

FRIDAY, 3RD MARCH 2023



## OASIS ACADEMY ISLE OF SHEPPEY EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

### REFLECTION – SPRING TERM 1:

The Spring term has began 2023 with much going on. Our year 11 and year 13 students have been preparing and taking mock examinations, which we are hopeful about.

What has been a great to see is the opportunities for our young people being made available by the staff team . Bugsy Malone was visited at the Marlowe theatre by year 7 and 8 who had a fantastic time. Our PE students supported a regional Athletics events with a number of Primary schools in the local area with a further event being supported in March. Bowling reward trips also took place during the first week of the new term also.

The English department have been very busy giving great experiences to their students with Year 10 production company delivering Dickens Christmas Carol and book they have been studying. Also, a live poetry day in Brighton for all year 11s. This will most definitely impact their GCSE Poetry paper examination for the better.

We continue to work with Curley's Farm and the students have enjoyed this very much. As well as this we have also had a virtual Southampton University presentation enjoyed by Years 10 ,1, 12 and 13 about life at a Russell group university.

Parental engagement and support has continued to grow in our Parents' Forum and it has been beneficial to have the input, shared ideas and concepts at these events to make the academy the best it can be. The next forum if you would like to join us is on the theme of Communication on Tuesday, 21st March on the Minster campus. please contact [Jo.gass@oasisisleofsheppey.org](mailto:Jo.gass@oasisisleofsheppey.org) to express interest in attending.

It has been very pleasing to see more and more families attend the parent evenings and for these to return to face to face, with the Year 9 Options evening next on **Wednesday, March 8th**. It would be great to improve further on the attendance of these; please make a note in preparation.

We are quickly moving into the time when we are preparing for the next academic year . National offer day took place on March 1st, following which we will begin to work with the local primaries and the transition to the Sheerness campus . Alongside this, Year 9 will begin to look at their Key Stage 4 choices for options in Year 10.



Year 11 and Sixth Form will be taking on the feedback from the most recent mock examinations so we can get the best outcomes. Staff will be supporting students with intervention and other support. Also plans are already underway for transition of the Year 8 students from Sheerness to the Minster campus ready for Year 9 of which more detail will be communicated with you.

## PARENTS FORUM - FEEDBACK - HOMEWORK

During our December Parent Forum, we discussed the topic of Homework and how this can be improved and consistent. The main take away points from the discussions are listed below, together with the actions we have taken:

	Time weekly (hrs)	English MONDAY	Maths WEDNESDAY	Science FRIDAY
Year 7	1-2	Reading Plus (Website)	Sparx Mathematics (Website)	Google Forms (Website)
Year 8	1-2			
Year 9	1-2			
Year 10	2-3	GoFormative (Website)		
Year 11	2-3			

### How will I know that homework has been set and completed?

- Notification on class Teams that homework has been set (weekly)
- Teachers award SHEPPEY points for those who complete homework (weekly)

### What happens if my child cannot login?

- Reading Plus and GoFormative are both accessed through the school email/password
- Google Forms are submitted using the school email. If a student forgets these details, they should ask their class teacher
- Sparx Mathematics has an individual login that can be reset by your child's Maths teacher

### We do not have internet access – what should my child do instead?

- All homework can be completed on iPads during social time at school using school WiFi
- In extreme cases, paper homework may be provided

Year 10/11 can all additionally use GCSE Pod which is set up in ALL subjects, not just core.

The next **Parents' Forum** will take place on **Tuesday, 21st March 2023 - 6.00-7.00 pm** – Minster campus. The topic of the discussion will be **Communication**. An update will provided from January's Forum regarding Behaviour and Culture.

We would like as many parents and carers to join us and participate. Please email [Jo.gass@oasisisleofsheppey.org](mailto:Jo.gass@oasisisleofsheppey.org) if you would like to attend.

## DATES FOR THE CALENDAR

Please find detailed below useful dates for each of the remaining year group's Parents' evenings; these have now returned to face to face meetings, with appointments being made in the lead up to each. Details will be sent home in the weeks leading up to your child's year group Parents' evening:

Wednesday, 8th March 2023	Year 9 Options evening	Minster campus
Wednesday, 26th April 2023	Year 7 Parents' evening – appointments via SchoolCloud	Sheerness campus
Wednesday, 7th June 2023	Year 10 Parents' evening – appointments via SchoolCloud	Minster campus
Wednesday, 14th June 2023	Year 8 Parents' evening – appointments via SchoolCloud	Sheerness campus

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## RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITY @ SHEPPEY

On January 27th, Year 10, 11 and Sixth Form students who were high prior attainers at their primary schools were lucky enough to be spoken to by the University of Southampton representatives.

This university is part of the Russell group. The Russell Group represents 24 leading UK universities. They believe people and ideas are the key to meeting global challenges. At these universities, world-class research and education are prioritised and used to solve some of the biggest challenges facing us right now, such as research into potential cures for cancer, advanced space flight and environmental issues.

Throughout the talk, students were introduced to university and why they should consider one of the top universities and all of the advantages this could offer. They were shown different aspects of university life and some of the amazing courses on offer at Southampton but also across the country. Some of these courses included things such as oceanography, aerodynamics, wildlife conservation and many more. They were also shown the other side of university life and shown how there is a great opportunity to bridge being a student at school and an adult by studying full time and living either away from home or at home.

Finally, our host went through, probably, the most worrying side of university to most and discussed student finance. One student commented 'it was really good to hear that when we get student finance we don't have to start paying it back until we earn more than £25,000, and then we only need to pay a small amount back'.

When asked if they found it useful, another student commented that 'I hadn't thought of going to any university never mind one of the top universities in the country but I can now see that this isn't out of reach if I keep working hard'.

As always, all students were respectful and a credit to themselves and the academy.

## Bugsy Malone

Year 7 & 8 Inspire students enjoyed a wonderful afternoon on one of our termly reward trips to The Marlowe Canterbury. Students with the highest engagement for Reading Plus watched a cast made up entirely of children singing and dancing their way around Prohibition-era sets, substituting toy guns and whipped cream for machine guns and bullets.



## Primary Schools Athletics tournament

On Wednesday 25th January, the Academy hosted the Primary school indoor athletics tournament, attended by primary schools from across the Swale area. During the event, students participated in a number of events ranging from relay races to throwing and jumping events with the students displaying excellent teamwork, enthusiasm and athletic ability. A number of our students supported as Sport Hosts to help facilitate the events. There was a real 'buzz' in the sports hall with our visiting students all leaving with a smile on their faces having enjoyed a fantastic day of being part of a team.

## Queen's Green Canopy – Tree Planting – February 2023

Over the final two weeks of Spring term 1, some of our incredible students had the opportunity to join in with planting trees alongside Medway Swale Estuary Partnership and the Hub Team as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative. Trees were planted at both Minster and Sheerness campuses with around 25 students involved throughout the whole project. In total, over 600 trees were planted across the two campuses, over four days. Students really enjoyed the opportunity getting involved and said that it felt they were becoming part of the history of the school, and hoped if they were to return to the campuses in years to come they would see the trees grown and know they were part of the initial group making this happen.

Students were able to work on so many personal development skills throughout including team work, confidence and perseverance as well as valuable outdoor education skills. We are really proud of the students who got involved and we are looking forward to continuing this project with both the original group and a wider group of students to look after the new saplings whilst they bed into the ground and begin to develop and grow.

If any students have an interest in getting involved in the future of the project, we would encourage students to speak to the Hub Team at each campus so they can be included in the relevant groups.

