

THE ORIEL view



The latest news,
views and events
from your school

WINTER
2015



MAIN FEATURE

THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT [6-9]

We look at what exciting lessons, trips and competitions have been happening this term.

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SIMON WESTON OBE VISITS ORIEL HIGH SCHOOL [2]

On Monday 14th September Oriel welcomed Falklands War veteran Simon Weston OBE to present to our senior students.

YEAR 7 PGL TRIP [4-5]

Take a look at the action packed YR7 PGL trip to Windmill Hill.

WELCOME



Welcome to our latest edition of the 'Oriel View'. It offers a brief overview of our work as a school giving you a sample of some of our recent achievements as well as an advance notice of upcoming events.

I am very proud of our students and our staff, for their hard work and dedication, but also for their sense of fun. Secondary school education goes by so quickly and so it is important to maintain perspective and, in spite of external pressures of targets and league tables, ensure that our students feel valued as unique individuals and experience success not only with their examinations (which is of course vital) but also in the wider sense through the life enhancing experiences available at our school.

We are absolutely determined to ensure that our provision is as enriching as possible and hope that this newsletter gives you a brief and hopefully entertaining insight into that commitment.

I hope that you will enjoy this edition of 'Oriel View' and thank you for taking the time to read it.

Philip Stack
Headteacher



FAST FORWARD

KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY

JANUARY 2016

4th Jan - First day of term

6th Jan - Results Day: Pre Public Examinations YR11

6th Jan - YR12 Parents Evening

28th Jan - YR11 Music Performance Evening, 6.45pm-9pm, School Hall

FEBRUARY 2016

10th Feb - SLB Vaccinations YR10 Boys & Girls

11th Feb - YR12 & YR13 Futures Family Meeting, 7-8pm

15th-19th Feb - Half Term

25th Feb - YR11 Parents Evening, 4-7pm

29th Feb - YR9 Parents Information Evening, Options Process, 6-7pm, Main Hall

MARCH 2016

10th Mar - YR9 Options Evening, 6-8pm, Main Hall

17th Mar - YR10 Parents Evening, 4-7pm

25th Mar - 8th April - Easter Holidays

APRIL 2016

11th Apr - Inset Day- School Closed

12th Apr - First day of term

28th Apr - YR7 Parents Evening, 4-7pm

Simon Weston OBE tells Oriel High students 'to invest in themselves'!



On Monday 14th September Oriel High School welcomed Falklands War veteran Simon Weston OBE to present to our senior students.

Simon held two assemblies where he talked about his life and his experiences. He highlighted to the students in Years 11, 12 & 13 that if you have confidence in yourself you can reach any goal you set. Simon showed video footage to the students that documented his journey to this point.

Simon pointed out that education is free and young people should take advantage of it. He urged the students in the audience to "invest in themselves" and "put in the graft now" and reap the rewards in later life. He also reinforced the message that "you should



never let anyone put you down or tell you that you cannot achieve your goals in life". The students listened carefully to Simon's messages.

Mr Stack told students how he welcomed Simon's visit and hoped they would take on board his positive message and remember some of the funny stories that he shared. He continued "Simon was thrown into the public eye for reasons he did not wish for. He has however since that day in 1982 become an inspirational figure to thousands of people not only in the UK but abroad. He is a fantastic role model for people of all ages and we are so happy that he was able to talk to our students. I am sure they will remember his speech for years to come".

Oriel High School aims to continue its growing tradition of inviting in inspirational figures to talk to senior students in school.

Shoe Box Appeal 2015

As part of our school's long tradition in charity work, this year we decided to take part in the Samaritans shoebox appeal. Inside each box are simple gifts such as stationery, toys and small items of clothing. Each mentor group was asked to fill two or more shoeboxes to be sent to different parts of the world in time for Christmas. Thank you to all of those people who helped, organised and contributed: We managed to fill nearly 90 boxes! Thank

you also to Miss Hunt and Mr Povey who made all of the boxes ready for collection. We have all seen through the presentation given in assembly just how much children in disadvantaged countries appreciate what we see as these small tokens – especially at Christmas. Every person who made a contribution, however small, can be proud of the fact that they have made someone less fortunate than they are happier this Christmas.



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Oriel High School Art Exhibition 2015

Hawth Theatre Crawley

Monday 12th October – Thursday 22nd October

Oriel High School was extremely proud to present a selection of our students current Art and Design A Level, GCSE and Year 9 work. We have been exhibiting students work at the Hawth Theatre for several years now and believe it is a brilliant way to showcase our students work within the local community.

The exhibition included a selection of GCSE work completed across the disciplines inspired by natural forms, including beautiful pencil and printed studies. Also on display a selection of three dimensional art boards inspired by African art.

We also chose to showcase some of our very talented year 9 students illustrations



of shoes which they have produced whilst studying their Identity project.

We feel very passionately that our students should acquire a good well-rounded cultural education at Oriel High School and be given many opportunities to explore their creativity. The number of careers and creative jobs connected to Art and Design are often underestimated. We hope to educate our students on the possibilities of following careers in creative fields and to continue to study subjects that they love.

The Art & Design year book for the school year 2014-15 can now be purchased from:

www.blurb.co.uk/b/6461382-oriel-high-school showcasing some of our students fantastic A level and GCSE work.

Year 9 Art trip to the Victoria and Albert Museum

This October a group of year 9 students were lucky enough to visit the wonderful 'Pleasure and Pain' Shoe exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. We had the opportunity to see footwear from different cultures, eras and styles including Vivienne Westwood's iconic platform shoes and to learn about new footwear technologies and the processes of shoe construction. This will help the year 9 students greatly when they come to design their own shoe sculptures in class.

We were also lucky enough to see Barnaby Barford's amazing six metre high sculpture, inspired by shops in London and made up of 3000 miniature bone china shop fronts. And to top the day off top fashion designer Ashish was showing his work at the V&A as part of their Fashion in Motion series of events and we managed to get a sneaky peak at the catwalk show!

REWIND

Little Shop of Horrors!

Oriel Arts Faculty recently took centre stage at the school with the presentation of the well-known Broadway musical Little Shop of Horrors, starring Harry Langley-Roberts as Seymour, Olivia Cooper as Audrey, Luke Corless as Mushnik and Caitlin Parry as the Dentist, Orange Scrivello. They were well supported by over 50 cast and crew and a number of staff, including Mr Myson, Miss Holt and Mr Marriott and led by the talented Mr Withell and his exceptional band. The show was co-ordinated and produced by Mr Thurley, Miss Phillips and Miss Richardson.

The show was well attended, and there was a really positive energy throughout the cast. It was obvious how much they enjoyed the show - it was lovely to see so many students gelling together and sharing the experience. Students from Year 9 through to Year 12 shared the lead roles, and members of staff from Music, Maths, English, Languages, Drama, Art, Technology, PE and other areas all came together on stage and off to help the students realise their potential. It was an unforgettable experience for all involved!

Congratulations to the cast, crew and staff for another successful whole school production.



PGL Trip - Windmill Hill 2015

222 out of 240 students came on our residential trip to the PGL centre at Windmill Hill. Our students and staff were incredible. It was great fun watching them work as a team in a variety of outdoor activities. They experienced zip wires, raft building, leaping off platforms and the screams from the giant swing were quite something. In the evening there were great performances in Wacky Races and some great moves shown at the disco on Thursday. What an amazing year group they have turned out to be.

Thank you to all parent/carers for sending them on the trip and to the staff who ensured they had an incredible time.





Alternative PGL trip 2015

For the 18 students who didn't go on PGL, they certainly did not miss out on the team building and fun experience.

They had two action packed days in the forest, building dens, cooking on the fire and team games. One day was spent at Holmbush events participating in archery and team challenge. This entailed 4 teams competing in an obstacle course with scramble nets, balance beams, up and over all ran as a relay race. The final challenge was to balance a pint of water on your head (attached to a helmet) and attempt a rope course all whilst being suspended off the ground. One student successfully managed the course without spilling a drop!

A thoroughly good time was had by all.



Welcome to English and Media

It's an exciting time to be teaching English. Alongside Maths, we are the first GCSE subject to go through the new reforms which means current Year 10 students will be awarded a 9-1 grade instead of an A*-G. As a team, we are working very closely with the exam board to ensure that we are able to support all students, regardless of their starting point, to reach their full potential.

English is a vibrant and dynamic subject that allows students to explore the way that language works, changes and manipulates its readers. With students now having unprecedented access to written material, it has become increasingly important to teach students how to read texts carefully, considering the impact of writers' choices of language and structure.

From Year 7 to Year 13, we give students the opportunity to study both English Literature and English Language covering topics such as Language and Power, Shakespeare and World Literature. A secure foundation in English is essential for any career path as it allows students to develop and hone their verbal and written communication skills alongside their analytical and creative abilities.

As well as studying traditional elements of English, Year 9 students also study a Business English unit where they study forms of writing that will be useful to them in their future careers such as professional emails, mission statements, covering letters and CVs. In an increasingly competitive job market, we feel it is vital that students are equipped with these skills from an early age so that they can use them confidently in the future.

Overall, we aim to provide students with challenging and enjoyable lessons that will not only spur their imagination but equip them with the tools required for their lives ahead.

Meet the Team!

Rebecca White
– Head of English, Faculty Head

Rebecca Betteridge
– English Teacher

Christian Cottingham
– Head of Media

Clair Denman
– Head of Sixth Form

Gemma Gray
– English and Media Teacher

Zoe James – Director of Learning

Angela Leishman
– English and Humanities Teacher

Carol Maher – English Teacher

Hannah Martin – English Teacher

Marion Matchett – English Teacher

Pete Myson – English Teacher

Janette Pentney
– Assistant Head of English

Katrina Rumsby – English Teacher

Brenda Rusling
– English Teacher and SEN Specialist

Melissa Santos – English Teacher

Michael Sykes
– Deputy Head of English

Andrew Wesby – KS3 Teacher

In School...



Connecting Classrooms: Incredible India – Brilliant Britain

Oriel High School has been part of the Connecting Classrooms project and shares a link with Loyola School, Jamshedpur, India.

In Year 8, students undertake a unit entitled Brilliant Britain and research a specific county or area of Great Britain. Students then present their research in whatever form they choose. Last year, students made traditional regional dishes, models and displays about their chosen area. Almost 5,000 miles away, students of Loyola School create their own displays about India. These presentations are then shared via photographs and emails.

This unit encourages students to find out interesting facts about the country they live in as well as developing their own personal research skills.

Accelerated Reader

Each Year 7 student is enrolled onto the Accelerated Reading (AR) programme; a computer based system of quizzes that allows students to monitor their own reading progress independently. By taking a series of quizzes, students are given a reading range that identifies the level of book that will be both accessible and challenging for them. After each book is read, students log on to their own AR account and answer questions about their book that check the level of understanding. If students pass these quizzes, the word count of the book will be added to their total 'words read' score. At intervals throughout the year, prizes will be awarded to students who make the most progress in reading and to those who have read the most words.

Bedrock Learning

All reformed GCSEs, not just English, will have an increased complexity of language. In order to support students with this increase, we have enrolled every student from Year 7 to Year 11 onto the Bedrock Learning programme. This programme teaches students the key Tier 3 vocabulary (academic and sophisticated vocabulary) they need in order to be successful in their GCSE subjects and beyond. There is also a great deal of research into the fact that it is a restricted level of literacy, more than almost any other factor, that hinders students' progress at every level of their education.

A vast range of research has shown that in order to fully comprehend the meaning of a text, you need to understand 95% of the words used. With this in mind, it is easy to see the need for students to have a strong vocabulary to support their learning. Bedrock Learning uses a method of teaching that enables students to embed their understanding and encourage their use of increasingly complex language.

All students should be aiming to complete at least two lessons per week through their homework tasks and can log in through the website: www.bedrocklearning.org

School Clubs...

Book Bites

On Friday lunchtimes, students are invited to ENI for Book Bites, a session where students can come and eat their lunch while listening to staff and fellow students read excerpts from their favourite books.

Staff from across the school come to share their love of reading with students and talk about the things that make a great story.

Some students also use Book Bites as an opportunity to share their own creative writing and discuss the stories that they are working on themselves.

Spelling Bee

With increased weight being given to the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar, Mrs Matchett has started a Spelling Bee club that meets after school on Tuesday, Week B.

The Spelling Bee helps students develop their spelling skills through a series of games and competitions designed to make spelling fun.

Any students who are interested in getting involved in the Spelling Bee should go along to EN5 at 2:40pm on Tuesday, Week B.

Enrichment Activities...

Theatre Trips

One of the most enjoyable and enriching elements of the English curriculum is the opportunity to watch great works of literature being performed on stage. Over the last year, students have been given the opportunity to visit the theatre and watch performances of Macbeth, The Woman in Black and Othello at a range of different venues including The Globe Theatre.

Plans for this year include productions of Romeo and Juliet and attending the National Theatre Live's presentation of 'Of Mice and Men.'

Visiting Writers

Last year, Year 9 students worked with performance poet Ash Dickinson and Year 7 students attended a session with acclaimed writer Joseph Delaney (author of The Spook's Apprentice series – highly recommended if you haven't read them already.)

In June, 2016, we will also have a visit from writer Chris Bradford as a way of encouraging students to read for pleasure. Bradford is a somewhat unique author; he employs a technique he calls 'method writing,' which means he actively involves himself in the processes and lives that he writes about. For his Young Samurai series (which are absolutely BRILLIANT!) he trained in iaido, karate, ninjutsu and earned a black belt in Zen Kyu Shin Taijutsu. For his new Bodyguard series, he worked closely with professional bodyguards learning anti-ambush techniques, survival skills and defensive driving tactics.

6th Form Trip: English Literature Conference 2015

On a brisk autumnal morning a group of sixth form students, accompanied by Mr Myson and Miss Santos, set out on a trip to University College London to participate in the English and Media Centre's English Literature Conference 2015. The conference showcased truly some of the finest minds in the world of English Literature with lectures from Oxford University's Emma Smith, former Man Booker Prize judge Sarah Churchwell, renowned (and very funny) linguist David Crystal as well as a range of high energy poetry performances.

Talks ranged from a consideration of Shakespeare's political leanings (the conclusion: he didn't really have any – well none that are clearly dominant in his works) to an exploration of the many hidden and implied meanings in 'The Great Gatsby'. David Crystal, helped out by his son's drama group, explored how Shakespeare really isn't that difficult (did you know that only 5% of the words that Shakespeare used are different from our current language?). If you want to find out more you can check out David and Ben Crystal on YouTube – search for 'Original Pronunciation Shakespeare'.

After a brief disruption due to a badly timed fire drill at the university, students were treated to some electrifying performances from poets Patience Agbabi, Luke Wright and Jacob Sam-La Rose.

All of the speakers, writers and poets hung around for a chat afterwards and we even got a few books signed too!



Sixth Form students with legendary linguist, David Crystal.

Competitions...

National Poetry Day

We had over 50 entries for the competition on National Poetry Day this year. Students were asked to write a poem on the theme of 'Light'. Thanks to everyone who contributed a poem – we really enjoyed reading the splendid variety of poems which show the array of talented writers in Years 7, 8 and 9.

Year 7

1st Place Alfie Penfold
2nd Place Rebecca Cole
3rd Place Ellie White & Lilly Titterell

THE WINNER

Sight

By **Alfie Penfold**

For 20 years it was crystal clear
But then it began to get fuzzy
Each day it got worse and worse
Until one Sunday afternoon my birthday came
But as the cards were being brought out
The light became locked out
For almost 20 years my eyes have been
blanked out
For almost 20 years
I have had no sight
I have envied all others around me for 20
years or so
I was at the train station when it happened
It was an awful thing to see
I fell on to the tracks as the train came in
I was a headless corpse on the ground
Every day I look on in vain at what I could
have done
If only I hadn't have fallen
If only I hadn't been blind
Sight is a precious thing
Use it while you can
I was a fool to stray from the bench
I wish I had just stayed put
I have always remembered the light of the sun
Like a baby remembers its mother
Every day I have looked down from above
Looking down upon where I died
I wish I hadn't fallen
I wish I hadn't died.

Special Commendations:

Oliver Stroud
Tarris De Meyer
Poppy Robbins
Olivia Eaton
Maisie Jenner
Ellie O'Connor and Rachel Cole

Year 8

Shine

Light is hope
It is the key to darkness
It will choose you.

It will make you feel welcome,
Warm and bright,
It can kill, burn, scar,
It can heal, and protect.

Light will shine.
When it does, let it be.
For light will shine,
Let it be.

Year 9

Winner: **Chloe Maynard**

Light

Light wards away darkness,
The pure light banishes the sinful
darkness.
The light of the sun will always break
The blanket of thundering clouds.
Light prevails,
Good conquers evil.
No darkness will overcome the
purity of light.

POETRY BY HEART

Mr Myson is running the national 'Poetry by Heart' competition this year. Want to take part? All you have to do is learn two poems off by heart. Visit www.poetrybyheart.org.uk to find the anthology of poems you can choose from. You must select one poem from before 1914 and one poem from after this date. Alternatively, your second poem choice can be from the World War anthology also on the website. This competition is open to all students and will take place in EN8 on Wednesday 9th December from 2.40 to 3.40. This gives you plenty of time to get learning! Refreshments will be provided and there will be special poetry performances from members of staff too! Speak to Mr Myson if you are interested or want any tips on learning poems by heart.

Short story competition

A huge congratulations to Annabell Agate in Year 11 who entered the short story competition 'Grim Tales'. Annabell recently found out that her story has not only been published, but it has also been named the best story for the whole of Surrey and Sussex! Annabell's Grim Tale can be read below:

The Flaxen Rope

His breath edged out from his lips and pressed against the brick. He surveyed the vista of trees that overlooked the village, but returned his eyes to the daunting tower above him. Her hair swung down from the stronghold's edge, and caressed each slab as it returned to the ground, he clasped against its strands. The journey was perturbed with anticipation as he scrutinised each crevice of stone. He lunged for the edge and hauled upwards. His fingers brushed against the marble crescent of the window frame, itching for support. He entered cautiously and turned. She hung; gaunt, pale, deceased.

by **Annabell Agate (14)**
Oriel High School, Crawley

Congratulations to Katie Sexton, Yasmin Noor and Katie Webb, who also saw their work published in the collection of Grim Tales.

Further Competitions

Over the course of the year, we will be holding a number of other competitions for our students. Information about upcoming competitions will be displayed along the English Corridor and on the plasma screens.

Creative Writing

As part of their Year 11 coursework portfolios, students had to produce short pieces of fiction. The standard of some of these pieces was so impressive, we felt that it would be selfish to keep them to ourselves. Extracts from some of these pieces are below – Enjoy!



Endure and Survive

by Olivia Cooper

The sun had never seemed so intense on the run-down city of Boston. Its knife-sharp rays cut through the city's skyline, reflecting off the towering skyscrapers, captivating the area's hypnotising beauty.

The need to escape the city was evident all over, from the abandoned pickups, with their gas tanks emptied, to the ransacked stores littered amongst the sidewalk, entrails of useless supplies spewing out from the doorways that swung on their last remaining hinges. Remnants of the city's makeshift hospital tents and quarantine zones remained from when Boston was still a safe zone, but that was long ago.

The city was empty, isolated and silent. The roads were cracked like parched lips, running far out into the distance, never ending. The wind whistled a beautiful song, soaring through the air like an eagle, weaving in and out of the mountainous towers and through the broken window panes that still held on to shards of ice-like glass.

To the naked eye, most would believe that the city had fallen to its inevitable peril, beyond any repair, but to 15 year old Ellie, nothing had ever looked quite so breath-taking.

Another Way?

by Esther Dorhetso

Once upon a time, in a faraway kingdom there was a girl who lived in a blah blah blah...

Again and again I have heard these stories, known as fairy tales in your world, and they all seem to share the same character traits: the maiden in distress, the brave and noble gentleman who always saves her and lastly the evil force described as unstoppable (but is inevitably defeated) who will stop at nothing to steal away your happiness.

Well this is not the case in my world. In my world, as a maiden, if you want to do something, you have to go out and do it yourself. There is no waiting around for a man to come and rescue you from a dragon's clutches, there is no waiting in an abandoned, isolated castle for a tall prince to climb up your long, golden, blonde hair and save you from the witch. In my world, if you have a problem with a dragon, you have to find the sword of destiny (I know - such a cringe name!) by yourself; you have to seek out the dragon from the depth of its hiding place by yourself and you have to pierce its sharp tip into the darkened heart, guess what, by yourself! However it wasn't always like this.

On this exact day, eighteen years ago, a mysterious purple fog arose from the east side of our kingdom. No-one knows where it came from or how it got here, but it seemed to destroy everything in its path. And without using any visible force or violence it stripped away all the men from our land.

E-Day

by Brook Steele

The streets were bare and lifeless but the screams were still ringing in my ears. Debris was scattered amongst the limbs of the soldiers and innocent civilians caught up in the fights. It drifted between the streets where the children used to play, once full of life, amongst the remnants of what used to be the fort we built as youngsters.

I've never forgotten the day it all went wrong; the arguments, the battle, and then nothing.

I knelt down and shifted bricks from houses, sections of furniture and arms and legs which must have been blown off in fights prior. Among the rubble lay a shattered picture frame, the image inside scorched black, the picture I could just make out: a family. The thought that these people may be gone forever clouded my mind and made me uncomfortable, so I carefully laid it back and moved along.

As I struggled my way through the derelict town the clouds above were tormenting me with every step. Just the thought of a drop of water filled me with the happiness I had forgotten. I couldn't help but recount all the days of joy, when we used to be able to go swimming at the local pool, fish in the stream by school or even just drink water freely. All our lives we used water how we pleased. But that's all in the past.

Everything changed though when there was a disagreement over the water. Water was always something we took for granted, until the day it all disappeared. No one could ever have seen it coming. I recall those pitiful days of scavenging after E-Day, the day the water 'Evaporated'. Or so they would have us believe.

VISIT TO FC PORTO

On Monday 28th October, we took two of our most talented female footballers to the FC Porto coaching academy roadshow. Set in the grounds of the stunning Lancing College, Erin Porter (year 9) and Ciara Hynes (year 8) took part in the day of Portuguese style coaching from the FC Porto professional coaches. The sun was out and the girls shone during the mornings training, and played as part of a winning mixed team during the afternoon tournament.

The girls came away with smiling faces and a "different way of playing" having improved their touch and control to keep the ball.

Well Done girls!



SIXTH FORM RAG WEEK 12TH – 16TH OCTOBER

Throughout the week Sixth Formers were busy raising money and awareness of Mental Health – distributing leaflets and posters, selling cakes and hot chocolates and decorating our hands with Henna... Thank you to everyone who supported such a great cause and to the students who worked so hard. We raised over £170 to help Mind and YMCA provide advice and support for anyone experiencing a mental health problem.

The highlight of the week had to be the Staff 'v' Sixth Form Netball Match. Kathryn Hebditch and Lauren Wakeham roped in staff from all over the school to play against the famous unbeaten Oriel netball team, although they neglected to tell anyone about the wet sponge forfeit for the losers! The staff team were clear underdogs having never played together, and even boasted a couple of members who had never played netball before. Mr Jayasuriya was even seen practicing out on the netball courts the day before – just hoping to understand some of the rules.

Without even agreeing on how long we were to play for, the whistle blew and both teams got off to a flying start. Ten minutes later, the whistle blew at the end of the first quarter with the scores level. The second quarter (which only lasted 5 minutes) went much the same, with the teachers even finishing 1 goal ahead after some great mid court passing and lots of goals going in.

The third and fourth quarters saw the famous sixth form team, so strong for 5 years, beginning to fall apart, with communication errors and squabbling between the attack and defence. The staff started to stretch their lead. Mr Crease was flying about intercepting passes in defence, while Miss Marshall and Miss Strmec helped get that ball up to the attack. Mr Doyle just couldn't keep his feet still (much to returning player Eloise Hillier's disgust) but Miss Lacey kept those shots going in!

The teachers ended up victorious, winning 14-11. But it was all in the name of charity and fun, and it was great to see the paying spectators launch wet sponges at some, rather too nippy, Sixth Form gallant losers.



SPORTS CAPTAINS

Congratulations to the following students, who have been chosen to be Sports Captains for 2015-2016.

Head Sports Captains are:

Estelle Ireland - Australasia
Ollie Storey - Africa

Africa

Hannah Chew Beth Clawson
Sam Gadsdon Harriet Paton

Americas

Ollie Broad Ellyn Reeve

Asia

Alice Hand Australasia
Abi Boxall Charlotte Doyle
James Pockett

#OrielPE



SPORTS UPDATE...

So far this season the year 11 Netball team have won 2 fixtures against local schools:

Oriel 13 – TBCC – 12 – this was a tightly contested match and Oriel held on to secure the win.

Oriel 9 – St Wilfred's 2 – this match was closer than the score line suggested with a great team effort and commitment securing the win over a strong St Wilfred's side

The Year 8 football team are into second round of county cup after a 6-1 win over Ratton School, Eastbourne

Congratulations to Alex Lake and Ryan Verner who were crowned the TFR badminton tournament winners last term.

Well done to the Year 8 football team who won 5-2 Vs Heathfield away in the County Cup.

Year 11 boy's football team win 3-1 against St Wilfrids.

U14 girls football team win again!
Oriel 6-4 Hazelwick.

How to prepare for an Art and Design UCAS application - two former Oriel Students give us some tips

Last Autumn Oriel High school sixth formers studying Art and Design subjects were lucky enough to meet with two of our successful former students Paige Goodes and Harriet Couch, who are both now studying at the London College of Fashion.

They came into school to talk to our students about their experiences of the university application process. They also had some great advice for our students about preparing for interviews and what universities are looking for in potential Art and Design degree students.



Paige Goodes

Since starting Oriel High school in Year 7 Paige has always wanted to work in the fashion industry and was determined that she wanted to study fashion at university. Paige took Textiles Art, English Literature & Language and Media Studies when she attended Oriel Sixth Form and had also had a GCSE in Photography.

Which University courses did you apply for?

I only applied to the London College of Fashion. I knew it was where I wanted to go, but I applied for three different courses at the same institution and was offered a place on the Foundation Degree in Fashion Design and Marketing - a two year course with the opportunity to study for an extra year to top up the degree to a BA in Fashion Design and Marketing.

Can you tell us about your London College of Fashion interview?

I had already sent off an online portfolio of my work. I tried to include a wide variety of work to show my different skills. Colleges want to see if you can draw and design as well as make.

The tutor liked the fact that I had only applied for one institution as I was determined that that is where I wanted to study.

Try to make sure that you are excited about the course that you have applied for, shake hands confidently with your interviewer and smile. Plan what you are going to wear carefully, especially if applying for a fashion course. You need to feel comfortable but also want to look smart and professional. Show that you are bubbly and interesting. I was told after the interview that the tutor was very impressed with how enthusiastic I was during my interviews.

Re-read your personal statement before you go in to the interview as you will be asked questions about it.

During the interview we were put together in a common room and encouraged to make friends with the other students. I think they wanted to see how we interacted with others. Over 1000 people applied for the 30 places on the course.

Have you got any advice for students applying for creative courses?

Be your own brand - this may sound strange but as soon as you start to apply for creative courses at oversubscribed institutions you will be scrutinised. Colleges and universities do look at applicants social networking profiles. Make sure you have a private Facebook account to use with your friends and delete old tweets. Create

a professional Facebook account that can be seen publicly. Save selfies and silly photos for your private account and make sure you present yourself professionally on your public pages. As a creative person your online presence is very important. Google your own name and see what comes up. Do not have arguments on Twitter as they may be public and could paint you in a bad light.

With your new professional Facebook profile follow everyone. Social media is your new best friend. I joined the London College of Fashion Facebook group and made lots of contacts straight away. Who you are following will tell the college a lot about you. Put photos of your work on Twitter, Pinterest and LinkedIn. It is also a good idea to have a professional email account. Hotmail accounts may not be considered professional enough.

Could you tell us a little bit about your course?

We have 7 hours seminars and lectures a week plus lots more contact hours in the first year. Initially we had introduction to Higher Education lectures and as well as our course studies everyone takes Cultural and Historical Studies lectures, which are 1 hour a week with a two hour seminars afterwards.

We have worked on a number of different projects including a white shirt project and a project in conjunction with John Lewis where we had to present to their head designers.

I didn't realise that we would be required to write essays but we have to read academic texts and I have had to learn Harvard referencing. We also have open access to the Mac suites at college so learning Photoshop and Illustrator would be a real advantage.

Travelling up to London is expensive so I chose to stay living at home with my parents. One thing I now really appreciate is how easy and short my journey to Oriel used to be!! Make sure that you have a desk and a dedicated space to study at home. Learn about sewing machines and different types of fabric as it will really help you. Practice drawing all the time and always carry a sketchbook with you and try not to go shopping too often - studying in London can make this very tempting!



Harriet Couch

Harriet left Oriel sixth form part way through year 12 to take a sought after place on the BTEC Art and Design Fashion course at the Fashion Retail Academy in London. The Fashion retail academy is sponsored by Sir Phillip Green from the Fashion Council.

Did you apply to only one institution like Paige?

No, I applied to five different universities. I wasn't sure exactly which course I wanted to take but the interview process helped me to make my mind up. I applied to Central St Martins in London who asked for an online portfolio and there was no initial interview. The feedback I received was that they did not like students using images of others work (magazine images etc.) in their own work.

I also had an interview at Epsom for their Fashion Design Degree course and the interview was very quick. They wanted to know about the exhibitions I had visited and who my favourite designers were?

When I visited the London College of Fashion I was also asked why I had chosen their university and why I wanted to study fashion. It is good to have prepared your answers as much as possible in advance. I took a small portfolio with me - they don't have time to look at loads of work from each applicant and I was very pleased I took my life drawings with me as I was told these were a good indication of my drawing ability. I decided that I was interested in their Knitwear course. They encouraged me to talk about my work.

I was offered a place on the course and they got us to work very quickly. I am studying fashion Textiles Knitwear and can then further specialise in print or embroidery. There are only fifteen people on my course and hundreds applied.

What advice would you give Oriel students thinking about applying for an Art and Design course at university?

Attend open days if you can as these give you a much better idea of what studying at the institution will be like than any prospectus can.

Start thinking about portfolio as soon as you apply for each course. Look for ideas online, know what you are going to talk about if asked questions about your work or work of your favourite designers.

Try to get lots of work experience related to your area of interest. This is not always easy but does show a dedication to the subject that you are hoping to study.

Top five tips for applying for a creative course at university

1. Be enthusiastic and positive when you write your personal statement and when you are being interviewed.
2. Try to get work experience connected to your future career. Visit galleries and exhibitions and keep up to date with artists and designers work that you love.
3. When preparing your portfolio choose your very best work and select work that shows off a variety of skills. Ask your teachers for advice with this.
4. Use social networking to follow universities, designers and artists - but make sure that you have a professional Facebook, Twitter and email account. Google your name to see what other people can find out about you. You want your online presence to be a positive one.
5. Stay positive, friendly and confident at interview. Read through your personal statement and practice interview questions with a friend or family member before you go.

If you have any questions about applying for an art and design course at college or university come and have a chat with Miss Nichols in AR3.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

In celebration of the Harvest Festival we have been collecting food to donate to the Crawley Open House. Elise Berry in Year 9 took charge of the project and led a number of assemblies to share her plans.

The Open House is a home in Crawley with 24 beds for homeless men and women. They have a drop in centre for anybody who needs help, someone to talk to or a warm drink and meal.

We have continued to collect tinned goods, pasta and toiletries and will be visiting the Open House before Christmas to drop off the food donated.

Thank you to all the students who have contributed to this great cause.

Elise said

"Doing the assemblies was a great way to share the news we were collecting for the Open House. I was nervous about doing them at first but became more confident over the week. I am looking forward to taking the donations to the Open House before Christmas, also planning our next charity activity"



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Thank you to all the staff and students who observed the Remembrance Day parade on Wednesday 11th November with such great respect. It was wonderful to see the Oriel student's Cadet Corps leading the service.

Many students and members of staff stopped work to join the service in the quadrangle.

Thank you to Miss Bruce and Miss Holt for providing the accompanying music and to Mr Wesby for organising the service.



ORIEL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SWIM TO SUCCESS...

Congratulations to Robbie Rix, Christopher Lovejoy and Alfie Penfold from the Dolphin and Starfish sections of the Mid Sussex Marlins who participated in their successful Disability Swimming Gala. As a team they won the overall winner's trophy for the first time. Well done to each of you for setting new individual personal best times.



Well Done to Shanelle Keogh in Year 10 who is now The British Open Champion 2015 of Irish Dance.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

September 2015

Africa: Alex Gadsden
Americas: Hannah Allen
Asia: Aaron Holt
Australasia: Mia Pedley

October 2015

Africa: Hannah Shaw
Americas: Frankie Phillips
Asia: Alyssa Warland
Australasia: Martin Schofield



At Oriel High School we are committed fully to Safeguarding our Students. We promote the welfare of our students and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All staff undergo Child Protection Training and screening, including reference checks with previous employers and an enhanced criminal records bureau check with the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Oriel High School is - **Jane Jones** (Assistant Headteacher, Safeguarding and Inclusion)

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads for Oriel High School are - **Helen Everitt** (Deputy Headteacher) and **Tim Matthews** (Deputy Headteacher)

Your learning Community Pastoral contacts are listed here. Please contact the Pastoral Co-ordinators initially if you have any concerns about your child or another child in the school.

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