

# Ormiston Sudbury Academy

## End of Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware, we had our Ofsted visit immediately after half term. They had said they would be back within 30 months of our last visit and they were – about 29.5 months, I think! Despite the combined challenges of being notified on the day when there were no students in school to alert and a brand-new computer management system in place for us all for registers etc., then having an internet outage on the morning they arrived, the visit went very smoothly! The inspectors spoke positively about the student engagement and effort they were seeing in lessons. They really enjoyed speaking to the students: those they selected for a group discussion or those they approached at break and lunchtime. From them, the inspectors learned about the effectiveness of our personal development curriculum and pastoral support. They also talked to teaching and non-teaching staff. They praised the ‘moral purpose’ that ran through the school. The new Ofsted ‘Expected Standards’ are, quite rightly, high standards. Our strengths in attendance and personal development and the improvements we have made in all areas since the last inspection were recognised by the inspection team. We should receive our report shortly after Easter and as soon as it is published, I will let parents/carers know. Our planned activities for this term were rather more fun! I know many of you enjoyed the amazing production of Frozen. Students from across the years have had interesting careers activities, meeting with employers or visiting colleges. We have had a great deal of sporting success at fixtures and in tournaments, often beating much larger schools. We are also very excited to see the first stage of our new build project, the Sports Centre, starting to take shape. We can’t quite believe that in September the PE Faculty will be moving in!

Easter heralds lighter evenings and possibly warmer days – and also the final run up to exam season. We wish our year 11 success with their intensive revision, both in and out of school during the holiday period and afterwards.

Regards

*Mrs S Morris*



## The Whole Academy Production – Frozen Jr

Our whole academy production of *Frozen Jr.* has received a huge amount of praise following a completely sold-out run, welcoming more than 1,400 audience members from across the local community. Now that the final curtain has fallen, it's clear that this year's show has set a new benchmark for Performing Arts at OSA. We have built up a strong reputation for ambitious, large-scale musical theatre over the years, but the response to *Frozen Jr.* has been exceptional. With over 1,200 tickets sold across five evening performances, plus a special matinee attended by 280 primary school pupils, the support from families, friends and the wider community has been overwhelming.

Co-directed by Mr L Cox and Mr A Napier, with Miss K Conway-Jarrett as Musical Director and choreography by Miss T Bayly, the production brought together a company of 120 students. From the outset, the creative team aimed to produce a show that was technically ambitious, joyful and emotionally engaging and the students rose to the challenge with remarkable professionalism.

The dual casting of Elsa, performed by Ella Iliffe and Elsie Moores, resulted in two confident and powerful interpretations of the role. Their performances of *Let It Go*

were standout moments each night, with the transformation sequence, complete with a seamless quick change, flying costume pieces and the dramatic reveal of the ice palace, earning spontaneous applause from audiences. Sisters Sophia and Bella Finch shared the role of Anna, bringing warmth, humour and emotional depth to the character. When Bella became unwell during the run, Sophia stepped in to cover additional performances, while Bella continued to contribute as part of the Snow Ensemble – a testament to the maturity and teamwork within the cast. The leading male roles were also performed with real strength and confidence. Declan Dixey brought great presence and charm to the role of Hans, while Ben Powell delivered a warm and grounded performance as Kristoff, capturing both the humour and heart of the character. The Trolls, led by Izzy Bradford as Pabbie and Maddi Cook as Bulda, were another highlight of the show, with their scenes praised for their energy, characterisation and ensemble focus. A special mention must also go to Year 7 student Arthur

Barbour-Andrews, whose hilarious portrayal of the Duke of Weselton became an audience favourite. Complete with an intentionally over-the-top hairpiece that seemed determined to flop over at every opportunity, his comic timing and physical performance added a wonderful layer of humour to the production and had audiences laughing throughout. The puppetry was another standout feature. Nathaniel Lamb brought Olaf to life with exceptional comic timing, while Fri Tangunyi, performing Sven entirely on stilts and on all fours, impressed audiences with extraordinary stamina and physical skill. The beautifully crafted puppets and props, created by Catkins Studios, added a professional finish that was frequently mentioned in audience feedback. The Snow Ensemble, a group of 16 students who



appeared in almost every number, were praised for their energy, precision and commitment. Their work helped to create the magical atmosphere that defined the production.

Behind the scenes, the technical elements were delivered by St Edmundsbury Theatre Services, whose set, lighting and sound design transformed the auditorium into a fully immersive theatrical space. The realistic falling snow was a particular favourite with audiences and added to the enchantment of the show.

What resonated most throughout the run was the spirit of the company. The production was filled with joy, dedication and a genuine sense of togetherness. For our Year 11 students, this final bow was especially emotional, marking the end of their journey in OSA productions, and their contribution over the years has been invaluable. Audience

feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with comments describing the show as “professional”, “polished”, “full of heart” and “the best school production I have ever seen”. Many praised the talent of the students, the ambition of the staging and the commitment of the staff who brought the production to life alongside their teaching responsibilities. As Mr Cox reflected, “*Frozen Jr.* has demonstrated once again the strength of Performing Arts at Ormiston Sudbury Academy. The talent, teamwork and creativity shown by our students has created something truly magical, and we could not be prouder of what they have achieved.”

*Performing Arts Faculty*



### Creating Lifesavers

This term, Year 10 students have been developing vital life-saving skills as part of their PSHE curriculum. In support of British Heart Foundation (BHF) Heart Month, students have been using the BHF RevivR app to learn how to perform CPR and understand the key steps involved in using a defibrillator.

Students approached the sessions with maturity and focus, recognising the importance of being able to act confidently in an emergency. These skills could one day make a real difference, and we are proud of the commitment they have shown.

Families who would like to explore these techniques further can visit the BHF Classroom RevivR website to learn more.

*Miss L Warden*



## Careers Update

Careers education this term has centred on employer engagement, with Years 8, 9 and 10 all taking part in a range of activities designed to broaden their understanding of different careers and the skills needed in the workplace.

In January, our Year 10 students took part in two Employability Mornings led by a variety of organisations, learning about recruitment processes, interview techniques and Apprenticeships. This was followed by our annual Mock Interview Morning, where more than 20 employers from a wide range of sectors visited the Academy to conduct interviews and provide professional feedback on the CVs students had produced. Year 9 students enjoyed their annual Speed Networking event last week, meeting employers to discuss careers, training pathways and the skills required in their industries. Students rotated around each employer, spending around five minutes in conversation before



moving on, giving them a valuable insight into a wide range of professions. In February, Border Force Officers, accompanied by Buddy the Spaniel, visited the Academy to deliver a careers and skills workshop for Year 8. Students learned how Border Force patrol and protect UK borders, as well as the variety of roles within the organisation. Last Friday, 50 Year 8 students visited West Suffolk College for a Construction Skills Escalator Day. They explored different roles within the construction industry, tried VR welding, used a plant machinery simulator, and heard from Anglian Water about water preservation and careers linked to the sector. We are extremely grateful to the fantastic employers in our local area who continue to support our careers programme. This term, contributors have included HSBC, Siemens, Konings Drinks, EDF,



Leading Lives, Taylor Wimpey and Toucan BFP. Their time and expertise make a real difference to our students. Looking ahead, our Year 10 students will be completing their Work Experience from **6th–10th July 2026**. We are still seeking placements for some students, so if you run a business or work for an organisation that may be able to offer a placement, please contact Miss Boreham at [hboreham@ormistonsudbury.co.uk](mailto:hboreham@ormistonsudbury.co.uk).

*Miss H Boreham*

## Maths Olympics

On Friday last week, four Year 7 students represented the Academy in the OAT Maths Olympics, a competition that brought together teams from across the trust to take on a series of challenging mathematical tasks. Working collaboratively, students tackled problem-solving activities, logic puzzles and timed challenges designed to test both their mathematical understanding and their ability to work effectively as a team. Throughout the event, our students demonstrated excellent communication, resilience and support for one another. Although we did not place in the top positions, finishing 14th out of the 23 schools taking part, the judges were particularly impressed by the teamwork on display, awarding the group several bonus points in recognition of how well they worked together.

We are incredibly proud of the students who took part: Zach Smith, Evie Cansell, Tristan Riddick and Luke Mitchell. They represented the Academy brilliantly and approached every challenge with enthusiasm and determination. We look forward to seeing how they continue to develop their mathematical skills in future competitions.

*Mr R Anderson*

### Science Faculty Update

This term has been a busy and engaging one for Science, with students across the Academy taking part in a range of activities designed to spark curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world around them.

#### British Science Week:

In March, students took part in British Science Week, exploring this year's theme: "*Curiosity: what's your question?*" Lessons and activities encouraged students to think beyond their usual topics, investigate new ideas and take part in hands-on practical work linked to STEM learning. The week created plenty of opportunities for students to ask questions, test ideas and develop their scientific thinking.

#### Primary Outreach:

Our Primary Science Outreach Programme has continued to grow, with senior student ambassadors supporting the Science faculty in delivering workshops to local primary schools. These sessions introduced younger pupils to scientific ideas in an accessible and engaging way - from exploring how the heart works to investigating the properties of bubbles. Feedback from staff has been extremely positive, with one teacher commenting that the children "had a great time and learnt lots."

#### STEM Club:

STEM Club has seen a noticeable increase in attendance this term, with students taking part in a variety of practical projects each week. Recent activities have included designing and testing model rockets, investigating buoyancy through boat-building challenges, and extracting DNA from fruit. The club continues to be a welcoming space for students who enjoy experimenting, problem-solving and exploring STEM subjects beyond the classroom. Students interested in joining are welcome to come along on Wednesday afternoons. There is a science stool (and a lab coat) waiting for you!

*Mrs C Juwe*



### International Women's Day 2026

This March, our school community marked International Women's Day with thoughtful discussions and celebrations across the Academy. During tutor time, students explored the history and purpose of the day, reflecting on the achievements of women around the world and the progress still to be made. Staff and students also shared personal tributes to the women who inspire them, creating a reflective and uplifting atmosphere. The Piazza was filled with a real sense of positivity and appreciation as students contributed their messages, stories and reflections. To capture this, we are creating a commemorative book that will bring together these dedications. Miss Bayly went the extra mile by recognising how inspirational every female member of staff is – which we have included on the next page of the newsletter!

We would be delighted for families to be part of this project. If there is an inspiring woman you would like to honour, please send your story or photograph to Miss Warden at [lwarden@ormistonsudbury.co.uk](mailto:lwarden@ormistonsudbury.co.uk) for inclusion in the collection.

*Miss L Warden*

# The Inspirational Women of OSA!

Miss Ansell- Inspirational as she mentors others  
Miss Bailey - Inspiring for consistently helping others  
Mrs Barrett - Inspirational for her meaningful talks  
Ms Bell - Inspiring me to choose kindness always  
Mrs Benson - Inspiring for always being welcoming with a smile  
Ms Bernard-Bubb - Inspirational by showing that its cool to be smart  
Mrs Boreham - Inspiring for her support to students  
Miss Bradford - Inspiring within the school community with all she gives  
Mrs Brundle - For stepping up as an inspirational leader  
Miss Byam - inspiring when helping children and being able to help them understand fully  
Mrs Collins - Inspiring by always pushing people to their best  
Miss Conway-Jarrett - Working hard all the time and always helping everyone/especially listening to everyone problems and being an outstanding teacher- inspiring me to keep learning and developing as a teacher and person  
Miss Cooke - Inspirational with her creativity  
Miss Copping - Inspirational by being so supportive  
Mrs Cox - Inspiring by creating a safe classroom  
Miss Crabb - Inspiring for her commitment  
Mrs Cullivan - Inspiring for being so committed  
Miss Dexter - Inspirational for always giving 100%  
Miss Dowding - For doing everything with a smile  
Mrs Drakard - Inspirational for setting high standards and helping people achieve them  
Miss Elsdon - Inspiring for always being helpful  
Mrs Eyon - For her kindness and warmth  
Mrs Farrell - Inspiring for supporting everyone  
Mrs Franklin - inspirational for being such a passionate teacher  
Mrs Frost - Inspirational for being a cheerleader  
Miss Fulbrook - Inspirational for being so welcoming  
Miss Gallagher - Inspiring for working so hard  
Mrs Goodchild - Inspirational for being such a strong woman  
Miss Hart - Inspiring for supporting all students  
Miss Hatfield - Inspiring by always wearing a smile  
Miss Headley - Inspiring by always helping others  
Miss Henderson - Inspiring for always being kind  
Mrs Hingston - Inspirational for helping and supporting so many  
Mrs Innes - Inspirational for giving her all everyday  
Miss Isom - Inspirational for being a problem solver  
Mrs Jacques - Inspiring for being able to support, challenge and create a safe environment for many  
Mrs Juwe - Inspirational for creating a safe space  
Miss Lefley - Inspiring for her commitment

Miss Loe - Inspiring for always showing up  
Mrs Logan - Inspirational for always helping others  
Miss Martin - Inspiring for supporting so many  
Mrs McDonald - Inspiring for creating a safe place  
Miss Mcpherson - For her commitment  
Miss Mitchell - For always turning up  
Miss Montgomery - For all her hard work that doesn't go unnoticed  
Miss Morgan - For supporting and helping students navigate school  
Mrs Morris - Inspirational for being a leader  
Mrs Moulten-Day - Inspirational for being pushed out of her comfort zone and doing so well  
Mrs Newell - For always being so welcoming and pushing everyone to be their best - inspiring me to reach goals while at school  
Miss Norman - Inspiring for her warmth and laughter  
Miss Pearce - For always turning up  
Mrs Pen - Inspiring for being so positive and someone there for everyone  
Miss Phillips - for all her hard work that is not physically seen but is always appreciated  
Mrs Price - Inspirational for being a strong independent woman role model  
Miss Roberts - For her commitment  
Mrs Smith - Being a strong independent woman  
Ms Spencer - Inspiring for all the work and commitment she does  
Miss Tatum - For always showing up  
Ms E Taylor - Inspirational in how involved she is with every lesson and class  
Miss R Taylor - Inspiring for her high expectations  
Miss Tejano - Inspirational with her passion and subject knowledge  
Miss Thackery - inspiring for all her help  
Miss Turner - Inspiring for giving everything a go  
Miss Warden - Inspiring for being such a warm person and giving a safe place  
Miss Webster - Inspirational for the commitment and energy given to each day  
Ms Wicks - Inspiring for always supporting and being a community player  
Miss Williams - Inspiring for all her hard work  
Ms Woodrow - Kind and caring but also stands up for what is right and is powerful in doing so - inspiring me to be more confident  
Miss Woodward- for always turning up

*Miss T Bayly*

And we'd like to add... Miss T Bayly - Inspirational for her relentless positivity, kindness and care for everyone around her!

### Charity Week 2026

This week, students and staff have been taking part in OSA's annual Charity Week, raising money for Cancer Research UK through a full programme of events organised by our Student Council. The week has brought a real sense of energy and community spirit to the Academy, with students getting involved across year groups. Throughout the week, the Piazza has been home to a range of activities including the Easter Egg Tombola, Lucky Lollies and two Easter Bunny challenges - "Guess the Name" and "Guess the Location".



These proved extremely popular with students, with queues forming each lunchtime as they tried their luck and supported the cause. Lunchtime events in the Auditorium added to the excitement. Wednesday's "Guess the Teacher - School Photo Quiz" sparked plenty of laughter as students attempted to match staff to their childhood photos. On Thursday, students took on staff in a lively table tennis challenge, and on Friday the week concluded with "Teachers Got Talent", always a highlight and a chance to see staff in a very different light. The enthusiasm shown by students has been fantastic, and we are grateful to everyone who has taken part, donated, or helped to run events throughout the week.

We look forward to sharing the final total raised once all donations have been counted.

*Mrs R Moulton-Day*

### Supporting No. 72 – A Vital Local Service

Some members of our community will already be familiar with No. 72, a Sudbury-based charity that provides vulnerable people with advice, friendship and a safe place to go. Their work focuses on early help and prevention, supporting individuals and families before situations reach crisis point. Demand for their services has risen significantly, and they are now supporting more people than at any time in the past three years.

At OSA, we are fortunate to benefit directly from their work. Each week, Bill and Sarah from No. 72 visit the Academy to support students who may need guidance, reassurance or simply someone to listen. Their presence has made a meaningful difference to many young people, and we are extremely grateful for the time and care they give. However, the charity is currently facing a serious funding challenge. They only have secured funding until Easter (5th April), and without additional support they may be forced to close. To continue their essential work, they need to raise £3,000 per month to cover core running costs. If anyone has any ideas of how to help them then please do get in touch!

Families who would like to learn more or make a donation can visit the link below:

[Number 72 \(The Family and Community Network\) | Support in Sudbury](#)

*Mrs C Barrett*



### Year 9 Update from Miss Webster

As we finish the spring term in Year 9, I have been impressed with the continued commitment, excitement and interest year 9 tutees have shown to their studies and extra-curricular interests. This also includes the fantastic attendance to the options evening this term, where year 9 are all now thinking carefully about their own next steps, for KS4.

I am looking forward to the year group finding out which option subjects they will be taking, very soon.

For the spring term we have continued to reflect on the achievements that have stood out the most, both in and out of the academy for year 9. All A.R.E achievements will continue to be tracked and contribute to ongoing A.R.E. awards.

Here are just a few reflections on the positive achievements seen this term.

#### Extra-Curricular:

It is impressive to know of so many year 9 tutees who took part in the academy production of Frozen. Many audience members commented on the student's professionalism which shows how hard they worked in the previous months leading up to the show. This would also be an excellent time to acknowledge talents across the year group from those who attend extra dance lessons in the evening and choir out of school. We have also had one of our year 9 students performing at the Royal Albert Hall in late December – these are all such amazing achievements whilst all still in KS3.

Extracurricular continues with a number of year 9 tutees getting involved with the Duke of Edinburgh award, we have tutees in year 9 taking part and preparing for expeditions at the moment and others continuing their interest in Explorer and Scouts. We have also had some tutees teaching themselves the piano, this term, and another year 9 tutee volunteering for MIND. Year 9 tutees who play for various sports teams out of the academy are showing great teamwork and weekly commitment to these sports. This acknowledges teamwork and resilience, which is now paying off, with their winning games. Keep up the positive commitments out of the academy year 9!

#### Academic success & Option subject choices:

Congratulations to all the High Prior Attainer students who, over three separate terms completed their university level essay writing and enjoyed their graduation and visit to Cambridge University. All students who took part have developed valuable skills that will benefit not just KS4, but Further and Higher Education, in the future. I know the staff involved in the scholars programme are extremely proud of all the achievements from all three groups of students – with group three completing the programme in the spring term. I look forward to starting the work for their EPQ programme in Year 9, as we move in ot the summer term.

Well-done again to all those involved.

We have now had two end of term celebration assemblies in

Year 9 to date, with tutees receiving many awards and recognition for their learning and excellent attendance.

We have also had pastoral achievements too. with all awards acknowledging the excellent commitment shown to their studies. Well-done everyone who received an award in the spring term celebration assembly!

Working closely with Mr Robin, Year 9 have now selected their option choices for KS4. The summer term will see option choices finalised and students receiving their confirmed subjects very soon. It is important tutees have opted for subjects they are committed to, for years 10 and 11. Selecting KS4 options are one of the first steps in making independent choices for future carer pathways.

I look forward to reflecting on our weekly recognitions in the summer term assemblies - for 'Star of the lesson', 'Performer of the week, R.A.O.K, and 'Tutee of the week' in what will be our final term of KS3.

*Miss K Webster*



# The Globe

Welcome to the Spring Term's edition of the Globe. Thanks to our Humanities Ambassadors who have reported on what has been going on in their lessons this term.

For the past 6 months, our religious studies lessons have taken us on a journey where we've explored different religious ideas surrounding a range of interesting topics such as: justice, conflict, protest, and charity. We are being taught by Mr. Robin; he creates a light-hearted atmosphere in which we can share our ideas and thoughts and learn collectively. In one interesting lesson we came across '*jihad*' and Islamic beliefs around conflict. Did you know that '*lesser jihad*' refers to external struggles, such as war? The Qur'an provides certain guidelines for how Muslims should approach war. It is often misunderstood, leading to misconceptions that it is synonymous with extremism, however there are clear guidelines which serve only to highlight the moral and spiritual dimensions of jihad. In another lesson we learned about Christian ideas surrounding charity. How can you 'love your neighbor?'. Christian's concept of charity is deeply rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ as charity is a fundamental part of the Christian life and is seen as the highest form of love. *Agape* is the idea of selfless and unconditional love. To love your neighbor, in this context, means giving generously, reflecting the highest form of compassion. So far this school year has involved a weighty exploration of faith, conflict, and justice, from Islamic teachings on *jihad* to Christian ideas of *agape*. Under Mr. Robin's guidance, we've learned how these lessons shape our understanding of justice, morality, and social responsibility.

*Davita Babaleye Year 10*

In Year 9 geography we have been learning about population in different areas of the world, earthquakes, tornadoes and tropical cyclones. Right now, we are learning about the monsoon rains. My favourite topic was the tropical cyclones because I enjoyed learning about how the cyclones are named and seen in other regions. I also liked learning about how they form.

*Jake James Year 9*

Year 9 history has ways to keep you hooked into learning and writing. History can hook you in with the multitude of different activities, these being the diagrams, videos, and the different ideologies of the past. In year 9 you start with learning about all the diverse groups that came here to the UK, some of the groups being the Anglo Saxons, lascars and the Huguenots. The next thing you find out about is the way Jewish people were treated during WW2, you learn about ghettos, concentration camps and the Jewish resistant groups. This will then lead you into very interesting a topic on WW2 where you find out about what the British did in the battle of Britain and operation Dunkirk while also learning about the communist views. This then leads to a topic on the cold war where you learn about the Berlin airlift and Korean war.

*Jake Barnard Year 9*

## The Great British Spring Clean Up

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March we were invited by Sudbury Town Council to take part in the Great British Spring Clean Up, Myself, (Mrs Smith), and three students from our Youth Council - Joshua Hauth Yr 10, Beth Keating Yr 8 and Charlie Turner Yr 7, went down to the Town Hall to meet other volunteers.

We arrived and were taken into the mayor's parlour inside the town hall, and we were met by Melaine Edwards who organised the clean-up. We were with students from St Joseph's Primary school, Wells Hall Primary School, St Gregorys Primary School, staff from Suffolk Building Society, Tesco, Town council, and community. All in all, we had 50 people and were put into groups and given high vis jackets, litter pickers and bin bags. Our group, with 2 of the Community Wardens, set off from the town hall down Market Hill, and we were shocked by the amount of



cigarette butts which were just thrown on the floor. We then walked down Gainsborough Street, down past St Joesph's care home, along the meadows footpath to the Mill Hotel, through to Ballingdon and then along the Valley Walk back through Waitrose into the town. Our students were lucky to speak to and have their photo taken with the Mayor of Sudbury, Andy Welsh, who welcomed everyone and thanked them for taking part.

We picked up various items, cigarette butts, cans, crisp packets, pieces of glass, old plant pots, and even a t-shirt(!) all in all 4 bags of rubbish between the 6 of us.

We all met back at the Town hall at noon to see how many bags everyone had collected and there were over 40. which was a shock, but a job well done. After a quick photo from the press, we were invited upstairs in the Town Hall for tea and cakes. My watch calculated over 12,500 steps!

So far communities across Britain have pledged to collect over 374,022 bags of rubbish, and we can all do our bit to Keep Britain tidy. Why not do your bit in your community or organise a group to go out for a few hours. You can contact your own local council, who normally are able to provide litter kits for free. Not only will it help your area but it's a great form of exercise.

*Mrs S Smith*



#### Alumni Student Success!

Before we go, we just want to say a HUGE well done to ex-student Hannah Dodd who is about to star as the lead character in Bridgerton Season 5 on Netflix! We couldn't be prouder of what Hannah has achieved since leaving school - she is living proof that students from OSA can achieve anything if they put their minds to it. Congratulations on your success Hannah!

We wish everyone a very happy Easter holiday!