

PRESS RELEASE

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Ormiston Venture Embraces The Christmas Cheer

ORMISTON VENTURE ACADEMY

Embargoed until 14/12/17

Students and staff at Ormiston Venture Academy in Gorleston today celebrated the 3rd annual Venture Christmas Day.

As part of the celebrations, students at the Academy, which is sponsored by Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) gave back to the local community by providing food to those who may need it most over the Christmas break. For a third consecutive year, students donated food in exchange for wearing a Christmas jumper, and this food was then distributed to two local foodbanks.

The Union of Venture Students, who act as a form of student council representation at the academy, hold this event up as their favourite of the year. On a day where they also host the Christmas Fayre and Christmas dinner is served in the café, students are given the opportunity to swap the top half of their uniform for a Christmas jumper.

In order to do this, they are asked to bring in a donation of non-perishable food items that will be sent to a foodbank. As with previous years there was a brilliant response from students, whether they wore a jumper or not, donating enough food to fill the entire school stage.

At the end of the day, the Union of Venture Students sorted the food into two equal amounts, packed it up and then delivered it to All Saints church in Belton and The Bridge at the St Mary Magdalene church in Gorleston.

Once all of the food had been collected, efforts moved onto the Christmas Fayre. Students prepare and run this independently with the aim being to fundraise for our Guilds programme. The current Union of Venture Students executive board have set themselves an ambitious fundraising total of £6000 for the academic year and the Christmas Fayre plays a big part in this.

Stalls selling continental Christmas food, reindeer poop, calendars of our new mascot Vinny the Venture Raptor, lolly trees were joined by refreshments and several games and our

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annual Christmas Raffle. The fayre was open to our community between 11 and 12 with students coming to make the most of the festivities from 12:30-2:30.

In total the students raised an incredible £1521.84 and donated a huge amount of food to the two local foodbanks.

Tyler Munro, Head Girl and Cameron Hodds, Head Boy said:

“This is our favourite charitable event of the year because students go above and beyond and bring more food in than we ever thought they would, they know it goes to local families and it is something that sums up both the Christmas spirit and what community support and charity should be about. We are also really pleased with how much we made at the fayre and through the raffle and want to say thank you for all of the kind donations we received. It has put us a long way towards our target of £6000 for the year”.

Simon Gilbert-Barnham, Principal said *“Everyone at Venture views ourselves as part of our community. This is another amazing example of students developing into fantastic citizens of the wider community”*

For further press information, please contact [Andrea Cockrill](#) on:

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For more information about [Ormiston Venture Academy](#) please see:

Our Website: **www.ormistonventureacademy.co.uk**
Our Twitter: **[@OrmistonVenture](#)**
Our Student eMagazine: **<https://www.makewav.es/venturestudentmagazine>**

For more information about [Ormiston](#) please see:

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