



Orchard Manor School News

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"Welcome to my house! Enter freely. Go safely, and leave something of the happiness you bring!" - Dracula, Bram Stoker

Hello everyone! WELCOME BACK!

Its been so lovely to see everyone here and the school full of smiles and laughter again! The summer holidays seemed short this year, but we have a lot to look forward to over the coming months. All our newbies are settling in fine—staff and students alike—and there is a distinct buzz of energy around the place. Life is good!

I am extremely thrilled to tell you that we had some amazing exam results from our GCSE cohort. We had the most passes this year with the English, Maths and Science results and we have had superb results with our Entry Level Certificates and BTecs. Well done to everyone - to the students who worked so hard and put in so much effort, and to our fabulous team of staff who got them there. I am really so very proud of everyone!



As usual our PE Team have lots planned for the next few months— starting with an OMS Olympics which sounds like it will be lots of fun as usual, and will tempt even the most reticent of students and staff to join in. Fun will be had by everyone I am sure.

We are also proud to announce that Catherine Kilburn, Head of PE, we will be offering a new SEND sports club on a Wednesday afternoon 4-5pm starting 2 October which will be open to OMS as well as external students from other schools. This club is available for SEND children from years 4-8 as well as children who often need extra time and support in PE lessons and will only cost £1 per session. All activities will be tailored to those taking part, to ensure that they can have a positive experience and develop their physical confidence and competence, and it will take place in our brand new sports hall on site. I am hoping the local community will embrace this as much as I know our own children will.



Next week our new year 11s are setting out on an adventure to Gran Canaria. This trip is run and funded by The Turing Scheme, the UK government’s programme to fund international experiences in education and training across the world. It supports Global Britain by providing opportunities for students, learners and pupils to study or work abroad. Our students will have a chance to experience working and studying in Spain for a week. They will also see lots of the local landmarks—including having supper in a cave!

Accommodation for the trip is a villa with a pool, and there will be school in the morning and then exploring in the afternoons, returning to base for a swim and a chance to eat and relax with their friends. Like many of the group of students who went last summer, this may be the first time on a plane, staying away from their parents for a length of time, visiting a foreign country and immersing themselves in Spanish culture. Its going to be an amazing experience for them. It will push them out of their comfort zone within the safety net of having familiar staff around them and they will come back with fantastic memories and new skills. We hope that this will be a regular feature over the coming years.

Its the end of our first week already! All that’s left to say is have a great weekend everyone!

Nicola Jones, Headteacher