

# The Oldham LORIC



Welcome to the second edition of the Oldham LORIC, our monthly newsletter that celebrates all that our students and staff have achieved.

It has certainly been a busy month at our

academy, with many examples of how students have developed their Leadership, Resilience, Initiative and Communication (LORIC) skills with us.

Read on to find out more about our involvement in the Bee in the City campaign, student success in creative writing, our brand-new literacy competition and how we've helped with planning for Manchester's Youth Pride. In addition, we have an exclusive update on

our school garden at RHS Tatton Park and breaking news about our fantastic national award.

Within this issue, you will also see that we now have a dedicated page in the Oldham LORIC for our new Family Forum. This includes information about how we are working together with parents and carers to provide the best possible opportunities for our students.

**Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication**

## Wellbeing in Schools Award

We are delighted to confirm that Oasis Academy Oldham has won a national award at the Place2Be 'Wellbeing in Schools Awards' 2019.

After being shortlisted in the category of 'Progress' for this year's UK-wide awards, our team collected the trophy at a prestigious national ceremony which was held at London's Mandarin Oriental Hotel and hosted by radio presenter and Place2Be ambassador Katie Thistleton.

As part of our award-winning wellbeing programme, we have focused on self-esteem, how to talk about and express feelings, recognising signs of good and bad mental health, discrimination and extremism. This includes regular assemblies, PSHE lessons and 'Character' curriculum sessions each week, as well as offering a dedicated counselling service in partnership with Place2Be.

Ms Hale, Curriculum leader of PSHE, said: "Being a young person in 2019 is hard, and I passionately feel that we need to develop our students into well-rounded young people with the options



to choose whoever they want to be.

"Winning this award gives us a great platform to promote the importance of mental health and ensure that our children know that it's good to talk about it."

## Manchester Bee Memorial

Two Year 9 students from Oasis Academy Oldham have had their designs for an iconic piece of art turned into reality and displayed in the offices for a leading law firm.

Sahil and Weronika entered a competition to add their designs to a Bee sculpture, which were part of the Bee in the City campaign. The competition asked that the designs reflected the themes of community, faith and connecting together.

After reviewing 100s of entries, lawyers from Pinsent Masons selected elements of the two students designs and asked a renowned artist, Jenny Leonard, to bring their vision to life. The Bee now sits proudly on display at the entrance to the law firm's office in Central Manchester.

On visiting the Bee, Weronika said: "Everyone is different and everyone is unique in their own way. Yet, we are all one community. That was the message we were trying to get across in our designs, and it is great to see the Bee now sitting in a location that so many people will see.

"I was really proud to see the final Bee."

Sahil, who is working towards being an architect, said: "It was fantastic to see part of my design come off the page and onto a piece of sculpture; particularly as it is on a symbol that is so important to Manchester.

"I was also inspired by where the Bee is now placed. Pinsent Masons' office is incredible. I loved the architecture of the building and the views from the upper floors. It was an amazing day."





## Literacy for Breakfast

Starting the school day the right way is incredibly important.

Our popular breakfast club is open from 7.15am to 8.15am every day, providing a free nutritious breakfast for every student.

As part of our offer, we are pleased to announce that students can also look forward to taking part in our brand-new Breakfast Club Literacy Competition, to inspire a love of reading.

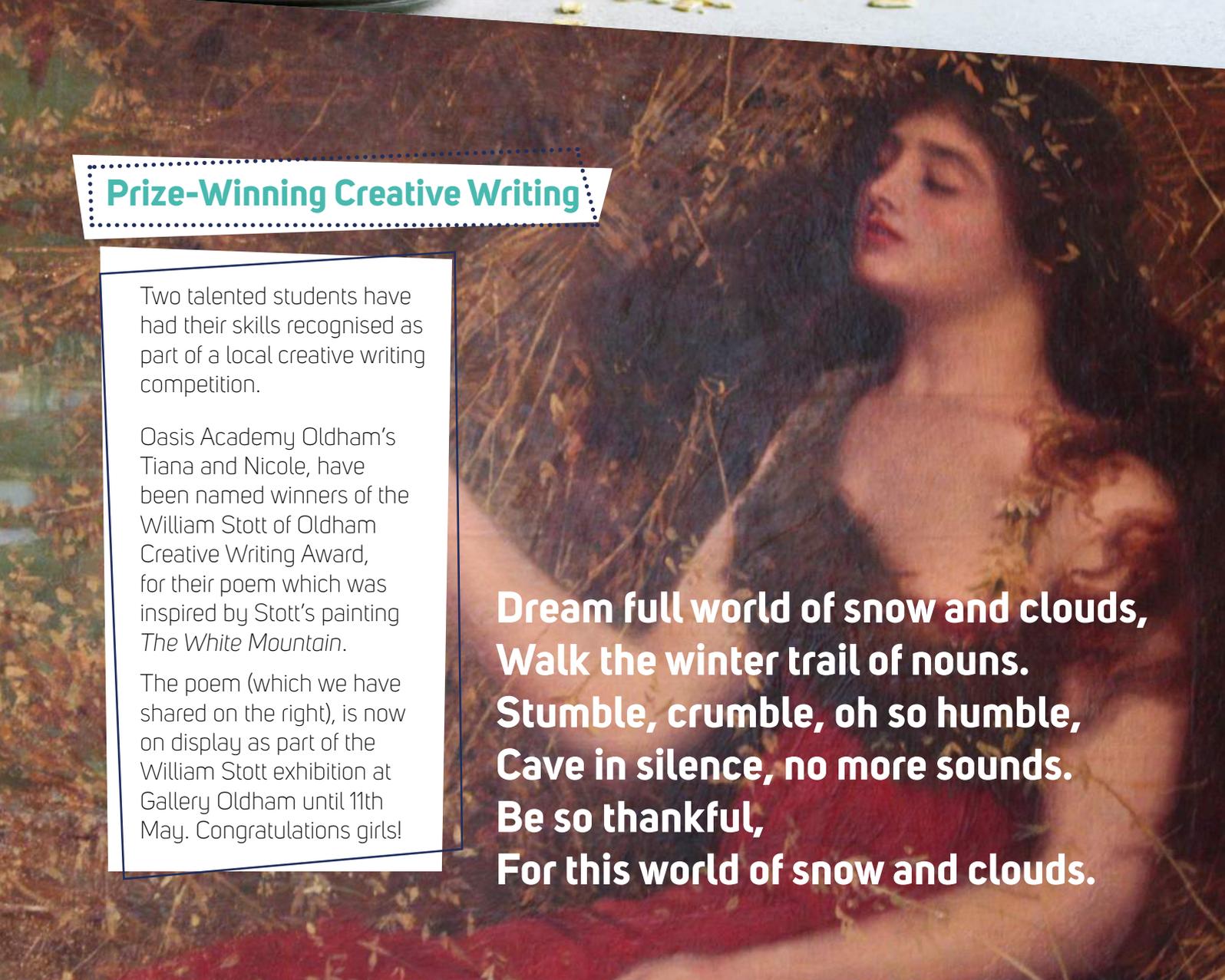
Each week we will be encouraging students to enter the competition for the chance to win a range of wonderful prizes, whilst boosting their literacy skills.

## Prize-Winning Creative Writing

Two talented students have had their skills recognised as part of a local creative writing competition.

Oasis Academy Oldham's Tiana and Nicole, have been named winners of the William Stott of Oldham Creative Writing Award, for their poem which was inspired by Stott's painting *The White Mountain*.

The poem (which we have shared on the right), is now on display as part of the William Stott exhibition at Gallery Oldham until 11th May. Congratulations girls!



**Dream full world of snow and clouds,  
Walk the winter trail of nouns.  
Stumble, crumble, oh so humble,  
Cave in silence, no more sounds.  
Be so thankful,  
For this world of snow and clouds.**



## 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 March our habit to focus on was:**

### **FORGIVING**

*To forgive another is to choose not to allow their actions and behaviour in the past, which may have hurt or offended us, to determine our behaviour towards them in the future. Forgiveness is never easy but it is always transforming...it always changes things.*

**In April our habit to focus on is:**

### **CONSIDERATE**

*Knowing your own intrinsic value and worth and, by seeing others in the same way, to be inclusive of them.*

## 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.

Our Nine Habits Postcard Challenge is going down a storm, and we would like to say a huge thank you to all of the families that have taken the time to complete

a postcard so far. It is a great way to celebrate and recognise your child's efforts in demonstrating the Oasis habits.

Congratulations to 8JFS and 9A, both in Nakama House, for their 100% Forgiving postcard returns, which means that Nakama continues to hold the top place on the leader board. As a reward, the classes received complimentary express lunch tickets for Fish & Chip Friday.

Entries are now open for CONSIDERATE postcards, and we look forward to reading about everything our students are doing when we count them all up at the end of the month!

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

A group of five students in school uniforms are standing in a line, facing away from the camera. They are in a room decorated with colorful bunting and posters. A large blue banner in the background reads 'The LGBT+ Centre' and 'CELEBRATING 30 YEARS 1988-2018'. The students are interacting with each other, with some placing their hands on the shoulders of others.

## Youth Pride MCR

In an exciting development for 2019, our students have been helping to shape the first Manchester Youth Pride.

Joining other young people from across the city, a group of students from Oasis Academy Oldham were invited to take part in a focus group at an LGBT centre in Manchester.

During the session, the group joined workshop teams to explore ideas for new and exciting events specifically designed for young people. It was a great opportunity for students to share their views and develop their speaking and listening skills, something that they will be able to add to their CVs.

As the youngest participants in the focus group, our students made us all very proud with their eloquent and articulate opinions. The CEO of Manchester Pride even commented on how impressed he was – well done!

A group of four female students in school uniforms are outdoors in a grassy area. They are looking down at something in their hands, possibly a small plant or a tool. One student in the foreground is leaning over, focused on her task. The background shows trees and a building.

## Bringing Our Garden to Life

Following our announcement last month that we will have our very own school garden on display at RHS Flower Show Tatton Park, our students have been working hard to bring our garden design to life!

As part of our preparations, four lucky students recently visited the Whitworth Gallery in Manchester to take part in a workshop run by the Royal Horticultural Society. At the event, the group were full of enthusiasm and ideas when they created a mood board and a model garden. They also delivered an incredible presentation of their project in front of other schools and members of staff.

We can't wait to update you on our progress before the grand unveiling in July 2019.

## Oasis Oldham's Family Forum

We believe that it is incredibly important for schools and families to work closely together for the benefit of our students. That is why we have been reviewing how we communicate with parents and carers and looking at ways that we can work in greater partnership.

Each term, we will be meeting with our newly established Family Forum and will be keeping you updated on what we discuss within each edition of the Oldham LORIC.

Our meeting in March focused on discussing the work we have been doing following our recent Ofsted inspection, and looking to the future as we talked about the new events and initiatives we have introduced to communicate with parents and carers more regularly.

During the session, members of the Family Forum were asked to reflect on what is working well and what could be improved around parental engagement – so we have lots of ideas to build upon.

The next Family Forum will take place from **6.00pm to 7.00pm on Thursday 23rd May.**

Please contact the school office if you would like to find out more.



One parent who attended the Family Forum meeting said:.

Mrs Harrison said following the meeting that, 'The opportunity for families to have a voice in this way is excellent and a welcome the opportunity. Both my husband and I are keen to be a part of the forum groups in the future and welcome the opportunity to work with the academy on matters which will benefit the students and the wider school community. It was good to hear from both Mrs Gobbi and Mrs Mitchell on matters relating to the academies priorities and I think it is a good idea that each meeting will focus on various aspects of the schools action plan.

I would definitely encourage other parents to be involved in the forthcoming meetings'.