

The Oldham LORIC



We are delighted that you are reading the first edition of the Oldham LORIC. This will be our new monthly newsletter, where we can celebrate all that our students and staff have achieved.

The first question you may ask is why have we called it the LORIC?

We are proud to say we have been part of the PiXL group for several years now. PiXL is a partnership of over 1,500 schools, working together to achieve the highest outcomes for students and to improve their life chances.

Through this programme, students are encouraged to develop their Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication – or LORIC for short.

These are the attributes that we want to help our students explore through the Pastoral Curriculum we offer at Oasis Academy Oldham – and this newsletter will celebrate how students are building these skills.

Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication

Speed Networking Session

Our Year 8 students were lucky enough to learn from local businesses when they took part in a 'speed networking' careers event this month.

During the session the students, who are currently preparing to select their GCSE options, held a series of 5-minute interviews with representatives from some well-known businesses and organisations including Oldham Council, Galliford Try, Very, Pinsent Masons and M J Mapp.

Each of the students prepared a range of quick-fire questions to find

out more about the type of work involved in their chosen careers and the educational pathways that the professionals had taken.

Eva was inspired by her interview with a police officer. She said: "I had thought about joining the police but wasn't sure if it was for me. After speaking to the police officer today, I think it is a career I would enjoy."

While another student commented: "I really enjoyed learning more about social care, I didn't even realise that career existed."

Andrea Mitchell, Deputy Principal, said: "This event was just fantastic. The students were so engaged in the interviews with such a diverse range

of business people. Not only did they learn about the wealth of career options available, but they found out valuable information about the type of skills required for roles in different sectors."



Helping Your Child to Dream Big

Aspirations reflect teenagers' hopes or desires to reach a particular level of education or reach a career. Studies shows that students with either high aspirations or high expectations have higher school achievement than those with both low aspirations and low expectations.

What can you do to support them?

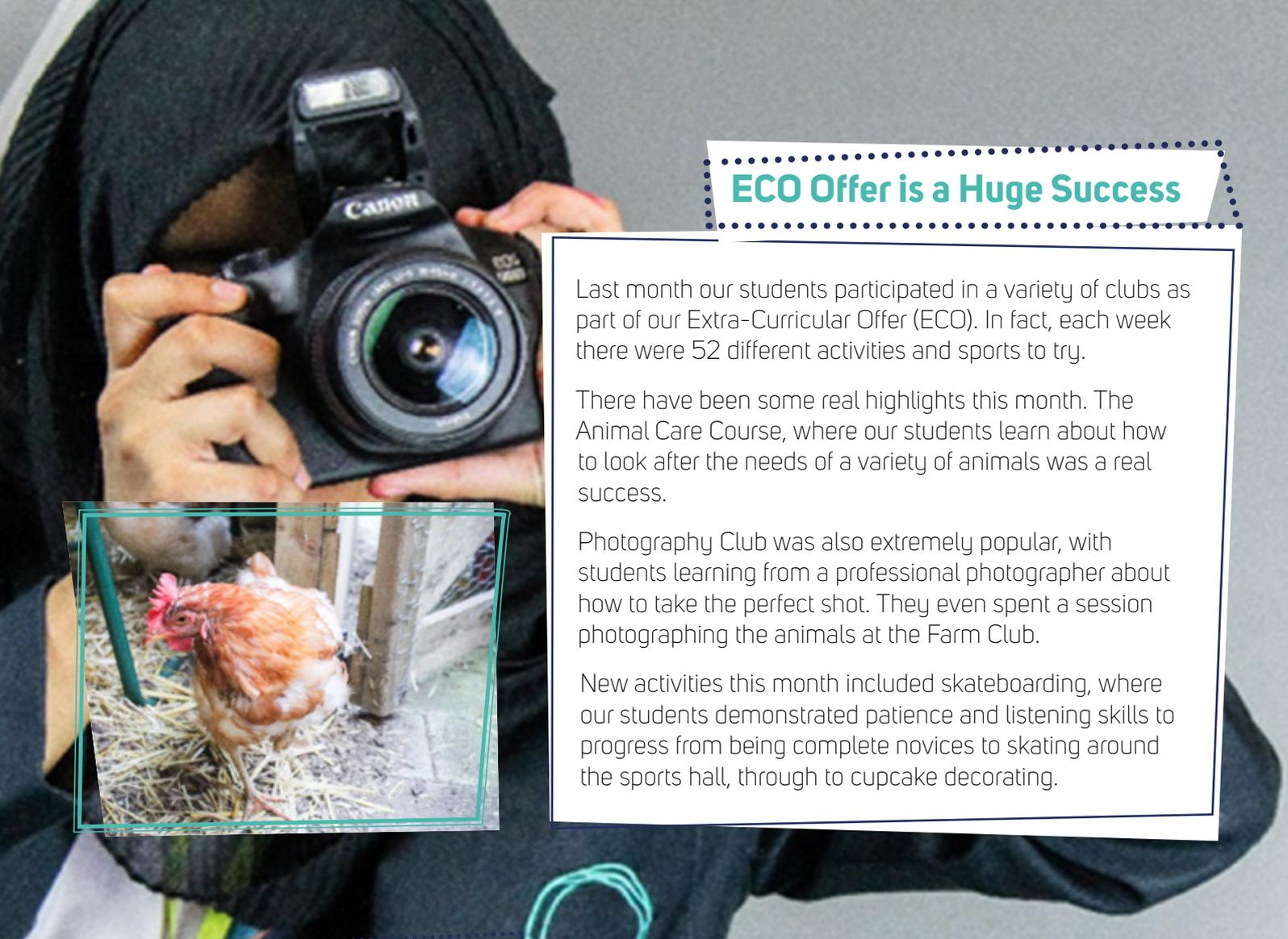
Talk to your child about their career, education or life aspirations. Be positive about what their hopes and dreams are and encourage them to start to be proactive in achieving them.

Try to raise your child's aspirations by highlighting new opportunities. Develop their self-esteem, motivation and expose them to role models to look up to.

Inspire your child to be excited about their future and motivate them to pursue their dreams.

Young people who take part in family time or activities with their parents are more likely to continue these, achieve in education and seek out career opportunities. Arrange to do things with your child such as theatre trips, cultural activities, concerts, museums, hobbies or exercising.





ECO Offer is a Huge Success

Last month our students participated in a variety of clubs as part of our Extra-Curricular Offer (ECO). In fact, each week there were 52 different activities and sports to try.

There have been some real highlights this month. The Animal Care Course, where our students learn about how to look after the needs of a variety of animals was a real success.

Photography Club was also extremely popular, with students learning from a professional photographer about how to take the perfect shot. They even spent a session photographing the animals at the Farm Club.

New activities this month included skateboarding, where our students demonstrated patience and listening skills to progress from being complete novices to skating around the sports hall, through to cupcake decorating.



A Healthy Start to the Day

Mornings can be incredibly busy, and making sure your child has had a good breakfast to fuel their day can sometimes be a challenge.

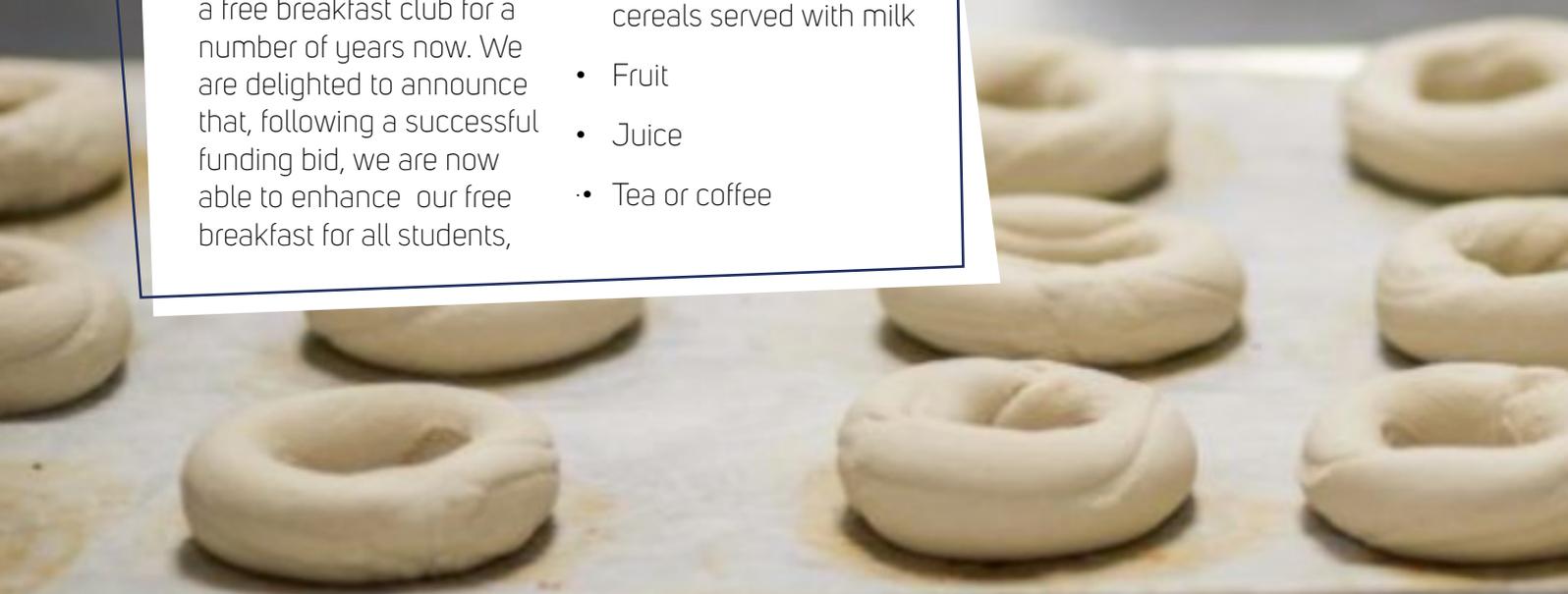
To help out, Oasis Academy Oldham has run a free breakfast club for a number of years now. We are delighted to announce that, following a successful funding bid, we are now able to enhance our free breakfast for all students,

offering a wider range of healthy breakfast options.

Every child can now start their school day with:

- A wholemeal bagel or toast with butter or jam
- A range of lower sugar cereals served with milk
- Fruit
- Juice
- Tea or coffee

**All are available
free of charge to
students from
7.15am – 8.15am
EVERY day!**



The Oasis Nine Habits

At Oasis Academy Oldham, we believe in the importance of continually developing our character to become the best version of ourselves. We, therefore, actively promote and practice the Oasis Nine Habits.

By practicing these habits, it enables us to develop an understanding and tolerance of each other through knowledge, mutual respect, believing the best and forgiveness. Individual rights are respected and choice will be exercised within a culture of self-discipline.

In February our habit to focus on was:

COMPASSION

Compassion is the ability and willingness to place ourselves in the position of another and, as a result, be able to show kindness to them, without ignoring or dismissing the truth about their situation.

Making a Habit out of the Nine Habits

When you come into the Academy, you will see Oasis' nine habits displayed proudly around the corridors.

These habits are essentially the values that help make us great individuals and a strong community. In January OAO focused heavily on the importance of being PATIENT - and around the school we spent time exploring what this means.

We wanted to recognise what students were doing to embody these values not just in school, but in their homes and communities

too - which is where the idea for the Postcard Challenge came from.

We would like to say a huge thank you to so many families who took the time to complete a postcard in January to celebrate and recognise your child's efforts in demonstrating the Oasis Habit of being Patient!

Congratulations to Ms Beatties' tutor group in Year 7 Nakama House who returned more cards than any other tutor group in the entire school! As a reward, the class received complimentary

express lunch tickets for Fish & Chip Friday.

We have also loved seeing February's postcards for COMPASSION arrive at the school - and look forward to reading about everything our students are doing when we count them all up in the coming days!

Remember, if you complete the challenge your family will receive four tickets for our summer Oasis Nine Habits Family Dinner & Disco.



Gardening Up a Storm

We are delighted to announce that Oasis Academy has been chosen to develop a school garden that will be displayed at the RHS Flower Show Tatton Park in July 2019.

Work is already underway, and a group of students are currently developing our initial design based on a theme that we are keeping under wraps! This design will be presented to other schools and RHS experts at a student workshop in March.

This is an exciting project and a fantastic opportunity for our students to play a role in a widely celebrated event.



Pretty Handy at Handball

Handball is one of the most popular sports around the world. You might have seen it at the Rio Olympics in 2016...and you can also see it being played to a very high standard here at OAO.

Our U13 Girls' Handball Team recently finished third in the Oldham Schools' Handball Competition.

Not only did the team put on some sterling performances, they played with real resilience, grit and determination! Well done!



Children's Mental Health Week

Earlier in February, OAO took part in Children's Mental Health Week with the support of Place2Be.

There was lots on, with students both leading and taking part in a number of initiatives to promote healthy living and wellbeing.

This included tutor groups creating bunting, while having discussions about the importance of mental health and how they can look after

themselves. Our peace garden was open for reflection and quiet time, and wellbeing staff also led health and fitness initiatives.



**Children's
Mental Health
Week 2019**
4-10 Feb #ChildrensMentalHealthWeek
ChildrensMentalHealthWeek.org.uk

Money Money Money

Understanding how to manage money is a vital life skill.

To support this, Oasis Hub run a number of clubs and activities that help students, parents and members of our community to develop their money skills.

Every Monday morning, Oasis Hub hold a drop-in at the Hub Community Space (across from school reception), where anyone can drop in, grab a cuppa and have a chat. During the drop-in, people can get involved as a Hollinwood volunteer, find out about other

activities, training and support on offer in the area, and either open an Oldham Credit Union account, or if they have one already, make a deposit.

Every Tuesday, Oasis Hub hold a young savers club called Money Money Money. The focus of the club is for students to learn money skills through fun and interactive activities. During the last half term we have played an ongoing game of Monopoly, learning how to keep personal accounts, and to take low or high interest loans from the bank.

OAo Football Teams Celebrate Success

The Oldham School Football Leagues have drawn to a close, and OAO teams have excelled.

The Year 7 football team have finished second in their league, and have been promoted into the A League for the next season.

The Year 8 football team have finished first in their league and have also been promoted into the A League.

The Year 9 football team finished at the top of the table, after beating North Chadderton in their final game 3-2. Given that they were losing 2-0 just after half time, this is quite the achievement.

Finally, the Year 10 football team finished the season unbeaten, and in the process scored 35 goals while only conceding five.



Sports Leaders Going for Gold for the Community

We are really proud of our OAO Sports Leaders who have managed to raise over £800 for charity.

They have been working with Leah Barrow, a silver medallist in the 800m at the Indoor British Championships, learning about the attributes she needed to exceed and excel as an athlete.

Part of the money raised will go to Leah's charity of choice and the rest of the money will be used to run the Junior Sports Leaders Award.