

# THE ORIEL view



The latest news,  
views and events  
from your school

SUMMER  
2023



## MAIN FEATURE

### [04] **NEURODIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND DEVELOPMENT**

— Here at Oriel, we aim to enable our young people to develop using an inclusive approach, which means accommodating the needs of every child, and empowering them to make their own choices wherever they can.

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— Over the last few months nearly 100 students have been out on expeditions across the south of England!

### [10] **SPORTS DAY**

— Sports Day was back at K2 with some amazing results and commitment from our students.

### [12] **RUN GATWICK**

— Oriel High School showed their community spirit volunteering and taking part in this year's Run Gatwick event.



# WELCOME

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter  
**The Oriel View.**

I hope that it provides some insight into our work with our students both in and outside of the classroom.

We are a school that is based upon egalitarian principles whereby all members of our community are of equal value and equally deserving to be treated with respect. The article about neurodiversity and inclusion reflects our egalitarian approach. I hope you will enjoy reading about some of the great adventures our students have experienced since our last newsletter: diving; 'W.I.L.D sessions'; Forest Schools; Duke

of Edinburgh; life skills and value of money workshops; 'Preparing for Success' and trips to universities with our younger students. There is so much that goes on in our school and the staff are so creative when it comes to planning new opportunities for our students. We also run our annual events at this time of year, sports day at K2, the sponsored walk, and activities week, and once again, thanks to our amazing staff and the great cooperation of students they have again proved to be very successful and enjoyable events.

In recent weeks we celebrated with our students at the Year 11 Prom at Lingfield Park and the Sixth Form Ball

at The Sandman Hotel. Both were wonderfully positive and upbeat evenings thanks to the way the students interacted with each other and with staff. The conduct of our students at both events won the well-deserved praise from the staff working there.

I hope that this end of academic year newsletter illustrates our passion for providing our students with enriching experiences both within and outside of our school. I hope that you enjoy getting a sense of this enrichment through reading our newsletter and I thank you for taking the time to do so.

**Philip Stack,**  
Headteacher

## >> FAST FORWARD

### KEY DIARY DATES...

#### SUMMER TERM 2023

##### JULY 2023

**21st July** – Last day of term for students  
12.45pm closure, Non-uniform day

##### AUGUST 2023

**16th August** – A Level results day

**23rd August** – GCSE results day

##### SEPTEMBER 2023

**1st September** – Inset Day

**4th September** – Inset Day

**5th September** – First day of term

**21st September** – Open Evening

##### OCTOBER 2023

**23rd - 27th October** – Half Term

## UNDERWATER STUDIES

Intrepid students from year 7, 8 and 9 have been studying to gain their PADI Open Water qualification. On Monday evenings David and Roland B, Guy W and Callum W have spent their time after school studying the skills, theory and science involved in being able to Scuba dive. The course starts each week in the classroom and then moves to the pool where the students gain experience in being able to look after themselves and their dive buddies. In June/July Albert G, Sammy R, Alfie T and Mathu M will also be undertaking the classroom and pool sessions. During Activities Week the pupils will be spending the three days diving at Wraysbury Dive Centre where they will hopefully gain their qualification. This qualification is life long and can be used to dive anywhere in the World. It is the first step on the ladder to a progression of PADI qualifications that open a wonderful opportunity to explore the exciting environment beneath our oceans.







UNIVERSITY OF  
**SURREY**

**YEAR 7** UNIVERSITY  
OF SURREY **TRIP**

A group of Year 7 students visited the University of Surrey in Guildford in June, as part of their Widening Participation and Outreach Programme. They learnt all about the subjects they could study at university, what life is like on campus, and had the opportunity to speak with some current students. During the full-day workshop students had fun designing their own university, followed by an amazing lunch at the university canteen, and a tour of campus – phew!



## VALUE OF MONEY WORKSHOP

At the end of May our Year 8 students all took part in 'The Value of Money' workshops led by our friends at Surrey University as part of the student outreach programme. They completed a range of challenges using just paper & sellotape paid for from their 'budget'. Everyone had a great time & learnt about budgeting & profit along the way!



The University of Surrey came and provided a Money Matters Workshop for students in Year 7 and Year 8. The work shops gave the students an opportunity to learn how to budget and save money. The students in Year 7 were asked to design an ecofriendly money saving product and came up with some inspiring designs. Some of these designs included a product that collects rainwater to be reused in their homes and others developed a system that turned off electrical equipment when they left the room. The Year 8 students had a different task which was to construct a 100cm tower that would stand up, a 40cm bridge that would take the weight of a small car and a boat that would float for 30 seconds holding the weight of a marble. All of this was constructed using paper and cello tape. The students had to purchase their equipment and if they needed to buy more resources the prices doubled. The students who were able to achieve all the requirements and at the cheapest price won. The students had a great time and learnt about construction, budgeting, and profit. These workshops were useful and gave students an insight into money and budgeting in the real world.





# NEURODIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND DEVELOPMENT



There are many types of flowers. Daffodils, roses, lilies, daisies, orchids – all different and all beautiful. We do not consider any one type of flower superior to any other. We do not try to make the rose more daffodil-like because we consider daffodils the best sort of flower. Flowers are not expected to be the same; this natural variation is accepted and celebrated as part of biodiversity.

There are different types of everything – flowers, trees, birds, rocks – and, of course, people. One specific aspect of human diversity is neurodiversity, or the diversity of ways in which humans think, learn, and relate to others.

Every young person has unique dreams and worries for the future, they should be protected from feeling that their mental health or neurodiversity means that their life is limited or has less value.

Here at Oriel, we aim to enable our young people to develop using an inclusive approach, which means accommodating the needs of every child, and empowering them to make their own choices wherever they can.

Not all challenges are created equal, and while some children may excel in certain environments, others may need lots of additional support. Inclusion therefore means more than giving all young people access to the same opportunities; it is a mindset which actively embraces difference. It's the creation of spaces where everyone is supported to be themselves, just as they are.

This year at Oriel High School, we have embraced this ethos to offer our students a wide range of person-centred interventions and provisions to support their growth:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • Social Communication Workshops – Linked to AQA Awards             | Workshops  |
| • Woodland Inspired Learning and Development – Linked to AQA Awards | • Peer Problem Solving                             |
| • Emotional Literacy  | • Lego Therapy                                     |
| • Therapeutic one-to-one's  | • Breakfast Clubs, Lunch Clubs, After School Clubs |
| • Resilience and Teambuilding                                       | • Forest School                                    |
|   | • Duke of Edinburgh Award                          |
|   | • A Range of Behaviour Therapy Workshops           |

All of this, in addition to the traditional academic, data driven support such as literacy, numeracy, additional English, supported studies, in-class support and one to one's, has helped us work with our students using a holistic approach, focusing on the whole child, encouraging the development of their physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs.



## W.I.L.D SESSIONS

Woodland Inspired Learning and Development (W.I.L.D) was developed to provide a fun and positive experience for students in a natural setting through achievable activities that develop not only new skills, but self-esteem, confidence, resilience, and positive behaviours. Students have the opportunity to establish a positive relationship with the natural world through purposeful exploration and discovery. The students are encouraged to try their best and will be empowered with enhanced respect for themselves and others in our natural, outdoor classroom situated on-site. Using holistic methods of learning, W.I.L.D gives everyone the ability to build their emotional, social, and physical skills all whilst working towards AQA Awards to celebrate their achievements across the sessions.







## LIFE SKILLS



Life Skills was designed to provide a fun, positive experience which promotes independence and resilience in our students through practical, everyday tasks. Students will be given the opportunity to gain new skills such as gardening, cooking, simple housekeeping and teamwork. Life Skills will give each individual the tools and confidence to enhance their emotional and social skills, encouraging positive interpersonal behaviours and improved self-esteem. Learners will be working towards fully recognized AQA Awards which celebrate their successes and progress in a wide variety of disciplines.







# FOREST SCHOOL



It has been a busy term for our Forest Schoolers this term. We have seen rain, wind and glorious sunshine and seen the forest transform through the seasons.

This term students have taken part in a variety of activities to develop and strengthen their teamwork, resilience, problem solving and confidence through a variety of different activities. We have made mallets, cooked on an open fire, discovered a rope swing, which has encouraged the group to challenge themselves and taken part in a variety of different creative activities from woodland weaving to leaf bashing.

Forest School aims to develop the social, emotional, and physical needs of students in a woodland setting based on exploration and discovery, we recognise opportunities to promote holistic growth over the course and encourage students to reach their potential.

## What are the Benefits of Forest Schools?

- Improves Confidence
- Improves Resilience
- Improves Physical Wellbeing
- Improves Empathy
- Gives an Insight into the Natural World
- Learner-led Learning
- Improves Motor Development



## A TYPICAL DAY AT FOREST SCHOOL

We meet in the Youth Wing every Friday morning and prepare to head to either Holmbush Farm in Faygate or the Oriel Garden. Excitement is always in the air. We head off in the minibus ready for a day of exploration. The birds are always chirping, and 'Robbie' the robin is always waiting to greet us!

The woodland has been checked and the equipment is ready to be taken with us, our focus is on the wellbeing, physical and emotional needs, of each student that attends.

Gathering together, we check in on how each person is feeling and what they wish to explore during their time in the woods. We introduce new ideas and invite students to engage with us when they wish to.

The woodland space is a blank canvas, full of colour, textures and materials to enrich the senses and stimulate the learning journeys that we will all undertake. As leaders we have both an idea for the direction of the day should students need us to provide this for them, but also understand the importance of encouraging them to decide their own direction.

During this time of exploration and discovery, our role is to provide the nurturing that is needed whilst also encouraging students to stay with challenge and to make sense of the experiences they have. Through review and reflection their voices are heard, and their emotions are recognised.

Through recognising the importance of appropriate risk-taking, Students are encouraged to challenge themselves, linking these and all other experiences to an area of holistic development, be that social, physical, communication or emotional.

The session ends with a reflection of the day around the fire circle. This is a really important part of our day as it allows students to reflect as a group on what has gone well in our day and to celebrate the individual successes of each student.





# DUKE OF EDINBURGH AT ORIEL



Over the last few months nearly 100 of our students have been out on expeditions across the south of England!

Oriel's first ever silver expedition students braved the high winds and dealt with flooding during their practice expedition in March across the South Downs. The teams then went on to excellent navigation of the warren of routes and fake trails in the New Forest for their main expedition. They all did amazingly well dealing with the long hikes and blistered feet.

Our bronze practice expeditions fared a little better with the weather, having some lovely sunshine on both days. Nonetheless there were plenty of challenges to overcome along the way, but they all managed these excellently and showed great expedition skills in warm up to their main expeditions.

For their main expeditions, the bronze groups had to deal with the ridiculous heat and students had to walk over 15km in 30°C weather! With lots of water, plenty of suncream and a few extra breaks the students all handled this phenomenally well and we're all very proud of their progress.

As well as the expeditions the students have been getting stuck in with their other sections. For volunteering we've had students help out with food banks, environmental causes, working with young children and much more. Across skills and physical we've seen a huge range of activities including, cooking, painting, gardening, mountain biking, kung fu, just to mention a few!

The award scheme has shown just how capable and motivated Oriel students are, with a huge uptake and amazing work throughout, they've all done the school proud, and we're excited to see them complete their awards. Congratulations to everyone!



# YEAR 9 – PREPARING FOR SUCCESS

As the process of finalising Year 10 options choices for our current Year 9 students continues, it is natural that our thoughts start to turn to the opportunities and challenges that face these students when they begin Key Stage 4 in September 2023.

Whilst we fully believe that Years 7, 8 and 9 build the foundations of skills and knowledge needed for success in students' final examinations in Year 11, we do recognise that Key stage 4 does bring new subjects for many, the start of examinations and a sense of anticipation and for some trepidation.

To support the development of our Year 9 students as they head towards Year 10, we organised a series of activities over three days in June with a focus on skills and learning behaviours.

During the three days students took part in the following experiences:

## Now and the Future Workshops

These activity-based and interactive study skills workshops, not only show students how to learn with effective study techniques, but also how to set goals and take positive action for now and the future. The workshops had a focus on transition, staying focussed and on track, independent learning and promoting students doing their best in Year 10 and Year 11.



## Communication Workshops

These fast-paced and engaging, confident communication workshops developed students' oracy skills and spoken confidence. Students explored different modes of communication, developed effective use of structuring in short talks and presentations and how to apply persuasive language techniques to get their message across confidently and effectively. The workshops also linked their learning to possible future careers.

## Blackland Farm Outdoor Activity Day

Students spent the day at Blackland Farm outdoor activity centre where they took part in a series of activities designed to promote team building skills, communication, and resilience.

Most importantly the Blackland Farm part of the week provided the chance for students to work together in the fresh air and have fun!





## SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS

For many of us, summer is a time when we can take life just that little bit easier. With more free time on our hands, picking up a book and getting stuck into another world is one of the best things about the longer holiday.

But with so many brilliant books on the market at the moment, it's easy to feel overwhelmed by choice.

We asked Mrs Beckett, Librarian Extraordinaire and Book Wizard (her true job title!) what she would recommend.

Here are her summer favourites:

- 1 Don't be fooled by the cover! Skandar and the Unicorn Thief is not a fluffy book about sweet and kind unicorns. In Steadman's gripping fantasy novel, the unicorns are vicious, eat meat, and generally turn all your pre-conceived ideas on their head. Brimming with wild battles and ferocious enemies, this is definitely one that will keep you gripped from cover to cover.
- 2 Chances are, if you have stood in the library for longer than a few minutes recently, Mrs Beckett has already tried to get you to read this. This superbly crafted tale of a group of teenagers trying to wrangle a heavily damaged spaceship is an example of storytelling at its best.
- 3 Although published in 2017, Lisa Thompson's debut novel offers a fabulously clever mystery that follows Matthew, a boy who had been confined to his room by debilitating OCD, becomes the only person who can help find a missing toddler.
- 4 Al is angry. His mum has been sent back to prison and he blames his neighbour, Mr Brayker. With his two rats, Venom and Vulture, as allies, Rat embarks on a revenge plot that will have you hooked from beginning to end.
- 5 Hailed as the must-read book of 2023, This Book Kills follows the story of Jess, a young girl on a scholarship at a prestigious school. In her spare time, Jess writes short stories, which isn't an issue until one of the students at her school dies in exactly the same way as a character in her story. To make matters worse, the killer then messages her to thank her for the inspiration. Can Jess figure out who the killer is before she ends up dead too? Read it and find out!

### For Older Readers

- 6 On the Come Up is the second book in Angie Thomas' The Hate U Give series (which if you haven't started yet, you absolutely should!) In this book, Bri is determined to follow in her late father's footsteps and become one of the greatest rappers of all time. However, things rarely go smoothly for Bri and she finds herself caught up in a web of controversy as the media present her as more of a menace than an MC...

### PRIZES

At Oriel, we have a huge number of readers who are always desperate for good recommendations. If you read anything brilliant over the summer, let your English teacher know and we can make sure word gets out.

We have prizes available for the biggest readers of the summer... providing you can prove it, of course.

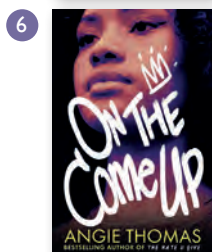
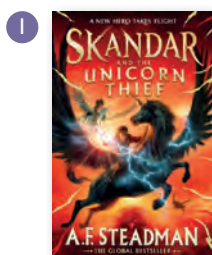
### HAPPY READING ALL!

## And in other news...

At Oriel, we know how important reading is, but we also know how difficult it is to find the time to fit it in or find something that really interests you. This year, we are investing in MyOn News – an online platform that gives you access to thousands of articles, complete with audio, so that you can pick what you want to read.

Look out for the summer reading challenges that will be launched by your teachers at the end of the term. Prizes available for those who step up and impress us!

Watch this space...



## CAREERS AT ORIEL

Year 9 students have been working hard on Oracy and presentation skills, with the aim of building up to public speaking and ultimately an 'Elevator Pitch' to a local employer. The morning sessions consisted of students learning to develop their body language, presenting and communication skills by starting with speaking in front of small groups of their peers, leading to speaking in front of the whole group. Speaking in front of people can be a challenging task for anyone, especially a young student, but they all rose to the challenge. Students were apprehensive at the beginning of the day, but as the day went on, their confidence grew. The culmination of the day was to put their learning into action and deliver a 1-minute elevator pitch to a local business representative. We all know that first impressions count, so students were coached on how to present themselves, their body language, how to communicate and to begin to try and sell themselves to the employer by highlighting the key employability skills they had. Students were nervous, but the unanimous feeling after the relief of doing it, was a sense of pride and achievement; many of the students expressed how good it was to have taken part.

Employers were blown away by the student's performances and commented how they wished they had had this opportunity at school. The best comment of the day came from one employer who told me that he wanted to work for one of the students in the future based upon his stellar performance in the pitch! This experience forms part of Oriel's continued drive to improve careers related learning and experiences and will serve as a good foundation in preparation for Mock Interviews in year 10 and 12.

We would like to thank these companies for giving up their time: Gatwick Airport, Longwood Business Support services, Natwest, People's Partnership, Siemens Traincare, Chubb, Novo Nordisk, Honeywell, Wishfish Coaching and Development and Teenage Cancer Trust. We'd also like to thank and applaud the year 9s for engaging in the programme so well. You should all be proud of what you have achieved.





# SPORTS DAY 2023

## 2023 Winner: AMERICAS

On Thursday 22nd June, we held our annual whole school Sports Day at K2 Leisure Centre. The sun was shining, and the stadium and stands were full of supporters to cheer on the students participating in events. It was a close fought competition this year with Americas coming out as the winners.

Well done to the students who participated in events as well as all the students supporting from the stands. It was another great example of the community spirit within our school with some outstanding performances on the day.

## Previous winners

2022 - Africa

2021 - Australasia

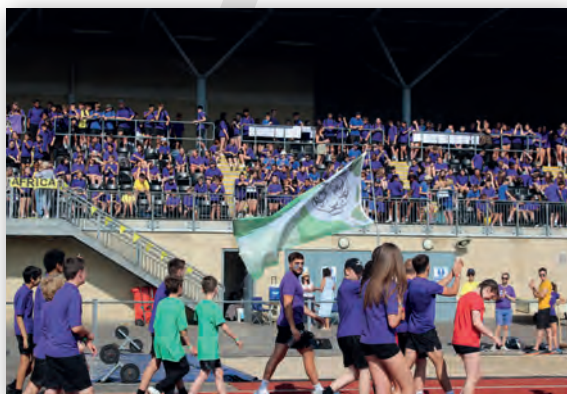
2018 - Africa

2017 - Africa

2016 - Americas







# YOUNG LIVES vs CANCER

## SPONSORED WALK 2023

Every year we hold a whole school Sponsored Walk for charity. We walk from school along the Worth Way to Crawley Down, where most stop for a spot of lunch, and then do the return journey back to school – 10 miles (16km) in total.

In consultation with students and staff, the Student Headship team elect a charity each year. This year the chosen charity was Young Lives vs Cancer. Well done to all the students that took part, to date as a school we have raised £10,707 although the money is still rolling in!





# STUDENT OF THE MONTH

APR	ASIA	AMERICAS	AFRICA	AUSTRALASIA
YEAR 7	Charlie B 7IMU	Tyler F 7RAS	Sophie M 7KEV	Jessica A 7KRO
YEAR 8	Deepika S D 8GMI	Harriet H 8RAS	Richard M 8BVA	Vasi V 8AJA
YEAR 9	Sammy B 9FWE	Theo V 9ABC	Beau R 9SAN	Lucy H 9BGO
YEAR 10	Sana N 10IMU	Jayjay C 10TBA	Nathaniel H 10SAN	Lilly D 10 AJA
YEAR 11	Gabriel V 11CMY	Tommy S 11IPA/SJO	Coco E 11BPO	Jack G 11CRY

MAY	ASIA	AMERICAS	AFRICA	AUSTRALASIA
YEAR 7	Antony B 7IMU	Charlie R 7LTf	Maisie L 7JBY	Evan B 7NJN
YEAR 8	Harry G 8HSM	Kiki R 8RAS	Orinta B 8JBY	Jessie O 8CRY
YEAR 9	Umar M 9IMU	Tom W 9CCX	Tatianna G 9JBY	Neo G 9NJN
YEAR 10	Ryan M 10FWE	Matthew S 10ABC	Theo D 10BVA	Ellie R 10AJA
YEAR 11	Carys B 11FWE	Paige M 11KDA	Jensen H 11KCA	Nikita S 11NJN



## RUN GATWICK

Oriel continues to seek new partnerships and links with our local community. So, we were delighted to support 'Run Gatwick' again with many of our staff and students volunteering on the day to help in the event village and out on the running route.

Volunteering can offer young people so many opportunities and we are tremendously proud that our students with the support of their family step forward to volunteer for activities across the school year. Run Gatwick is a marvellous community event, and all our student volunteers had a great day helping.

We will continue to support 'Run Gatwick' in future and we are sure many other students and staff will take up the opportunity to volunteer again.



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 – **Mark Harrison** (Assistant Headteacher)

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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