



L- R- Olivia S, Ellie-Mae L, Harvey C, Malaika H, Ahmed W, Evie Meredith (Head Girl), Yumeth Athauda (Head Boy), Will H, Sadia A, Arshdeep B and Issabelle T

I have been thrilled to welcome our students back to the academy for the academic year. We have welcomed our new Year 7 cohort, who have become part of our OSSMA family and settled into academy life tremendously well.

As always, at the beginning of a new academic year, we welcomed our new Head Boy, Yumeth Athauda, and Head Girl, Evie Meredith, alongside our Senior Prefect team (pictured above). The prefects help to support our academy during events, such as parents' evenings, open evenings, and activities such as the forthcoming Christmas Fayre. Prefects also get involved with the running of the academy and promote fundraising for various charities and the Year 11 prom. We are incredibly proud of our new prefect team and the students who embody all of our values.

I am delighted to share with you that our new building is now in full use by our students, giving them access to our brand new state-of-the-art facilities. The Local Authority has funded the new extension as part of an agreement with the academy to expand our pupil admission number to 240 per year. This has allowed us to build five new classrooms and two new science laboratories. Please use the QR code below to access a video tour of the new building.

In another update, we are now using the School Synergy app. This system allows you to see real-time information about your child and is a far more effective way of communicating with you. You can download the app via Play Store or the App Store.

I am also happy to introduce our newest member of the Senior Leadership Team, Kelly Hassall. She has taken up the post of Vice Principal and brings a wealth of experience to the academy. You can find out more about her later on in this newsletter.

My best wishes to you and your family.

Nick Brennan  
Principal



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## DIARY DATES

### Year 11 Mock Exams

28th Nov - 12th Dec

### Christmas Lunch

Monday 11th, Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th December

### Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 13th December  
4pm - 6pm

### Christmas Jumper Day

15th December



### Last day of Term

Friday 16th December,  
students will leave the  
academy at 12:15pm.

### Return to the Academy

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

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## MEET OUR NEW VICE PRINCIPAL

We are pleased to introduce our new Vice Principal Mrs Kelly Hassall. Mrs Hassall joined us in September and has quickly become part of our OSSMA family. She is responsible for Special Educational Needs, is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and is also the academy lead for Welfare and Behaviour. She has a large area of responsibility, but she brings a wealth of experience from different settings, having worked in mainstream academies and also a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU).

Starting her career as a PE teacher (and hockey enthusiast!), Mrs Hassall has experience as a Behaviour Lead and is a skilled SENCO. This experience as a SENCO means that she has extensive knowledge of SEND needs and how it is possible to make the necessary adaptations to support those students to fulfil their potential.

Mrs Hassall said: "My aim for OSSMA is to continue to highlight and safeguard the students and staff. We currently offer fantastic opportunities to our students at the academy, but it is my goal to enrich that experience further to ensure that all our students access the highest quality education possible."

Mrs Hassall has also spent a large part of her career working with students with challenging behaviour and has made it her goal to overcome the barriers to learning that these students may face. She said: "Building good relationships with pupils is key to achieving positive outcomes for them. Personally, I love sports and feel that this teaches valuable lessons and

develops children in aspects that, at times, other curriculum areas cannot.

"I have really enjoyed my time at OSSMA so far, and I look forward to supporting our students and families to the best of my ability. My aim is that all our students fulfil their potential and have a positive and enriching high school experience."



## THE GREAT ORMISTON BAKE OFF

We have been privileged to be able to take part in the National Ormiston Bake off Competition. This was a competition across the trust, and over 40 schools participated. The event organiser at OSSMA, Miss Lewis, said: We had lots of applications for The Great Ormiston Bake at OSSMA and each entry was fantastic! I am so proud of them all."

Our winning cakes are pictured:

### KS4 Winners:

- 1st: Ashleigh M & Scarlett F
- 2nd: Isobell T
- 3rd: Jia & Elizabeth

### KS3 Winners:

- 1st: Lily K
- 2nd: Syndey W
- Joint 3rd: Abi F & Charlotte R

As you can see there are some very talented bakers at OSSMA!





## STUDENT ENRICHMENT

Our enrichment for students is a key part of what we offer here at OSSMA. We have a full timetable throughout the year and below is what we currently have running:

Extra-Curricular Timetable 2022 - 2023					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School (7.45am - 8.15am)	Tennis/Table Tennis Sports Hall	Tennis/Table Tennis Sports Hall	Tennis/Table Tennis Sports Hall	Tennis/Table Tennis Sports Hall	Tennis/Table Tennis Sports Hall
	Homework Club (8am-8.30am) LRC	Homework Club (8am-8.30am) LRC	Reading Mentors Y7 & 8 (8am-8.30am) LRC	Homework Club (8am-8.30am) LRC	Homework Club (8am-8.30am) LRC
Lunchtime (1.30pm - 2.15pm), (12.15pm - 1pm Wed)	Football (3G)	Football (3G)	Football (3G)	Football (3G)	Football (3G)
	Badminton - Sports Hall	Badminton - Sports Hall	Badminton - Sports Hall	Badminton - Sports Hall	Badminton - Sports Hall
	Fitness suite (all year groups)	Fitness suite (all year groups)	Fitness suite (all year groups)	Fitness suite (all year groups)	Fitness suite (all year groups)
	Year 7 Chess Club (Week A Only) G88	Year 7 Chess Club (Week B Only) G88	Year 7 Chess Club (Week A Only) G88	Year 7 Chess Club (Week B Only) G88	Year 7 Chess Club (Week A Only) G88
	Year 7 Chess Club (Week B Only) G88	Year 7 Chess Club (Week A Only) G88	Year 7 Chess Club (Week B Only) G88	Year 7 Chess Club (Week A Only) G88	Year 7 Chess Club (Week B Only) G88
After School (3.15pm - 4.15pm)	SCFC Football (Years 7, 8 and 9 only)	Netball (Sports hall)	SCFC (Multi sports on 3G/Sports hall) 2-3pm	Dance (Dance studio)	Cricket (sports hall)
	Tennis (sports hall)	Table Tennis (Dance Studio)		Badminton (sports hall)	
	Basketball (sports hall)	Spinning (Dance studio)		Homework Club (3:15pm-3:45) LRC	
	Homework Club (3:15pm-3:45) LRC	Homework Club (3:15pm-3:45) LRC		Debate Club (3:15pm-4pm) English Hub	
	Reading Club (3:15pm-3:45pm) LRC	Gardening Club (Meet in Bistro)	Keyboard Club (Music) 2-3pm	Guitar Club (Music)	Homework Club (3:15pm-3:30) LRC
	Choir (Music Room)	STEM Science Club (3.15-4pm)			
Colour Reference	PE Extra-Curricular Clubs	Subject Specific Extra-Curricular Clubs	Please speak to the member of staff running the club for further information		

Students are regularly surveyed as to what they would like to participate in, and we do our utmost to offer this.

If you have any queries regarding our enrichment activities, then please get in touch with Mr Trevor at wtrevor@ossma.co.uk.

You can also view a short video here <http://bit.ly/3UEkU82>

## ATTENDANCE GOALS

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 role throughout their working life.

Our vision at OSSMA is for all students to achieve their maximum potential, so naturally, excellent attendance is key to achieving that goal. We hope all of our students attend 100% of the time but understand that this isn't always possible, so our minimum target for all students is 96%. This means having no more than 7.5 days off school for any reason all year.

We can authorise certain absences, and if you have medical evidence, please submit that to our Attendance Officer, Mrs Lisa Shaw, so we can authorise the absence. For any queries or support with pupil attendance please contact Mrs Shaw at the academy.

We will also promote good attendance with our students

and focus on the benefits of regular school attendance in form time in the next couple of weeks until the end of term.

There will be raffles drawn for fortnightly 100% attendance with the chance of winning gift vouchers and certificates, and texts home for those pupils who achieve 100% attendance over the forthcoming weeks.

We are also introducing a weekly attendance trophy for best and also most improved form in each year group, each week, where the form can win form points and the chance to win money for their end-of-term form party on the last day of term on Friday 16th December 2022.

100%	This is everyone's target and is excellent attendance.
96-99%	= 7.5 days or less days of absence in one year.
91-95%	= Between 8 and 18 days of absence in one year.
90% or less	= 19 or more days of absence in one year. Your child is classed as a persistent absentee.

## SPORTING SUCCESS

Recently our Year 8 Athletics team competed at the Stoke Schools Indoor competition. They were absolutely fantastic, and we had some great performances, including 2nd in the girl's relay, 3rd in the boy's relay, Harry B came 1st in the four-lap race, Theo W came 2nd in the two-lap race and Olivia D came 2nd in the two-lap race.

The students representing OSSMA included those mentioned and Ellie C, Izzy K, Olivia N, Lydia O, Kaitlin G, Olly M, Seth R, Harrison P and Jayden A.

We have also introduced a Year 8 interform football tournament which concluded after six weeks with 8JH winning a very tense, and well-fought, final game, against 8SI, in a penalty shootout.

It brought out the year group's competitive side and other positives attributes such as team spirit and sportsmanship. Lots of enjoyment was had by all, which is what the tournament was all about.



Theo G, Amari C, Nicholas B, Harrison C, Gabriel Q(Manager), Dale C

## ABBEY HOUSE FARM VISIT

Some of our students recently had the opportunity to live and work on a farm for a week. Abbey Home Farm in Gloucestershire invited our students to help on the farm.

Whilst there, students got involved in milking cows, egg collecting, horse grooming, crop gathering, and helping to make milk, yoghurt, butter, and other dairy products. They then used these food products to cook meals together each evening.

The students stayed on the farm, along with some OSSMA staff, to gain farm life experience and essential life skills. These life skills link to our core values of Confidence, Resilience, Empathy, Enthusiasm, Challenge, and Kindness, and they all displayed each of these values at some point during



the week. They all enjoyed the adventure, including the staff, and returned from the experience feeling more positive about themselves."

