

As Vice-Principal of our academy the last few weeks have been filled with many proud moments.

We enjoyed a wonderful evening at Keele Hall for the Year 11 prom, the students looked fabulous, and everyone had a brilliant time. Exam results day will be here before we know it!

I have watched our Year 10 students complete their mock exams with such determination. Their mock results day will take place on Monday, 24th July, and we hope all of their hard work will have paid off for them. Local colleges will be on hand to offer advice and guidance for their future pathways.

We have many examples of success around the academy and such fantastic role models in our school. Several of our Year 8 students recently participated in a public speaking competition "Youth Speaks" hosted by Stoke Sixth Form College. Although we did not win on the evening, our students were the only team to draw spontaneous applause, which meant so much to the children.

OSSMA students have been marvellous at supporting the Year 6 students who visited our academy for their transition day on Thursday, 6th July. We have many kind and caring children who deserve to be recognised for their efforts.



Mrs Hassall
Vice Principal

DIARY DATES

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

Thursday 24th August

GCSE Results Day

Wednesday 6th September

Academy opens to students

AN ENTERTAINING YOUTH SPEAKS COMPETITION

Congratulations go to Leon S, Sariah J and Josh F on their fabulous performance in the public speaking competition, 'Youth Speaks,' which was held last week at Stoke Sixth Form College.

Their entertaining topic, "Should ginger be a protected characteristic?" was both humorously delivered and eloquently argued.

Although the winners of the competition won with a well-argued derision of Barbie as a true representation of women, our Year 8 students were popular with the audience being the only team to draw spontaneous applause! They were real stars and represented the school magnificently!



A WONDERFUL EVENING AT KEELE

It was a wonderful evening saying goodbye to our Year 11 cohort on Prom night. The event was held at Keele Hall and it was marvellous to see our students dressed up and ready to party! The rain did not dampen their spirits!

The event, organised by Mrs Hof and Mrs Sims, went magnificently and was compered very professionally by Mr Williams, with speeches from staff and also Head Boy, Yumeth Athauda and Head Girl, Evie Meredith. Here are a few pictures from the evening and as an academy we were extremely proud of all students who attended.



VOTE FOR US AT TESCO!

A project put forward for our 'Young Carers' will be part of the 'Blue Token Scheme' at Tesco. Voting to raise funds will take place at the following stores from July until the end of September. Please support us with your votes!

Longton Extra
Meir Hay Express
Meir
Blythe Bridge Express



CHESS TOURNAMENT

Mrs Giller recently ran the OAT Primary Chess Tournament at the academy. Two primary schools, with three teams and 12 students participated in the event. The next day OSSMA held the OAT Secondary School tournament where 12 academies, 39 teams, and 146 students participated!

Chess club is very popular at OSSMA and our students really enjoyed the tournament which was run online in school by Miss Evans and three of our students were ranked outstanding in the top 20 OAT players.

SPORTING SUCCESS AT OSSMA

A small group of students recently travelled to partake in a PSHE/PE Toughest Challenge Competition at Chasewater Activity Centre. The students had to build a shelter which could withstand rain and wind, build a raft and ride it on the lake, compete in 4 teamwork-based exercises against other schools and then compete in a Bell boating race.

The students performed excellently, both physically and mentally, with some pupils overcoming their fears of water. Each student received individual recognition for their attitudes and behaviour by the centre during the celebration ceremony.

The team won silver in the shelter building, teamwork events and raft building but GOLD in the Bell boating race which we were all ec-



static about! Together with these achievements, the pupils all received a T-shirt and certificate and the school received a plaque with all the achievements of the day.

KEELE MINI GAMES

Staff from OSSMA recently took a group of year 9/10 students to participate in a mini games competition at Keele University. The students took part in a variety of different sports such as as dodgeball and basketball. They worked really hard during the day of activities and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

There were outstanding performances from all students and they received a medal and certificate. Some of the pupils participating expressed that they hadn't won a medal before and so it had made their day. The students behaviour was impeccable and they really represented OSSMA superbly!



TENNIS CHAMPS

Our Year 7 and Year 8 students recently entered the City Tennis Tournament in Stoke-on-Trent. Ivan T and Leon S did extremely well finishing fourth in the City for in the year 8 age group.

Aiden and Ethan W were awarded Year 7 City Champions after winning every match they played! The twin brothers were the model pupils in every way possible on the court. Amazing news!

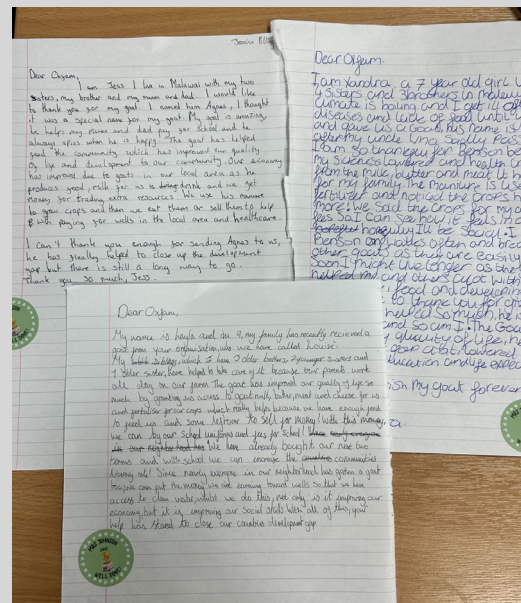


CHARITABLE WORKS

Year 7 have been learning about the importance of charities such as Oxfam for people in developing countries. We have looked at their Goat Aid initiative where families are given a goat to help improve their diet by eating the meat and drinking the milk, increasing the productivity on their farm by using the manure to grow plants.

The income the families get from selling the products they make from the goat also helps to close the development gap.

The students have written letters to Oxfam pretending they live in Africa and have received a goat from Oxfam. Here are examples from Jessica P, Lucie P and Lily-May R.



IT ALL STARTED WITH A BIG BANG!

Recently, staff took 40 year 8 students to The Big Bang Fair in Birmingham. The Big Bang Fair is designed to spark curiosity and excite students with the world of science and engineering! It is the UK's biggest STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) celebration for young people.

It included hands-on activities, careers panels and incredible shows and the students' behaviour was excellent. Mrs Taylor, who organised the trip, said: "It was lovely to see students taking part in lots of STEM activities as well as interacting with other students from across the country. It was a fantastic event with lots of providers from around the country."



CARNEGIE SHADOW READING GROUP

This year OSSMA reinstated the Carnegie Shadow Reading group with over 40 students from Years 8 to 10 and their English teachers involved.

The Yoto Carnegies are the UK's longest running children's book awards, recognising outstanding reading experiences created through writing and illustration in books for young people.

Each year young people who take part in the scheme are invited to vote for their favourite books to win the Shadowers' Choice Awards, which are announced alongside the Medal winners at the annual winners' ceremony.

OSSMA students matched the Shadowers' choice, voting for Ruta Sepetys, *I Must Betray You*. The judges' final vote was for Manon Steffan Ros, *The Blue Book of Nebo*.



The Awards mission is: To champion librarians to inspire and empower the next generation to create a better world through books and reading.

DELVING INTO A WORLD OF CHOCOLATE!

Recently a group of 47 Year 9 students visited Cadbury World in Birmingham as part of their Geography studies.

Students had a tour of the Cadbury's exhibition and also the factory, and then had a talk with a member of the team about the importance of Cadbury as a global business.

They also found out about their Cocoa Life initiative to promote a better standard of living and gender equality in low income countries.

