

OBA NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2025.

We have made a flying start to the year. OBA has retained Healthy Schools status for the work we do in the academy and the community. We have also enjoyed great success in a variety of competitions, which you can read more about within this newsletter.

Next term we have even more to look forward to, including this year's dance show *Better When I'm Dancin'* as well as one of my favourite days of the academic year: World Book Day. OBA will also host OAT's Got Talent for the first time, with two of our students competing.

As always, I would like to thank parents, carers and staff for continuing to drive high standards so that our students can continue to shine.

Mrs Evans, Principal

KEY DATES:

MONDAY 24TH FEB - Academy closed for INSET
TUESDAY 25TH FEB - Y11 & 13 Mock exams begin
FRIDAY 7TH MAR - Mock exams finish
MONDAY 10TH MAR - British Science Week begins
TUESDAY 11TH MAR - Regional round of OAT's Got Talent
THURSDAY 13TH MAR - Y9 Progress Evening
TUESDAY 1ST APR - Dance Show 7-9PM
WEDNESDAY 2ND APR - Dance Show 7-9.30PM
FRIDAY 4TH APR - Academy closes
TUESDAY 22ND APR - Academy reopens

SPRING TERM ATTENDANCE:

Best attendance:

Year group: **Year 7**

House: **Ursa**

Form:

1st: **8LVS**

2nd: 7JBT

3rd: 7SRY

4th: 11CGN

5th: 7JKG

Most improved attendance:

Year group: **Year 9**

House: **Ursa**

Form: **7SRY**



GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY MATTERS

Hello, my name is **Mrs Hasty** and I am OBA's **Attendance Champion**. My role is to increase attendance so that our students can achieve their true potential at OBA, therefore increasing the opportunities available to them when they leave us.

We believe that arriving on time is essential for our students to make the most of their learning opportunities. Frequent lateness can have a significant impact on a child's education, and persistent lateness may lead to legal action. Please be mindful that 5 minutes lateness every day over a school year accounts for your child missing approximately 3.5 school days and around 20 lessons.

We ask for your cooperation with the following:

The school gate opens at 8.25am and free breakfast is available to all students.

Any student arriving to school between 8.35am and 9am will be coded as L (late).

Any student who arrives after 9am will be coded as a U and this is an unauthorised absence.

We greatly appreciate your support in helping to ensure that all students are punctual and ready to start their learning on time. Should you have concerns regarding your attendance please do not hesitate to contact the OBA attendance team on attendance@ob-ac.co.uk



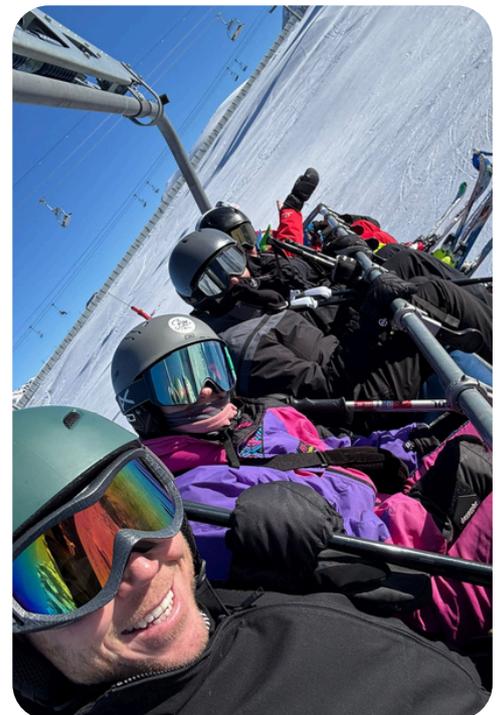
DID YOU KNOW...?

In a school year, if your child is late every day by...	your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
5 minutes	3.5 days from school	20 lessons
10 minutes	7 days from school	41 lessons
15 minutes	10 days from school	55 lessons
20 minutes	14.5 days from school	82 lessons
30 minutes	22 days from school	123 lessons

PLEASE ENCOURAGE PUNCTUALITY TO MAINTAIN ATTENDANCE

SKI TRIP

In January, twenty very excited OBA students from across Years 8-13 embarked on a trip of a lifetime. They flew from Manchester Airport to Les Deux Alpes in France for six days of skiing, accompanied by Mr Fenner, Mrs Platt and Mrs Smith. Each day, they enjoyed five hours of skiing, as well as apres activities including hot chocolate and crepes, bowling, laser quest, quiz night and a visit to the arcades, all followed by a much needed good night's sleep, no doubt!



Select School Travel Ski Trip representative, Eloise, contacted OAT's CEO Tom Rees to praise OBA students:

"I was lucky enough to be Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy's Ski Representative on your recent trip to Les Deux Alpes, and I just wanted to say how amazing your school was to work with.

In my three years as a ski rep, this trip stands out as the most enjoyable and rewarding I have ever had. **Your students were truly exceptional—so kind, polite, and full of positive energy.** Their enthusiasm and respect made every moment an absolute pleasure, and they are a real testament to the values and culture of your school.

Equally, I cannot praise the three teachers on the trip highly enough. They were, without a doubt, **the most supportive, dedicated, and genuinely lovely team** I have had the pleasure of working with. Their care for the students was evident in everything they did, and their warmth, professionalism, and teamwork made my role both effortless and enjoyable.

Spending the week with your group was an absolute joy."



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

Secondary schools across the country participated in a project organised by Warrington Rowing Club. The initiative aimed to get 10,000 students rowing in competition. In the Halton round, OBA swept away the competition! **Manfred Somori** was awarded 1st place and won by an astounding distance of 28 metres! Congratulations also goes to **Oliver Prescott** who achieved 2nd place. Manfred will soon compete in the next round where he will row against students from across the country. Well done team OBA! Keeping shining!



SPELLING BEE SUCCESS

We are proud to announce that **Michael Higgins** was awarded third place in the OAT Spanish Spelling Bee this month where he competed against students from the forty one other academies from the Ormiston Trust. What a superstar!

The National Finals were held in the **University of Cambridge**. Michael travelled down the night before with his family and stayed over night, before heading to the competition the next morning. The day started with a talk from the Director of Studies for Languages and then had a tour round Gonville and Caius College. After lunch the competition began, and Michael competed against OAT students from across the U.K. Back in school, Michael was presented with a trophy from Mrs Evans in assembly.

His teacher, Mrs McMaster said: " I am incredibly proud of Michael and how hard he studied while preparing for the competition. It takes guts to stand up in front of a room full of strangers and speak a foreign language and to get into the National Finals is an amazing achievement."

Michael said his favourite part was the tour and getting to see Stephen Hawking's room. He was also interested to hear that if you study a foreign language at university then you get to do a year abroad to practise in that country.

Well done, Michael. Keep shining!



OAT'S GOT TALENT

We are also delighted to announce that **Caitlyn Molyneaux** and **Mia Catterall** have progressed through to the regional heats of Ormiston's Got Talent 2025!

We are very excited to be hosting this heat, giving both girls the advantage of performing on home turf!

Caitlyn will dance and Mia will sing on stage for three minutes on Tuesday 11th March.

Every single day we dare students to shine, and what a brilliant example Caitlyn and Mia are of this.

We will update you with the results in the next newsletter!

HEALTHY SCHOOLS STATUS

We have once again been awarded **Halton Healthy Schools status**.

The award is based on a whole-school approach to physical, social, and emotional health and wellbeing. We demonstrated our healthy ethos through an assessment, staff wellbeing, student sessions, parental engagement and staff training.

Health Improvement Specialists commended OBA for our work with students, and the whole community too. Mr Hussey, our Lessons for Life Co-ordinator, said: "I am proud that OBA has retained the Healthy Schools award, and it's great that our rigorous P.H.S.E programme now has an award-winning status."



LONDON ART TRIP

In early January, Miss Money Penny and Mrs Norton took nine **Sixth Form** students to London to explore the city and gallery hop as part of their A Level Fine Art, Photography and Graphics courses.

Aimee in Year 12 commented: "This trip was a really valuable experience. I was able to take photo's of pieces of art which I can now use to help me back in the classroom."

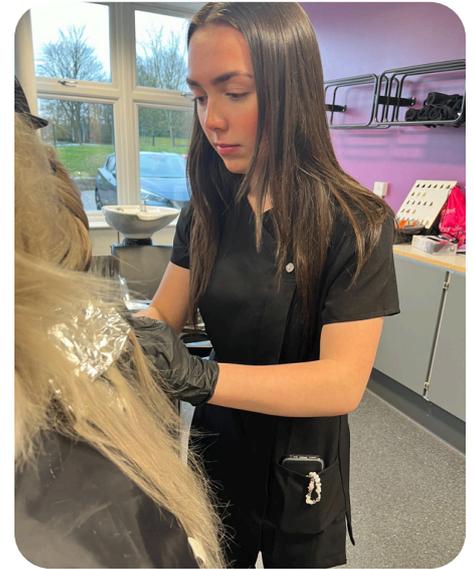


OBA HAIR AND BEAUTY

OBA Futures Salon opened its doors this term to the community. Our **Year 12 and 13 Hair and Beauty** students were able to hone their skills on live models.

Their teacher, Mrs Rigby said: "They have practised highlights, full head colours and a variety of different cuts. I am extremely proud of all the girls for the hard work, skills and confidence they demonstrated.

I am excited to see what skills they will demonstrate next on more live models. Well done Sixth Form and keep up the hard work!"



SNOOKER SENSATION

You may remember an article in one of our newsletters last year about our very talented snooker player, Ethan Grice. This year he will participate in tournaments across the country, and has even been asked to compete in the 'Under 21s' category, despite being 13 years old!

Ethan is currently looking for **sponsorship** so that he can achieve his goal to be the next snooker legend. In return, his family will arrange for logos to be printed on to his waistcoat and training tops.

If you are interested in supporting Ethan and advertising your company, please contact Mrs Andrews: h.andrews@ob-ac.co.uk

