



Enrichment Programme – virtual programme, in school, super 6, and winners

In Enrichment, opportunities form an important part of the provision that we offer to our students, and allows students to develop their skills and knowledge of areas in which they have particular interest or aspirations, as well as developing key transferable skills such as teamwork and communication skills. When we went into our second lockdown it was essential to us to develop our enrichment offering so that students could still have access to these opportunities virtually.

As part of this we developed the Virtual enrichment programme which offered students the opportunity to take part in a range of activities and enrichment experiences. This programme had three parts to it: House competitions, Subject specific challenges and Online extra-curricular clubs. There were two series of the Virtual enrichment programme whilst we were in lockdown and these were well received by students with some fantastic entries to both the House competitions and the subject specific challenges received. Online extra-curricular clubs such as STEM club and debate club were also well attended. House competitions winners received a prize of their choice from a £15 Amazon voucher or a £15 school shop voucher. Students who partook in a subject specific challenge or attended a virtual club were entered into a draw to win a voucher too.

As we returned to school we relaunched our in school enrichment programme with a wide range of clubs on offer for students to choose from. In order to ensure that students were not disadvantaged by personal circumstances related to Covid 19 we continued to run a Virtual enrichment programme alongside the in school programme until Easter. Participation has been excellent and students have enjoyed the options available to them.

The winners from our House competitions and subject specific challenges are shown below. Congratulations to them all:

- Eva Saunders** - Time Capsule Literacy House Competition Winner
- Katie Melton** - Acts of Kindness House Competition Winner – for her work with Dengie Gratitude Packages delivering packages to frontline workers in the Dengie area.
- Daniel Drake** - Subject specific challenges draw winner – Daniel entered





Enrichment Provision

From Easter we will revert back to our in school enrichment programme, with a few clubs choosing to remain virtual. House competitions will also continue with subject areas offering different competitions related to their areas. The programme for the next half term is as follows:

Day	Break	Lunch	PM
Monday			Years 7 and 8 Elite Scholars - Virtual via Year group Google Classroom - 4.30pm - 5pm
Tuesday	Year 7 Science club - CAN		6th Form Football - LTA Year 9 Girls Netball - HPA Year 9 Boys Rugby - SMO Year 10 Boys Rugby - MCL Sixth Form Technical theatre club - CoAN Year 8 Drama Club - E03 - CTH Years 9 and 10 Elite Scholars - Virtual via Year group Google Classroom - 4.30pm - 5pm
Wednesday			Year 10 NCFE Catch up - DSA and MCL Year 8 Girls Netball - LTA and HPA Year 8 Boys Rugby - SMO Year 9 Art - SO7 - Mr Anderson Year 7 Reading club - Library - MBU Year 9 Science Booster - CAN Year 9 D of E - KLE
Thursday		Year 7 - Week A Computing club - Library - DGI Year 9 - Week B - Dora Love (Invite only) - ICT room - JBL	Year 7 Boys Rugby - SMO Year 7 Girls Netball - LTA Year 10 Girls Football - HPA Year 9 STEM club - Tech IT room - DGI Year 9 Week A - Dora Love (Invite only) - ICT room - JBL Year 10 Week B - Stand up Social Action club - JBL Year 7 Cookery club - Food room - CHY Years 7, 8 and 9 Debate club - Virtual - 4pm to 5pm - MBU Year 10 Science Booster - CAN Year 10 D of E - KLE Sixth Form - Weights Room - ABK
Friday	Year 9 Week B - Digital Media and School Magazine - Science IT room - TFR		Sixth Form - National Theatre Club - PA04 - KGO
Virtual Cookery Club - Via Google Classroom each week - Year 8 -13 - CHY KS3 Elite Dance Cub - Virtual - KDA - Invite only			

To book please go to Evolve and sign up your child for the club they would like to attend. If they were already signed up prior to Easter they will already be registered: <https://evolve.edufocus.co.uk/myevolve/login.asp?redirect>.



If you have any queries regarding enrichment please contact Helen Victory, Assistant Principal on hvictory@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



Virtual Careers Experience Day

At Ormiston Rivers Academy one of our school values is Aspiration. We aim to support all students in developing and reaching their aspirations, and Careers education forms an important part of that journey. We have developed an extensive programme of careers education, information and advice for our students that starts as soon as they arrive in Year 7 and supports them through key choices until they leave us for their next phase at the end of Year 13. This year due to Covid restrictions most of that provision has had to change to a virtual one. However, we have worked hard to ensure that students still receive the support they need. As part of this virtual provision students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 took part in a Virtual Careers Experience Day on 1st March 2021.

For Years 7, 8 and 9 the day started with a motivational session from external speaker Cameron Parker, and then students took part in sessions that allowed them to explore their aspirations, cultivate their knowledge of different careers options available to them and the local labour market, and to develop the key skills required for employment. Students then had the opportunity to visit the National Careers Week Virtual Careers Fair. Students enjoyed the day and felt it really helped them to develop their careers knowledge.

Quotes from our students

Year 7

"The virtual careers fair had lots of information that I found really beneficial"

"Getting to know different occupations and paths you can take in life was valuable"

"It was valuable learning what I need to do to achieve my ambition"

Year 8

"I learnt about the pressures and hard work needed to achieve certain jobs"

"It was very useful to find out the salary, the amount of hours you need to work and what qualifications you need."

Year 9

"I learnt a lot today but the most valuable was when it showed the difference between London and South East in terms of Labour markets"

"I particularly enjoyed the career profiles because they helped me to understand and organize my knowledge of the future job. "

The day for Year 10 instead gave them the opportunity to undertake virtual work experience, exploring the world of work and undertaking job roles in real companies to allow them to develop key employability skills. Students had the choice of two pathways on the day:

Students who aspire to work in Medicine had the opportunity to complete the Brighton and Sussex Medical School Virtual Work Experience Day. This allowed them to explore the different areas of medicine. It is a nationally endorsed programme for aspiring doctors and nurses.

The other programme was offered by Reed employment agency and took students through a virtual work experience programme in the different functional areas of business e.g. Finance, Human Resources, Sales and Marketing, etc. Students were able to explore what working in these different areas involves and developed key employability skills to enable them to enter the world of work. They also had the opportunity to develop a CV as part of the day. Students benefited from the experience and feedback included:

"The medical course was so helpful and very interesting"

"The assembly learning about sixth form and different A level options was very useful"

"Understanding how to write and present a CV was valuable"

"The Reed day was a very interesting subject because it educated me and helped me understand the ways of businesses".



PSHE/#iwill

Silence to remember

On the 26th March 2021 the school held a minute's silence to remember the victims of the Covid pandemic as part of the national reflection effort organised by the Marie Curie Charity, and backed by the Prime Minister and other political leaders to mark the anniversary of lockdown measures being introduced.

We felt it was important to observe the minute's silence as a community to allow students to reflect on the impact the virus has had on our community, their lives and the country as a whole. Many of our local community have been impacted by Covid 19 and unfortunately many of us have felt the loss of a loved one due to the pandemic. This silence allowed us to show our respect as a school community to those we have lost, as well as reflect on the challenging year that they have experienced.

Red Nose Day in Support of Comic Relief

As a school we are proud to support a range of charities that do valuable work both in our local community and worldwide. On Friday 19th March, the school took part in a non-uniform day in support of Red Nose Day for the charity Comic Relief. The students donated money to wear their own clothes for the day and many also purchased red noses to support the cause. The canteen also sold a range of loaded doughnuts on the day which were extremely popular with students and staff alike, and all profit from the sale of these went to the charity. It was a successful day and we raised a total of £1,225.39 for Comic Relief.



Matholympics Challenge

Over the last couple of months, a team based challenge has been taking place across the Ormiston Academies called the Matholympics. The competition was open to all of the Academies within the trust, which is over 40 schools, and there were a total of 358 submissions to enter the competition! A fantastic team of our Ormiston Rivers Academy students, in year 9, entered the competition and made it all the way to the final.

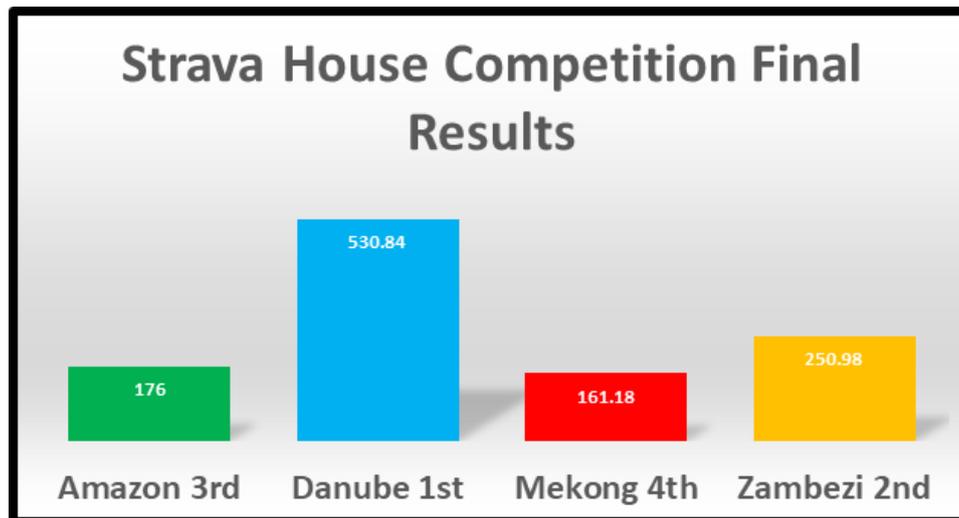
Imogen Turner, Jacob Henman, Rhianna Richardson, Anthony Robson and Thomas Bradley are the members of the 'River Rockets'. This fantastic group of students have made an exceptional effort to practice their skills and work on their team work to complete three challenges which brought them into the final. Although we have been in lockdown, this has not stopped them from practicing and working together. They have been meeting regularly on google meets to practice for their competition and the final will take place on the 21st May via Teams. Special mention must go to Imogen for outstanding contribution.

Here at Ormiston Rivers Academy we want to say a massive congratulations and well done to the River Rockets and a big thank you to Mrs Coulson and Mrs Gasson for their contribution to guiding the students along and giving them a helping hand. We are all very proud of their achievements and would like to wish them all the best of luck in the final.



Strava House Competition Final Results

Many congratulations to Danube for winning the Strava House Competition with a crazy 530.84 miles covered over the 5 weeks!!



Zambezi finished so well for their second place with Amazon third and Mekong 4th.

Special shout outs in the final week for Alfie and Kieran in Danube, Alfie for Mekong and Jess and Phoebe in Zambezi for your continued efforts.

An additional 30 merit points go to Alfie in Yr. 10 for the most miles cycled in the competition and 30 merit points to Jess in Yr. 10 for the most miles on foot.

Thanks so much for taking part and please keep an eye on the upcoming House Competitions!

Personal and Social Development

PSHE and Citizenship *NEWS*

Curriculum Update

This half term we have enjoyed the transition from online learning to being back at school and progressing with our PSHE/Citizenship studies in mentor time. We have continued to focus on the topics staying safe online, respectful relationships and the dangers of drugs and alcohol within years 7 - 9; we have discovered more about internet safety, rights and responsibilities and mental health awareness in year 10; and across Sixth Form the new life-stage appropriate workbook has landed well with topics such as Toxic Masculinity in Men, Dealing with Anger and Recognising the Signs of Stress having been covered.

PSHE in the News

In response to recent news events, specifically relating to Sarah Everard's murder, we implemented a discussion-based lesson specific to each year group and age bracket, considering the topics of misogyny, sexism and women's rights. The lessons produced some interesting and mature discussions with mentors being able to support learners' understanding of these important topics.



PSHE in Society

On Friday 26th March 2021 the school took part in a minute's silence to mark one year since the start of the pandemic, and to reflect and show respect to those who have lost their lives or who have been impacted by the virus.

PSHE and Citizenship *EVENTS*

This half term has seen the launch of a number of new PSHE and Citizenship initiatives that students have taken part in to support their knowledge and skillset in Personal, Social and Health Education:

Equality Today (All Year Groups)

An equality club has been set up by Mrs Crump, led by School Council members and student volunteers, who will work together to help identify ways to raise awareness of discrimination, its impact and how to tackle it. If you son/daughter would like to find out more, please email Mrs Crump ccrump@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk

First Give

This term will see our year 8 pupils complete a social action programme through First Give where they will learn about social issues in their communities, choose the issues which are important to them, identify charitable causes linked to these and then plan and deliver a social action activity (fundraising, awareness raising, volunteering) in support of their charities. This will be delivered through Drama and we look forward to sharing the project ideas with you, alongside the outcomes.

iWill Super Survey Week

In December 2020 we introduced the fantastic work that our pupils have been getting involved in through #iwill (a UK-wide campaign that aims to make social action part of life for pupils, through collaboration and partnership, and spreading the word about the benefits of youth social action). From Tuesday 4th May to Monday 10th May 2021 we will be asking students to take part in a Super Survey to capture their iWill project experiences. iWill activities that we've completed at ORA so far include:

- the introduction of Wellbeing Warriors
- taking part in the Royal Shakespeare Company Associate School's Programme
- enrichment activities such as Pride Youth Network and Get Up Stand Up
- the launch of Year Group Library Hubs
- continuation of the Duke of Edinburgh Award

Meet our PSHE and Citizenship Lead

Mrs Crump is our PSHE and Citizenship Lead and is passionate about creating opportunities for our young people to develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage life's challenges and make the most of life's opportunities.

Our aim is to develop mature, confident and thoughtful citizens. We have a thorough programme of PSHE for all students as well as an exciting Citizenship programme of study.

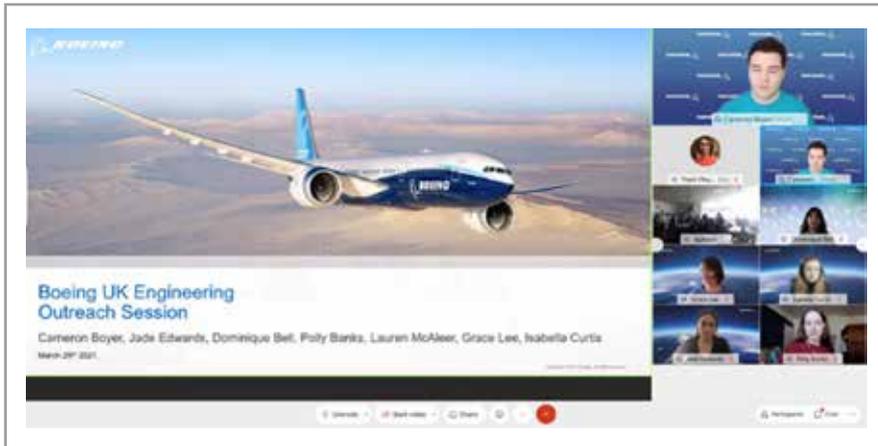
For further information or queries about the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum at Ormiston Rivers Academy, please feel free to email Mrs Crump via pshe@ormistonriversacademy.co.uk



STEM events@ORA

Boeing UK Engineering Outreach Session

On the 18th March thirty year 9 students were invited to take part in a live Boeing event, these students were selected as they are either; part of STEM club, top 10% achievers in the Bebras challenge and/or have a noticeable interest in Engineering.



9 junior engineers at Boeing UK talked about their roles within the company with students taking part in an Q & A session about what they think engineering is and examples of it in everyday life.

Students were then given some tips on aerodynamics followed by a challenge: Create a paper aeroplane using basic materials that can travel the furthest and carry a 10p coin. Consideration needed to be given to the amount of materials used to highlight cost and sustainability to the

students. Everyone engaged well and soon we had aeroplanes of various sizes and designs flying around the room, after about 40 mins of design and modifications, the students in their teams had a “fly off”. The longest flight distance measured in at 11.3 metres, closely followed by a distance of 10.6m which was impressive!

A follow up session the following week enabled the Boeing engineers and the teams to discuss thoughts behind the designs and what they would do differently as well as to declare the winners who were: Zac Cooper, Ava Queen-Jones, Natalie Coxeter, Dani Riley and Harry Edwards- Well done!

Students were also shown a possible career path concentrating on STEM subjects.



OAT STEMFEST competition

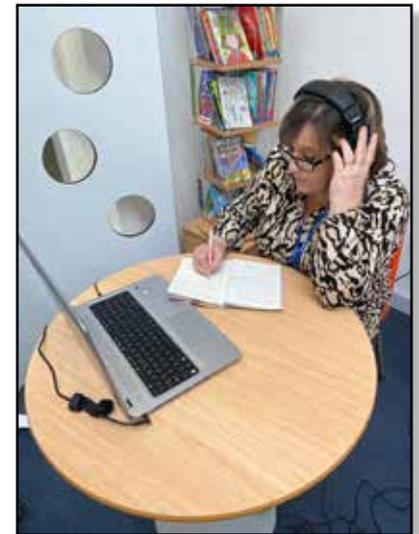
We have entered 2 teams into the Ormiston Academy STEMFEST competition – the students have been tasked to develop and present solutions to real world social action problems, using STEM. The competition will include a regional heat with medals for third, second and first place and national finals, where teams can win £20 amazon vouchers each and £250 for their academy’s science department. I am so proud of the students who have entered their ideas- they have worked on these remotely and have shown true ORA resilience! Winners to be announced by mid April.



Student Voice update

Anti-bullying Ambassadors

19 students from across all year groups completed training delivered by the Diana Award to become Anti-bullying Ambassadors. The training was delivered virtually, and the Ormiston Rivers students all engaged and interacted positively. Mrs Byford and Mr Simpson were also on the training and remarked how impressed they were with the contributions the students made. The training explored issues around bullying and discussed ideas for tackling it. We will be working together over the coming term to look at how we can create and implement strategies to tackle any bullying that occurs to make our own work more effective. This will be a student led initiative, one which they feel passionately about. I look forward to working with them on this to develop their action plan.



OAT National Student Leadership Team

At the end of last term our OAT Regional Student Leadership Team representatives were given the opportunity to put themselves forward to represent the East Region on the National Student Leadership Team. Two of our students took that opportunity and prepared and delivered a speech to the other students from OAT academies across the region. The feedback from the staff involved was very positive - I was told that our students were a real credit to the academy and did us exceptionally proud and were consequently voted onto the National SLT. I am so pleased that Rebecca will become secretary and Ellen the vice chair.

