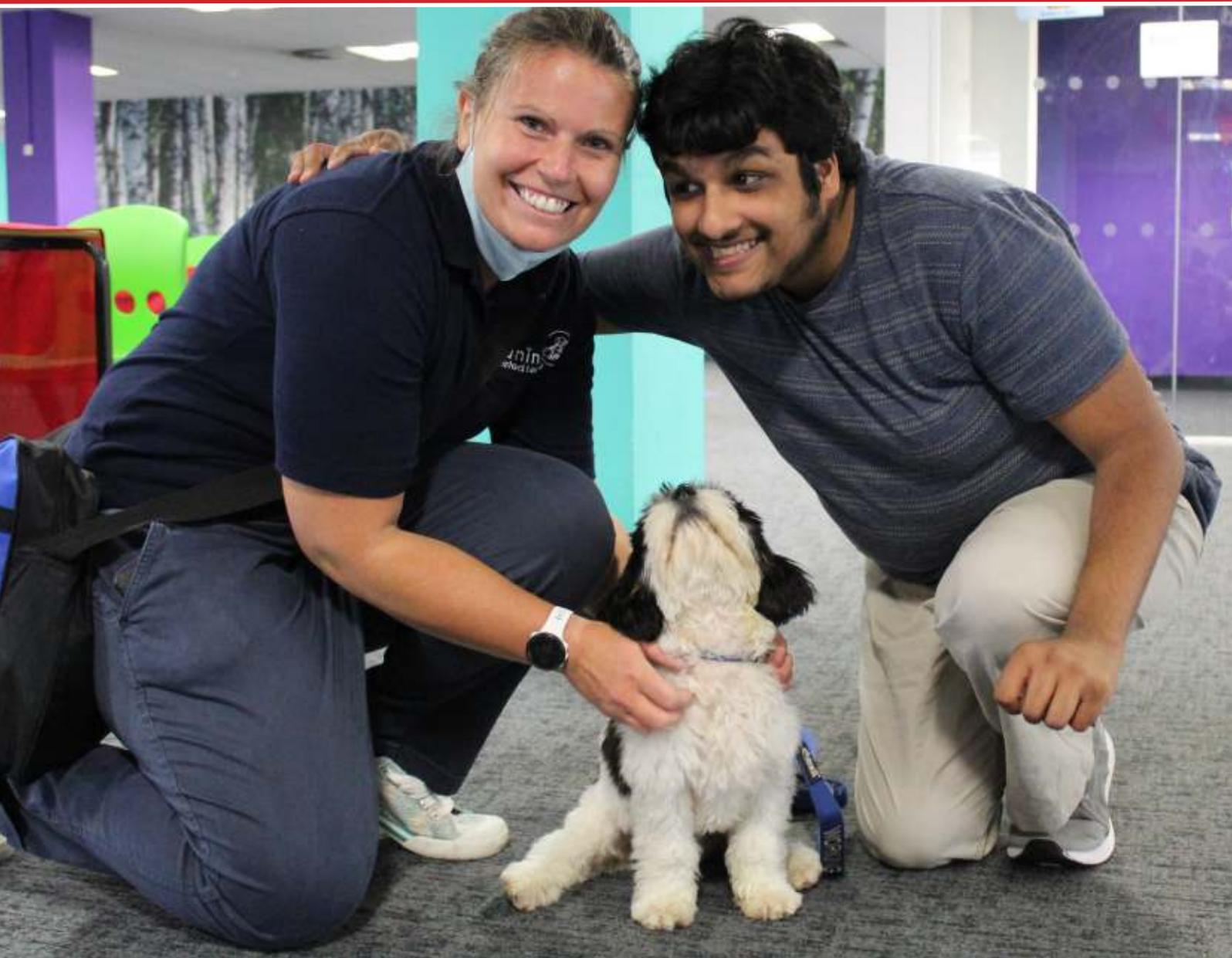




Orchard Hill
College

Family Matters

Summer 2021



Welcome

I want to start by saying a big well done to all of you. Despite a difficult year I am so proud of everything that has been achieved and so many of you are moving on to some brilliant destinations and exciting new challenges. It has been a great term and I have enjoyed seeing everyone getting back to more normal routines, it has been wonderful to see you back in work experience placements and out in your communities again.

For those of you who are leaving college this year, I wish you all the very best for the future; please keep in touch through the college Alumni to let us know how you are getting on in life after Orchard Hill College!

Have a lovely summer and I look forward to seeing those of you who are back in September.

Kelly Phillips
Principal



Highlights from across the centres

Vocational Progression Centre (VPC), Carshalton

This term has been a successful one, with many students working towards their transitions away from college. Students have also continued to build new partnerships especially within the employment sector this includes placements at Wandle Valley Museum, Co-op in Carshalton and Sutton Volunteer Centre.

VPC has also formed our very own football team, competing against South Thames College's Aurora Centre. We roared to victory and won our first tournament.

Students at VPC have been sharing their views on what is important to them in Sutton and any concerns for the future with external partners including Kids Group and a representative from London Borough of Sutton. The students opinions were invaluable and will be taken into account in the future.

Beaconsfield, New Malden

Students from Beaconsfield have been very active this term. Some students have started back with Champion Cycling at Bushy Park and another student has been sailing with Tideway Sailability. We have also enjoyed taking part in different multi-sports sessions every Thursday; including football, boccia, cricket and rounders.

Teddington class have built a fantastic relationship with Mowie, the therapy dog, who has been welcomed into the classroom with open arms. Students have put together a drama production with Mowie, which they will showcase in the centre.

Lomond House and Camberwell Road, Southwark

The last few weeks have been very busy in Southwark. We have had our End of Year Awards, our Year Three Leavers trip to Kew Gardens and sports day events.

Students have been working extremely hard on their production of The Tempest, which they performed in front of the old Camberwell Courts. It was a wonderful performance and you could see the hard work that had gone into every detail including practising their scenes and performing in amazing costumes.

We are thrilled to have started a horticulture link with an external partner; Dexters in Brixton. The students have been working hard weeding, planting, clearing and painting.

Vocational Centre, Wandsworth

This term students at Vocational Centre have been continuing their hard work on the classroom café enterprise. A number of students have been working on their travel training to attend fitness sessions and post college activities in their local areas such as Workshop 305 and Wheels for Wellbeing.

Other students have been exploring different community activities that they can share with their peers including trips to central London to visit The British Museum and The National Gallery.

Wyvern House, Hillingdon

Students from Wyvern House have been very busy this term. They have opened a new coffee shop selling hot beverages, which has been very successful. Along with a new t-shirt printing business, which we are planning to move online next term.

The end of year Awards ceremony was a highlight for students. They enjoyed canopies, student speeches, music with our resident student DJ and our very own Master of Ceremony, Amrit!

Project Search students wanted to give back to the community and leave a legacy after they leave their course, so they decided to design and make their own herb garden in Uxbridge town centre. This was a great success and we have had some really good feedback from the general public.

End of Year Awards

To view our Student Awards Ceremonies, please visit the following links for each centre. The password is Orchardhill. These will be available to watch until Friday 23rd July. Please do not save these or share them on social media as they have other students images in them.

VPC and Garratt House - <https://vimeo.com/573976073/954a83be3c>

Beaconsfield - <https://vimeo.com/573919808>

Lomond House and Camberwell Road - <https://vimeo.com/568637809>

Vocational Centre - <https://vimeo.com/573922225>

Wyvern House - <https://vimeo.com/574404550>

Winner of a Natspec Award 2021!



We are thrilled that the college won a Natspec Award 2021 for Curriculum Innovation.

Our nomination was for our recovery curriculum; Rest, Recover, Reconnect! The creation and implementation of the recovery curriculum was to support students to transition back into education after lockdown. Providing students with holistic support, tackling and addressing anxieties and worries enabling them to settle back in to college life and move onto achieving their learning objectives.

Natspec judge, Nigel Evans, said: "The Rest, Recover, Reconnect! project successfully helps students return to classroom based learning after extended periods of absence, in particular it responded to students returning to college following the disruption caused by Covid-19".

Football tournament

This term students took to the pitch for a tournament against rival teams from Beaconsfield, VPC, Vocational Centre, Garratt House and Aurora from South Thames College.

The teams all put their training to the test as they played six knock out games. The runner up teams that comprised players from Beaconsfield and Vocational Centre played against Aurora's second team which saw a 3 – 2 win to Orchard Hill College.

The final featured players from VPC and Garratt House play against Aurora's first team and Orchard Hill College again claimed the win with a 4 – 0 victory to win the cup. The final was a superb ending after the students played to a high standard all afternoon.

Well done to everyone who took part.



Awards celebrations

At the end of term students across all centres celebrated their achievements from the last year. Every centre hosted an Awards Ceremony and students were presented with their individual certificates. Those students that are leaving college also received a yearbook and a leavers hoodie, along with their framed certificate. The celebrations were topped off with a visit from an ice cream van.

Well done to all the students who have worked so hard over the last year and achieved some amazing things.



Residential trip

Students and staff were thrilled to go on a residential trip to Center Parcs in Woburn Forest. The trip was part of the Recovery curriculum which has been created to support students to settle back into college after a difficult year.

Everyone had a fantastic time during their three nights away and were able to take part in a wide range of new activities including; a high rope adventure, lazer tag, bowling and daily swimming (including water slides!) Students took time out to watch the England match and all have very sore throats after cheering them on.

Students from across the college were able to build new friendships and relationships over the weekend and are already planning their reunion trip.



Student end of term party

Students were keen to take the lead on some end of year celebrations this year. Evie from Wyvern House organised a Hawaiian themed party which she made accessible college wide via Zoom. It was a fantastic event and enabled students to see their peers in other centres remotely, who they may not have seen for a long time.

Students dressed up in Hawaiian necklaces, decorated their centres and tucked in to food and drink while dancing the day away.



Duke of Edinburgh



This term a number of students have been working towards their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Students are currently planning their camping expedition in Sussex, for September. This will be one night away for the Bronze award and two nights for the Silver award with a six hour walking activity each day. During the expedition students will develop skills such as map reading, orienteering, building shelters, team building and more. Students will also be responsible for independently putting up their own tents and preparing their meals. The students have been preparing for the trip by practicing putting up tents every week and taking part in a six hour walk along The Wandle. We are so proud of what all the students have achieved and of all the preparation they have been doing.

See you next term

We wish all our students a wonderful Summer break, and look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Keep up to date with news stories across the college on our website at www.orchardhill.ac.uk and follow us on Twitter @O_H_College

If you have any feedback on Family Matters please contact us at: marketing@ohcat.org



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