



Weekly Newsletter



Ormston school

Monday December 15th 2025 – Newsletter 40

As we approach the end of term and the festive season draws near, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a wonderfully productive, enjoyable and at times challenging few months here at Ormston school. Our young people have worked with enthusiasm and resilience, embracing new learning opportunities and supporting one another with kindness. It has been a pleasure to see their confidence grow and their achievements flourish, both inside and outside the classroom. This time of year can be difficult for some of our young people, however, it always brings a special sense of togetherness at school.

As we look forward to the Christmas break, we have had and have exciting activities and celebrations planned, all designed to bring joy while maintaining our focus on learning. We have also faced challenges such as illness and adverse weather head on – a massive thank you goes to the wonderful staff team and supportive parents and carers!

As the end of the term arrives and a new year begins some changes will take place, I hope that the information in this newsletter is useful for you and our young people. Thank you once again for your ongoing support. I wish you and your families a peaceful, joyful Christmas and a restful holiday.

Key Dates

Please find below a reminder of our key dates which include holidays, bank holidays and INSET.

2026	January	February	March	April	May	June
Monday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Tuesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Wednesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Thursday	8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Friday	9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Saturday	10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Sunday	11 18 25 1	8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28

2026	July	August
Monday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Friday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Saturday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Sunday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30

194 day school year (6 of these are training days)

- Bank Holiday
- Holiday
- INSET - School is closed for training
- Autumn term = 75 days
- Spring term = 60 days
- Summer term = 61 days

Total = 196



DID YOU KNOW?

It is a myth that staff are not at school during INSET. We are actually very busy attending training and getting things ready for the term ahead. We also attend training every Tuesday after school – Learning is for life.



COSMIC



In January we are all attending COSMIC training, a face-to-face workshop all based around culture and system wide practise. This will be a thought-provoking experience when we can connect and collaborate with colleagues as well as practice using the model. Situations will mirror real classroom and playground situations. We will be practising systemic thinking, applying formulation tools and reflecting on our own roles and relational presence. You should have received a letter from our Occupational Therapist who works with Polaris Schools. We are excited to draw additional expertise from trained professionals for us to meet the needs of all young people.

Policy Updates

We have recently updated several of our school policies and information on our website, policies can also be requested through our office administrator. Key updates have been made to the following documents:

- School Trauma Informed Behaviour Management
- Health and Safety
- Fire safety
- School Lockdown
- Schools Compliments Complaints and Representations Procedure
- Curriculum summary

Staff Updates

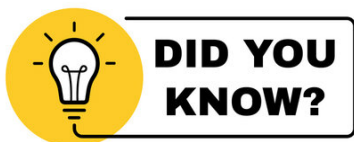
At the end of the term, we say goodbye to some of our staff members as we welcome the newest members of our team. As a growing school, our number of children, classes and therefore staff also increase.

Mr Smith (Barn Owl) embarks on the next chapter of his career with Ormston School and Polaris Community. Mr Smith will now be the Class Tutor for Burrowing Owl; we hope that he can start the Teaching Apprenticeship in September. We wish Miss Maman all the best when she leaves us for pastures new at Christmas. Miss Allman and Miss Thompson will join us as Teaching Assistants.

We are very excited to welcome Mr Yasim who joins us as our Snowy Owl Lead Teacher. Mr Yasim specialises in PE, Humanities and PSHCE having worked in Mainstream, Alternative Provision and SEND schools. I am sure that his expertise and enthusiasm will help us reach new heights, I am excited about the path ahead. Mr Lane will be relocating in the new year; we wish him all the best as he returns to Lancashire.

Mr Kirsima has been popping in and out over the last few weeks, most recently to meet all of the staff and to help build furniture in Moorfield House. Mr Kirsima joins us as Deputy Head Teacher and will focus on curriculum and primary. He has so much valuable experience in both teaching and leadership. Mr Kirsima has previously been a Deputy Head Teacher within a large SEND school and also holds the NPQH Headship qualification. I look forward to you all meeting him in the new year!

As a growing school we value the CPD and training we can provide staff here at Ormston. As we continue to grow, we are looking for a number of TA's and Teaching staff. I look forward to sharing the new staff profiles with you after Christmas. You can find our vacancies by visiting: <https://www.ormstonschool.co.uk/careers/>



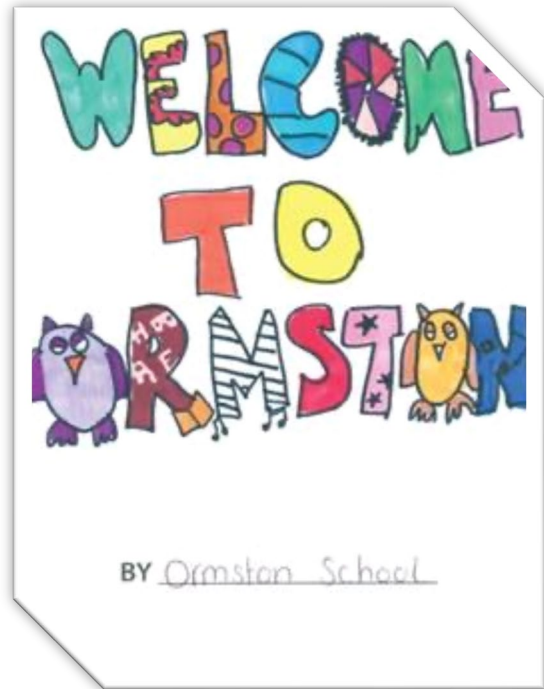
Our Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher & SENCo are all qualified Teachers. We can offer staff the opportunity to progress in their careers by completing a Teaching Apprenticeship Programme or Teacher Training. To complete this they must have relevant experience and an appropriate Degree. We make sure that we have a breadth of experience and knowledge in school, ranging for Early Career Teachers to more experienced staff members.



Christmas Doors and Ormston Christmas Day

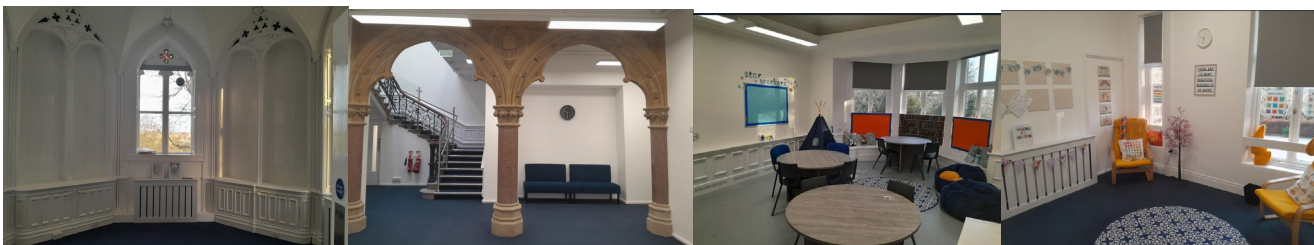
The young people decorated their own classroom doors this year for Christmas and wow! We had flashing lights, individual advent doors, candy canes and even the dreaded 6/7 door design! They really do look amazing though and add to our Christmasy feel in school. On Friday 19th December 2025 we will have our own Christmas day which also includes the Ormston School Talent Show and a full Christmas dinner 😊

Mr Brown has ordered parents a copy of the Ormston School book for Christmas, unfortunately as this needs printing you may receive this as a late Christmas gift. Trust us, it is worth waiting for!



Moorfield House Updates

It is exciting that Moorfield House is so very nearly ready 😊. Here are a few sneaky pictures before we invite you to come and have a look around in the new year. When we have received the official approval report from Ofsted and the DFE we will share this with you. Some of the comments around the schools approaches to safeguarding, behaviour and welfare are truly wonderful – they include the word robust. The first classes to move over to the Moorfield House areas in the new year will be: Snowy Owl, Tawny Owl and Burrowing Owl. Although we are still awaiting some furniture and bits and pieces, we would like to invite parents/carers of **all our secondary learners** in on **Tuesday 6th January 2026 between 15:00 and 16:30 (INSET Day 2)**. Please RSVP by emailing schooloffice@ormstonschool.co.uk so we know how many biscuits to buy 😊



To cater for additional young people arriving and departing school we have made some slight changes to the registration times and times for drop off and collection – no changes will be made to the duration of the school day.

Drop off Times: 08:45 – 09:15 (any time between these times, the gates will be locked outside these hours)

Pick Up Times: 14:55 – 15:15 (Friday 13:55 – 14:15)

Late registration mark: 09:20

Curriculum: Mr Yasim will be teaching some humanities (KS3 & 4) & Mr Kirsima will be teaching KS4 Maths. Next term our PE slots will be delivered by Total Dance Leeds (Dance Fitness) and Forest School, this is delivered by Miss Woollerson. Intervention slots have been added to secondary timetables so we can continue to deliver interventions to improve social skills and handwriting.



It has been incredibly wet recently. Please help us to keep the school clean and tidy by providing your child with indoor and outdoor footwear. Our full PSHCE/RSHE coverage for the next term can be found on our website. Teachers can provide you with more information and full timetables upon request.

Primary School Times Monday - Thursday



Breakfast Club & Tutor Time	08:45 – 09:15
Lesson 1	09:15 – 09:55
Lesson 2	09:55 – 10:40
Break Time	10:40 – 10:55
Lesson 3	10:55 – 11:40
Lesson 4	11:40 – 12:25
Lunch	12:25 – 12:45
Lunch Activity	12:45 – 13:05
Interventions	13:05 – 13:25
Reading	13:25 – 13:45
Lesson 5	13:45 – 14:30
Golden Time	14:30 – 14:55
Tutor Time & Reading	14:55 – 15:15 <i>*Collection Time</i>

Primary School Times Friday

Breakfast Club & Tutor Time	08:45 – 09:15
Lesson 1	09:15 – 09:55
Lesson 2	09:55 – 10:40
Break Time	10:40 – 10:55
Lesson 3	10:55 – 11:40
Lesson 4	11:40 – 12:25
Lunch	12:25 – 12:45
Activity	12:45 – 13:05
Reading	13:05 – 13:25
Golden Time	13:25 – 13:55
Tutor Time & Reading	13:55 – 14:15 <i>*Collection Time</i>


Secondary School Times Monday - Thursday

Breakfast Club & Tutor Time	08:45 – 09:15
Reading	09:15 – 09:30
Lesson 1	09:30 – 10:15
Lesson 2	10:15 – 11:00
Break Time	11:00 – 11:15
Lesson 3	11:15 – 12:00
Lesson 4	12:00 – 12:45
Lunch	12:45 – 13:05
Activity	13:05 – 13:25
Interventions	13:25 – 13:45
Lesson 5	13:45 – 14:45
Tutor Time & Reading	14:45 – 15:05 <i>*Collection Time</i>

Secondary School Times Friday

Breakfast Club & Tutor Time	08:45 – 09:15
Reading	09:15 – 09:30
Lesson 1	09:30 – 10:15
Lesson 2	10:15 – 11:00
Break Time	11:00 – 11:15
Lesson 3	11:15 – 12:00
Lesson 4	12:00 – 12:45
Lunch	12:45 – 13:05
Activity	13:05 – 13:25
Golden Time	13:25 – 13:55
Tutor Time & Reading	13:55 – 14:15 <i>*Collection Time</i>

Primary Golden Times

Days	Little Owl	Barn Owl	Hooting Owl
Monday Mr Caldicott & TA'S		ICT Club 	
Tuesday Mr Caldicott & TA'S		Show and Tell 	
Wednesday Mr Caldicott & TA'S		Games Club 	
Thursday Mr Caldicott & TA'S		Sensory Club 	
Friday Miss Hattersley & TA'S		Film Club 	

Secondary Golden Times – Friday

Friday Activity	Into Film 	Games 	Exercise 	Show & Tell 
Staff	Miss Guy Miss Blessy-Joy Miss Woollerson	Miss Daily Miss Brown	Mrs Holmes Mrs Turner	Mr Kirsima Miss Fatima

Noise Academy



Noise Academy DJ sessions

Day: Thursday

09:15 – 09:45	
09:45 – 10:15	
10:15 – 10:45	
10:45 – 11:15	
11:15 – 11:45	
11:45 – 12:15	
12:15 – 12:45	



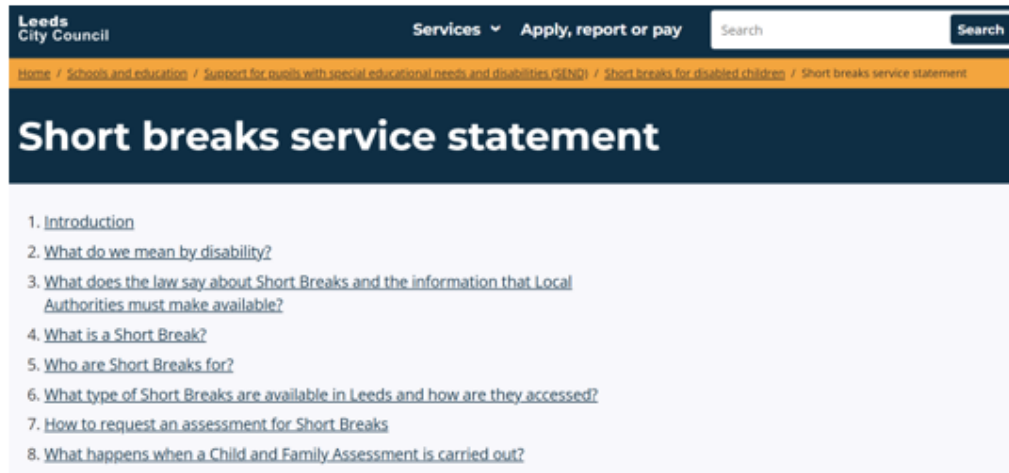
Our next **parent forum will be held on Tuesday 3rd February between 15:15 and 16:30**. We are focusing this time on curriculum – It is a hands-on evening where you can talk to staff, look at work and check on your child's progress. *You may have to wait for individual discussions with class Teachers. Please RSVP and indicate whether you are attending and plan on your child using transport by emailing schooloffice@ormstonschool.co.uk

Reminders about PA funding

How can I apply for “Short Break /PA” Funding:

For those of you in Leeds visit Leeds City Council Website

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/support-for-pupils-with-send/short-breaks-for-disabled-children>



The screenshot shows the Leeds City Council website with the following content:

- Leeds City Council Services Apply, report or pay Search
- Home / Schools and education / Support for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) / Short breaks for disabled children / Short breaks service statement
- Short breaks service statement**
- 1. Introduction
- 2. What do we mean by disability?
- 3. What does the law say about Short Breaks and the information that Local Authorities must make available?
- 4. What is a Short Break?
- 5. Who are Short Breaks for?
- 6. What type of Short Breaks are available in Leeds and how are they accessed?
- 7. How to request an assessment for Short Breaks
- 8. What happens when a Child and Family Assessment is carried out?

For those of you in Bradford visit Bradford City Council website:

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/does-your-child-have-special-educational-needs-or-disabilities>



accessibility

search this site



[Bradford Council](#) | [Children, young people and families](#) | [Special educational needs and disabilities](#) | [Bradford district's Short Breaks Statement 2025](#)



Bradford district's Short Breaks Statement 2025

Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)

Contents

- [What is the Short Breaks Statement?](#)
- [What is a Short Break?](#)
- [Types of Short Breaks](#)
- [Universal Short Break services and Early Help](#)
- [What happens when a child turns 18 and transitions to adults' services?](#)
- [Targeted Short Breaks and the Short Breaks assessment team](#)
- [Specialist Short Breaks services and social care](#)

