OSSMA ORACLE

26/05/23

Hello Parents/Carers!

Year 11 are now well underway and have had an excellent start to their GCSE exams and have sat papers in English Literature, maths, science, history, and RE, to name a few. It is really important that students use their time wisely to revise but also to relax, as is appropriate, to support themselves through the exam season.

Intervention sessions are well attended and we encourage students to join the half term revision sessions that are being held in school on the days below:-

Date	Sessions
Monday 29th May	**BANK HOLIDAY** School closed
Tuesday 30th May	**Geography** 9:30-10:30 – All groups **Staff: J Black** **Maths** 10:30-14:00 – 11CP and 11WL **Staff: S Coppenhall, D Williams**
Wednesday 31st May	**English** 10:00-12:00 – All students **Staff: L Pinkstone, J George, L Penwright, (R McQueen)**
Thursday 1st June	**Science** 9:00-12:30 – All students **Staff: J Collinson, S Taylor, F Benfedda, L Newman**
Friday 2nd June	**History** 10:00-12:00 – All students **Staff: C Sargeant, E Peach**
Sunday 4th June	**English – ONLINE REVISION** Online Walking Talking Mock Lang P1 with Miss Jones **2:00pm-3.30pm – All students** https://meet.google.com/uki-ogvo-pjs?hs=179 If attending, please collect a booklet from your English teacher before half term.

Mr Grice, Mr Ludlow, Miss Brown, Miss Bernard, Mrs Sanders and Miss Sanders are excited to be taking a group of our students to Spain for the water sports trip over May half term. There is a twitter account you can access to keep up to date with all the fun @OSSMASpain2023. Have a great time all!

I want to make you aware that over the half term holiday important upgrades are being made to our communication systems. Unfortunately, this means that the telephones lines may be affected. If you are struggling to reach us on the main telephone number, please email info@ossma.co.uk. Due to the technical interruptions to the telephone lines, students that are attending revision sessions will be allowed to reply to messages to parents that need to reach their child in emergency situations.

Should an urgent safeguarding concern arise over the holiday period, please telephone Stoke-on-Trent City Council's Children's Advice and Duty Service (ChAD) on 01782 235100. The academy will be back open on Monday 5th June at 8.00am.

I hope you all enjoy the half term break, stay safe and well.

Mrs Hassall
Vice Principal

DIARY DATES

Monday 5th June
Academy opens to students
GCSE exams resume

Friday 23rd June
Year 11 Prom

Mon 26th June - Fri 7th July
Year 10 mocks

Monday 17th July
Whole School Rewards trips

Monday 24th July
Year 10 Mock results day

SUPER LEAGUE!

Recently the PE Department took a group of netball girls to watch the Super League clash between Manchester Thunder and London Pulse.

The trip was a reward for the students who have the highest attendance to Netball club that is held every Tuesday. The pupils absolutely loved watching the match which was played by two of the top teams in England!

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NEWS

Ormiston Sir Stanley Matthews Academy

DEAR TIME BOOK: IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS WEEK

'Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry!' by Mildred D. Taylor

Each year group at OSSMA has class reads to enhance student's connectivity with the core values of the academy.

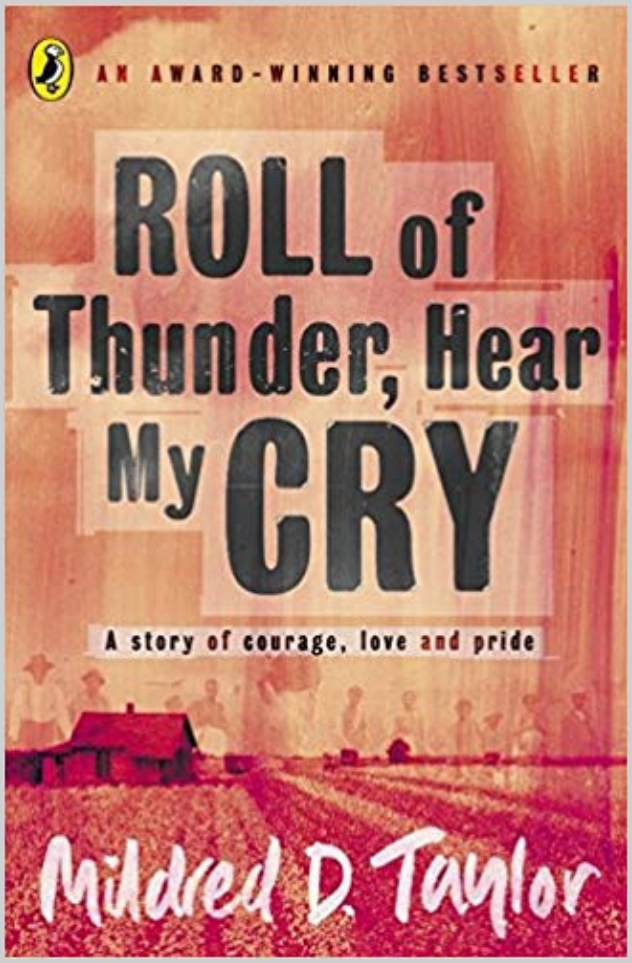
Similarly, the class reads support the student's engagement with discussions in PSHE lessons as well as developing empathy and kindness. Here we have a Reader Review from Ava-Mai L, 7LW:

'Oh, where to start …
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry' is a heart-warming, harrowing and historical fiction; it's possibly the most heart-rending story that I have ever read, bringing tears of laughter and of sorrow to my eyes.

Growing up in Mississippi in the prejudiced years of the 1900's, Cassie Logan is a young black girl who is completely innocent to the blatant racism her mother and father suffer every day. She goes to an all-black school, where her mother is a prominent teacher. Cassie works and plays alongside her brothers, Little Man, Stacey, and Christopher-John, never dreaming of the harassment she will receive because of the colour of her skin.

When Cassie and her brothers are heckled by the white children riding by in their shiny school bus as they trudge to school splashing through mud and rain, she plots to take a stand. But Cassie has much to learn about the prejudice which ruled America in the 1900's. I won't reveal anymore because I want you to read this book and understand how powerful it really is.'

This book is a must read for OSSMA students showcasing Cassie's confidence, Stacey's courage, the resilience of the family and the kindness of friends.

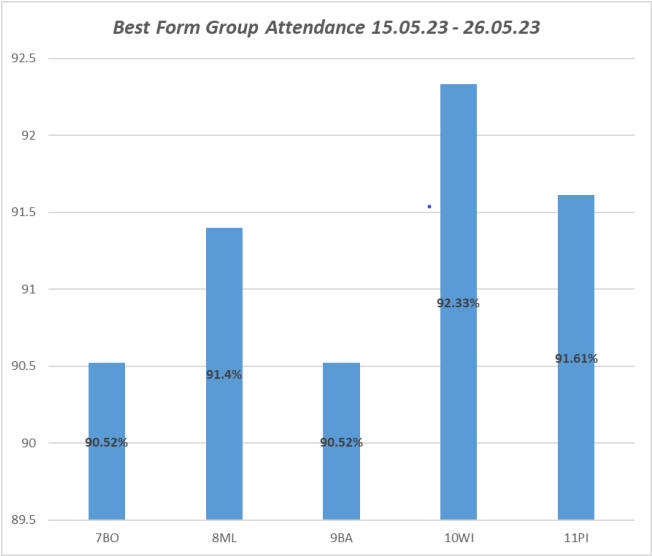


ATTENDANCE UPDATE!

If your child is absent from the academy due to illness, please notify the school of their absence daily, by ringing 01782 882200 and choosing option 1. You can also email absence@ossma.co.uk. This ideally needs to be done before 8.30am.

If your child has a medical appointment, please can we request that they are scheduled either before or after the school day. We understand this isn't always possible, so in order for us to authorise the absence can you please ensure evidence is provided prior to the appointment.

From 5th June 2023 there will be a change to the 'late to school' process. A letter explaining what these changes are and how they will be implemented will be sent via email.



NEWS

Ormiston Sir Stanley Matthews Academy

YR11 - A QUICK MESSAGE:

From Mrs Millward: Well done to all the Year 11's on the start of your GCSEs. It has been a great start to a difficult and tiring few weeks. You are amazing....Keep it up....the end is in sight!!

POETRY CORNER

'Lunar' from our Poet Laureate, EA in Year 10.

There was a reason she was so romantic about the moon.

It never asked questions or begged for answers.

In fact, in most ways humans cannot understand, it listened.

To every sentence,

To every word,

To every letter,

Never judged or laughed.

It just;

Listened.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are always interested to hear from you if your child is doing something extraordinary outside of the academy! They may be a talented dancer, boxer, pool player or singer.

If you would like them to feature in one of our newsletters or on social media then please get in touch with us. You can do this via your child's Head of Year:

HOY7 – Mrs Richardson – crichardson@ossma.co.uk
HOY8 – Mr Moriarty – amoriarty@ossma.co.uk
HOY9 – Mr Fletcher – sfletcher@ossma.co.uk
HOY10 – Miss Nicholls – snicholls@ossma.co.uk
HOY11 – Mrs Millward – mmillward@ossma.co.uk

Or you can email info@ossma.co.uk

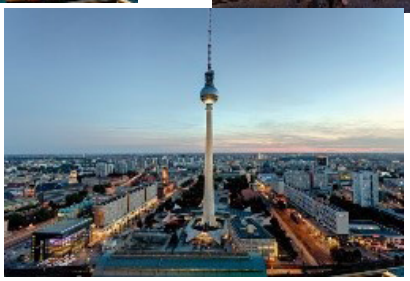
EXCITING HISTORY TRIP ON THE HORIZON

In June the History department will be running their first overseas visit since before the Coronavirus pandemic. Both staff and students are beginning to get excited!

Those who are going on the trip will flying to Berlin to embark on a three-day stay, including visits to places linked to some of the key events students learn about in Year 9 and Year 10 at OSSMA.

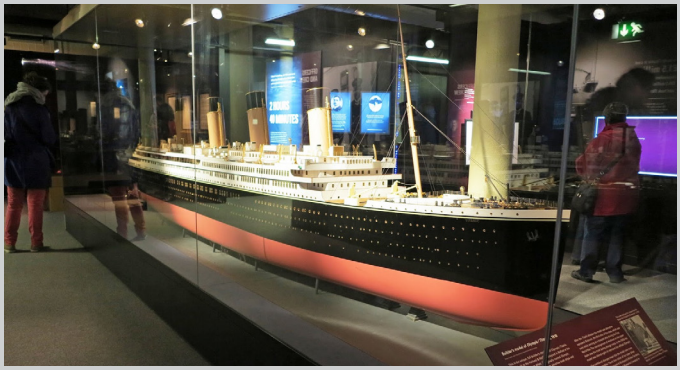
The itinerary includes:

- The Berlin Wall
- Checkpoint Charlie
- Brandenburg Gate
- Reichstag
- Topography of Terror
- Sachsenhausen concentration camp
- Berlin TV Tower
- DDR Museum



This visit will run again in summer 2025, for students who be in Year 9 or 10 at that time. If this is something you would be interested in, there will be letters sent out just after Christmas for students who are eligible.

A VISIT TO THE MARITIME MUSEUM



The geography department recently took a group of Year 7 students to Liverpool Maritime Museum to discover how Liverpool Docklands has changed overtime.

This linked with the recent topic' The UK' where year 7 have focused on the regeneration of urban areas in Stoke on Trent and Liverpool.

The students visited the museum and learnt about the history of the docklands through time. This included its time as an international shipping port; receiving goods from all over the world and how it was a vital location for the war effort during World War II.

The students then completed an environmental survey in the area surrounding the museum to investigate how the docklands are being used today.

They looked at the quality of the pavements, facilities available to visitors and how historic buildings had been restored and adapted for different uses.

FACING THE TOUGHEST CHALLENGE!

Recently a group of year 9 and 10 girls and boys attended a team building event in preparation for the school's games Toughest Challenge Competition which is to be held at Chasewater on the 4th July.

The event is both PE and PSHE related and provided an opportunity for students to mix with people who they may not normally specialise with. Both events were focused on character building and giving the students the tools to develop their self-confidence and resilience. They were all outstanding in representing our OSSMA values.

Our girls won the orienteering challenge and the teambuilding challenge. Our boys had a special mention for their amazing first aid skills as well as their acting skills- they re-enacted a scenario to another school where an accident had happened and how they would apply the most appropriate first aid.

There was also a wellbeing session too and it was good to listen to students articulate their enjoyments and stresses in life as well as how they can develop the tools to overcome these.

It was also a great opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills and it was a pleasure to be involved and be led by some of our students!