



It has been a fantastic half term here at OSSMA, and we have seen some outstanding achievements by our students. We head into exam season confident and proud of our Year 11 cohort as they face the challenges to come.

As always, as an academy, we prepare our students for the forthcoming exams by running easter revision sessions and after school interventions. Year 10 will also be preparing for their mock exams, which begin once the GCSE exams have finished.

We endeavour to keep in touch with parents, and we are launching a convenient new way to share information about your child's academic life. You will have recently received an invite to download the SIMS Parent app, and you can access the system from a smartphone, tablet or PC. The app will show important information at the click of a button, such as attendance, term dates, inset dates and academy contact details. You will also receive notifications to remind you about important information, such as key dates, and you will also be able to update your contact details.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter, and if you have any comments or feedback, please get in touch with me at info@ossma.co.uk.

Nick Brennan
Principal



DIARY DATES

Return to the academy

Monday 25th April

May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 2nd May

GCSE Exams Begin

Monday 16th May

Last day of Term

Friday 27th May

SUPPORT SERVICES

Over the holidays if you need help and support and someone to talk to you can contact Childline on Telephone: 0800 1111 or access the website at <https://childline.org.uk>



If you are concerned about online abuse please contact CEOP following this link [@CEOPUK](https://www.ceop.gov.uk)



NEW - SAFER SCHOOLS APP

HELPING YOU TO STAY SAFE ONLINE

As part of our goal to ensure that online safety is understood, we have joined the Safer Schools Community as part of our drive to educate students to better protect themselves in the Digital World. We are proud to say that we are now a certified National Online Safety school and have been accredited with this mark for our endeavours in keeping our students and community safe online. You can now download the Safer Schools app for parents onto your smartphone or tablet and link it to Ormiston Sir Stanley Matthews Academy, where you can receive tips and advice on keeping your child safer online.

The parent app aims to support parents with online content, and we have included the instructions on downloading this app on our [website](#). You can find the QR code and the four-digit entry code on the display of the smartphone image on the first page of the guidance. We strongly recommend that you download the app and join our Safer Schools Community so that we can alert you to any new trends or sites that may be of concern or potentially dangerous to children.

We will be introducing the Safer Schools app to students and advising them to download the app onto their smartphones so that they can access the advice and guidance on staying safe online and using social media platforms.



SAFER SCHOOLS



TALENTED ARTIST HAS WORK DISPLAYED

AT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

Talented artist Lorna W in Yr 9 has had her work displayed as part of the 50th International Children's Exhibitions of Fine Arts at the Lidice Gallery at Lidice in the Czech Republic. A panel of judges selected the best entries for the international competition.

The subsequent exhibition is one of the largest globally, bringing together thousands of children and their artwork from all over the world every year. This year's theme was Museum, and Lorna's artwork can be seen here. Lorna is a keen artist and has also previously won the Headteacher's Award for her artwork in response to the war in Ukraine."



EXAM REVISION HINTS AND TIPS

We are heading into the season of exams, and it is understandably a time when students feel under pressure and stress. Students need to recognise that this is a critical time in their lives, and it does have huge implications for their future. Students will make sacrifices to make sure they do the best they can during this period. At OSSMA, we look to support our students with their exam preparation and ensure that all students have the opportunity to receive support when necessary.

Students often worry about what topics are going to be on the exam paper or that the first exam is a particular subject they are not confident with. It is important for students to acknowledge that they cannot control the uncontrollable. Rather than worrying about things that cannot be controlled, students need to choose how to react to those problems and plan their revision to be better prepared. A comprehensive guide to [revising](#) is available on the OSSMA website.

Students may wish to share their feelings about the pressures of exams. Students often struggle with the feeling of not doing enough, but it is important to take time out to relax. If students are struggling with their mental health throughout the exam period, please get in touch with the school and utilise some local agencies, such as [Speak up Space](#) and the [NHS Combined Wellbeing Portal](#).

Mr Smart said: "We recognise that students will feel stressed during this exam period. Students are offered a wealth of support within the academy. It is vital that students access the revision sessions and support available to help them during this period. We wish our Year 11 students every success with their GCSEs."

EASTER REVISION TIMETABLE

DATE	10-12PM	12:30 - 14:30PM
Monday 11th April	11o1 Art (Pope) 11o4 Photography (Pope) Biology All classes welcome	RS Walton
Tuesday 12th April	English Pinkstone (O Band) George (S Band)	RS Walton
Wednesday 13th April	History - Peach (all welcome) Germany 9.30am Power 11.15am	History - Peach (all welcome) Conflict 1.15pm
Thursday 14th April	11o1 Art (Pope) 11o4 Photography (Pope) Maths - Watson	11o1 Art (Pope) 11o4 Photography (Pope)
Friday 15th April	ACADEMY CLOSED	
Monday 18th April	ACADEMY CLOSED	
Tuesday 19th April	History Brennan (all welcome) Germany 9.30am Power 11.15am	History Brennan (all welcome) Conflict 1.15pm
Wednesday 20th April	Maths (10-12.30) Coppenhall Williams (O Band) Owen Phipps	RS Walton
Thursday 21st April	Maths (all 10-1) Williams (S Band) Wood Loughhead	RS Walton (1-3)
Friday 22nd April	English English Wood (O Band) English Jones (S Band)	

WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

This academic year we are looking to work with InvestIn, which offers students the chance to experience their dream career before they've even left school and give our students access to 10 STEM industry-related work experience opportunities.

Brand new for 2022, students will be able to watch real-life surgery taking place, explore an aeroplane converted into a refuelling hybrid jet, work with psychologists on mental health wards, analyse fingerprints and blood splatter on a crime scene and much more!

Please see Mr Ingman and register your interest here:"
<https://bit.ly/3JeGf19>

Student Wellbeing

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust has launched an online wellbeing portal for children and young people.

This resource has been designed to support the healthy wellbeing of children and younger people, and to be a safe place for children and young people to enquire about and manage their own wellbeing journey.

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare's vision is for CAMHS "to deliver a future where young people and their families are empowered to use technology to revolutionise their care." This is a change from traditional clinician referrals to a model where children, families and professionals can access advice, materials and support.

In addition to the wealth of information available, now, anyone can make a routine referral or self-refer to access children's and young people's mental health services via:
<https://combinedwellbeing.org.uk/>



STAFFING AND SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

Sadly, Mrs Wootton is leaving the academy and, therefore, will be leaving her role as Vice Principal in charge of Safeguarding and her role as SENCO. Miss Nikki Shim will take over as Interim Designated Safeguarding Lead, which many of you already know.

Miss Shim will take the lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety), support staff members to carry out their safeguarding duties, and liaise closely with children's social care and other services.

Our DDSL Mr Ian Wright will closely support Miss Shim and also the Pastoral Team, including the five Heads of Year, Mrs Richardson (Yr 7), Mr Fletcher (Yr 8), Miss Nicholls (Yr 9), Miss Walker (Yr 10) and Mrs Millward (Yr 11).

We are pleased to announce that our new SENCO will be Mrs Holland, who is very excited to take over the role. Mrs Holland said, "I am very proud to work at OSSMA, and it is a very exciting time for our academy. I look forward to working with our SEN students, supporting parents and ensuring our students have a fantastic educational experience."

Please contact:
 Interim Designated Safeguarding Lead -
 Nikki Shim - nshim@ossma.co.uk
 Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
 Ian Wright - iwright@ossma.co.uk

HOY7 - Mrs Richardson - crichardson@ossma.co.uk
 HOY8 - Mr Fletcher - sfletcher@ossma.co.uk
 HOY 9 - Miss Nicholls - snicholls@ossma.co.uk
 HOY 10 - Miss Walker - swalker@ossma.co.uk
 HOY 11 - Mrs Millward - mmillward@ossma.co.uk

Supporting victims of domestic abuse

Here at OSSMA, we have the opportunity to participate jointly in a project run between schools and Staffordshire Police. Operation Encompass involves the reporting to schools before the start of the next school day when a child or young person has experienced any domestic abuse.

The project will ensure that a member of the school staff (Designated Safeguarding Lead), known as a Key Adult, is trained to liaise with the police and use the information that has been shared in confidence. This allows us as an academy to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have experienced a domestic abuse incident.

This exposure negatively impacts children experiencing domestic abuse and can lead to emotional, physical and psychological harm. We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our students, and taking part in Operation Encompass allows us to put vital support in place for the child before they arrive at the academy.

Email: info@ossma.co.uk

Web: www.ossma.co.uk

