other guests that attended the party. It was a great honour to be recognised and invited to such an event which hosted many people from all over the world.

Usually in the Garden Party, the invitations are sent out to those individuals who represent the

community in appreciation of their efforts. As my dad had been awarded the British Empire Medal, he was one of the chosen invitees and I was able to attend this event as his guest. The party was unbelievable as it was not something that happens every day and we felt surreal from the moment we received the invitations until we arrived at the palace.

Whilst there, we spoke with many invited guests and shared pictures with them, as well as talking to the moderators and organisers of the party. The Duchess Camilla's assistants also greeted us and we were very keen to introduce ourselves to them! In addition, we also got the chance to meet Chris Whitty, the Chief Medical Officer and introduce ourselves to him too. It was great to have tea and some afternoon refreshments with many people from all over the world. Although the party only lasted for a few hours, we had wished it was longer and it would've been even more enjoyable if the weather conditions had been better!"

We wish to congratulate Mr Hamido on his award. We also wish to congratulate Engy who is following in her father's inspirational footsteps as she has been accepted to study medicine at Lancaster University - the first doctor to come from Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy! Well done Engy!



Bombed Out Magic



For our Year 13 Music students' external assessment, they were given the challenge of creating a set for a 20-minute performance based on the theme of 'barriers'. Their response was to create a ninety-minute performance that incorporated our younger performers into a fantastic evening at The Bombed-Out Church in Liverpool.

They chose The Bombed-Out Church to perform at as the venue had its barriers broken down, but it still stood tall as one of Liverpool's most iconic landmarks.

The night began with a set by Pulse, Ben Bramhall and Kiera

Valdez' band from our year 13 Music class. The band featured Charlie Chesworth on drums and Mr Tallant on bass followed by a performance by our year 13 dancers, Keira Duckers and Chloe Whitehead who were supported by Miss Power.

Next up, the first of our younger performers confidently stepped up with a soulful performance of Rehab by Amy Winehouse with Amber Johnson on vocals supported by Reece Hanson and Nathaniel Hay on guitar and keyboard. Lucious Newman then joined Amber for a performance of the appropriately titled 'Take

Me To Church' supported by Mr Buckley on keys.

Thomas Gannon, another of our year 13 Music students, accompanied Lucious Newman, Meadow Muscart, Laylah Crane and Ellie Houghton for a harmonic performance of 'Heather'. Laylah stayed on the stage and performed a beautiful version of 'I Will Always Love You' managing to hit every note on a notoriously difficult song.

Ellie Dixon-Jones then gave a fantastic monologue without the use of a microphone, projecting her voice to the back of a giant space without a roof. Gavin Shone >>

followed Ellie on his ukulele and singing 'Kalmia Kid' in what was a truly stunning performance.

Paige O'Toole was next up singing 'The Winner Takes It All' accompanied by Bella Cuthbert in an emotional performance. Paige remained on stage to perform a song she had written herself called 'Tonight' supported by Mr Tallant on keys. Daniel Tringham was the last of our younger students to perform singing a song called 'Saline Solution'

which he also played on the guitar in what was a brilliant solo performance.

Finally, our Year 13 Music students (Aaron Bradley, Ben Bramhall, Kiera Valdez & Thomas Gannon) headlined the night with a full set that included a variety of songs such as 'Hurt', 'Creep', 'Where Is My Mind' and two original songs written by Ben Bramhall & Kiera Valdez. By the time they performed their final song 'Fix You', the crowd were stood up,

singing along and shining the torches on their phones.

The students who performed were a real credit to the school and should be proud of themselves for creating such an entertaining night.

A huge thank you to our audience of around 90 students, staff and family for helping us to create an iconic evening. We couldn't have done it without your support!



One Night Only 2022!

It has been a very long wait since we last had a live dance show at Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy! Our students and the dance department worked extremely hard to put on 'One Night Only' on 26th April 2022. This dance show showcased the vast array of talent we have here at OBA. The night took us through exam work from GCSE to BTEC level 3, to students' solo work and enrichment work. Pupils from across the school demonstrated skill in a range of dance styles: contemporary, street, ballet and jazz.

Louise Power, Head of Dance commented, '**One Night Only was a huge success, with tickets a sell-out. The commitment, enthusiasm and talent of the students at OBA is fantastic and this is matched by the support of parents, friends, families and staff. A huge well done to all those involved in the show and thank you to those of you who watched and supported us. I feel very proud to be Head of Dance and cannot wait to start work on next year's show! It was a privilege to hand over the dance captain award to Nicole Gleave (year 10) and to celebrate the achievement of Kiera Fisher (year 11) and Chloe Whitehead (year 13) who have both secured places at Shockout to study dance. After school activities in dance are open to all students, in all year groups across the school and sixth form, please encourage your child to attend and let's make the dance show 2023 bigger and better!**'



Interhouse Competition



This half term we have started our new inter-house competition. We have four houses named after star constellations. Our motto 'Lucere Aude' means 'Dare to Shine' and seeing as all of our pupils are stars, we thought the constellation names to be very fitting! The houses are: Draco, Pegasus, Ursa and Orion. Each pupil and staff member belong to one of the houses. Every week we hold a variety of challenges and one-off events for both staff and students. Competitions for students so far have focused on: most OBA star points; pupils

with the best attendance and pupils gaining the most grade 4s in lessons (good lessons). Mr McIntyre then allocates points depending on how the houses have placed in the competitions. Currently, the pupils with the most star points for their house (both from Orion) are Mia Dunning and Alexander Wan so well done to you both for truly being shining stars!

At the start of May, we held a staff badminton tournament. A big well done to Team Orion on their win (although there was some debate over Mr O'Leary's

score keeping!) The staff in the Orion house won 200 points, Ursa 150, Pegasus 100 and Draco 50. On Thursday 26th May we will be hosting staff and student 'Countdown' so staff and students alike will need to bring out their best mental arithmetic and spelling skills if they're going to grab the much-coveted points for their house.

At the time of printing, the house competition scores stood at: Orion 1000, Draco 950, Ursa 850 and Pegasus 600, so it is still close and all to play for!

School Games Gold Achievement

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games GOLD Mark Award for the 2021/22 academic year. The School Games Mark is to reward and recognise schools' engagement (provision and uptake) in the School Games against a national benchmark and to celebrate keeping young people active, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

Our physical activity and school sport achievements and participation this year include: Girls Football, Boys Football, SEN Football, Rowing, Dragonboating, Girls Cricket, Boys Cricket, Mixed Rounders, Athletics, Rugby League, Martial Arts, Brazilian Jujitsu, Netball, Handball and many more.

We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication in all aspects of physical activity and school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and

officials who made our events possible.

We are committed to using the School Games to try and engage those young people who have not previously been active or represented our school. This ensures that all of our students have a positive experience and want to try out new activities.

As a school, we believe in the power of physical activity and school and we give opportunities to those young people that need it most either as a participant, leader, official or volunteer.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas linked to the five School Games outcomes and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks to all the PE department and extended team Mr Kenny and Mrs Riley.





Rowing Gets Started Again!

Miss McAuliffe has started the rowing enrichment again and there has been a lot of interest. Runcorn Rowing Club's volunteers have been amazing at introducing our students to this great sport. Students learn how to execute the strokes on the rowing machines in the club then they brave it on the chilly waters of The Mersey. Three of our pupils have now joined Runcorn Rowing Club and are looking forward to their first race which takes place in a few weeks time. These three pupils come to the OBA sessions so that they are able to help coach and mentor the new students so they can follow in their footsteps.

We are hoping to race Merchant Taylors School in the summer as they are at Runcorn Rowing Club too. Miss McAuliffe is confident OBA will win!

OBA Win Tournament at Widnes Cricket Ground



On Thursday 12th May our Y7/8 cricket team took on, and beat, many other Halton schools to win a tournament at Widnes Cricket ground.

The opening fixture was against Wade Deacon. After winning the toss, OBA decided to bat. Sarah O'Conner and Ollie Holden were the biggest scorers for the team. OBA gained a narrow victory by just one run to start the day. This would not have been possible without an excellent diving catch from Cadu Monteiro from a low drive in the last ball.

Next, we played St Peter and Pauls. The OBA batting team had a shaky start and left us needing a huge effort with ball but OBA did it again with some excellent bowling from Riley McIntyre who seemed to come into his own in his 2nd over of the day.

Ormiston Chadwick Academy gave a good account of themselves in the next game, leaving us needing 64 runs to win this fixture. Good efforts with the bat

from Ben Adkins and brother Mark left us needing 10 runs from 5 balls. In steps the slogger, Luke Thompson with a huge six helping us to another victory.

Sam Ellams opened the batting in the final fixture against Sandymoor Ormiston Academy and got us off to an excellent start with 2 fours in the opening 2 balls, but after a quick start, the batting slowed and we only managed 52 runs leaving Sandymoor with an opportunity to steal a win. The team pulled together in the field with an excellent catch from Jack Miller right near the end helping us to yet another victory.

It was an excellent effort all around and congratulations to OBA Cricket team who won every single fixture and therefore were tournament champions! The future is bright for OBA cricketers!

MAY HALF TERM SOCCER CAMP



Mon 30th May - Wed 1st June
9AM - 3PM DAILY



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Department
for Education



www.oba-careers.co.uk

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

It's been another busy half term with careers education at OBA. Our Year 10 and Year 12 students are busy organising placements and preparing themselves for their work experience in

the summer term and we've had visiting speakers including a virtual STEM careers talk, delivered to our Year 7 students during their assembly time. We're also preparing for our next Lessons for Life careers project which will include sessions delivered to Year 10 by Shaping Futures on the topics of Life at University, Labour Market Information and Alternative Pathways, preparing our students for their life beyond Year 11.

We're committed to preparing our students for their lives beyond education and students are always welcome to make an appointment with our careers advisors, whatever their year group. They can simply ask their form tutors or email Mr Oakes at m.oakes@ob-ac.co.uk



OBA currently offers our students 55 separate enrichment activities, with many activities running on more than one day. Our enrichment activities include:

- Academic: support sessions, homework clubs
- Cultural: music, DJing, drama, film, dance
- Artistic: art and art tech
- Sporting: football, tennis, fitness suite, rowing
- STEM: astronomy, robotics, Da Vinci club, Team Innovation
- Wider interests includes British Sign Language, chess club, "Make and Create"

This is just a small sample of the wide range of activities we have on offer. To see our latest enrichment offer, please visit our website and click on "Curriculum".

Lessons for Life Update

Cheshire Police Online Safety Visit

One of the key strands of our PSHE provision is to educate our students how to stay safe both in the real world and online. As part of a newly formed collaboration between Cheshire Police's Cyber Crime team and our Lessons for Life curriculum, students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 at OBA were visited by Detective Constable Andy Kevan who delivered an interactive assembly to raise awareness of online activity and the law.

DC Kevan's visit was a no-nonsense direct approach, initially looking at a cyber investigation of an online bullying and sexting case in an age appropriate manner. The students were shown what happens during an investigation and how cyber techniques are used to retrieve data both deleted and stored, the offences that have been committed and the consequences. The presentation

also raised awareness of digital footprint, the use of social media and the dangers of talking to unknown persons online. DC Kevan also reviewed of why adolescents take risks, and how they can reduce their own risk of committing online offences. The presentation was underpinned by the mantra of: **Stop, Think, Protect**.

Mr Hussey, Digital Safeguarding Coordinator and Coordinator of Lessons for Life commented, **'it was great to welcome the DC Kevan from the Cyber Crime Team to OBA to share the 'Stop, Think, Protect' message and raise awareness of online safety. DC Kevan shared an excellent presentation sharing experience of real criminal cases he has dealt with as a cyber-crime detective. The presentation definitely raised awareness of the importance**

of good conduct online and we have had brilliant feedback from students and staff alike. We are always extremely grateful to external agencies such as Cheshire Police who take time to visit us at school and share their expertise with our students. Safeguarding education is an important part of our Lessons for Life programme and I am really pleased to have formed a partnership with the DC Kevan here.'

In other Lessons for Life activities, Key Stage 3 students have been studying PSHE lessons to raise awareness of Fundamental British Values (see attached summary infographic) and year 10 students have been working on Global Citizenship which raised students' awareness of issues such as extremism, plastic waste and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.



Online Safety: Useful Resources

Resource	Link	What is the resource about?
Guided access - iPhone	<u>Use Guided Access on iPad - Apple Support (UK)</u>	How to set up guided access on a device so children cannot navigate to other apps or areas of the device.
Screen Pinning - Android	<u>Pin & unpin screens - Android Help (google.com)</u>	How to set up screen pinning on a device so children cannot navigate to other apps or areas of the device.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert; potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

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Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS
National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

British Values

DEMOCRACY

Britain is a democracy - this means that the people in Britain vote for the people who make the laws and decide how the country is run.



THE RULE OF LAW

In Britain we have a police force and court system who make sure people do not do the wrong thing and break the law. They have the power to punish those who do; this means that we are safe.



INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

We are free to live as we choose and to have our own opinions as long as this does not take away someone else's freedoms or break rules or laws.



MUTUAL RESPECT AND TOLERANCE OF THOSE WITH DIFFERENT CULTURE AND RELIGIONS

We accept and respect that other people might have different beliefs to ours. They may believe in different religions or no religion at all.

