

A Message From Our Principal



Last week we welcomed everyone back from the Easter holidays with a focus on enjoyment and achievement for the Summer term. I was pleased to receive an e-mail from the SSAT to say that OBA was once again in the top 20% of schools nationally for our year 11 examination results.

Congratulations to Mr Braitch for being promoted to Second in Science at OBA and to Miss Boardman for her promotion to leader of Key Stage 3 English. We said goodbye to Mr Perrit as he left to become a Head of Geography and this week we wish good luck to Mrs Whiston as she starts her maternity leave. Mr Lonergan joined the Sixth Form leadership team and he will be working closely with Mr Fenner and Mrs Mooney.

Mr. J Rigby—Principal

OBA Receives Top Award For Parental Engagement

Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy has been awarded the Gold quality standard award for Parental Engagement by the Specialist School and Academies' Trust. This is a great achievement for the Academy and a fantastic acknowledgement of the hard work, quality of care and service that our staff at the Academy provide. In her report, Camilla Chandler from the SSAT states that as a 'young' school, the progress we have made to engage parents and help them feel a part of the Academy's community has been immense.

As a 'young' school we are always looking forward and making plans to improve upon existing practices. In the summer term we want to increase participation in our Parent Voice Group (PVG). The PVG meets regularly throughout the year to feedback views on events happening in and around school. They plan fundraising activities for the Academy such as the Summer Fete and Bingo nights. Many PVG members also volunteer at the Academy, running lunch clubs and helping out with after school enrichments.

A Parental Engagement Group (PEG) was set up this term to develop online consultation with parents. This will mean consultation via online discussion and feedback, which will initially take place via email with developments through the use of our e-portal, Moodle and Twitter. We are also looking to provide educational opportunities for parents at the Academy. If you are interested in finding out more about these opportunities, would like to express an interest in volunteering or getting involved in any of our parent groups, then please contact Mrs Snagg, Director of Transition and Community Development.

Primary Enterprise Day

On 28th March and 4th April OBA hosted two Primary Enterprise days, which saw 185 students from 5 local primary schools; St Berteline's, Windmill Hill, St Mary's, St Martin's and Aston by Sutton, come into OBA to take part in a very exciting project hosted by Mr Fenner and Mrs Fitzgerald.

Pupils joined forces to learn about all aspects of product development, including; design, marketing, finance and production. Students then went off to make a variety of Easter-themed products; decorated mugs, painted door signs, hand-sewn 'egg holders', chocolate flake cakes and imaginative cards were all created by the talented primary students.

Innovation was a key focus of the days and therefore children utilised fantastic iPad technology to carry out product research and create high-quality advertising campaigns. At the end of the day, all young entrepreneurs were invited to pitch their product in a 'Dragon's Den' style format.

On both days the winning teams were selected as a result of their thoughtful and catchy pitches, which demonstrated clearly their creativity and ability to work together as a team. Both students and staff from the primary schools involved had a fantastic day, congratulations to all pupils who attended and worked so hard.

Rewards Trip For Pupils Who Show PRIDE

Monday 31st March 2014 saw the first OBA 'House PRIDE' reward trip take place. 14 students have completed their 'House PRIDE' challenge by achieving; 100% attendance, 100% punctuality, attending enrichment, making a positive contribution, ECM and excellent reports for effort and behaviour within this spring half term.

Once obtaining the award students were presented with a certificate and a gold house pride badge. Students were also invited to a celebration breakfast with Mr Rigby and then onto a bowling reward trip which was enjoyed by all.

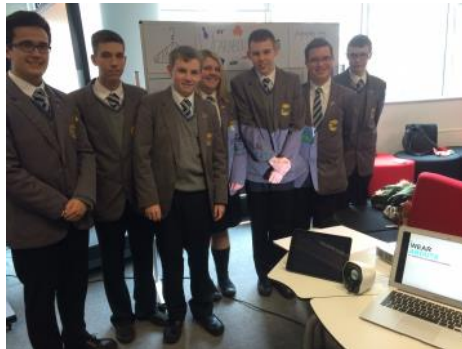
Well done to Lauren Skiffington, Ebony Gumbs, Charlotte Allen, Abigail Savage, Kieran Cottrell, Levi Gumbs, Thomas Collins, Carrie Clark, Megan Hawkins, Georgia Lewis, Chloe Thain, Ellie Mogg, Stephanie Cullen and Billie Jo Barton.



Year 11s Compete in App Design Competition

On 27th March Year 11 pupils Lewis Roberts, Zoe Longworth, Jonathan Shaw, Joshua Hewitt, Macauley Stoba, Matt Horton and Sam Kendrick attended the Birmingham Ormiston Academy, to take part in an app design competition hosted by the Ormiston Academies Trust and Gaia. Nine of the Ormiston Academies came together in a market place type format, in which groups of pupils pitched their app design ideas to each other. The design put forward by our pupils had been well planned and exceptional prototypes developed.

OBA pupils designed an app called 'Wearabouts'. A fashion themed app through which people will be able to view outfits and buy from multiple brands including those from niche markets. The pupils did exceptionally well when pitching their product and gave helpful feedback to other groups during the market place pitch. One response from a pupil from another Academy was..."I want that app!" They are now eagerly awaiting to see whether they have been put through to the next round, which will be in the form of a Dragon's Den style format in September.



Year 11 Bowling Rewards Trip

On Wednesday 2nd April a group of 50 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. Students are now working towards their next set of landmarks, which could entitle them to free prom tickets and a free trip to Alton Towers. Keep up the hard work Year 11!



Tafari Win House Championship

Congratulations to Tafari House who secured victory in this term's House Championship.



OBA's houses compete in 6 areas each term; attendance, punctuality, attending enrichment, number of VIVOs collected, inter-form sports and the inter-house competition (a spelling-bee this term). Tafari House turned their results around to come out on top and win the coveted house trophy. The news was announced to a thrilled Tafari House in celebration assembly on Tuesday 1st April. Mr McIntyre, House Leader for Tafari said; "Winning the House Trophy is a fantastic achievement for Tafari House. After finishing 5th at Christmas we set ourselves some targets. It's fair to say the staff and the pupils have worked exceptionally hard this term to meet and even exceed these targets significantly and finally put Tafari back to where we truly belong. I am absolutely delighted!"

Third OBA Annual Dance Show A Huge Success



OBA hosted our 3rd annual dance show on the 12th & 13th March 2014. The show consisted of a grand total of 91 pupils from Year 7 to Year 13. Alongside them we had primary dancers from 'Dynamix Dance School' from the school's Saturday Academy. The performances showcased a range of dance styles and students performed to an extremely high standard. Audience members commented that they were 'moved to tears' by the outstanding professionalism of the show and dedication of the dancers involved. Miss Roper, dance teacher said "Miss Castrey and I were extremely proud and overwhelmed with the success of yet another fantastic show."

