

OBA NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026

WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL



As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to thank our students, staff, parents and carers for their hard work, support and commitment.

There has been much to celebrate, from academic progress and personal achievements to the many opportunities and experiences enjoyed across the academy. We are especially proud of our Year 11 and Year 13 students and look forward to celebrating their results in the summer.

We are also proud of the Year 6 students who joined us at the end of term as part of their transition to OBA. Their excellent manners and enthusiasm were noted by many members of staff. Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their resilience during the recent heatwave and wish our school community a restful, enjoyable and well-deserved summer break.

Mrs Evans, Principal

KEY DATES:

TUES 1 SEPT – INSET

Wed 2 SEPT – Academy reopens for Year 7 students

THURS 3 SEPT – Academy reopens for Years 7–11

FRI 4 SEPT – Academy reopens for Year 12

MON 7 SEPT – Academy reopens for Year 13

THURS 10 SEPT – Year 11 Information Evening

WED 23 SEPT – Open Evening

WED 30 SEPT – Sixth Form Open Evening

THURS 8 OCT – MADE revision session for Years 11 & 13

MON 19 OCT – Revision week 1 begins for Years 11 & 13

THURS 22 OCT – INSET

FRI 23 OCT – INSET & academy closes for half term

MON 2 NOV – Academy reopens

MON 2 NOV – Revision week 2 begins for Years 11 & 13

TUES 10 NOV – Mock exams begin for Years 11 & 13

SUMMER TERM ATTENDANCE:

BEST ATTENDANCE:

Year group:

1st: **7**

2nd: **8**

3rd: **9**

4th: **10**

Form:

1st: **8JBT**

2nd: **8GRY**

3rd: **11NRL/AHH**

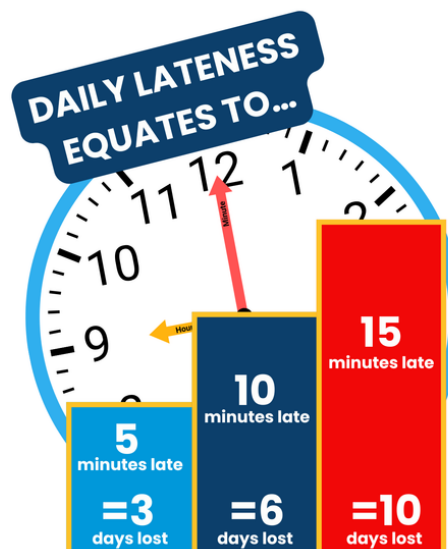
House:

1st: **Ursa**

2nd: **Pegasus**

3rd: **Draco**

4th: **Orion**



NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY

This term we also celebrated one of our favourite days: National Thank a Teacher Day! Students from all year groups had prepared personalised messages for their favourite staff members which were then given out alongside a gift bag of sweets. Staff were delighted! We also treated our **canteen staff** to an afternoon tea in Emma's Garden, organised by **Mrs Musgrave**. She served a selection of cakes, including several baked by staff, alongside some delicious sandwiches.



The highlight of the day, however, was the staff breakfast and raffle. Staff had purchased a raffle ticket for a chance to win a range of prizes, including a morning off, an early finish, a week of no break duties, a voucher, a mystery prize and Mrs Evans' parking space! The event raised over £600 which will help to fund a top secret event later this year!



Among the winners were **Mr Ellis** who chose a takeaway, **Mrs Catterall-Grimes** who won a dress-down day and **Ms Davies** picked a voucher.



Without doubt, the biggest winner was Miss Howard-Hildige who won Mrs Evans' parking space for a week. Although she does not drive, she was determined to make the most of her VIP experience and so used the space to host a staff party, play games, park her friend's daughter's toy car there as it was the only vehicle she could legally drive! Safe to say, Mrs Evans was happy to finally get her parking space back!

YEAR 6 JOIN TEAM OBA!

Year 6 joined us for two days in July as part of their transition to OBA. Throughout both days, they participated in teambuilding tasks with their forms, learned to find their way around the building and most importantly...they found the canteen! We were so impressed by how they handled what is surely one of the biggest changes in their lives so far and we cannot wait for them to become OBAers in September! **Well done, Year 6!**





Congratulations to 7ECK who won the teambuilding tournament!

ETHAN GRICE RETAINS TITLE FOR THIRD YEAR RUNNING

We are also celebrating **Ethan Grice** who defended his English u16 billiard plate title down in Norfolk in June. He is the first player in the competition's history to do this three years running! . He also reached the quarter finals of the u19s competition. Well done, Ethan! We are so proud!



SIXTH FORM ALUMNI EVENT

Another highlight of this term was our Sixth Form alumni event! Around 40 ex students turned up to Chaii and Moor in Sandymoor to catch up and celebrate. Mr Fenner gave a speech where he thanked everyone for coming and recalled fond memories including never-ending, gruelling Duke of Edinburgh camping trips! The atmosphere was lovely as everyone caught up with their peers and staff. We're hoping that this will be the start of an alumni family; members were keen to sign up to volunteer their help in supporting current sixth form students in a range of ways from providing advice about university, sharing their knowledge of certain professions and potentially even helping with work experience placements. After last night's success we will definitely offer more alumni events moving forward and are excited to see how it develops!



SPORTS PRESENTATION EVENING

Finally, thank you to everyone who attended Sports Presentation Evening and congratulations to our winners who were:

Staff Award 2026 **Olivia Astley**
Staff Award 2026 **Kian Fisher**
Staff Award 2026 **Lilly Werpachowska**
Staff Award 2026 **Evie Irvine**
Staff Award 2026 **Brandon Porter-Byrne**
Staff Award 2026 **Alexander Wan**

Contribution to Enrichment 2026 **Demi-Rose Eaton**
Contribution to Enrichment 2026 **Luke Bond**
Contribution to Enrichment 2026 **Lexie O'Brien**
Contribution to Enrichment 2026 **Grace Willcott**

Team Of The Year: **Adam Behn, Daisy Goldsmith, Leila Ward, Mia Taylor, Leighvi Harris, Kiera Smith, Grace Mutter, Georgie Lewis, Faith Nevin and Isobel Gorodkin**

Outstanding KS3 2026 **Maisy Stinchcombe**
Outstanding KS3 2026 **Harley Mawdsley**

Outstanding KS4 2026 **Phoebe Hessey**
Outstanding KS4 **Jacob Wright**

Outstanding Year 10 Btec 2026 **Scarlett Hammond**
Outstanding Year 10 Btec **Bobby Hancox**
Outstanding Year 11 Btec 2026 **Safia Mason**
Outstanding Year 11 Btec 2026 **Harry Marshall**
Outstanding Year 11 Btec 2026 **Ella Hufferdine**
Outstanding Year 11 Btec 2026 **Joshua Thomas**

Outstanding KS5 Sport 2026 **Ellis Edwards**

Leadership in Sport 2026 **Gracie Brown**

Lifetime Achievement Award 2026 **Faith Leck**

Special Recognition 2026 **Olivia Mills**

