

Congratulations to our Class of 2023!

As we approach the end of the academic year, it is important to celebrate the achievements and success of our Year 11 cohort. As I write this, we are coming to the end of the GCSE examination series, and we have all been enormously proud of how Year 11 has embraced the challenges of the exam season, and I wish them luck for the results day on 24th August.

Although we have said our farewells, we look forward to celebrating the end of an era with Year 11 at the prom on Friday, 23rd June. Please remember that students must bring their tickets on the evening.

Alongside the ending of the GCSEs, our Year 10 students have been working hard on their mock exams. This is excellent preparation for the start of their final year and will give them the experience of sitting their formal exams next year.

This final term is always busy, with many activities for students to look forward to. We have sports day, end-of-year reward trips for Years 7 – 10 and our form celebration time on the last day of term.

I want to remind everyone to familiarise themselves with the criteria for the end of year reward trips.

Thank you



Mrs Hassall
Vice Principal

DIARY DATES

Friday 23rd June

Year 11 Prom

Monday June 26th

Year 10 Mock Exams begin

Monday 17th July

Rewards Trips to Drayton Manor Yr 7/8 & Alton Towers Y9/10

Friday 21st July

Sports Day

Monday 24th July

Year 10 Mock Results Day

Tuesday 25th July

Last day of term - end of day 12:15pm

SPECIAL MENTION GOES TO...

Congratulations to Jack W in Year 11. He is part of a junior male crew from Trentham Rowing Club who have qualified for the Henley Royal Regatta!

It's the first time in the club's history that a junior male crew has qualified for the regatta, and it is an amazing achievement. Jack will compete with his crew against the top clubs and schools from the UK and abroad in the first round on Tuesday, 27th June. Good luck!



Poetry Corner ***Young Love***

I did fall in love.
Surely, wholeheartedly,
but not all at once.

It was patient, soft,
an everlasting feeling
of forever.

When you find such love,
there is a part of your heart
changed.

A part of your heart
that from that moment forward
remains calm.

by EM Y10

OUTSTANDING PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS



Year 7 students Ethan and Aiden W have achieved their Personal Development 'Gold Award' this term.

They are the first students this year to achieve the award, acquired by completing 120 hours of extracurricular activities throughout the school year and regularly demonstrating our core values.

The Gold Award is an extremely hard one to achieve and is the equivalent of participating in approximately 4 hours of extracurricular activities every week of the school year. Ethan and Aiden have taken every opportunity that has come their way to get involved in trips, visits, clubs and activities and have developed themselves positively throughout the school year.

Well done to both students. Outstanding!

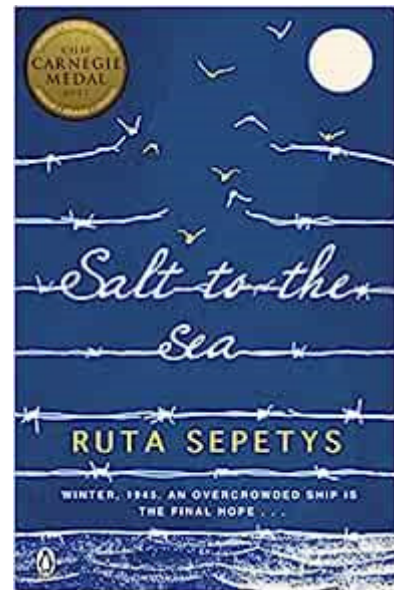
DEAR BOOK 'SALT TO THE SEA' BY RUTA SEPETYS...

This book fits into our Year 8 Conscious Curriculum for 'Challenges.'

In 1945, World War II is drawing to a close in East Prussia, and thousands of refugees are on a desperate trek toward freedom, almost all of them with something to hide. Among them are Joana, Emilia, and Florian, whose paths converge en route to the ship that promises salvation, the Wilhelm Gustloff. Forced by circumstance to unite, the three find their strength, courage, and trust in each other tested with each step closer toward safety. Just when it seems freedom is within their grasp, tragedy strikes. Not country, nor culture, nor status matter as all ten thousand people aboard must fight for the same thing: survival.

A tribute to the people of Lithuania, Poland, and East Prussia, Ruta Sepetys unearths a shockingly little-known casualty of a gruesome war and proves that humanity can prevail, even in the darkest of hours.

Review by Jessica W, 8S1/8NE



Written and published in 2016, this is probably one of the most challenging yet exciting, four-part narrative perspective books that I have read. It describes the haunting tragedy and horrors of war as it shares the story of four refugees amongst thousands and their struggle for survival.

As a young 13-year-old girl, I like this book because kindness is highlighted as clearly more valuable than selfishness. Whilst we live in today's self-centered, two-faced society, escaping into this imaginary world is calming. It holds hope. The book talks about human resilience and circumstances that are unimaginable to us, such as the appalling assault at the hands of a Russian soldier experienced by the young and innocent Emilia, resulting in her pregnancy which she must hide in order to escape. These tragic fictional scenes are a reflection of the unseen horrors of war. As a modern reader, we appreciate how lucky we have been not to have experienced war first-hand.

Finally, as an OSSMA student, I believe that this book is good as it shows our OSSMA core values of resilience, challenge, and ultimately, kindness. It is worth noting that this book won the 2017 Clip Carnegie medal. Something for the current Year 7s to look forward to reading!

IT'S A DOUBLE GOLD FOR OSSMA!!

OSSMA has achieved the 'School Games GOLD Mark Award' for 2022/2023.

This is the second year running that we have gained the GOLD award. It recognises the PE Departments' commitment and engagement in the School Games for 2022/23.

This looks into our extra-curricular provision in PE and the number of competitions we enter as an academy. A huge congratulations to all students who have participated throughout the year, as without you, it would not be possible to have achieved GOLD.

The academy has also gained GOLD for the 'Healthy

Schools Rating Scheme' again this year. This is assessed on the below categories.

- Food education, including in the curriculum and teacher training
- Compliance with the school food standards
- The amount of time children spend on PE each week
- Participation in active travel scheme

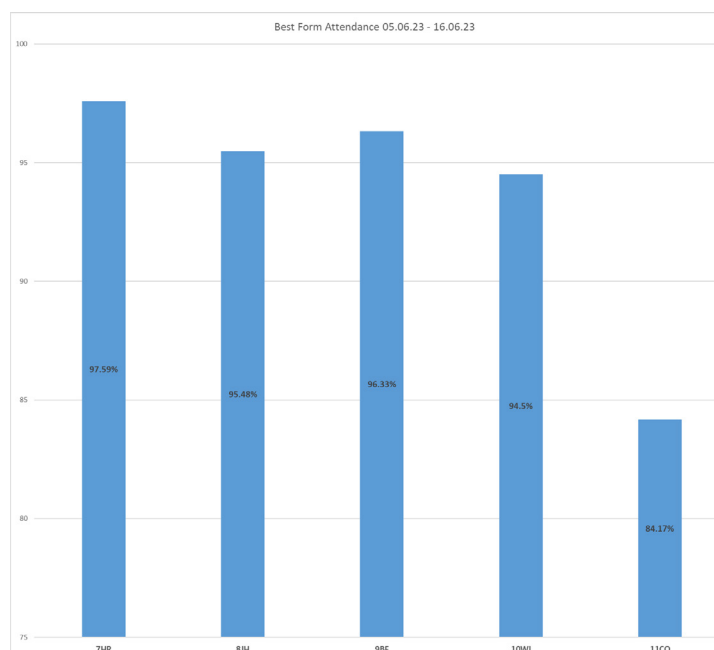


EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

Please take a minute to read the following update about Attendance. Our policies follow national guidelines and changes to procedures and policies reflect those nationally.

Lates - if you have not already done so, please read the letter that was emailed to everyone on Friday 26th May regarding the new lates procedures in school. This is now in operation. A copy is available from the school office should you need one.

Holidays - we cannot authorise any holidays that are taken in term time unless they are for exceptional circumstances. Absences linked to holidays may be referred into the Local Authority for a Penalty Notice Request where a fine for £60 per adult (with parental responsibility) per child will be issued.



HEALTHY EATING WEEK!!

Students at OSSMA have been taking part in Healthy Eating Week! In recognition of this, we had a nutritionist who ran a Year 7 assembly, and a number of Year 7 workshops on healthy eating and contributed to the family lunch debate.

Student behaviour was fantastic, and the visitor complimented them on their knowledge, enthusiasm and confidence in public speaking. In addition, a pupil voice survey showed:

- 100% of students said they may use the skills they have learnt at home
- 100% of students said they enjoyed the workshop
- On average, student confidence in cooking and preparing food increased by 24%
- On average, student confidence in knowing what a healthy balanced meal is increased by 26%

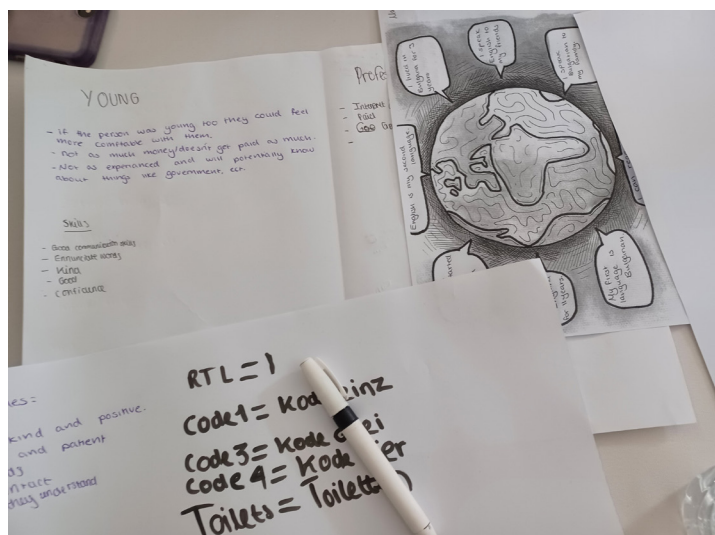


YOUNG INTERPRETER SCHEME

Recently OSSMA staff took a group of 30 EAL students to Longton Rugby Club to complete the Young Interpreter Scheme. Students who attended all speak two or more languages and participated in the scheme to learn new skills.

Mrs Wilmer, Head of MFL, said: "Our students behaved exceptionally well and worked extremely hard showing our academy values consistently throughout the day. They are now ready to interpret for other EAL students in lessons, around the school and talk with parents that are new to English."

"This encourages the development of invaluable skills for our students working alongside teachers, adults and peers. Our EAL ambassadors will become a valuable resource in the academy, crucial to settling new EAL students, whilst working alongside teaching staff and Heads of Year." Well done to all!



YEAR 9 GEOGRAPHY OPPORTUNITIES

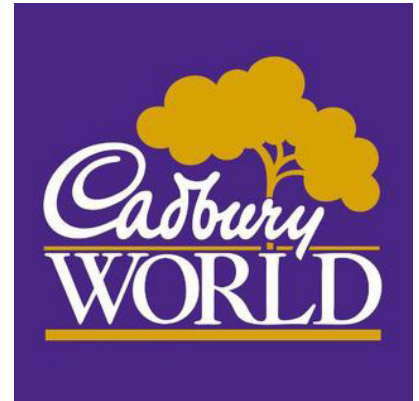
The Geography department is running a trip to Cadbury World on 4th July. Students will be taking part in a geography talk on the role of Transnational Corporations in the global economy.

They will also discover how Cadbury is helping to close the development gap by paying cocoa farmers in low-income countries a fair price for their crops through the Cocoa Life initiative. This links to our GCSE curriculum that our Year 9 students will study in Year 10.

There is also the opportunity for Year 9 students heading into Year 10 to take part in a Geography Residential Trip to Dorset in July 2024. All Year 9 students will receive a letter this week giving more information.

This is an expression of interest letter to gauge interest from our current Year 9 students who have opted to take geography at GCSE.

Please return the completed reply slip if your child would like to attend. Further information will be available once the trip has been confirmed.



WILD RUMPUS “TIME AMONGST THE TREES”

Two key characteristics we continue to develop in our students are confidence and enthusiasm.

As part of the Personal Development Programme at OSSMA, we took ten students on a two-day fun-packed adventure called ‘Time Amongst the Trees, The Wild Rumpus Project’.

The students undertook an enriching two days of adventure and artistic expression in the woods. They participated in various activities, including wooden sign-making, reflection sessions and shadow puppets.

Entitled, Magic Lantern, they had to create a story from the wilderness and perform it to the rest of the group using the shadow puppetry that they had designed and created.



To end the two-day adventure, they played a game of wilderness hide and seek and roasted marshmallows on the campfire.