



A Message From Our Principal

Dear families and friends of OBA

Welcome to this week's newsletter where you will again read about exciting events that we have been involved in, from a visit to the 'Blood Brothers' production, some stunning achievements by our Year 10 stars at the Maths Feast, to the Year 11 bowling rewards trip. We have also

welcomed members from local business and industry who delivered an employability skills day for our Sixth Form construction students.

Year 8 students have been enjoying a series of Options assemblies this week, ahead of Tuesday's Options Evening, which starts at 6pm. Students, parents and carers will have the opportunity to sample activities from a range of subjects in order to help them with their final choices for the start of their Key Stage 4 GCSE studies in September.

At the start of the week, we opened our new 'Horizons' alternative provision centre in Widnes. We share this with Ormiston Chadwick Academy as we work together to make sure that we can provide the best personalised education for all our students.

Best wishes.

Mr. M Wyss - Academy Principal

Year 10 Pupils Triumph at Maths Feast

In early March, eight of our incredible year ten students competed in the North West Maths Feast. This is no mean feat: it is a grueling six round, two and a half hour competition that tests problem solving ability and is organised and run by the Further Maths Support Programme in conjunction with Liverpool University.

This year the prestigious challenge attracted the most able Year 10 mathematicians from over twenty schools. Students worked in teams of four with a supervising teacher from another school. We were delighted that, out of the six rounds, our students came first in two of them. Both teams achieved joint first place in the same two rounds although they couldn't communicate. This is an amazing achievement given that only the most able Mathematicians from each school took part. Congratulations to all of the pupils who were involved.



OBA Celebrates World Book Day

Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy celebrated World Book Day in style on Thursday 5th March.

With a host of activities, special events and workshops designed to inspire pupils to pick up more books and start reading. The Learning Street became a reading haven for the day after being decorated with posters and bean bags, upon which pupils could sit and get lost in their books.

One of the highlights of the day were the many fancy dress costumes donned by members of staff across the school. Edward Scissorhands, the Wicked Witch of the West and Frankenstein's Monster, to name but a few, were spotted teaching lessons around the Academy.

A very special guest also visited the Academy on the day. Prizewinning author Melvyn Burgess spoke to pupils about his life and career as a writer, as well as reading excerpts from some of his novels. Some pupils were also involved in a creative writing workshop with our Writers in Residence, Mr Traves, Mr Pack and Mr Rushton (see below for Mr Traves report on the amazing work done by the pupils). Other pupils who have worked really hard in English this year were treated to a Mad Hatter's Tea Party by Mr Henry. Miss N Smith made fantastic cakes and biscuits for the event

Over 100 primary school children were invited into the Academy, they enjoyed being read to by our Year 7 pupils, we also had a few Yr 7 novice authors who had made an dread their own books. One Primary teacher said, "I was amazed at the quality of the children's books your students had made. They were so imaginative." We were also visited by a Dalmatian who was very popular with the younger children!

As well as all of this a sponsored Readathon was launched - all proceeds going to Book Aid, a charity that sends books to impoverished African children.

A huge congratulations to Ms Johnson for organising such an inspiring day, and thank you to all of the staff and students involved in making the day a huge success.



Mr Traves Reports on OBA's Creative Writing Workshop

As part of the Academy wide celebration of World Book Day, pupils from across the school ranging from year seven to year ten were chosen to be part of a full day's creative writing workshop. The work shop was team taught by Mr Traves (Librarian & Writer in Residence), Mr Pack (member of the English Department and Author of the novel "Quentin Cundick and the Web of Machinations") and Mr Rushton, also of the English department, who both studied creative writing at university level and pens original short stories.

The pupils learnt through a series of interactive activities and audio visuals about narrative structure and characterisation within short stories. They then, with guidance, put these skills into practice and each completed a short story of their very own. These stories will eventually be available in print as part of a selection of short stories, brought to life from the imagination of Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy pupils!



Congratulations Year 7 Netballers!

On Thursday 12th March OBA's year 7 netball team competed in their first Halton Netball tournament. The team finished second out of 7 teams losing only to the winners and hosts The Heath A team. The girls played excellently and their behaviour and effort were a credit to the academy. Further congratulations to Taylor Braithwaite who was chosen as the OBA player of the tournament. Well done girls!



Year 9 and 10 Pupils Visit Manchester To Watch Blood Brothers

On Wednesday 11th of March 59 lucky year's 9 and 10 students were transported to 1960's Liverpool as they watched a performance of Blood Brothers in the beautiful Manchester Palace Theatre. Miss Styles planned the successful theatre visit to coincide with their study of the play, and in preparation of their GCSE English exam, and no students allowed the rain to dampen their enthusiasm for the theatre. Students were captivated by the dazzling music and dramatic performances from the cast of Blood Brothers and were gripped by the story from beginning to end. One student admitted that she was brought to tears at the end of the performance; the tension throughout the play was so great that not a soul neglected to jump with shock at the penultimate moment! Miss Styles is proud to recognise that all 59 students were a shining beacon for the school, demonstrating perfect behaviour and an incredibly mature attitude that put others to shame. Mr Traves, Mr Finnigan, Miss Howard-Hildige and I were beaming with pride at the fantastic representation of Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy put forward by the students present.



Hard Working Year 11s Treated To An Afternoon of Bowling

On Wednesday 11th March a group of 23 Year 11 pupils were invited to attend a trip to Widnes Superbowl to reward and congratulate them for their hard work so far this year. The pupils have all reached landmarks in their GCSEs on our 'Year 11 Achievement Tracker' so were treated to an afternoon of fun, food and bowling as they took over the Widnes bowling alley. Pupils were given the choice between attending the trip or being given Frankie and Benny's or Nandos vouchers. Students are now working towards their next set of milestones, which could entitle them to free prom tickets and a free trip to Alton Towers. Keep up the hard work Year 11!



Floristry Workshop Proves A Huge



On the evening of Wednesday 11th March a group of 15 children and 10 parents attended a floristry enrichment session at the Academy. The workshop was delivered by local florist Anita Moorfield of 'Anita's Blooming Flowers and Gifts'.



Participants learned the botanical names for the flowers they were using and created a fresh floral arrangement that they were able to take home for Mother's Day.

