Parents Voice
We're listening...

Christmas Fayre
Community fun to finish a busy 2017

Children In Need
Outstanding generosity

www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk
I don’t seem to make them stick. What I prefer is to have the longer term goal and work towards it bit by bit. To find something I am passionate about, that I love and make this my goal.

At Venture this is working towards making the dreams of our students a reality. To make certain every day, together, we are ensuring that education and learning are the building blocks that will open opportunities in their futures.

There are two sides to this. “We” as a community, come together and work as a team for the best. We support each other, care for each other and most importantly challenge each other to do our best.

The other side is the “I” for every student. I am going to achieve my best, I am going to take advantage of every opportunity in front of me. I am going to make steps towards unlocking my future.

Every day is focused on making this happen. Every minute counts. Let’s make 2018 the year that we take not steps but strides towards exciting futures.

We achieved so much last year…

I hope you again join me in celebrating with our students throughout this edition of the Venture Voice.

Simon Gilbert-Barnham - Principal
Venture Academy sets a new record year for the foodbank donations

The Union of Venture Students, who act as a form of student council representation at the academy, hold this event up as their favourite of the year.

On a day where they also host the Christmas Fayre and Christmas dinner is served in the café, students are given the opportunity to swap the top half of their uniform for a Christmas jumper.

On Wednesday 13th December students at Ormiston Venture Academy took part in their annual foodbank drive. Students were allowed to wear a Christmas jumper in return for a non perishable food item which would then be put towards our foodbank donations. As always the most satisfying part of this charity event is seeing how many students, staff and parents donate regardless of the Christmas jumper element.

A record amount of food donations were given this year, with Concern college winning the competition over which college could donate the most, and on Friday 15th the Union of Venture Students sorted the food into two equal amounts, packed it up into the academy mini bus and set off to deliver it to two local foodbanks.

Students from Ormiston Venture Academy gain an insight into the world of politics

Students from Ormiston Venture Academy in Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, have recently been given a vital insight into the world of politics, having had the opportunity to attend a Labour Party event in Great Yarmouth where students met the Labour Leader, Jeremy Corbyn. They were granted this opportunity after an impressive showing at the Belton Village hustings during the General Election, where students put several questions to the candidates. Their impressive performance led to a one-on-one interview with Harry Webb, the Green Party candidate, and being invited to attend the event with Jeremy Corbyn.

In a separate event, three students also had the opportunity to visit Parliament through an invitation extended by Conservative MP Brandon Lewis, following Ormiston Venture Academy’s exceptional performance in the Great Yarmouth Schools Debate competition.

Students at Ormiston Venture Academy have always been politically and democratically active. The academy was one of the first 20 schools in the country to be given the Discovering Democracy Award by the British Youth Council due to the weekly debate sessions around current affairs, mock referendums, student elections, and the democratic nature of the student voice body, The Union of Venture Students.

Venture into the world of politics

Tyler Munro, Head Girl and Cameron Hodds, Head Boy said:

“We are so proud of how much all the staff and students at Ormiston Venture Academy have donated to the foodbanks and really pleased we can support to help those who are in need, especially at this time of year.”

Tyler Munro, Head Girl, who took part in both recent experiences, said:

“It was really inspiring to have the opportunity to take part in both recent events. It was fascinating to watch leading politicians like Jeremy Corbyn interact with the public around their concerns, and to experience all the history and tradition that you can see and feel when visiting the Palace of Westminster.”

Spencer Doggett, Director of Learning Cultures at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

“It was wonderful to see a great number of young people so interested in being involved in a political debate. I was proud to help our students further explore their ‘cultural capital’ and gain experience watching such high profile political leaders interacting with the youthful electorate.”

Last year, the students took part in two separate debate competitions, one across Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) (Ormistons’ sponsor), which they won, and the other in the Great Yarmouth Schools competition, in which they finished runners up.

Providing opportunities such as this for out-of-classroom learning is a key part of OAT’s Enrichment Charter, a policy which is designed to inspire young people to develop their skills, talents and character through a wide range of activities related to a wide range of topics, including current affairs, arts and culture, and sports.

“...It was really inspiring to have the opportunity to take part in both recent events. It was fascinating to watch leading politicians like Jeremy Corbyn interact with the public around their concerns, and to experience all the history and tradition that you can see and feel when visiting the Palace of Westminster.”

Tyler Munro, Head Girl, who took part in both recent experiences, said:

“It was really inspiring to have the opportunity to take part in both recent events. It was fascinating to watch leading politicians like Jeremy Corbyn interact with the public around their concerns, and to experience all the history and tradition that you can see and feel when visiting the Palace of Westminster.”

Tyler Munro, Head Girl, who took part in both recent experiences, said:

“It was really inspiring to have the opportunity to take part in both recent events. It was fascinating to watch leading politicians like Jeremy Corbyn interact with the public around their concerns, and to experience all the history and tradition that you can see and feel when visiting the Palace of Westminster.”

Venture Academy sets a new record year for the foodbank donations

The Union of Venture Students, who act as a form of student council representation at the academy, hold this event up as their favourite of the year.

On a day where they also host the Christmas Fayre and Christmas dinner is served in the café, students are given the opportunity to swap the top half of their uniform for a Christmas jumper.

On Wednesday 13th December students at Ormiston Venture Academy took part in their annual foodbank drive. Students were allowed to wear a Christmas jumper in return for a non perishable food item which would then be put towards our foodbank donations. As always the most satisfying part of this charity event is seeing how many students, staff and parents donate regardless of the Christmas jumper element.

A record amount of food donations were given this year, with Create college winning the competition over which college could donate the most, and on Friday 15th the Union of Venture Students sorted the food into two equal amounts, packed it up into the academy mini bus and set off to deliver it to two local foodbanks.

Students from Ormiston Venture Academy gain an insight into the world of politics

Students from Ormiston Venture Academy in Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, have recently been given a vital insight into the world of politics, having had the opportunity to attend a Labour Party event in Great Yarmouth where students met the Labour Leader, Jeremy Corbyn. They were granted this opportunity after an impressive showing at the Belton Village hustings during the General Election, where students put several questions to the candidates. Their impressive performance led to a one-on-one interview with Harry Webb, the Green Party candidate, and being invited to attend the event with Jeremy Corbyn.

In a separate event, three students also had the opportunity to visit Parliament through an invitation extended by Conservative MP Brandon Lewis, following Ormiston Venture Academy’s exceptional performance in the Great Yarmouth Schools Debate competition.

Students at Ormiston Venture Academy have always been politically and democratically active. The academy was one of the first 20 schools in the country to be given the Discovering Democracy Award by the British Youth Council due to the weekly debate sessions around current affairs, mock referendums, student elections, and the democratic nature of the student voice body, The Union of Venture Students.

Venture into the world of politics

Tyler Munro, Head Girl and Cameron Hodds, Head Boy said:

“We are so proud of how much all the staff and students at Ormiston Venture Academy have donated to the foodbanks and really pleased we can support to help those who are in need, especially at this time of year.”

Tyler Munro, Head Girl, who took part in both recent experiences, said:

“It was really inspiring to have the opportunity to take part in both recent events. It was fascinating to watch leading politicians like Jeremy Corbyn interact with the public around their concerns, and to experience all the history and tradition that you can see and feel when visiting the Palace of Westminster.”

Spencer Doggett, Director of Learning Cultures at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

“It was wonderful to see a great number of young people so interested in being involved in a political debate. I was proud to help our students further explore their ‘cultural capital’ and gain experience watching such high profile political leaders interacting with the youthful electorate.”

Last year, the students took part in two separate debate competitions, one across Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) (Ormistons’ sponsor), which they won, and the other in the Great Yarmouth Schools competition, in which they finished runners up.

Providing opportunities such as this for out-of-classroom learning is a key part of OAT’s Enrichment Charter, a policy which is designed to inspire young people to develop their skills, talents and character through a wide range of activities related to a wide range of topics, including current affairs, arts and culture, and sports.

Tyler Munro, Head Girl, who took part in both recent experiences, said:

“It was really inspiring to have the opportunity to take part in both recent events. It was fascinating to watch leading politicians like Jeremy Corbyn interact with the public around their concerns, and to experience all the history and tradition that you can see and feel when visiting the Palace of Westminster.”

The Great Yarmouth Foodbank on Lowestoft Road and St. Saviours Church in Belton. Both of these serve the academies catchment area and local community and will make a difference to families in need over the Christmas period.

Tyler Munro, Head Girl, and Cameron Hodds, Head Boy said:

“We are so proud of how much all the staff and students at Ormiston Venture Academy have donated to the foodbanks and really pleased we can support to help those who are in need, especially at this time of year.”

Tyler Munro, Head Girl, who took part in both recent experiences, said:

“It was really inspiring to have the opportunity to take part in both recent events. It was fascinating to watch leading politicians like Jeremy Corbyn interact with the public around their concerns, and to experience all the history and tradition that you can see and feel when visiting the Palace of Westminster.”

Spencer Doggett, Director of Learning Cultures at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

“It was wonderful to see a great number of young people so interested in being involved in a political debate. I was proud to help our students further explore their ‘cultural capital’ and gain experience watching such high profile political leaders interacting with the youthful electorate.”

Student from Ormiston Venture Academy gain an insight into the world of politics

Students from Ormiston Venture Academy in Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, have recently been given a vital insight into the world of politics, having had the opportunity to attend a Labour Party event in Great Yarmouth where students met the Labour Leader, Jeremy Corbyn. They were granted this opportunity after an impressive showing at the Belton Village hustings during the General Election, where students put several questions to the candidates. Their impressive performance led to a one-on-one interview with Harry Webb, the Green Party candidate, and being invited to attend the event with Jeremy Corbyn.

In a separate event, three students also had the opportunity to visit Parliament through an invitation extended by Conservative MP Brandon Lewis, following Ormiston Venture Academy’s exceptional performance in the Great Yarmouth Schools Debate competition.

Students at Ormiston Venture Academy have always been politically and democratically active. The academy was one of the first 20 schools in the country to be given the Discovering Democracy Award by the British Youth Council due to the weekly debate sessions around current affairs, mock referendums, student elections, and the democratic nature of the student voice body, The Union of Venture Students.

Venture into the world of politics

Tyler Munro, Head Girl and Cameron Hodds, Head Boy said:

“We are so proud of how much all the staff and students at Ormiston Venture Academy have donated to the foodbanks and really pleased we can support to help those who are in need, especially at this time of year.”

Tyler Munro, Head Girl, who took part in both recent experiences, said:

“It was really inspiring to have the opportunity to take part in both recent events. It was fascinating to watch leading politicians like Jeremy Corbyn interact with the public around their concerns, and to experience all the history and tradition that you can see and feel when visiting the Palace of Westminster.”

Spencer Doggett, Director of Learning Cultures at Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

“It was wonderful to see a great number of young people so interested in being involved in a political debate. I was proud to help our students further explore their ‘cultural capital’ and gain experience watching such high profile political leaders interacting with the youthful electorate.”

Last year, the students took part in two separate debate competitions, one across Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) (Ormistons’ sponsor), which they won, and the other in the Great Yarmouth Schools competition, in which they finished runners up.

Providing opportunities such as this for out-of-classroom learning is a key part of OAT’s Enrichment Charter, a policy which is designed to inspire young people to develop their skills, talents and character through a wide range of activities related to a wide range of topics, including current affairs, arts and culture, and sports.

Tyler Munro, Head Girl, who took part in both recent experiences, said:

“It was really inspiring to have the opportunity to take part in both recent events. It was fascinating to watch leading politicians like Jeremy Corbyn interact with the public around their concerns, and to experience all the history and tradition that you can see and feel when visiting the Palace of Westminster.”
Students raising funds

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Venture style coffee morning

Students at Ormiston Venture Academy in Great Yarmouth, an academy sponsored by Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT), took part in Macmillan’s "world’s biggest coffee morning" last term.

For Macmillan, a charity which provides support to those living with cancer and their families, this is their biggest fundraising event and they urged people from all over the UK to get involved.

The Union of Venture Students, a body which acts as a form of student council representation at Ormiston Venture Academy, took the initiative to take part and hosted a bake sale and coffee morning for students. At the end of the day, students opened up the academy café to parents, staff and community members as well.

Around 40 community members attended the event and purchased a large amount of cake that had been donated by students. The attendees enjoyed a hot drink, socialised and played board games. The Union Venture Students created a lovely atmosphere for the community at the academy to enjoy.

The students were able to raise and donate just over £400 to Macmillan Cancer Support, breaking their record for raising money for this particular cause.

One of our Venture students commented:

“We really want to leave a positive mark on the academy and our community by the end of our year running the Union of Venture Students.”

“One of our main aims for the year is to further develop a sense of spirit within the academy, and having fun whilst fundraising and being charitable is a really important aspect of this. We are so pleased to have raised so much for Macmillan.”

The event was the first fundraising effort of the year for the Union of Venture Students, who aim to raise more this year than the academy’s previous best of £6,000 in 2014/15 for various good causes.

Fundraising and community events such as this are encouraged through OAT’s Enrichment Charter, a policy which is designed to inspire young people to develop their skills, talents and character through a wide range of activities. OAT encourages students to be good neighbours in their local communities through activities such as volunteering and fund raising.

By the time you read this, Christmas will be a memory and the Spring term will be well underway. Even so, I hope that is not too late, on behalf of all the governors of the academy, to wish you a happy and successful term.

As you might know, the local governing body is made up of a group of people with very different experiences, but who are all totally committed to the success of Venture. Some of us have been involved since the academy was set up. During that time we have been thrilled to watch it grow and develop into the successful learning community it is today.

A vital reason for its continuing success is the hard work and determined optimism of all the staff who work here. They all believe that every single Venture student has it in them to be successful learners and to go on to be successful and fulfilled adults. They never give up whatever the students’ past experiences or past and present circumstances. They have big dreams for you.

Of course these dreams can only come true if you have the same big dreams and do all that is necessary to fulfil them, even if they feel a bit too ambitious sometimes.

If you have a big dream about your future, however unlikely it seems, let your teachers know what it is and let them help you to make it a reality. This is their job. With your full commitment and determination, you can be the student and then the adult that you want to be.

With all good wishes

Chair of the local governing body.
On 18th January 2018, Venture proudly welcomed back the Class of 2017 for the academy’s annual Graduation Ceremony.

This event enables families, students and staff to celebrate the excellent GCSE achievements of a year group in style.

Students wearing red gowns and mortar boards received diplomas to commemorate their time at Venture, and to recognise the passing of one phase of their education to another.

Ormiston Venture Academy operates an alumni programme which enables students to share successes and continue to be positive role models within the academy. Any former student who wants support is urged to get in touch, fitting the motto...

"Once a Venture student, always a Venture student."

Principal Simon Gilbert-Barnham said:

“It was a real pleasure to see our Class of 2017 formally graduate as Venture Alumni. We are so proud of them and the exciting futures they are embarking on – they’ve all grown into such exceptional young adults.”

Kate Williams, Vice Principal of Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

“It was wonderful to see the Class of 2017 again. As a year group, they shown such determination and resilience, which we know will ensure they experience every success in the future.

One former student commented to the Principal:

“I never got the chance to really thank you and all the staff for how much you did for me throughout the time I was at the school, and I’m grateful for it. If it wasn’t for all the effort you all put in, I wouldn’t of made it to where I am today, so thank you for everything - you really did all make my secondary school years’ worth it!”
For this edition of the #inthespotlight we feature 3 stand-out students.

Tia Hutchinson won the Create Principals award for being an all-round phenomenal person! Tia has 100% attendance and also sells her 100 positive Visa points already. She is a popular and well respected member of her PL group and works hard in all of her lessons. We thought Tia deserved the award for all of her amazing charity work outside of the Academy too.

Tia’s Treasures began in 2011 when Tia was just 6 years old. Tia started out by creating beaded bracelets for family and friends until she soon realised that she could turn what had started out as a hobby into a fundraising enterprise calling herself Tia’s Treasures. Tia decided she would not only create bracelets but necklaces, key rings, bag charms, mobile phone charms, earrings, rings, brooches, bookmarks and magnets.

Tia began donating the proceeds from the sales of her “treasures” to CLIC Sargent and CHECT (Childhood Eye Cancer Trust) as these charities had supported her friend Demi who had been battling Retinoblastoma since the age of 6 months.

Over £5,000 has been raised in total for various charities, deserving causes and individuals from fundraisers they have organised and attended as well as the sales from the handmade jewellery and Tia has received a number of awards including Take a Break and 4Children Family Heroes Award for the East of England and The Beach Radio Gold Award.

Tia’s Treasures have supplied their local hospital James Paget University Hospital with knitted baby hats and handmade Treasures for them to sell in their League of Friends shop with all proceeds going to the hospital.

Tia’s Treasures have also started to get involved with Norfolk Rocks which seems to be the new craze at the moment. Painted rocks are hidden all over Norfolk and even further a field for people to find and keep or re-hide, a Facebook group has been set up for members to add photographs of their rocks they’ve hidden and found.

They thought creating some Tia’s Treasures themed rocks would be another way of promoting Tia’s Treasures as well as being creative and exploring the outdoors.

Tia’s Treasures next plans are to update the website www.TiasTreasures.net with a new logo and hopefully find a local venue to hold regular events where they can sell handmade Treasures and allow people to make their own for a small donation.

The wonderful Toby Coleman was awarded the prestigious ‘Principal’s Award’ for Achieve College in autumn term. Like Toby, there are many students who have 100% attendance, are working at or above their targets across many subjects and have achieved a very high number of positive behaviour points across the year. But one characteristic which makes Toby stand out as an admirable and exceptional young man is his unwavering positivity and lovely manners.

Toby is the young man I encounter most mornings on the corridor and he always greets me with a broad smile and chirpy ‘morning!’. Toby is the young man who always holds the door open for others and will stop and help to pick up the pile of papers a member of staff has dropped in the stairwell. Toby does this and so much more in a matter of habit and without expecting anything in return; he is the embodiment of the Venture Way.

Miss Brown, Assistant Principal of Achieve College: “Toby is an absolutely delightful young man and we are so pleased to be able to reward his effort, attainment and sheer loveliness through the Principal’s reward. Really well done, Toby!”

Mr Ives, College Leader of Achieve College: “No matter what the weather is like, he’s always smiling and singing. No matter my mood, he always perks me up.”

Finley is a very conscientious young man who is committed to Aspire, so much so he emailed Mr Peach as to why he should be selected as our first ever College Captain.

Finley is always willing to help and give up time for others. Outside of school he is a member of the Scouts and does regular bag packs at Morrisons to raise money.

Finley is always polite and courteous and gives 100% in every lesson. He is a model student and an all-round Aspire legend!! The future is bright for this young man.

Want to be in the Spotlight? get in touch with College Leader.

Grace and Maidie have been model students at Venture throughout their time here. They have always been positive role models within the college and taken on various leadership roles. As they have been the go to students for interviewing prospective members of staff for the last two years.

The girls have represented the Academy in several sports and have always given their all. Maidie and Grace have had outstanding attendance and behaviour records for all five years at the academy and thoroughly deserve to be recognised as Innova Ideol’s and by winning the Principal’s award for constantly going above and beyond.

“All almost every celebration collective you would find yourself reading Grace’s name followed by Maidie so many academy effort and achievement awards. So it seemed only right to award them this one together too”

Mr Richards Asst. Principal Innovate.
Students, staff and the school community at Ormiston Venture Academy in Gorleston have welcomed its first academy mascot – Vinny the Venture Raptor, with a little help from the Union of Venture Students Executive Board.

The academy’s Student Board, which is headed up by 22 Year 10 students, has rallied its efforts around securing an academy mascot, which will further increase the already great academy spirit and feeling of community togetherness, amongst other plans they have for the legacy they will leave.

The students decided they wanted to design and purchase a mascot that would represent the academy, supports its representative teams and drive up the excellent community spirit in action.

Vinny has already proven a great hit with students, and along with settling into his new surroundings, has been busy supporting the netball and basketball teams, being the special guest referee at an inter college dodgeball competition. The new mascot has also just been given the role of ‘Santa Claws’ at the Winter Wonderland rewards disco and the Venture Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 13th December.

The Union of Venture Students have further plans to develop the Vinny brand, the support around him and the representative teams and plan on making sure he is visible at all kind of events linked to the academy in the remainder of the academic year and beyond.

The principal of Ormiston Venture Academy, Simon Gilbert-Barnham, said:

“Student voice is hugely valued part of Venture and ensuring our students take a lead with their school. The students wanted a Mascot to create a real celebration feel at events and sports fixtures. They decided Vinny and I have today he is already a part of our Venture family”
To support 2017 Children in Need, The Union of Venture Students (the representative body for students at Ormiston Venture Academy) hosted a fundraiser event at the Gorleston-based academy.

This is always a popular annual event amongst the students and teachers, who always try to raise as much money as possible.

This year, students were encouraged to donate their old round pound coins to take part in a red and yellow themed non-uniform day, alongside taking part in a variety of games. In total, 106 old pound coins were collected and the academy raised £974 for Children in Need.

Highlights of the day included Mia Cheeseman successfully counting the 17 Pudsey Bears that were placed around the academy to win a selection of chocolate goodies, and Kayleigh Palmer guessing who was dressed up as Ormiston Venture Academy’s new mascot (Vinny the Venture Raptor) and won a £25 Amazon gift voucher as a result.

Finally, to top up the amount raised, Pippa Osborne carried out a sponsored silence across the day, individually raising £65 to contribute towards the academy total.

This event has taken the total amount of money raised for charity by the Union of Venture Students so far this year to over £1500, making them well on-track to meet and exceed their £6000+ target for the school year.

Union of Venture Students said:

“It was great to see everyone get behind the red and yellow theme and donate to an important cause. This shows the importance of the day to all students at Venture.”

Dave Richards, Assistant Principal of Ormiston Venture Academy, said:

“The Union of Venture Students has set themselves an ambitious target of raising more money in an academic year than ever before, and one of the best parts of their fundraising effort is seeing how they come up with new and inventive ways of raising a few more pounds and implementing them.

“In this case, their games throughout the day were brilliant and I know they have some exciting plans for other events for later in the year, as they are passionate about supporting worthy causes such as Children in Need.”
Parents voice

The Academy values the views of parents at academic review days and parents evening seek your views.

The input and feedback we receive is of great value and provokes discussion and actions as a result.

For example feedback suggested we stage a separate Year 11 parents evening as with a growing roll, a combined KS4

The input and feedback we receive is of great value and provokes discussion and actions as a result.

For example feedback suggested we stage a separate Year 11 parents evening as with a growing roll, a combined KS4

Parents evening was getting busy!

With a growing roll, a combined KS4

For example feedback suggested we stage a separate Year 11 parents evening as with a growing roll, a combined KS4

As part the celebrations, students at the Academy, which is sponsored by Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) give back to the local community by providing food to those who may need it most over the Christmas break.

For a third consecutive year, students donated food in exchange for wearing a Christmas jumper, and this food was then distributed to two local foodbanks.

The Union of Venture Students, who act as a form of student council representation at the Academy, hold this event up as their favourite of the year. On a day where they also host the Christmas Fayre and Christmas dinner is served in the canteen, students are offered the opportunity to swap the top half of their uniform for a Christmas jumper.

In order to do this, they are asked to bring in a donation of non-perishable food items that will be sent to a foodbank. As with previous years there was a brilliant response from students, whether they wore a jumper or not, donating enough food to fill the entire school stage.

At the end of the day, the Union of Venture Students sorted the food into two equal amounts, packed it up and then delivered it to All Saints church in Belton and The Bridge at the St Mary Magdalene church in Gorleston.

Once all of the food had been collected, efforts moved onto the Christmas Fayre. Students prepare and run this independently with the aim of being to fundraise for our Guilds programme.

Some comments from parents that we are proud of have included:

"Thank you for your prompt answers to my questions"

"We have been very pleased with her first year and have seen her blossom, thank you"

"Coming to Venture was the best decision he’s made!"

"I have found all staff to be helpful and supportive of my son, the Academy has exceeded my expectations! Thank you!"

"She, has just joined and everything seems great"

"My child loves being part of Venture – keep up the good work!"

Parents of our parents agreed that their child was making good progress.

These percentages are hugely supportive and demonstrate how well we are working together for the children.

Parents of our parents agreed that their child was making good progress.

These percentages are hugely supportive and demonstrate how well we are working together for the children.

Some comments from parents that we are proud of have included:

"Thank you for your prompt answers to my questions"

"We have been very pleased with her first year and have seen her blossom, thank you"

"Coming to Venture was the best decision he’s made!"

"I have found all staff to be helpful and supportive of my son, the Academy has exceeded my expectations! Thank you!"

"She, has just joined and everything seems great"

"My child loves being part of Venture – keep up the good work!"

The current Union of Venture Students executive board have set themselves an ambitious fundraising total of £6000 for the academic year and the Christmas Fayre plays a big part in this.

Stalls selling continental Christmas food, reindeer poop, calendars of our new mascot Vinny the Venture Raptor, lolly trees were joined by refreshments and several games and our annual Christmas Raffle.

The Fayre was open to our community between 11 and 12 with students coming to make the most of the festivities from 12:30-2:30.

In total the students raised an incredible £1521.84 and donated a huge amount of food to the two local foodbanks.

Tyler Munro, Head Girl and Cameron Hodds, Head Boy said “This is our favourite charitable event of the year because students go above and beyond and bring more food in than we ever thought they would, they know it goes to local families and it is something that sums up both the Christmas spirit and what community support and charity should be all about. We are also really pleased with how much we made at the Fayre and through the raffle and want to say thank you for all of the kind donations we received. It has put us a long way towards our target of £6000 for the year”.

Simon Gilbert-Barnham, Principal said “Everyone at Venture views ourselves as part of our community. This is another amazing example of students developing into fantastic citizens of the wider community”
Ormiston Venture Academy hosted its annual talent show in the grand hall this month with 11 incredible acts entertaining the packed out audience with song, dance and musical brilliance.

Spectators were left astounded by the quality of performances, whilst the judges - Tyler Munro, Cameron Hodds, Miss Brand and Principal Mr Gilbert-Barnham, had the unenviable job of deciding a winner amongst the many acts.

There was a long deliberation amongst the judges during the interval, where members of the Parents’ and Friends’ Association served drinks and the Union of Venture students assisted Mr Richards in serving popcorn).

1. Rebecca Rumney
2. Amy Sexton
3. Sarah Watson
4. Jake Needham
5. Cameron Simmonds
6. Isla Marshall

7. Tobie-Regan Walden
8. Fay Clark
9. Cody Lawes and Emmerson Loades
10. Ellijah Palmer
11. Toby Coleman.

The judges eventually decided that the top 3 were Ellijah Palmer securing third place, Jake Needham as the runner up, and the winner – Isla Marshall.

Isla was presented the trophy by last year’s champion, Daisy Jennings. Alongside the talented performers, the back stage and site team were stars of the show, with Miss Cornwell and Miss Ditcham contributing to the night’s success.

Assistant Principal at Ormiston Venture Academy, Mr McInally, commented that:

“The students gain so much from performing on stage in front of such an adoring audience. It was a fantastic evening showcasing the best of Venture in so many ways. I’m truly excited to see what these students will accomplish in the future building on their cultural capital!”

The evening was a resounding success, with all ticket money made going directly towards Children In Need.

Ormiston Venture Academy, which is sponsored by Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT), looks forward to next time round, to see if Isla can retain her title, whether the Vixens or Daisy Jennings can return and win it back, or whether a new contender can grab the prestigious trophy.

Assistant Principal at Ormiston Venture Academy, Mr McInally, commented that:
Ormiston Venture Academy is committed to the creation of a fully inclusive learning community in which excellence and success are common goals, and all of its members feel safe, secure, celebrated, challenged and supported. Our highest priority is to ensure learners reach the highest level of achievement possible, and become confident, effective and independent learners.

To support this, each opportunity is taken to celebrate achievement in all its forms. In addition to the Venture Visa rewards program, staff and guests have an opportunity to recognise success as they tour the academy by issuing instant passes. These passes entitle the student to VIP Café experience, Games Room visit or Venture Vault pass.

Passes can be awarded for things such as:
- Excellent contribution to class discussion
- Excellent class work
- Volunteering

In addition, each term students with excellent attendance and demonstrating ‘the Venture Way’ are invited to celebratory events such as Pizza with the Principal, a celebratory event such as the recent Winter Wonderland disco and the end of term celebration assemblies.

Emma Leigh-Walters - Disco
‘The disco was fun because of all the decorations and the prizes you could win’.

“It was fun being with my friends and Mr. Gilbert-Barnham eating pizza and receiving all the positive praise.' One student, Paul, said that it was a ‘perfect day’ whilst enjoying his Margarita pizza.”
Leon Goodwin – Pizza

“I felt privileged to have pizza with the principal, it was nice to be appreciated for hard work”
Lewis Green – Pizza

“I loved the disco because I got to spend time and dance with my friends”
Eleanor Cave – Disco

“It was amazing and I wished it was for longer”
Harry Harris – Disco

“I loved the food and the music was great”

“Arrgg, high-5”

“Arrgg, high-5”
Ormiston Venture Academy is now ready to hit the airwaves with its brand new student-led radio station.

Over the coming half term we will start with daily lunch time shows that will play out over the cafe speakers and in other lunch time areas. At the end of each week we will compile the shows, minus the music as a podcast and playout from our soundcloud account so parents, students and other community members can listen from home.

Over the remainder of the year the aim will be to try and grow the station to include morning and after school shows and to eventually have our own app where people can listen live in addition to the soundcloud channel.

To do this we will need as many budding DJ’s as possible so any students who would like to take part just need to let the Union of Venture students know they would like some training and to start their own 30 minute show.

Netball

Ormiston Venture Academy’s under 14s netball team makes semi-finals of Norfolk County Netball trials

On Saturday 11th of November, Ormiston Venture Academy’s under 14s netball team took part in the Norfolk County Netball trials. They became the first Ormiston Venture Academy netball team to reach the semi-finals of the competition.

There were eight Year 9 students who spent their Saturday morning representing the academy at the event, which took place at the University of East Anglia Sports Park in Norwich. The team included Lily King, Caitlin Perfect, Saffron Braddick, Melissa Campling, Mia Steward, Morgan Kelly, Caitlin Williams and Brianne Dyer.

In order to reach the Norfolk County semi-finals, the team had to qualify by playing all the local teams in East Norfolk including Lynn Grove Academy, Caister Academy, Flegg High School, Cliff Park Ormiston Academy, and Acle Academy. The Ormiston Venture Academy team finished this round as the unbeaten winners.

The captain, Lily King, organised the team and ensured that they were able to train together and improve their performance.

The students played brilliantly and impressed organisers and umpires with their quality of game at the event.

After being unfortunately knocked out at the semi-finals, the girls finished 4th overall, making them the 4th best team in the whole of Norfolk - an amazing feat for a small school.

Opportunities like the Norfolk County Netball Trials allow students to learn how to work as a team and learn to develop new skills to become well-rounded students.

Lily King, team captain, said: “I feel very proud of our teams’ accomplishments this weekend - we played to our best abilities both individually and as a team. Overall, I feel we’ve improved tremendously from the start of our school experience to where we are now and we definitely couldn’t have reached it if it wasn’t for our great coach, Miss Ermini.”

Miss Ermini, coach of Ormiston’s Venture Academy’s under 14s netball team, said: “This team has worked so hard over the last two years and deserves the success they experienced this weekend. I am immensely proud of all of them.”
**Football**

**Year 7 Boys Round Up**

Football started in September with so many year 7s attending training, there were nearly enough for two teams. They played Cliff Park, Caister and Yarmouth Charter Academy, beating Yarmouth 5-1.

**Team Players:** Ben Ashby, Andrew Blake, Sonny Chapman, Kyle Clarke, Taylor Kemp, Tyler May, Kobe Morton, Reece Sinclair, Jacob Smith, Harlee Wicks, George Winn, Alfie Adams, Jake Bennington, Jack Carr, Harley Deall, Harvey Harris, Dylan Lumbard, Kieron Monk, Arnold Neveckas, Harvey Smith, Alfie Thower, Alfie Williams, Zach Woodhouse.

**Year 8 Boys Round Up**

The year 8 team won the league last year as year 7s. Since September they have been training hard and have played Lynn Grove and Cliff Park but were very tough games as they have now moved up to 11 a side.

**Team Players:** Toby Lockyer, Alex Riches, Lleyton Funnell, Noah Woodhouse, Tyler Sayer, Diesel Jacobs, Zack Woodhouse, Michael Swann, Toby Foster, Charlie Jeffs, Sam Cockerell, Michael Janas.

**Year 9 Boys Round Up**

The team have been training well. They played Cliff Park and lost a hard fought close contest.

**Team Players:** Aiden Philpott, Alex Riches, Archie Cohen, Ben Lewis, Callum Burgess, Conal Howard, Diesel Jacobs, Floyd Peach, Josh Ellis, Kieran Lopes, Liam Revell, Noah Woodhouse, Ollie Stephenson, Regan Kelly, Seb Cockerell, Tony Jephcote, Tyler Ellis.

**Netball**

**Year 8-11 Girls Round Up**

The Netball teams at Venture have had a successful start to the year. The year 8 and year 9 teams are currently unbeaten.

The Year 7, 10 and 11 teams have been working hard at training and matches and have a few wins, draws and losses under their belt.

The year 11s have one more tournament left before the end of their season and the Year 9 team hope to win the league and go to the Netball County Finals again in March.

**Basketball**

**Year 10 Boys Round Up**

Venture Vs Flegg (home)

Came back from 24-20 behind to win 33-26. An awesome team performance for their 1st match ever.

**Team Players:** Aref Shafiei, Oliver Ryan, Kieron Hughes, Jamie Adams, Alfie Greenwood, Leon Gray, Harry Young, Archie Mutch.

Venture Vs Flegg (away)

Lost 41-36, but play had improved from their previous match, if they could finish better, they would have won the game.

**Team Players:** Aref Shafiei, Oliver Ryan, Kieron Hughes, Jamie Adams, Alfie Greenwood, Leon Gray, Harry Young, Archie Mutch.

**2018 Diary Dates**

**February 2018**

- Last day of Half term - Friday 9th February 2.35pm
- Half Term - Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

**March 2018**

- Students Break for Easter - Wednesday 28th March 2.35pm
- Staff Training Day - Thursday 29th March
- Student return to the academy - Monday 16th April 8.25am

---

Ormiston Venture Academy, Gorleston Norfolk NR31 7JJ | Tel: 01493 662 966
Email: info@ormistonventureacademy.co.uk | www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk