

**10<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support. Please see below some information about forthcoming events / dates for your diary.

### **Tik Tok Challenge Warning to Parents**

We are reaching out to alert parents about the growing concern surrounding viral TikTok challenges. While many trends appear harmless, some pose significant risks to students' safety and well-being. Recently, certain challenges have encouraged behaviours that could lead to physical harm, emotional distress, or damage to property.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring a safe and respectful environment for all students. We regularly educate our pupils about online safety and the importance of making responsible choices, but we also need your support. We encourage parents to have open conversations with their children about the content they encounter on social media platforms like TikTok.

### **Celebrating Our Values: Workshops for Years 7–10**

This week, students from Years 7 to 10 took part in a series of dynamic and thought-provoking values workshops. Designed to deepen their understanding of our school's CARE principles—Community, Aspiration, Respect and Excellence.

Each workshop was tailored to ensure that students engage meaningfully with the material. Activities ranged from collaborative group discussions and role-playing scenarios to creative projects that helped them explore how these values can guide their daily actions and decisions. Students reflected on real-world examples, discussed the importance of empathy, and practiced strategies for overcoming challenges with determination and kindness.

We are incredibly proud of our students for their enthusiasm and thoughtful contributions during these sessions. As a school, we remain committed to fostering an environment where these values flourish and support our students' growth into confident, compassionate, successful individuals.

### **Year 11 Parents Evening**

We are pleased to invite parents and carers of Year 11 students to a second Parents' Evening dedicated to supporting your child's preparation for the upcoming February mock exams. This important event will take place on:

Date: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

Time: 3.30pm – 6.00 pm

Location: Diner

The evening will provide valuable guidance on how best to support your child during this critical period. Key topics will include:

- Revision strategies and study planning leading into February Mock Exams
- Subject-specific advice from teachers

A booking link has been sent separately to all Year 11 parents and we encourage as many parents as possible to attend.

### **Student Success**

On Thursday the year 8 football team travelled to a very wintery Thetford Academy to compete in the county cup. Conditions proved very difficult with temperatures hovering around freezing. At half time the boys found themselves 4 - 2 behind largely due to a less than perfect playing surface. After some positional changes the team quickly took control of the game and with stand out performances from Buddy and Jaden along with Tommys creativity they found themselves 6-2 victors at full time. This victory sees them through to the quarter finals which will be played later this half term. A superb performance showing real resilience.

### **Student Absence Line opens at 7.30 am**

We have a lot of parents letting us know their child is ill/has an appointment after 8:30am. Could we remind parents that they need to notify school before 8:30am for illness and in advance for appointments. Any emergency appointments we understand cannot be made aware in a advance.

### **Medication in the Academy**

Please can we remind parents that students are not permitted to carry any form of medication with them around the academy. If your child needs to take any medication during the academy day please complete a medical form and leave the medication with main office. Student will be able to access the medication when required at break and lunch (or as directed by GP). Thank you in helping us to support the safety of our students.

### **After School pick-ups**

If for some reason you are delayed or your child misses their ride home please can you ask them to return to the front office where a member of staff will help them. As the dark nights approach, we do not want students waiting outside on the road or being uncertain what to do in this situation.

### **School Diner**

**We will be celebrating Chinese New Year on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 with a special menu**

**Chicken or Quorn Chow Mein or Sticky Hoi Sin chicken both served with egg fried rice and mini spring roll**

We continue to offer a free breakfast for all our students. The Breakfast Club is available between 8.00AM and 8.25AM and all students are welcome.

**Please could I remind parents to make sure that you have placed sufficient funds on your child's Parent Pay account to help maintain the smooth running of the checkouts.**

### **Heads of Year Contact details**

If you need to contact your child's head of year please email them or call the main reception to pass a message on for you.

Year 7 - Ms Phillips [ephillips@cliffparkoa.co.uk](mailto:ephillips@cliffparkoa.co.uk)

Year 8 - Mr Warnes [mwarnes@cliffparkoa.co.uk](mailto:mwarnes@cliffparkoa.co.uk)

Year 9 - Miss Harris [mharris@cliffparkoa.co.uk](mailto:mharris@cliffparkoa.co.uk)

Year 10 – Mrs Dudley [ddudley@cliffparkoa.co.uk](mailto:ddudley@cliffparkoa.co.uk)

Year 11 - Mr Callaby [rcallaby@cliffparkoa.co.uk](mailto:rcallaby@cliffparkoa.co.uk)

### **Main reception Opening Hours**

Opening hours for our main reception – 8.00 am to 4.00 pm Monday to Thursday. 8.00 am to 3.30pm on a Friday. Telephone 01493 661504 option 2 or email [enquiries@cliffparkoa.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cliffparkoa.co.uk)

### **Attendance contact details**

If you need to contact attendance please either call the student absence line – 01493 661504 and choose option 1 or email [cpoaattendance@cliffparkoa.co.uk](mailto:cpoaattendance@cliffparkoa.co.uk)

### **Reminder for PE Kit**

A polite reminder that students must bring in their PE kit for all PE lessons. However hoodies are not acceptable due to health and safety.

### **Knowledge Organisers**

Years 7, 8 and 9 all have their knowledge organisers. These are important documents that outline the core knowledge being studied in each of their subjects this half term. Students have been informed how the academy will be using the knowledge organisers, as well as how they can be used at home to help with their knowledge retention. Copies of the knowledge organisers and the six ways in which students can use them can be found on our website: [www.cliffparkoa.co.uk/curriculum/knowledge-organisers](http://www.cliffparkoa.co.uk/curriculum/knowledge-organisers)

Please discuss the knowledge organisers with your child; it is important they are viewed by students as an essential part of their daily table service. As outlined in the letter and through assemblies, students will receive a sanction for not having their knowledge organiser with them for each lesson.

### **SEND drop in reminder**

If you have any concerns or questions around SEND, Parents and Carers are invited to attend a SEND drop in session which is held at the academy every Tuesday morning 8.30 - 8.50am.

### **Parent Drop In reminder**

Parents / Carers are welcome to drop into the academy to meet with myself or a member of my Senior Team every Wednesday. **You do not need to make an appointment, please just come to reception between 8.50 and 9.30AM and we will be happy to meet with you.** I understand the crucial role that parents play in a community school and welcome discussion on any aspect of our school community.

Unfortunately we will not be able to see parents who drop into reception outside of this period except where there is a safeguarding concern.

### **Important Dates**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Year 11 Mock Exam Information Evening / Parents evening
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 9 Parents/Options Evening
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 7 Parents Evening
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 8 Parents Evening
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 10 Parents Evening

Thank you for supporting us in maintaining the high standards that we know you expect from Cliff Park Ormiston Academy.

Have a brilliant weekend

Yours sincerely  
Harry French  
**Principal**