

OSSMA ORACLE

MAY 2022



Thank you for being so supportive over the last half term. As the world is now opening up, we can offer more exciting opportunities for the students. It is fantastic to see so many students participating in them. This half term has seen our Year 10 students travel to Oxford University and Year 8 students have climbed Mount Snowdon (pictured below) and it is wonderful to see these enrichment opportunities become part of academy life again.

The new extension to the academy is now due for completion in mid-September. Therefore it will not be finished for the start of the new academic year. This will make the first two weeks of the school year a slight challenge in terms of rooms, but we will manage, and once complete, the extension will provide us with five new classrooms and two fitted laboratories. This will ensure that most science lessons will occur in the correct environment.

As part of our planning for September and the next academic year, I wish to consult with you on our intention to start the academy day at 8.40am. This will ensure that all students are in form by 8.45am and will allow students to maximise the reading time we use that period for. I would welcome your feedback on this plan. Please use the academy info@ossma.co.uk email address if you wish to offer your views.

The government continues to fund the vouchers of £15 per week, supporting disadvantaged students and those with EHC Plans during the holidays.

These will be circulated via email in the same way as on previous holidays. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have not received your voucher when you receive this newsletter.

I am sure you would want to join me in wishing our Year 11's the very best of luck with their exams. They have worked hard and are as good as anyone. I sincerely hope that those efforts will be rewarded in a few months' time when they receive their results. Year 10 will also be facing their own challenge as they begin their first set of mock exams in June, and the exam timetable is further on in this newsletter.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a good half term and my very best wishes to you and your family.

Yours sincerely,

Down

Nick Brennan Principal

Email: info@ossma.co.uk Web: www.ossma.co.uk





DIARY

Return to the academy

Monday 6th June (Week B)

SEN Passport Evening

Wednesday 22nd June

Inset Day

Monday 27th June

Year 10 Mock Exams Begin

Tuesday 28th June

Year 6 Uniform Collection

Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th July

Year 7 and 8 Rewards Trip

Wednesday 13th July

Year 9 and 10 Rewards Trip

Thursday 14th July

Sports Day

Friday 15th July

Mock Exam Results Day

Monday 18th July

Last Day of Term

Wednesday 20th July



NEWS



UNIFORM SWAP SHOP

At OSSMA, we have a strict uniform policy and pride ourselves on how well our students present themselves whilst they are at the academy. As an academy, we appreciate the support from parents in maintaining our standards, and to support this we are creating a uniform 'swap-shop'.

We have many students with ever-changing clothes sizes and feel we could help by having a stock of clothing to swap. The swap shop requires no payment; simply swap an item to gain an item. The item must be in good clean condition.

If you have any old uniforms, particularly the OSSMA skirts, we would kindly ask for donations. A donation box will be in reception, or the students can bring items to F12.

The shop will be manned during form time, break and lunch. A price list will be displayed on the wall and the shop will be non profit making. If parents struggle until payday and wish to purchase shoes, skirts or trousers, these will be added to Parent Pay.



Please click to see our full uniform policy: https://bit.ly/3H9NlmV

YEAR 10 MOCK EXAM TIMETABLE

Exam season is well underway, and our Year 11 students are currently completing their final exams at OSSMA. After these are completed, we then focus on Year 10, and they begin their mock exams on the journey towards their GCSEs. The June mocks will be the first formal exams our Year 10 students have sat and will be vital in ensuring that moving forward into Year 11, our students are prepared, ready for the challenge and confident of success.

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. We understand that some students may be nervous and anxious about the exams, but they are a useful and important step in supporting students in their final exams. A comprehensive guide to revising is available on the OSSMA website. For any information about the mock exams, please contact info@ossma.co.uk

Date	Period 1 and 2	Period 3 and 4	Period 5
Week A	INSET Day	INSET Day	INSET Day
Monday 27 th June			
Tuesday 28 th June	English Language	Spanish Writing	
	1 hr 45	1 hr 15	
Wednesday 29 th June	Maths Paper 1	History Paper 1	
	1 hr 30	1 hr	
Thursday 30 th June	Biology	Geography Paper 1	
	1 hr 15	1 hr	
Friday 1 st July	Maths Paper 2	Design Technology	
	1 hr 30	2 hrs	
Week B	English Literature	Geography Paper 2	Drama
Monday 4 th July	1 hr 45	1 hr	1 hr
Tuesday 5 th July	Chemistry	Spanish Reading and Listening	
	1 hr 15	2 hrs	
Wednesday 6 th July	Maths Paper 3	History Paper 2	
	1 hr 30	1 hr	
Thursday 7 th July	Physics	Religious Studies	
	1 hr 15	1 hr 45	
Friday 8 th July	Catch up session	Catch up session	Catch up session
Week A	Hospitality (Group 1004/Fd1)	Hospitality (Group 1003/Fd1)	
Monday 11 th July	2 hrs	2 hrs	
Tuesday 12 th July	Art	Art	Art
	5 hrs	5 hrs	5 hrs

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NEWS



DONATE YOUR DENIM

At OSSMA Miss Baker is currently running the WeWill Social Care Project with Year 8 students. This has been set up to raise awareness of dementia and teach our students about community spirit, supporting their peers and doing their bit to help their community by supporting elderly residents at a local care home. This project is being run in conjunction with Ng Healthcare.

One of the first activities after half term to raise money for the project is a preloved recycling event called Denim for Dementia, where the students/staff can pay a pound and have a chance to swap their denim item for one other item. Students can bring their denim items to the LRC.



The WeWill Student Ambassadors will then be challenged to make something creative and unique from any selected item of clothing that is left over from the preloved swap. The project aims to raise £750 for Alzheimer's. We will update you on the project in future newsletters and on our social media platforms.

AMAZING ARTISTRY

Congratulations to Taylor M in Year 9. She has won the North Region of the OAT Drawbilee Enrichment Competition to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, coming runner up in the national competition.

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Taylor's entry below was fantastic and she won a voucher and certificate.



Taylor chose the symbols, including protest signs, to show how Women's Right's grew in the 20th Century, symbols relating to the miner's strike, the rise of the Beatles and also the O represents the Queen's 70 years on the throne.

ONLINE SAFETY SUPPORT

As we head towards the summer months and the extended holiday, we would like to remind parents 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.

We regularly post information on our social media platforms and ensure that students receive education and information regarding online safety.

You can now download the Safer Schools app here 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.



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END OF YEAR TRIPS

At OSSMA we look to reward our students, and this year we have two end of year trips on offer.

Each year group voted on the trip that would be the most popular, and the most popular choices were in Year 7 and 8 Chester Zoo, and Years 9 and 10 Alton Towers.

These trips will take place on the 13th and 14th July. Information on signing up for the trips will be going out after the half term.

Attendance is very important to us at OSSMA. Research shows that students with good school attendance are more likely to achieve higher results in their GCSEs. This means they'll have better options when they leave school and will be more likely to have greater job satisfaction and a higher paid job. Therefore one of the main criteria for the trips is that students have over 95% attendance with no unauthorised absences. Students must also have no suspensions, RTL or Isolation.