

Walking in a Winter Wonderland



CHRISTMAS at Ormiston Six Villages has been celebrated with a whole range of activities and events this year.

Students across the school from Year 7 to Year 11 were treated to a special Rewards Day where they were taken off timetable and experienced a range of activities to celebrate.

Every student was treated to a free Christmas dinner to be shared in their form group with their tutors. The traditional roast turkey dinner could be swapped for a vegetarian option if preferred.

Speaking of the event,

Principal, Mr Slaughter said: "I am immensely proud of the students who took part in our wonderful winter concert. I would like to congratulate them on their performances; the standard of performance was genuinely impressive. Some students demonstrated real courage

and the audience and myself were behind them every step of the way.

"My grateful thanks also go to Mr Munt for giving our students these enriching experiences and to parents for supporting the event.

"It has been fantastic to see each year group come together for their Christmas lunch over the last week. Students have also participated in enriching activities as part of their end of term rewards. I would like to thank the canteen staff for working tirelessly to prepare over 800 Christmas lunches - that is a lot of Brussel sprouts!"

Continued on page 3





Hello and welcome to the OSVA Times! A school newspaper written by you, for you.

We welcome any contributions or ideas for input, so please get in touch.

We welcome new members to join the club - please come to English 4 on Thursday lunchtime.

OSVA Times Team:

Editor-In-Chief: Miss Wickham

Reporters:

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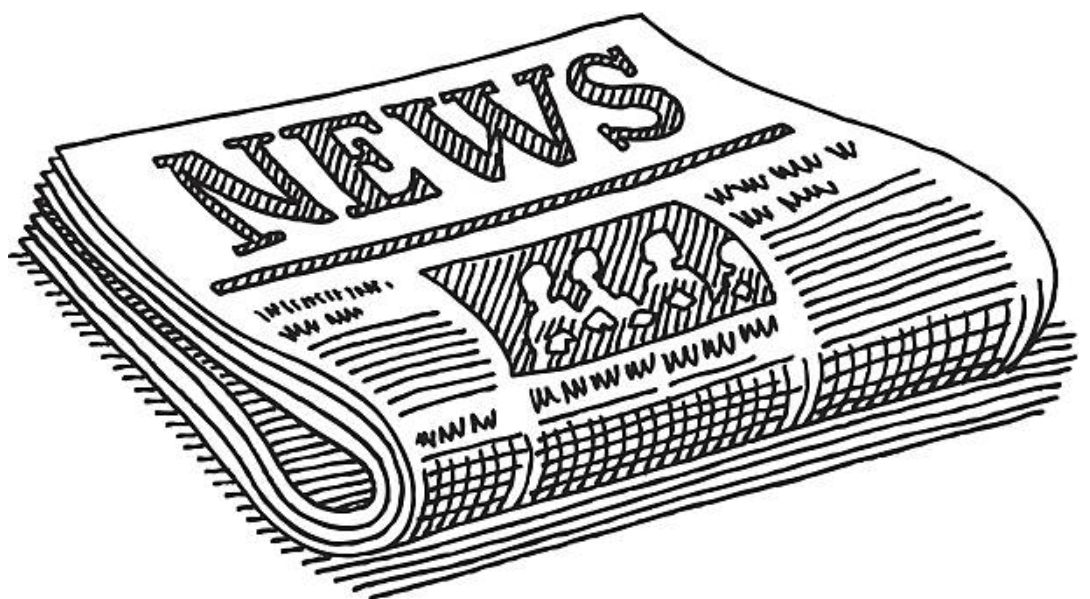
Kallum R

Isla S

Scarlett S

Elodie W

Kai Z





All year groups had a special rewards day assembly in the morning which saw all students celebrated with individual certificates for their achievements.

Year 8 and Year 9 were invited to a Christmas Disco in the Gate Theatre at the beginning of the month.

The whole school also came together for an assembly on the last day of term.



During their day, Year 10 took part in a Christmas themed science practical, Christmassy maths games and physical activities as well as a festive film.

Ethan said: "I really enjoyed watching 'Home Alone' and trying to work out the Mrs Claus' cookie recipe using scientific reactions. My favourite part of the day was getting to play football."

Year 11 were treated to bingo, Christmas crafts, a game of Taskmaster and a year group party.

Emily said: "I got sea-

sonal chocolate in the assembly because I was in the top five for the most points in my year."

Tutor group parties, Christmas films, football matches, and bench ball were all on offer for Year 9.

The Year 8 group could watch festive films, create Christmas cards or decorations or play board games, followed by competitions in physical activities and tutor group games.

Lastly, Year 7 were given a choice of five activities; Cryptic Christmas, Sports tournament, board games, music challenge and Christmas craft followed by Tutor Activity Fun and a Christmas film.



A Valentine's Day poster for Ormiston Six Villages Academy. The background is a light pink gradient. In the lower-left, there is a black silhouette of a couple embracing. In the lower-right, there is a black silhouette of a tree whose branches are filled with numerous red hearts of various sizes. The text is written in a white, cursive font with a black outline. The main title is 'Valentine's Day at Ormiston Six Villages Academy!' and the bottom text is 'Coming soon'.

*Valentine's
Day at
Ormiston
Six Villages
Academy!*

*Coming
soon*

Political Manipulation in the Media

By Emilio N

'It doesn't affect me.'

A statement often used regarding politics. At its core, it is a dismissal. Nothing more, nothing less. They believe that the limitation and withdrawal of human rights will not affect them. However, neutrality can and will prove to be the death of justice, due to a lack of information, education, and empathy.

The growth in the consumption of media is astronomical. It is no longer confined to books, cinema, and television. Digital media has demonstrated itself to be the most practical route for information. With news outlets, websites, social media apps, and multiple search engines, information and entertainment are easily attainable. One specific way these two can co-exist is within political media sources.

However, the primary function of media is to make profit. By creating enjoyable and entertaining political content, they can profit off people's desire to educate themselves, whilst not boring themselves. This has become a difficult situation as the media is prioritising the entertaining content rather than the informative content as it has larger interaction, specifically from younger audiences. As a result of this, false narratives and exaggerated headlines are

advertised more than the complicated truth, because they are easier to understand, less time consuming, and more fun to engage with.

Creating short but entertaining content has shortened the attention span of millions of people, and additionally their consideration for important political subjects, as they are not thinking as thoroughly as they should be. Consuming media in mass amounts has its consequences. An apathy to violence as a result of over-exposure to it is one major result. With the collaboration of informative and entertaining content, specifically used for news coverage, we become desensitised to conflicts and injustices around the world. This is because of the short attention span we've adapted to. We view a video; we scroll onto the next one. The average person views a video for approximately 3 seconds before scrolling and the adult attention span has decreased to 8.25 seconds on average.

This contributes to a lack of empathy within media, as we begin to view the coverage of these conflicts as entertainment sources, rather than information sources. Therefore, we do not fully see the people affected by this as actual people, but rather as statistics (as they are often portrayed by news outlets as such.)

This negatively affects how people view political parties, as they see their hate speech as comedic or satirical, and become accustomed to their beliefs because they make for useful sources of entertainment, mainly due to shock factor. These younger audiences are prioritising their need for entertainment rather than their thirst for knowledge, which is withering away.

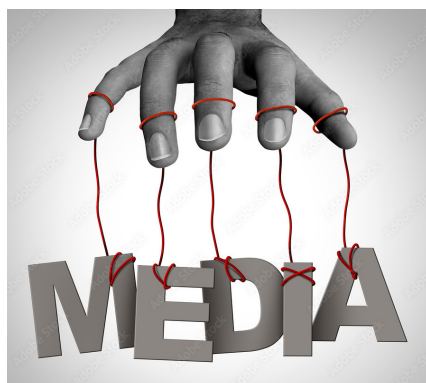
These political parties, fuelled by extremism, capitalise on our engagement with the media to specifically craft their campaigns to cater to our media consumption. By creating entertaining content, often almost satirical and in mockery of their opposition, it appeals to their demographic of young, influential, actively online audiences, seeking humour because we have grown so desensitised to suffering. We are the generation of technological development, and we are the future. These parties know this. They actively use it to encourage their ideology, and because we have grown to trust media information, we do not bother to ensure their agenda is right. We have grown to trust the internet so much that we blindly believe what these political parties are promising.

Do you realise how damaging that is?

What can we do? Taking the initiative and researching for yourself is one of the most beneficial things you can do when it comes to educating yourself. Not caring about your future is not caring about anybody's future. A vote not used is a vote wasted. A vote against progress. Viewing extremists as comedic is directly giving them attention, and interaction with their content fuels their campaign. Take it seriously or do not take it at all.

Believing everything you see online directly contributes to a rise in fascism, as you are legitimatising their extremist views. You are giving them a platform to address people with. These social media pages you see for political candidates are simply propaganda. You are not immune to it.

You can easily be influenced by it. And you are.



Poetry Foundation

My eyes have opened
My rest ripped away while I wail
The lights are too bright
The sounds, too loud in this room
And touch is too much
“Welcome, my love Borysko”
My mother says gently

I am five today
Lilacs white bloom this year
Two thousand and eight
This day I celebrate
Here in Ilovaisk
Here in my country Ukraine
Warmth and care prevail

In twenty-thirteen
My tenth birthday is now
Yet no delight has come
Whispered voices cry danger
We must pack and flee
I do not know why we go
But we still do leave

Now twenty-eighteen
I have now just turned fifteen
No hope or love found
I merely watch in terror
My lovely city
Now being destroyed ‘till clean
No joy is around me

I am now twenty
Finally back home
In my clothes stained red

With a heavy gun in hand
Poppies surround me
As I lay among gunfire
My eyes now closed

Peace is all I want
And with my own innocence
It was ripped away
I had no blood on my hands
Not when I was young
Why must a greedy dispute
Cause such severe pain?

By Kai Z



Poetry Foundation

Safe Places

We all want that place
A place we can go
When the world has turned its
Back on us
Where we can let
Our true selves out
From behind the bars
That are the societal norms
That shun us for who
We want to be.

It may be cold,
We may be alone
But when we go to
The better world
Either in our dreams
Or a room in a place
That truly belongs to us
We can be free
Free to take off the masks we wear
To hide who we really are from the
world.

This place,
Where we can let ourselves go,
Should be available to everyone
But many of us struggle to find that
place
Instead, they force their souls to fit
the mold created by people who do

not
Understand that being different
does not
Mean that it should be singled out
like it is a horrible thing
Something to be ashamed of.

There is nothing to be ashamed of.
Being different is what defines us.
There is no need to hide
What we truly are.
We are all unique.
No one is the same.
We should all treat each other
With kindness and respect.
Remember that what we give
Is what we get.

By Sophie G





SIX VILLAGES CAREERS EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES

Our 2024/25 Careers and Post 16 events calendar offers pupils a range of engaging activities and opportunities to experience the worlds of work and further education.



YEAR 9 MOCK CAREER INTERVIEWS

Wednesday 22nd January 2025



FUTURES AND CAREERS FAIR

Thursday 13th February 2025



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

30th June - 4th July 2025

To register your interest for these events please complete the short form linked via each QR code.

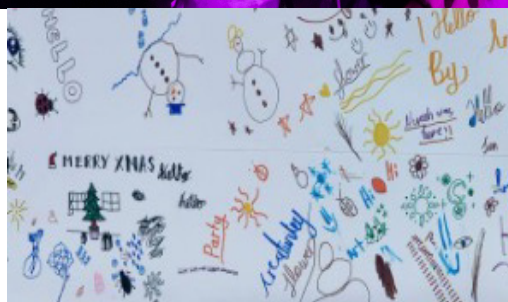
Please direct any further questions to Chris Marsh at the email address below.

Chris Marsh, *Lead Teacher Careers and Post 16*
cmh@ormistonsixvillages.org.uk

Direct Dial: 01243 546820

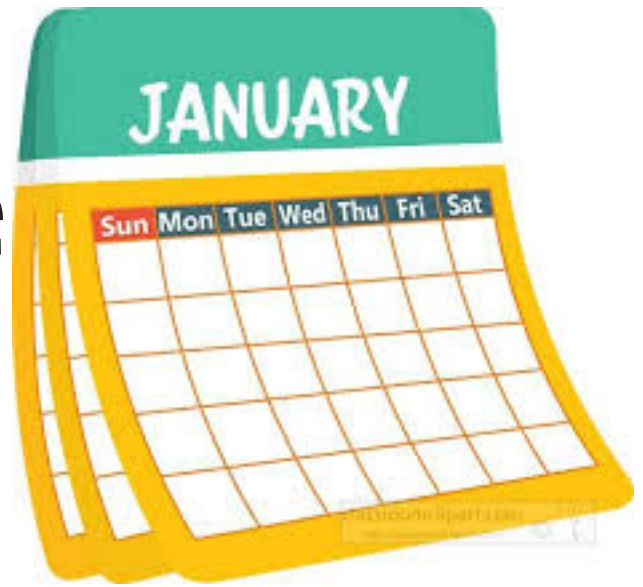


Celebrations and events across the term



Special Days in the Calendar

by Sophie G



4th January - World Braille Day

World Braille Day is celebrated annually on 4th January, Louis Braille's birthday. Louis Braille is renowned for creating the Braille alphabet, designed for visually impaired individuals. This important code has since been adapted for nearly every language worldwide. The invention of Braille provided blind people with independence and the opportunity to learn and access information on their own.

14th February - Valentine's Day

This day started as a Christian feast day to honour a martyr named Valentine. Over time, it has evolved into a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and love in many parts of the world. It is a time to express affection for a loved one. You can celebrate by giving cards (either signed or anonymous) along with small gifts such as flowers or chocolates.



8th March - International Women's Day

This is a day to think back on and celebrate social, political, economic, and cultural accomplishments of women. One of its main aims is to raise awareness of the struggle for gender equality. You can show your support and respect to the women of the past, present and future by wearing purple and green; these colours were chosen by the Women's Social and Political Union in 1908.

23rd April - World Book Day

First, this day should not be confused with the celebration of World Book Day that happens on the first Thursday of March. This day promotes reading across all communities, encourages people to engage with different genres of literature, and discover the benefits of reading. To celebrate this day, go to your local library and choose a book you might not normally read; you never know, you might like it. Or you could go to our library at school; the team of librarians is always ready to help and recommend books for you.

Ask the staff in 10

This issue we speak to.... *Miss Harvey!*

1. What is your job role / title in the school and what made you choose you job?

Maths teacher, enjoyed secondary school but had a negative experience at A-Level so recognised how much of a difference the teacher made.

2. What is the best thing about your job?

My colleagues, they are incredibly supportive.

3. When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up?

An accountant/something with numbers!

4. What was your favourite subject at school and why?

Maths! I like that there is an answer.

5. What would students be surprised to know about you?

I enjoy dancing! I'm terrible at singing and dancing, but I really enjoy it! I also help to coach my son's football team.

6. What is your dream holiday?

Either snow, maybe lapland; or a nice luxury hotel in Mexico!

7. If you won the lottery, what would you buy first?

A new car, and maybe house hunting too! Also a nice trip abroad!

8. What is your favourite book and film?

The Harry Potter series, I cant watch the films without saying most of the lines..."I wondered when i'd be seeing you Mr.Potter"!

9. What makes a "good day" at school?

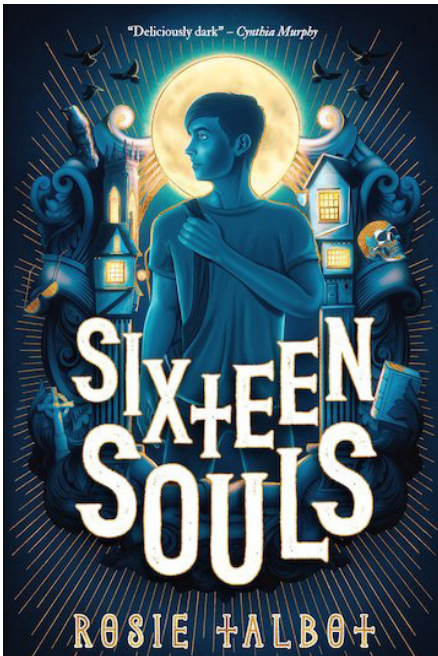
Students that listen, try hard and complete their work!

10. If you could pass on any wisdom to students, what would it be?

Listen! Yes we are older, but we are wiser! We speak from experience!



Book Corner



Sixteen Souls by Rosie Talbot

Review By Isla S

Genre: Horror / Fiction

Page Count: 368

Age Rating: 13+

Sixteen Souls is the debut novel by author Rosie Talbot, and the first in the Sixteen Souls duology. The plot follows sixteen-year-old Charlie Frith who has the ability to see ghosts. As spirits start to disappear in York, the most haunted city in Britain, Charlie reluctantly teams up with Sam Harrow, the new seer in town. While dealing with his romantic feelings for Sam, Charlie and their group of ghosts set out to save the missing

spirits from a fate worse than death...

This book has an amazing cast of unique and diverse characters, and with many plot twists, the story always offers something new! The way in which ghosts work within the plot is so well detailed and the horror is thrilling. I would rate this book 4.5 stars out of 5 due to the gorgeous writing of Rosie Talbot and the intriguing, gripping plot.

Do you have a brilliant book that you'd like to share?

Send it to: kwm@ormsitionsixvillages.org.uk or pop to Newspaper Club on Thursday lunchtime!

Book Corner

The Iliad by Homer

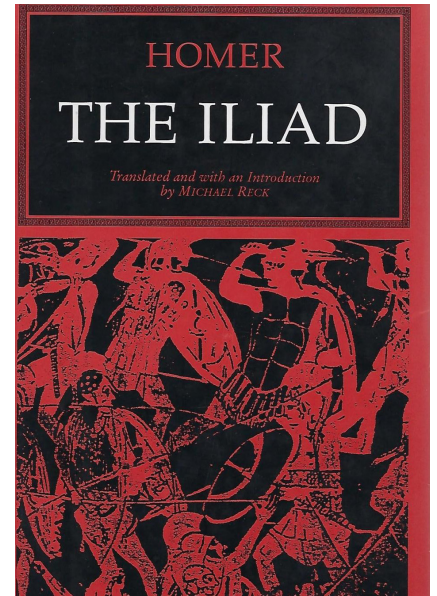
Review by Kai Z

Genre: Classic

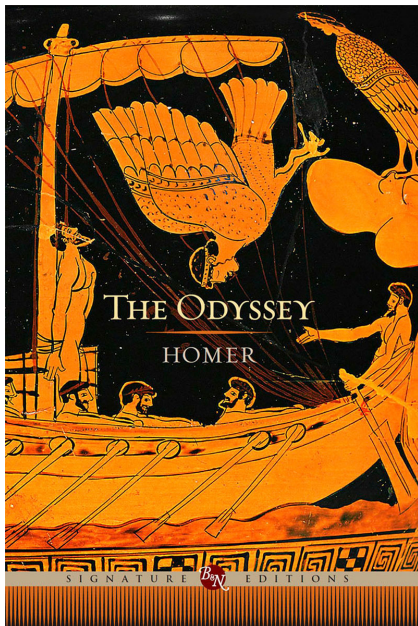
Pages: 683

Age rating: 14+

This book was written by the poet Homer and follows the story of many well-known Greek heroes, including Odysseus, Achilles and Hector. This book takes just before the famous Odessey and is a must-read for all Greek mythology fans. It tells the story of the battle between the Trojans and Greeks and is one of the most well-known myths.



This story is relatively difficult but if you are a fan of Greek Myths I would recommend it. It has some dark themes of violence and death but is written well and tells a compelling tale.



The Odessey by Homer

Review by Kai Z

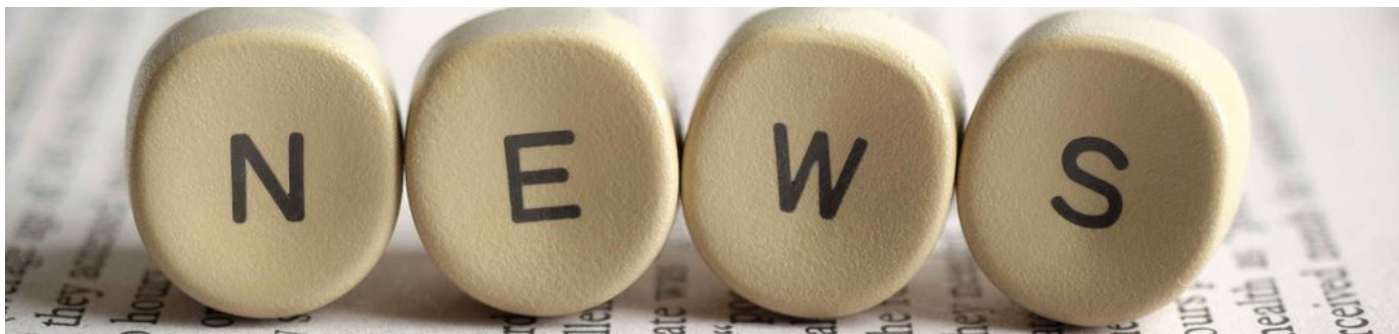
Genre: Classic

Pages: 416

Age rating: 14+

This book was written by the poet Homer and follows the story of many well-known Greek heroes, mainly Odysseus. This book takes just after the famous Illiad and is a must-read for all Greek mythology fans. It tells the story of Odysseus and his crew's travels to their home after a long battle

This story is relatively difficult but if you are a fan of Greek Myths I would recommend it. It has some dark themes of violence and death but is written fairly well and tells a compelling tale



ORMISTON'S Got Talent is making its way to Six Villages next year and on the look out for entries!

All Ormiston Academies Trust students are invited to create, record and share a 2-minute performance, for their chance to take part in the Ormiston's Got Talent finals in July 2025.

All entries must be submitted to Mr Munt on or before our return to school in the Spring term Monday 6th January.

STUDENTS in Year 10 and Year 11 were treated to a special performance of A Christmas Carol in December.

The production company were invited to the school and performed for the two GCSE year

groups to supplement their studies for the set text in English.

YEAR 7 travelled to Southampton for the annual pantomime.

Oh yes they did! The students visited The Mayflower to see Jack and the Beanstalk and were thrilled to see popular dance act, Diversity performing.

STUDENTS and staff came together to remember the courage and sacrifice of the Armed Forces community with a reflective ceremony and two-minute silence for Remembrance Day in November.

All Staff and Students gathered in the courtyard to hear poems and readings including Carol Ann Duffy's 'The Last Post'.

A GREEN career day was held for year 9 in November.

Students were able to explore career options including photography, artwork and book writing.

MR SLAUGHTER and Mr McConville presented the maths ambassadors with badges.

Students who had shown dedication and enthusiasm in promoting maths around the school were nominated by teachers.

STUDENTS wore Christmas outfits for the last day of term.

To end the Autumn term, students and staff wore festive jumpers to raise money for charity.

SCIENCE CLUB

Tuesday afterschool



In Science
2



Speak to your sci teacher or more info

COMING
SOON

JOSEPH
AND THE
AMAZING
TECHNICOLOR
DREAMCOAT

TM & © 1987



DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

A HUGE congratulations to the Academy's U14 Girls Football team who won the district tournament.

The team managed to secure a win in the semi finals followed by the finals on penalties.

Miss Carter said: "Our U14 girls' football team took part in a district tournament last week against all the other local secondary schools.

"They won all their games in their league, then went on to win on penalties in both the semi-final and then the final against Felpham.

"Even though the win was incredible, I was more impressed with their attitude throughout,

their teamwork and the way in which they represented our academy community with respect throughout the entire tournament.

"They demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship to the other schools and were a true credit to OSVA."

Squad list:

Amelia L
Mia C
Emilie P
Maddy L
Imogen C
Ellie C
Nina L
Ava H



Sport in Spotlight!

Badminton

By Kallum R and Harry G

WHEN we first started there was lots to learn but there were plenty of people around to help. Going to it frequently makes you feel like you get better every time.

It's really fun and we guarantee you will like it. The teacher who runs it is the wonderful Mr Dacombe.

For those who don't know, badminton is a lot like tennis, but the rackets have a smaller head and a thin neck and handle, and the nets are higher. Anyone who has done this club would highly recommend it.

