

Christmas 2018 Newsletter



Dear Parents & Carers,

As we come to the end of another term, let us take the time to reflect on what has been achieved in what was a very busy and highly productive term. Term 2 assessment cycles are now complete, giving teachers a robust understanding of each child's learning as they progress throughout the year. After a strenuous set of mock exams, Year 11 students comprehended their mock exam results with a high level of maturity and for some with a healthy level of concern and trepidation. Students are aware of the areas that need to be worked on and improvements to be made for maximum exam success in the summer. Students are encouraged to use the Christmas break wisely, to fit in the level of revision required to close these knowledge gaps amongst the celebrations and festivities.

We are hugely encouraged by the number of students that attended our Sixth Form open evening, the theatre on the West Campus was fit to burst! This year we have extended invitations to include Year 10 students, it is never too early to think about next steps and future possibilities. Feedback from both parents and students were incredibly positive, I feel confident that our vision and direction for our sixth form is strong and the courses on offer is reflective of the needs of our young people, and the needs of the local and wider community.

Outside of school hours, students have continued to partake and contribute to Academy activities. Thank you to our Year 8 students for their outstanding organisation of the Christmas Fair. Not only have they given up their Saturday morning to run the fair, their professional approach and enthusiasm is to be commended as a whopping £300 was raised for Care 4 Christmas in just two hours! Thank you to all our Oasis dancers, actors, singers and musicians for their stupendous performances in the Christmas Carol Concert, Dance Showcase and a magnificent production of Shakespeare's *Tempest* on stage at the Woodville Theatre, Gravesend. All events were critically acclaimed to be outstanding and delivered with high levels of proficiency and professionalism. Well done to all involved and thank you parents and friends for your support.

We continue to acknowledge and reward students that have upheld high levels of attendance and made consistently good progress. Numerous research shows that the two are interlinked. This term we continue to encourage literacy with gifting books to over 180 students that were nominated by their class teachers as making excellent progress in their subjects. Well done to all that have received book prizes and certificates.

On the community front, we are going from strength to strength. We are immensely proud and honoured that our Dementia Café has been recognised to be the best nationally as we collected the Dementia Friendly 2018 Award for the Youth Organisation of the Year. Even the mighty BBC heard about our Dementia Café and we were thrilled when they came along to film a café for an episode of *Songs of Praise*! These openings do not come often and we are privileged and proud to be given this opportunity to share on national TV the wonderful island and local community in which we live and work.

Last but not least, thank you for your support of our charity activities this Christmas. I am pleased to inform that through your generosity, we have been able to deliver an astonishing 59 boxes of food and gifts, along with a cheque of £330 to local charity Care 4 Christmas. Your generosity, kindness and compassion will make a warm difference to those who face adversity and hardship at what can be a difficult time of year. Thank you once again. On behalf of all staff and students, I wish you all a peaceful and joyous Christmas and best wishes for 2019.

Miss Tina Lee, Principal





On Friday 9th November, two days before Armistice Day and the centenary of the end of the First World War, Oasis Academies up and down the country commemorated the event with an INSPIRE Day. INSPIRE is a peace-making initiative, it's aim is to commemorate those who have given their lives in conflict by acting as the impetus to take positive action to work for peace. Young people and teachers from Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey joined 6000 others gathered in 14 different venues across England, Wales and N Ireland, alongside hundreds of assemblies, local gatherings and projects in schools across the UK. The Kent event was held at our Academy across both our campuses which was a heaving hub of activity drawing in a wide audience and some distinguished guests.

The event included a Swale-wide poetry competition which was organised by the Academy with the support of Swale Borough Council and Big Local Eastern Sheppey. The winning poems from all ages were read to the audience of our packed West Campus Theatre. Key Stage One winners were Amelia and Charlie; Lower Key Stage 2 winner was Ella D; Upper Key Stage 2 winner was Olivia G all of whom were from Queenborough School and Nursery. Key Stage 3 winner was Cassius J from Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey. Runners up came from Luddenham School, Queenborough School and Nursery, Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey and Borden Grammar School. The prizes were presented by the Mayor of Swale, Councillor Samuel Koffie-Williams and John Murphy, CEO of Oasis Community Learning.

The INSPIRE service was a mixture of poetry, singing and dancing with the playing of the Last Post by James Crane and a blessing given by the Reverend Colin Johnson from the Royal British Legion, the Reverend Cindy Kent MBE and the Reverend Jeanette McLaren. We had what can only be described as wonderful musical contributions from Halfway Houses Primary School, St Edwards RC School and Queenborough School and Nursery. Oasis Academy Skinner Street from Gillingham gave us readings from a selection of their remembrance poems. Our own students gave a wonderful musical performance in which they sang to their own accompaniment. Oasis dancers showcased a very moving dance performance which reflected the heartbreak of soldiers going off to war in World War One. This dance has received great acclaim from the wider public of Sheppey.

The service was followed by a community cafe event where guests were treated to a delicious selection of sandwiches and cakes; while on the field outside there was a re-enactment of the Christmas Day Truce of 1914, where British and German soldiers emerged from the trenches and came together in a symbolic moment of peace to play a friendly game of football. Students, wearing replica uniforms of both British and German soldiers of 1914 played an exhilarating football match with both teams giving it all they got. The game was eventually won by Germany in a final score of 4-2. A great match by all participants.

Our East Campus playing field is twinned with Flanders Field, Messines, Belgium; and was the perfect location for a tree to be planted in commemoration of the centenary of the ending of WW1. The tree, an evergreen oleaster, was very kindly donated by Sheppey Rotary Club and was planted by the Mayor of Swale, Samuel Koffie-Williams and John Murphy, CEO of Oasis Community Learning. The tree was blessed by Reverend Cindy Kent MBE and Reverend Jeanette McLaren. Our Principal, Miss Lee and students watered the tree into place before retiring for tea and cakes.

Rev Steve Chalke MBE, Founder of the Oasis group of charities and the INSPIRE movement, said "For this generation, peace is history rather than reality. INSPIRE is changing that. The project empowers young people to not only learn from the past but also actively engage with the present so that the future can be different. For too many young people, peace is an historical, old fashioned term that comes straight out of the history books. In their day-to-day lives, it is an irrelevance. 'Peace' means very little to a young person who believes they need to carry a knife to protect themselves, or who are struggling to find a place to belong; a sense of who they or whether their lives matter. To take part in such a project takes courage and determination. I am very grateful to the young people of Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey for heeding the call and using this year's centenary of the end of First World War to take a stand for peace."

Mr P Murray



1918 2018

FIRST WORLD WAR - ARMISTICE CENTENARY

Visit to Ypres

On Sunday 11 November, as we have done for a number of years, students from the Academy were invited to attend The Poppy Parade in Ypres, Belgium along with other secondary schools in Swale. This is one of the most prestigious commemoration events and we are honoured to be invited. The Poppy Parade marches under the Menin Gate Memorial upon which are inscribed thousands of names of British and Commonwealth soldiers who died during the conflict. Sixth form students Sasha-Anne Taroni and Shannon Vince represented our Academy. It was an early start as we left Sittingbourne at 4:15am and travelled by coach to Folkestone where we joined the train to take us through the Channel Tunnel to France then on to Ypres. On arrival at Ypres we joined 22,000 others taking part in the Poppy Parade. The moving ceremony lasted for over an hour. We then had free time for lunch before departing for Poelkapelle Cemetery where Sasha, Shannon, The Mayor of Swale Samuel Koffie-Williams, and his wife, the Mayoress of Swale laid a wreath on behalf of our Academy. From there our guide, Mike Scott took us to Langemarck German Cemetery and this gave us the opportunity to compare how the two different countries commemorate their fallen. We set off back to the Channel Tunnel where there were delays due to the huge number of people who had been to Ypres. We arrived back in Sittingbourne at 9:30pm after a long but very rewarding day. Huge thanks go to Swale Borough Council and, in particular, Martin Goodhew and the Mayor and Mayoress but also to Sasha and Shannon for representing our Academy so well.

Mr P Murray



Remembrance Sunday

In addition to Mr Murray and the sixth formers visit to Ypres there was plenty going on back on the Island.

On the morning of Remembrance Sunday, Sheppey FM broadcasted a special show which had been recorded by four of our Year 10s. Marti, Venetia, Darren and Tyler who did a fabulous job to commemorate 100 years since the end of WW1. The show was played out to lead up to the Remembrance parade and service, attended by students and staff. Wreaths were laid on behalf of each year group at the Academy. It was great to see so many of our students attending the parade representing the many youth organisations and cadet groups on the Island. Well done to all involved, we are so proud of the young people who represent us so well in the community.

Mrs L Baseley





CAREERS NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2018

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS – Linking to school

Employability skills are skills, qualities and attitudes that employers say are essential for the workplace. They include:

- Positive Attitude
- Communication & interpersonal skills
- Team work
- Self management
- Willingness to learn
- Thinking skills & problem solving
- Numeracy & IT skills
- Resilience
- Using Initiative
- Confidence
- Negotiation skills
- Working under pressure to deadlines

Students will need to show they have these skills in their CV and Personal Statement.



LINKING CAREERS TO THE CURRICULUM

Most of the above employability skills link to school. Students can give examples of those they use in school.

Students could record their examples for personal statement and CVs.



Career Quiz

Find out what you are like and what you could do!

Find jobs you might enjoy and discover your strengths

<https://www.ucas.com/careers/buzz-quiz>



CAREER OF THE MONTH – BOTANIST



Botanists study all forms of plant life.

ANNUAL SALARY - £22,000 TO £55,000

WORKING HOURS – variable

FUTURE EMPLOYMENT – There will be 4% more Botanist jobs in 2022

Subject links:

<https://www.careerpivot.org.uk/job-sectors/agriculture/job-profile/botanist>

CAREERS WEBSITES

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/> - information, advice and guidance on learning, training and work

<https://www.careerpivot.org.uk/> - choices at 14, 16 and 18, routes to different qualifications and job sectors.

<https://www.careersbox.co.uk/> - national career film library, showing real people doing real jobs

<https://www.allaboutschooleavers.co.uk/> - helps school leavers to get jobs and understand career pathways

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship> - search and apply for apprenticeships

<https://www.gettingofar.gov.uk/> - information on apprenticeships



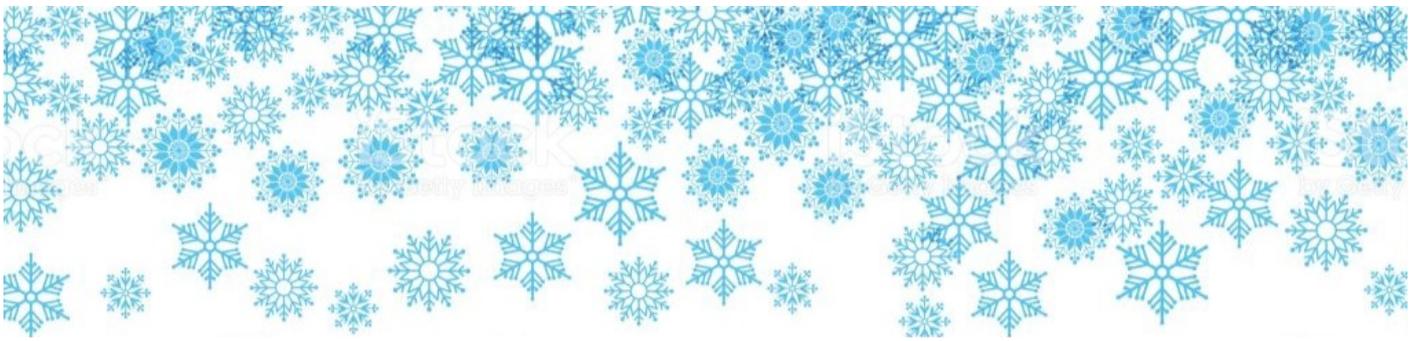
IMPORTANT CAREER DATES/INFORMATION

Year 13

University applications begin UCAS Deadline – 15 Jan 2019.

<https://www.ucas.com/> - for Year 11 and Year 13 for next steps – college/sixth form and university. Year 11 should select the 'Progress' page and Year 13 'Undergraduate'





WORK EXPERIENCE YEAR 10

All Year 10 students will be given the opportunity to participate in work experience during the following dates:

1 TO 5 JULY 2019– East Campus
8 TO 12 JULY 2019– West Campus

Work experience allows students to:

- Gain real experience in a working environment
- Discover what qualities employers are looking for
- Relate school work to the world of work
- Provide an opportunity to practice how to be a good employee
- Develop vital employability skills

Students may source their own work experience. They can start by asking family and friends who have their own businesses. Ask local companies too.

Students may also select from a bank of opportunities that we have sourced if they are unable to find their own.

If students find their own placement, they must let Miss Kempt, Work Experience Co-ordinator know. Their mentor will have a form that they must complete with the necessary information before the work experience can be approved.

Health & Safety visits must take place before placements are approved. Information must be received by:

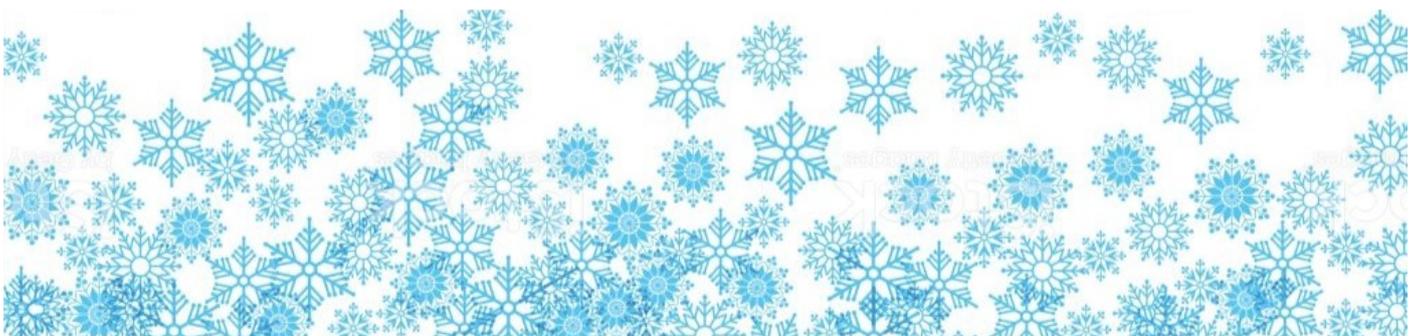
Placements outside of Kent, deadline is 11/02/19

Placements in Kent, deadline is 01/04/19

For further information contact:

Miss Kempt, Progression, Careers and Work Experience Leader

Chere.Kempt@oasisisleofsheppey.org





Mr P Murray

Our INSPIRE Day on Friday 9th November was the start of a busy and exciting term of dementia work from our multi award winning team. To commemorate the centenary of the end of World War One, residents from local care homes and the local community were invited to join us for a special dementia café after the morning's activities in the theatre. They were joined by a number of distinguished guests including representatives from the Royal British Legion, representatives from Sheppey Rotary Club, Rev Cindy Kent and Rev Jeanette McLaren as well as the Mayor and Mayoress of Swale amongst others.

On Wednesday 14th November we were proud and honoured to host a special café for the BBC's Songs of Praise who had heard about our dementia cafes and were keen to film our café for an episode featuring Sheppey which will be aired in the new year! Students and staff were excited at meeting the TV crew and presenter Aled Jones who was equally keen on getting to know Sheppey and our local community. Aled interviewed guests, students and Oasis ex-student Lauren Glock whose idea it was to set up a Dementia Café to bring together the old and the young in an intergenerational project which started five years ago. Lauren graduated from university this summer and returned to the Academy especially to speak to the programme producers about what inspired her to set up this project and what it means to her to see so many young people continue to bring so much happiness to those that suffer from dementia long after she's left the Academy. Year 8 student Lucy Brightman-Stokes and Sixth Former Sasha-Anne Taroni spoke about what motivates them to be involved with the Academy's dementia work. Look out for the programme, themed "Love Thy Neighbour" when it goes on air on BBC1, Sunday 13th January! . The event was covered by Kent Online and can be viewed via this link:

<https://www.kentonline.co.uk/sheerness/news/the-uninterrupted-sea-views-are-absolutely-beautiful-193567/>



On Thursday 6th December we held our Christingle Dementia Café. Sixty five guests came along for an afternoon of entertainment featuring singing from St Edward's Primary School and our own Academy students, washed down with plenty of tea and Mrs Murray's home made cakes. Anita Brunt from Sheppey Matters provided guests the opportunity to make Christmas wreaths, and our own Hair & Beauty students gave hand massages. Reverend Cindy Kent MBE explained the meaning of Christingle through song. We welcomed students from Maplesden Noakes School in Maidstone who came along to learn about our café and for inspiration on how they could run a similar project at their school. We also had the pleasure of Kate Parker from the Times Educational Supplement join us. Kate featured an article on our café which can be read via this link:

<https://www.tes.com/news/theyre-not-alone-because-theyve-got-us-talk?fbclid=IwAR1PUq1xU-n4lw5iXvcOehf6cz0HF5gafIrsHEGiVoJlSVT6id-mbpmopk>

In addition to these events, our outreach dementia cafes have included running Sunday lunches at Rumour Café in Sheerness, and at Swale House in Sittingbourne where we operated a café for the staff of SATEDA, the charity who actions and provides support to end domestic abuse.

Our hard work and commitment towards supporting those affected by dementia has not gone unnoticed, and on Thursday 22nd November at The Royal Horseguards Hotel, London we attended the National Dementia Friendly Awards 2018. We were entered in 2 categories. In Uniting Against Dementia – Outstanding Contribution 2018 we were runners-up out of over 300 entries; but in the Youth Organisation of the Year. Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey became National Champions for 2018! We are hugely proud and honoured to receive this award, this is testament that through sheer hard work and dedication our students are amongst the best in the country. Winning this award and being recognised nationally was no easy feat but we did it!

<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/blog/young-students-dementia-friendly-academy>





Shakespeare Schools Festival

On Thursday 22nd November Oasis Drama students took to the stage at the Woodville Theatre, Gravesend for a production of Shakespeare's *Tempest*. They performed as a company alongside groups from other local schools in what was the world's largest youth drama festival. The annual production involves 30,000 young people from primary, secondary and special educational needs schools across the country. Oasis students put together a stunning performance and received a multitude of praise for their professional attitude and enthusiasm in delivering a performance that was polished and professional.

Miss T Kenny-Purcell



"WE ARE SUCH STUFF AS DREAMS ARE MADE ON"

The *Tempest*
by Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey
at The Woodville, 22/11/2018
expressed by Hannah Brollisford

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey for your fantastic production of *The Tempest* as part of the 2018 Shakespeare Schools Festival. It was a brilliant night of theatre, and I'd like to highlight just a few elements that really stood out.

From the wonderful opening shipwreck, your company really worked together to fill the space with atmosphere and drama.

There was great clarity in the storytelling, evidently conveying the complexity of the plot. You delivered the language with energy and commitment. This was complemented by lovely your characterisation and the way you embraced your roles.

Your entire cast must be commended on both your professional attitude, but also in the way you supported each other. Especially since both Prospero and Trinculo had only just taken over the roles.

This was a magical and creative *Tempest* from a supportive and disciplined ensemble.

Performing Shakespeare's words on a professional stage takes courage, resilience, and imagination. You and your teachers should all be incredibly proud of what you have achieved.

I hope to see Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey in the Festival again next year!

Hannah Brollisford

"A MAGICAL AND CREATIVE TEMPEST FROM A SUPPORTIVE AND DISCIPLINED ENSEMBLE"



Dance Showcase

Just under 200 students from Years 9-12 of the Academy performed in our annual Dance Showcase 'Don't Stop The Dance' on Wednesday 28th November in the West Campus Theatre. Dances from a mixture of genres including street, lyrical, and contemporary dance were performed. These performances consisted of assessment material for all groups where students will gain grades for their technical and performance qualities. We were fortunate to be supported by over 300 community and family members, a brilliant audience for our students to showcase their achievements. Elevate Dance Company also returned with two fantastic performances, showing exactly why they have been chosen to be in the school's elite dance company. All students that took part showed superb talent, dedication and commitment throughout their performances. Thank you to everyone who helped us put this show together and for allowing it to be the best show we have done so far.



Miss S Kent



Christmas Carol Concert

Our annual Christmas Carol Concert was held on Wednesday 12 December with student and staff representatives from All Saints Eastchurch CE Primary School, Queenbrough Primary School and St Clements Primary School accompanying our students for a wonderfully festive evening. Our students represented our academy brilliantly with music from our Glee Club singers, Year 9 Music class, Year 12 Musical Theatre students as well as the Drama Club delivering readings and performing tableaux. Everyone enjoyed mince pies and warm drinks after the concert and there was an overwhelming contribution to the Care for Christmas charity donation. Thank you to all the members of the performing arts faculty for their support in making it such a delightful event. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and restful Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Ms M Charles





Christmas Fair

This year's Christmas fair took place at the Academy East Campus on Saturday 8th December. The entire event was put together, managed and promoted by Year 8 students as part of their Enterprise Project. The fair was a huge success, raising almost £300 for Care for Christmas in just two hours, and enabling students to really put their sales skills to the test. Stalls adorned with glitter and tinsel displayed the students' three months of hard work and preparation, and they really did go all out. One group had created its own branding and wore matching outfits, whilst others had spent hours home baking treats to sell at the fair. There were games, lucky dips, handmade dog treats, personalised glass etching, decorate-your-own bauble, canvas art, live nail-painting, and pompom tree decorations, to name but a few. Parents, friends of the school, and the local community showed up in droves, including our very own MP Gordon Henderson, and the music supplied live by Sheppey FM kept the Christmas tunes coming. All those involved, including the external stallholders, seemed to have a thoroughly good time, and the students truly showed off their entrepreneurial muscle, with one student making a whopping £55 alone. A huge well done to all those involved in making the 2018 fair such a success, and a thank-you to our external stallholders, visitors, DJs and distinguished guests for supporting the Year 8s and Care 4 Christmas. We hope to see you again next year!

Miss Eardley & Mr Fordham



Parents,

Help your child to be prepared for learning. Add to their Christmas stocking a fully stocked pencil case consisting of an assortment of pens, pencils, ruler and erasers.

Improve their literacy skills and foster a love for reading—books make wonderful presents!

Merry Christmas!





Radio Training

The Academy runs a radio training programme provided by Sheppey FM and funded by Headstart, an organisation that supports the mental health and wellbeing of young people. This inspirational project develops confidence and self-esteem in young people, while learning script writing, interview techniques, community involvement and employability skills. These can all support resilience and mental wellbeing for the students, as well as providing information and support for the listeners. Last academic year, our students presented a series of live radio shows about mental health in young people. The project was so successful that Sheppey FM entered it for the National Community Radio Awards and the production received a Silver Award for the station!



This academic year we are increasing the number of students accessing this training by making use of our own Media Studio on the West Campus. Students are learning the basics of interview techniques and scriptwriting before their sessions at Sheppey FM where they get the practical “on air” experience, learn about broadcasting and how a radio station runs in preparation for the final session which is presenting their own live shows.

Already, since September, four groups have gone through their paces and delivered confident, professional performances:

Show 1 was a WW1 History project which was pre-recorded and broadcast on Remembrance Sunday. This show was produced by Venetia Kay, Marti Hemmings, Tyler Morrow and Darren Payne and contained lots of facts about WW1 as well as some moving poetry readings and music from the time of both world wars.

Show 2 was broadcast live during Anti-Bullying Week. Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Emma Bradburn, Annalise Clements, Sophie Burns, Nicolle Graves and Katie McKee shared information with the community about some of the activities the team get up to and how we are tackling bullying in school, along with a great choice of music to fit the theme.

Show 3 was broadcast live and was all about places to go and things to do on the Isle of Sheppey. The students involved in the script writing and planning were Shilton Hann, Tamuka Cross, Lucie Hancock and Bethany King. When they started they thought there wasn't much to do on the Island but ended up not being able to fit it all in. On the day of the live broadcast, only Bethany was available to attend so she did the whole show by herself! Sheppey FM Training Manager, Mick Kenten, said “Bethany did an amazing job holding the radio show together with a great mix of music and local information about things to see and do on Sheppey. We are very proud of her, well done.” The others will get an opportunity to present a live show later in the year.

Show 4 was broadcast live in the last week of term and was all about Christmas, carols, traditions and music and included an interview with Care 4 Christmas as well as a special recording of the poem “’Twas The Night Before Christmas”. Abigail Gill, Poppy Lassnig, Abi Eriskin and Chloe Gray presented three hours of fun, information and Christmas songs and the show was so good that Sheppey FM are going to broadcast it again on Christmas morning.

The training programme will continue right through to the summer term. There will be special feature shows for Careers week and Dementia week, and the rest of the shows will be themed on “War on Waste”.

I am incredibly proud of all the students who take part in this project. It's great to see them smashing the personal challenges they set for themselves. They really do represent the Academy in such a positive way and are making massive steps in telling our community all the great stuff that goes on. Thanks to all at Sheppey FM for supporting us always.

Mrs L Baseley





Mrs L Baseley

News from our award winning Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Lots going on this term – November 12-16 was anti-bullying week and as always we were very much involved.

Monday 12th November was the Diana Awards Anti-Bullying Week Conference at Crystal Palace where we joined celebrities and other schools from around the country to enjoy interactive workshops and performances themed on “Choose Respect”. Even the staff got involved with Mrs Bermingham reading out her “letter to her younger self” and minibus driver Keith joining in the Poetry workshop with a Haiku about transport.

The rest of the week was busy working on powerpoints in mentoring as well as our live radio show on Sheppey FM, which included an exclusive interview with dancers Twist and Pulse. We also had our information stall at Year 7 Parents’ Evening and a cake sale which raised over £90 for Diana Awards, which will help them train more young people. We even managed to squeeze in a couple of assemblies despite the number of exams going on.

Two more groups of AB Supporters have now been trained as Ambassadors to continue our support and awareness work both in and out of school, giving us a current total of 46 young people from Years 9 & 10 across both campuses willing to give up their own time to support others. There are a similar number of AB Supporters in Years 7 & 8 on the team who are just waiting for the opportunity to be trained, then we will have close to 100 Ambassadors! An amazing team. The Safe Spaces on both sites remain open every lunchtime with a new rota ready for the new year. Safe Space on the West Campus is in the Library, but East is now moved to HG5. Anyone can come along for a chat with an Anti-Bullying Ambassador for support or advice, play games and relax.

Don’t forget –if you don’t REPORT it, we can’t RESPOND, RESOLVE or RECORD, so parents and students please continue to use the Hotline and Email address if you have anything to report.



#STANDUPTO BULLYING

For confidential advice and support if you or a friend are being bullied, send a text to

ANTI-BULLYING HOTLINE
07949035229

Support is also available by email
Anti-bullying@oasisisleofsheppey.org
Or by speaking to an Anti-Bullying Ambassador or any member of staff
DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE



OASIS ACADEMY_ (ISLE OF SHEPPEY)

ACCREDITED BRONZE



Peer Mentoring

This term, two more teams of Peer Mentors have been trained. Added to the existing teams, we now have 45 young people from Years 9 and 10 who are supporting younger students. Special mention to Jamie King from West site and Rossi Hart from East site who are the only Year 8s to receive the training. Both asked for the opportunity as they had such positive experiences as Mentees last year.



kooth

We're still here to help over the festive season

24/7 access to self-help materials and daily online counselling available over the holiday period

Chat to friendly counsellors online 265 days a year

Read self-help articles written by other young people

Join peer-to-peer support forums

Visit kooth.com to sign up for free today






Gardening Project

We have a number of projects currently being funded by Headstart Kent, who support the mental health and wellbeing of 10-16 year olds. One of those projects is the Gardening groups, which are led by Anita Brunt from Sheppey Matters. We now have a well-established Year 10 group on the West Campus, who having completed their planting, are now working with Blackburn Lodge and Wiggles Nursery to create a community garden.

The newly formed East Campus team are in the planning stages for their garden which will use a crop rotation system and planting will start in the Spring. Thanks to Anita for these news pages.

Oasis Academy West	Blackburn Lodge	Wiggles Playgroup

Hi Friends! Alongside working with Blackburn Lodge and Wiggles Playgroup Oasis Academy West Gardening Club have also been installing their own raised beds. These were constructed with the help of Paul and Mick. Many thanks! The beds were constructed from donated wood. The beds were planted with many spring flowering bulbs and topped with pansies and viola bedding. Their garden area is now taking shape and gaining praise!

Constructing raised beds and fence!

Lining the raised beds, filling with compost and planting up with spring flowering bulbs and bedding pansies and violas!

Community Gardener
Sheppey Lifestyle
Sheppey Matters

LOTTERY FUNDED

Special Assemblies

This term, students have attended a range of assemblies delivered by various visitors, each carrying important, very serious messages. First we had the annual visit from the Kent Police "Is It Worth It?" Roadshow for Years 7 & 8. A very entertaining session with a theme of Online Safety. Students took part in games and quizzes with prizes of High Street vouchers, and danced along to singers Robbie White and his manager, Charlie George (Only The Young, X-Factor series 11).

Kent Fire & Rescue Service came with some very hard-hitting messages. They delivered sessions on the devastating effects of arson and anti-social behaviour to our Years 8s and 10s; and for Year 11s the message was road safety and making choices especially around getting into a car with other young, maybe inexperienced drivers.

Year 8 students received a visit from Joining Hands Joining Hearts, who spoke about positive relationships. Mr/Ms Right versus Mr/Ms Wrong illustrated how to recognise unhealthy behaviours which could lead to abuse. Year 11 had a talk about exam stress and online counselling, and Year 10 had a session about drugs gangs.

Any students affected by any of the content were able to speak to the visitors at the end of each session, or at lunchtime drop-ins.



We are at the time of the year where we experience high numbers of children taking time off school due to feeling unwell. The following information from the NHS will help parents and carers to identify the symptoms of common illnesses and ailments, where to seek treatment and whether any time off school is required.

Please ensure you contact our attendance team if your child is unable to attend school by either telephoning the school or via email: iosattendance@oasisisleofsheppey.org.



What it's called	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
Chicken Pox	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters	Yellow dot	Pharmacy	Back to school 5 days after on-set of the rash
Common Cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat	Green dot	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Conjunctivitis	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)	Green dot	Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache, body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat	Yellow dot	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
German measles	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards.	Red dot	G.P.	Back to school 6 days from on-set of rash
Glandular fever	high temperature, sore throat; usually more painful than any before and swollen glands	Green dot	G.P.	Child needs to be physically able to concentrate
Hand, foot & mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)	Green dot	G.P.	Only need to stay off ill feeling too ill for school
Head lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)	Green dot	Pharmacy	
Impetigo	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness	Red dot	G.P.	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, and watery inflamed eyes. Small red spots with white or bluish white centres in the mouth, red, blotchy rash	Red dot	G.P.	Back to school 4 days from on-set of rash
Ringworm	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty	Green dot	G.P.	
Scabies	Intense itching, pimple-like rash. Itching and rash may be all over the body but commonly between the fingers, wrists, elbows, arm	Green dot	G.P.	Back to school after first treatment
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash	Yellow dot	G.P.	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Sickness bug/ diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea	Yellow dot	Pharmacy	See GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around anus	Green dot	Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Tonsillitis	Intense Sore throat	Green dot	Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow
Whooping cough	Violent coughing, over and over, until child inhales with "whooping" sound to get air into lungs	Red dot	G.P.	Back to school after 5 days of antibiotics or 21 days from onset of illness

See www.patient.co.uk for further information on each of these conditions

This leaflet has been produced in partnership between



This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals however, if you are unsure about your child's wellbeing we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

**Don't
FORGET!**



Students return to school on
Thursday 3rd January 2019

I can be
Compassionate

to listen to other people and see things from a different point of view

I can be
Patient

and not give up

I can be
Humble

to encourage others and celebrate success as a team

I can be
Joyful

and positive and help others to be the same

I can be
Honest

and take responsibility for my choices and actions

I can be
Hopeful

and work hard to make a change

I can be
Considerate

and treat everybody with respect

I can be
Forgiving

and not let the actions of other people affect my attitude

I can be
Self-controlled

and manage my emotions and actions



