

Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy

October 2010 Newsletter 7

Principal: Ms Janice Farrell

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ORMISTON SANDWELL
COMMUNITY ACADEMY

One of the top 5
secondary schools
in Sandwell for
GCSE results 2010

The Academy closes on Friday 22nd October 2010 at 3.00pm
and re-opens on Monday 1st November 2010 at 8.30am.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our second year as an Academy has got off to a positive start. 50% of year 11 students gained 5A*-C including English and maths at GCSE putting us in the top five of Sandwell schools. 71% gained 5A*-C and 99% 5A*-G grades. A great deal of hard work went into achieving these results. Current year 11 have GCSE exams in English, Maths and Science in November. Staff have been providing students with opportunities to focus revision with sessions after school and during the half term. Do encourage your child to attend. Year 10 students also have science modules in November and many will be completing their first units of work for BTEC courses.

We launch our inclusive 6th form 2011 with a range of courses and qualifications on offer. Full details are on the website and parents can also contact Mr D McQuillan our 14-19 co-ordinator.

We had our own mini review of the Academy in October by consultants from Ormiston and I have included a letter to students from the three consultants.

We will continue to keep you informed of student progress with our half termly reports. We have refined these so that you can map current progress against end of term progress and have an effort grade.

Parents Forum is held each half term, come and join us. Tell us what works well and what we could improve on.

Attendance is a key focus again and students with 100% attendance will be included in the weekly draw for a reward. All students should be able to achieve at least 92% in a school year and we rely on you to support us by ensuring your child attends every day possible.

Vertical tutor groups are in place and I have been delighted with the support older students are offering to the younger ones. We had a very successful Learning for Success day which focused on health.

We welcome back after half term Mrs L Bowater who will work with individual students in the Success Centre.

After half term we have our Spectrum event on Friday, 5th November. Entry is by ticket only as there will be no sales on the door. We have two competitions for students which link our Specialism's Arts and Literacy. There are details within the newsletter. Our year 11 BTEC Performing Arts students are hosting a Talent Show as part of a unit of work. The performances will be held on 15th December.

Janice Farrell
Principal

Review of Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy

8th October 2010.

Dear Student,

Review of Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy, 4th and 5th October 2020.

You will recall that we recently visited your academy to review the progress that had been made since you opened last year. I would like to thank you for making us welcome and particularly thank those of you who found time to give us your views. I am writing to let you know what we found.

It is clear that your academy has made strong progress since opening and we found that the overall level of education you receive is improving steadily. You are all very positive about the way things are going, and, as a result, you are achieving well. Behaviour is good, although we noticed that a few of you are “trying it on” between lessons, taking time to move from the playground to class. Attendance levels are now much closer to what is expected of you. The curriculum being developed for the younger classes is imaginative, and those of you we spoke to appreciated the efforts your teachers are making.

We found that there are some areas of your academy which require further attention. These are to continue to improve the proportion of students who achieve five A* - C GCSE grades which include English and Mathematics as this will help to better prepare all of you for your futures. There are some other subjects that need improving, and we have discussed these with your teachers. We would also like to see the teachers using the assessments they make of your work to set work that is appropriate for you, to help you to progress to the best of your ability. Your Sixth Form is still very small and we think that it needs developing further to give you all opportunities for further study in the future.

We recognise that you have a key contribution to make to the future of the Academy by behaving and attending well, you have done very well so far.

With best wishes for the future,

Bill Goodall

Ormiston Inspector



Standards reminder

I would like to take this opportunity to ask parents/carers to support our expectations around uniform and standards.

- Students must come to the Academy **in full uniform** every day.
- Students must bring a bag, planner and equipment every day.
- Blazers must be worn at all times and **outdoor coats are not permitted inside the building.**
- Ties and Cravats must be worn correctly.
- **Mobile phones must be turned off and in bags.** Students are not permitted to use their mobile phones inside the school building.
- MP3 players, speakers or computer games are not permitted.
- Only one pair of small gold or silver, sleeper/stud earrings is allowed.
- Fashion accessories such as belts, flower hair clips/bands, scarves, caps and sun glasses are not permitted.
- Only **black school shoes** should be worn.
- From September 2010 **headphones** will not be permitted.

Thank you for your co-operation on this important issue.

Janice Farrell
Principal



**ORMISTON SANDWELL
COMMUNITY ACADEMY**

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2010

Friday 3rd September to 17th December

Half Term - Monday 25th to Friday 29th October

Christmas Holiday- Monday 20th December to Monday 3rd January

Spring Term 2011

Wednesday 5th January to 8th April

Half Term - Monday 21st to Friday 25th February

Easter Holiday - Friday 9th to Monday 25th April

Summer Term 2011

Tuesday 26th April to Thursday 21st July

Monday 2nd May- May Day Bank Holiday

Half Term - Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June

Summer Term concludes - Thursday 21st July 2011



**ORMISTON SANDWELL
COMMUNITY ACADEMY**

Events & Meetings

SPECTRUM Friday 5th November

Parents' Forum Tuesday 12th October – 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Year 8/12/13 Parents' Evening Tuesday 9th November

Certificate presentation (Year 11 2009-10) Wednesday 17th November

🕒 **Parents' Forum Tuesday 7th December – 6.30pm to 7.30pm**

HPV 2 vaccinations girls Year 8 Thursday 9th December

DTP/MMR catch up boys and girls Year 10 Thursday 9th December

Talent Show Wednesday 15th December - 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Training Day Tuesday 4th January

🕒 Parents' Forum Tuesday 8th February – 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Training Day Friday 18th February

Year 10 Parents' Evening Tuesday 29th February

Year 9 Options Taster Day Tuesday 14th March

Year 9 Options & Parents' Evening Tuesday 14th March

Options form deadline Friday 18th March

🕒 Parents' Forum Tuesday 22nd March – 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Primary Gym & Dance Festival Wednesday 30th March

Primary Gym & Dance Festival Thursday 31st March

Secondary Gym & Dance Festival Wednesday 6th April

Secondary Gym & Dance Festival Thursday 7th April

Achievement Assemblies Monday 4th April

May Day Monday 2nd May

HPV 3 vaccinations Year 8 girls Wednesday 4th May

Junior Maths Challenge Friday 6th May

Year 7 Parents' Evening Tuesday 10th May

Work Experience visit Friday 13th May

Leaver's assembly Friday 13th May

🕒 Parents' Forum Tuesday 17th May – 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Work Experience pre-visit pm Wednesday 22nd June

Prom Friday 1st July

Year 10 Work Experience placement Monday 4th July

🕒 Parents' Forum Tuesday 12th July – 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Sports Day Friday 15th July

SPORTS NEWS

Girls after school sports club

MONDAY Gymnastics & Key stage 3 fitness

TUESDAY Girls basketball & girls football

WEDNESDAY Dance & Key stage 4/5 fitness

THURSDAY Trampolining

Please note that all the clubs run until 4.00pm apart from trampolining which may run a little over as the equipment needs to be organised at the beginning and at the end of the session.

Football Results

Year 7

OSCA	vs	Perryfields	Lost	0 - 14
OSCA	vs	Holly Lodge	Lost	2 - 3
OSCA	vs	Heathfields	Lost	1 - 5
OSCA	vs	Bristnall Hall	Lost	3 - 5

Year 8

OSCA	vs	Perryfields	Win	3 - 1
OSCA	vs	St Michael's	Lost	1 - 4 Cup match
OSCA	vs	Heathfields	Lost	1 - 9

Year 10

OSCA	vs	Perryfields	Win	5 - 4
OSCA	vs	Holly Lodge	Lost	2 - 6

Year 11

OSCA	vs	Perryfields	Lost	4 - 6
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Congratulations to all the pupils that took part in these matches for their good team spirit and behaviour. You were all a credit to the Academy.

Well done!

Geographers hunt for data!

On Friday the 24th September 2010, 28 Year 11 students from Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy set out on a coursework field trip to the buzzing metropolis of Walsall. The aim of the trip was to collect data to help prove their hypothesis on land use. They were trying to find out how the types of housing and the environment changes the further you go away from the Central business district (CBD).

The coach set off for Walsall and after about 5 minutes Chloe (one of the students) called out and Mr Hodgkinson was just about to tell Chloe 'No we are not there yet' when she asked if they could go to McDonalds first. Mr Hodgkinson responded in his usual way by saying no!!! On arrival they were all greeted by the driving rain (typical British weather) but this did not stop the geographers.

The rain soon died down and the students started collecting their data by following a route from the CBD to the outskirts. It was a struggle getting 28 hungry teenagers past McDonalds on the high street but Mr Hodgkinson succeeded by blocking the entrance. It took the group about an hour and a half to collect all the data that they needed and then they had a pleasant walk back through the park and headed back into the High street for some lunch. McDonalds was the number one choice and the whole group gathered upstairs to hide from the cold.

Mr Hodgkinson would like to thank all the students who took part for persevering in difficult weather conditions and also for Mrs Fowkes who stepped in at the last minute.



YEAR 11 FINAL REMINDER

GCSE Maths Exam Dates:

Tuesday 9th November
Friday 12th November

Make sure you do lots of revision during half term
GOOD LUCK!

Study Support Sessions

3.15pm – 4.15pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays
check with your Maths teacher for more details.

Useful Revision Aids

www.samlearning.com

www.mymaths.co.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/revision

Mathswatch CD

Login: Tividale

Password: Times

Half Term Revision Class

Tuesday October 26th between 9am – 1pm in rooms 4, 5, 28
Get a letter from Mr Qamar if you would like to attend.

Year 7 & Year 8 Maths Enrichment classes

Year 7 Tuesdays 3.15pm – 4.15pm in room 5

Year 8 Wednesdays 3.15pm – 4.15pm in room 5

Get a letter from Mr Nundu in room 5 if you would like to attend.



United Kingdom Maths Challenge

The dates for United Kingdom Maths Challenge are as follows:-

Intermediate Challenge - Thursday 03 February 2011

Junior Challenge - Friday 06 May 2011

Learning Resources Centre Student Information

Opening Hours

Monday and Wednesday

8.35 am – 3.20 pm

Tuesday and Thursday

8.15 am – 3.20 pm

Friday

8.35 – 3.00 pm

Student Librarians

There are a limited number of Student Librarian posts available each year. These positions suit responsible and reliable students with a passion for books. Vacancies when available will be advertised in the library.

Search Star

You can view library resources via the school network. To begin, log in with your username and password, and then launch Internet Explorer. The online catalogue can be accessed by clicking on the **Favourites** tab and by selecting **Search Star** from the drop-down menu. This is an area where you can search for books and explore the resources.



Student Council

On Tuesday 12th October Student Council members conducted a car wash to raise money for Breast Cancer Research. They spent part of the previous week convincing staff that they would do a sterling job on their precious vehicles and managed to get 27 cars to wash for the day. Beginning at 9.00am, students raced through the first set of cars finishing at 2.30pm, in the process students and staff got stuck into some very dirty cars but more importantly raised over £100 for this very worthwhile cause. Our thanks go out to all the staff who put faith in our pupils to wash their cars and to a very exhausted Student Council for working tirelessly to raise money for Breast Cancer Research.

Well Done!



Student Council members cleaning cars to help raise money for Breast Cancer Research.



Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat

Review by Amber Owen
Year 7 student at Ormiston Sandwell Community.

Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat is about a boy who was treated differently, all because he received an amazing coloured coat.

When I went to the Hippodrome, I expected to see the story of it all. Instead, I saw and heard loads of singing. That kind of told the story in a way.

It all started off when Joseph was given an amazing coat of colours. His brothers got extremely jealous and sold him which lead to him been taken to Egypt to work as a slave. From there he went to jail. In jail he met a baker and a butler. Eventually he met the pharaoh and became famous.

The characters did a brilliant job, every single one them was absolutely fabulous.

Another brilliant thing that I noticed was their costumes. I especially noticed how the ladies were dressed to impress, some of them were wearing Charleston dresses.

I would advise you to watch it as I rate it 4/5 stars.

Student theatre review

Reporters

Caitlin Banner 10PMC, Jessica Dicken 10DCC
and Chloe Ward 10DJC

On Tuesday 4th October Year 10 and 11 BTEC drama students from Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy went to the Repertory theatre in Birmingham to see the production of 'Punk Rock' As a group we did not know what to expect but after watching this dramatic performance it became rather interesting.

Overall the group felt the play was different from its name. The final scene was definitely unexpected but was worth the heart racing shock it bought.

We all really enjoyed the trip and would repeat the experience given the opportunity.

ENGLISH

GCSE REVISION CLASSES

OCTOBER HALF-TERM

WHO: TWO CLASSES FOR YEAR 11
Either:
A/A* STUDENTS
Or:
D/C STUDENTS

WHEN: 25th October 2010

WHERE: OSCA

TIME: 9.45AM – 12PM

Letters and forms are available from your English teacher.
**Remember to bring your medical form and permission slip
with you if you wish to attend.**

New Sixth Form for 2011!



We are planning a brand new Sixth Form and we want you to be a part of it!

Next year we are completely re-launching our Sixth Form at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy.

We will be offering brand new course options to suit all of our learners needs, including A levels, BTECs, OCR National and other Level 2 options.

The Sixth Form area will be completely refurbished to give a much more inviting environment and there will be dedicated Sixth Form classrooms, ICT suites and study areas.

If you are in Year 11 and want to continue to study at the Academy, with teachers you know and trust, then this could be what you have been waiting for!

Look out for our full Sixth Form prospectus which will be made available to students shortly, both printed and online.

We are confident that our Sixth Form will have a course that is right for you.

If you have any queries about Post 16 opportunities at the Academy, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

David McQuillan

14-19 Co-ordinator



Exam Time table for November

Please note that the approximate finish time for all the students who sit 2 modules on Thursday 11th November is 3.15pm.
Thank you.

Date	Start Time	Length	Board	Cp Code	Component Title	Level	Year
Mon 08 Nov	9.00am	1hr 45mins	AQA	3702/1F	English A Paper 1 Tier F	GCSE/FC	Yr11
Mon 08 Nov	9.00am	1hr 45mins	AQA	3702/1H	English A Paper 1 Tier H	GCSE/FC	
Tue 09 Nov	9.00am	1hr 30mins	EDEXL	1380 1F	Maths Found [Non Calc]	GCSE/FC	Yr 11
Tue 09 Nov	9.00am	1hr 45mins	EDEXL	1380 3H	Maths Higher [Non Calc]	GCSE/FC	
Wed 10 Nov	9.00am	1hr 30mins	AQA	3702/2F	English A Paper 2 Tier F	GCSE/FC	Yr 11
Wed 10 Nov	9.00am	1hr 30mins	AQA	3702/2H	English A Paper 2 Tier H	GCSE/FC	
Thu 11 Nov	2.00pm	30 mins	AQA	BLY1AP	Biology Unit 1A	GCSE/B	YR 10 & 11
Thu 11 Nov	2.00pm	30 mins	AQA	BLY1BP	Biology Unit 1B	GCSE/B	
Thu 11 Nov	2.00pm	30 mins	AQA	CHY1AP	Chemistry Unit 1A	GCSE/B	
Thu 11 Nov	2.00pm	30 mins	AQA	CHY1BP	Chemistry Unit 1B	GCSE/B	
Thu 11 Nov	2.00pm	30 mins	AQA	PHY1AP	Physics Unit 1A	GCSE/B	
Thu 11 Nov	2.00pm	30 mins	AQA	PHY1BP	Physics Unit 1B	GCSE/B	
Fri 12 Nov	9.00am	1hr 30mins	EDEXL	1380 2F	Maths Found [Calc]	GCSE/FC	Yr 11
Fri 12 Nov	9.00am	1hr 45mins	EDEXL	1380 4H	Maths Higher [Calc]	GCSE/FC	

Retail Business Diploma

A group of 17 Year 10 students at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy have started the new **Retail Business Diploma** which is worth 7 GCSE's. Students will work with employers to get an insight into this diverse and dynamic qualification. As part of this course the students have been given an opportunity to learn in an exciting new way.

The students started the course with Unit 3 Sourcing and Buying and were given the chance to meet Mark Sadler the buyer from Chapmans Electrical in Cradley Heath. Chapmans Electrical is a family run business and has supported the Academy with this new qualification.

The students were able to ask the buyer a number of questions which they devised as a group on the role of a buyer and a merchandiser, which was part of this unit and helped the students with the task 1 assessment.

The Academy would like to thank Mark Sadler and Chapmans Electrical for their support with this course.



Mrs Ali (Teacher) and Mark Sadler from Chapmans Electrical with the students who are studying for the Retail Business Diploma.

Christmas or Happy Holidays card competition.

Your next house competition is to create a Christmas or Happy Holidays card. There will be one final entry form from each form, voted for by you.

The final entries for each form will be submitted to Heads of House, who will choose the best three.

Therefore, there will be twelve final entries in total.

These twelve entries will be put into order of 1st place to 12th place by an objective member of staff.

The winning entry will earn 12 house points. The 2nd place entry will earn 11 house points, etc.

You are judged on 2 elements – the design of the front of your card, and the poem or message inside.

This is because we are an Arts and Literacy Academy.

The winning design and poem will be printed professionally as cards, and will be on sale in the Academy.

- This is why we need to begin the competition early, so that there is adequate time for printing.
- You need to have an original design on the front of your card, a poem or message that you have written yourself on the inside, and nothing on the back except for your name, form, year group and house.

Good luck!



Learning Resources Centre Student Information

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Friday

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**ORMISTON SANDWELL
COMMUNITY ACADEMY**



SPECTRUM

Friday 5th November 2010

7.00pm – 9.00pm

An evening of fireworks, music, dance and crafts celebrating Bonfire Night, Eid & Diwali. Featuring the internationally renowned Dhol Blasters and performers from Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy.

Tickets £2.50

Only available in advance
from the Academy Reception.