

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself to you as the new Principal of OSSMA. I feel extremely honoured to have been successful in securing the role after a very competitive interview process that took place earlier last week.

I have worked in education for over 20 years, most of which have been in large schools like OSSMA. I have been a Vice Principal for the last eight years. I feel this gives me a great knowledge of what is needed to take OSSMA forward.

We have a fabulous academy with dedicated staff, supportive governors, incredible students, parents, and carers who we would like to continue to build successful partnerships with. My vision for the academy moving forward is to create a safe place where students can learn, thrive, and achieve no matter what their background.

I strongly believe in providing our students with exciting, creative, and meaningful learning experiences, which build their love of learning and help them to grow and develop positively in a variety of ways.

I look forward to building upon the solid reputation that OSSMA has created over the years and driving the educational experiences for all of our children.

Many thanks



K Hassall

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 4th October
Yr 7 SEN Passport Evening

Tuesday 10th October
Wear it Yellow Day

Wednesday 11th October
Yr 7 Form Tutor Evening

Wednesday 8th November
Yr 8 Parents Evening

CONGRATS TO OUR STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

A new academic year means a new Head Boy and Head Girl along with the Senior Prefect team (pictured)! The prefects help support our academy during events, such as parents' evenings and open evenings, get involved with the running of the school, and promote fundraising for various charities and Year 11 prom. There is a competitive process to achieve these roles and we are extremely proud of the prefect team that embodies our core values.



Pictured are Lee S, Alicja K, Aidan R, Shannon L, Holly Mae P, Tre F, Theo P, Scarlett P, Lydia J, Sebby D, Finley BG, Manahil RP, Isobel P, Eren B, Oscar MA, Gracey W, Riley B, Jorja L.

CAN YOU HELP?

Our Year 7 and Year 8 students are currently collecting donations for the harvest that they will celebrate on Friday 27th October.

The food donations go to the local foodbank in Blurton, and representatives from the food bank will attend the assembly. Currently they are in need of the following items:

Tinned Soups
Tinned desserts
Pasta Sauces
Mash
Rice
Coffee
Fruit juice
Tea bags
Tinned vegetables
Tinned tomatoes
Tinned fish
Biscuits
UHT milk
Chocolates, sweets

MUSICAL OPPORTUNITY

Students have an amazing opportunity to learn a musical instrument during the school day with Oliver Docksey Music.

ODM has been providing high quality music lessons in schools for more than 15 years. Lessons are available on Drums, Guitar, Piano, Bass Guitar, Singing, Clarinet, Ukelele, Saxophone and Strings.

Please scan the QR code below or visit the website for more details. Lessons start at £7 for a 20 minute group lesson.



www.odmhq.co.uk

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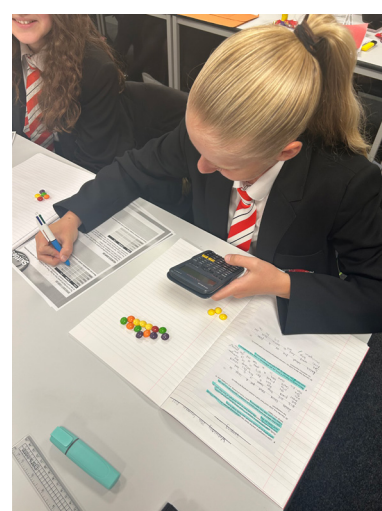
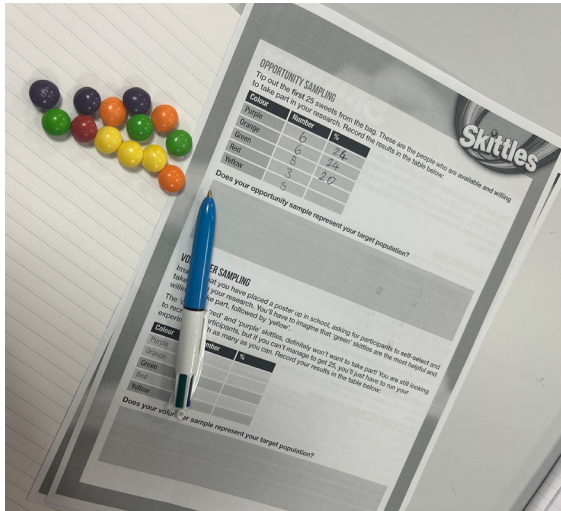
office@odmhq.co.uk

A SWEET THEME IN PSYCHOLOGY

In psychology, Year 10 students have been practising their sampling skills by sampling with Skittles!

Participants were recruited from bags of Skittles and pupils had to conduct volunteer, opportunity, stratified and random sampling on their Skittles.

They were strictly instructed not to eat any participants until the end. Pupils featured are Year 10s Isabelle A, Fearne C, and Miley D.



ATTENDANCE UPDATES

Holidays during Term Time - can we politely remind parents that the DfE do not allow Schools or Academies to authorise any holidays during term time unless they are for exceptional circumstances.

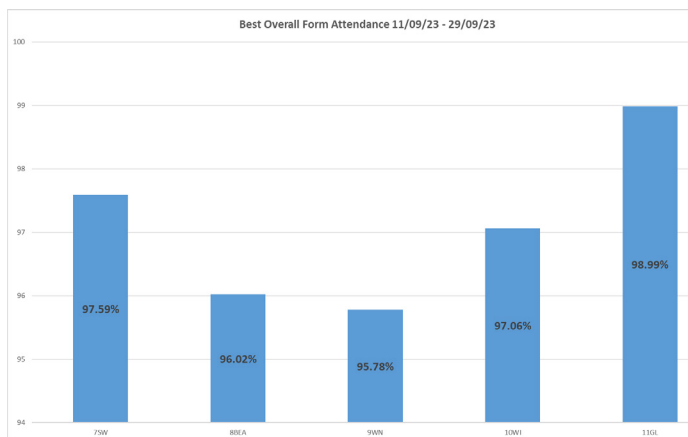
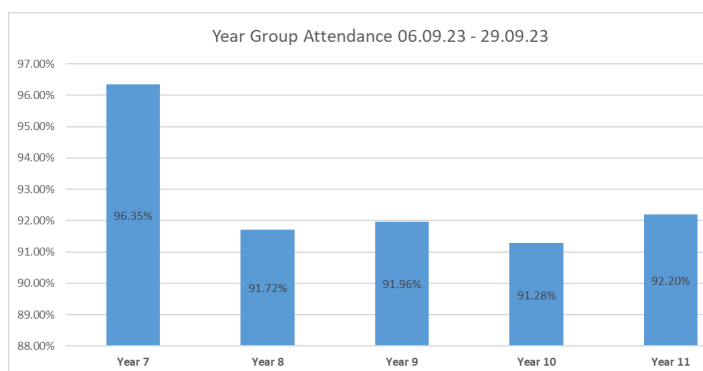
Please submit a Leave of Absence form to the school at least 4 weeks prior to the intended leave to allow us to make an informed decision regarding your request. If your request is not authorised, you may receive a fine via the Local Authority.

Absence due to Sickness - we understand that children fall ill, especially at the start of a new academic year, where they're in contact with new people and therefore new germs.

Can we please ask that you report your child's absence every day they are off. You can do this by contacting the school on 01782 882200 and choosing option 1 (this is the absence line's voicemail) or report via absence@ossma.co.uk.

If your child is absent for three or more days, we may ask our Education Welfare Officer to visit the home address. If your child is residing elsewhere during their illness, please inform us as soon as possible.

Updating Details - can we please ask that you update the school with any change in address or mobile number (including work), this is to ensure that we have correct details on record should we need to contact you in an emergency.



attendance
MATTERS



Last year saw the welcome return of our hugely successful annual Christmas Fayre! This year it will be held at the academy on Tuesday 19th December from 4:30pm until 6:30pm.

We look forward to welcoming students and families, and we are also looking for potential vendors. We are looking to host food stalls, craft stalls and gift sellers.

If you are interested then please email info@ossma.co.uk for more information.

A SUMMER TRIP TO ZANZIBAR

During the summer break, Mrs Newman travelled to Zanzibar, off the coast of Africa, to visit a local school and take some donations she had been collecting to support young children in receiving an education.

When she arrived at the school they were teaching students in two rooms, with no desks, chairs, chalkboards, or electricity. Each child was given a stationery set and they all jumped for joy upon receiving them!

The donations of things we take for granted have made such a difference to these children's lives.



Be a STAR

Donate to our Toy Appeal



Support The Salvation Army this Christmas

Newcastle & Chesterton Salvation Army

With Christmas fast approaching, the worry and stress of the cost of presents for some families can be very upsetting. With this in mind, The Salvation Army will be supporting the local Community.

To help make someone's Christmas a little bit special we are looking for donations of.....

Toys
Toiletry Gift Sets
Christmas Sweets and chocolates
New clothes

The smallest gift will put a smile on a face this Christmas Morning.

Can you help and be a Star?

All donations, no matter how small, will be greatly appreciated.

Please bring all donations to Mrs Wilmer in G89 by Monday December 5th

AN OLYMPIC CHALLENGE

Last term, the Ormiston Academies Trust Partnership hosted two Ogden Physics Olympics for some of its partnership schools. Five secondary schools took part in the East of England event, whilst four schools from the Midlands participated in their Olympic event. One hundred and twenty Year 9 students took part overall.

Students had to take part in three Olympic challenges that tested their teamwork and their physics knowledge. They had just 40 minutes to complete each activity. Firstly, they had to create the most effective wind turbine blades, judged by which turbine generated the largest voltage – SEP windmill kits were used for this challenge (available through Mindsets). Teams then had to design and build the tallest tower. Each tower had to support a mass (food tin) and they were given just 34 sheets of A4 paper and Sellotape to complete the task.

Finally, teams were asked to build a 'Gravitrax' marble run for a steel marble. Beginning at an elevated starting block and heading towards a 'finish' location, teams were trying to ensure the longest possible journey time; to add further jeopardy, the run included a 'magnetic cannon' which, when correctly positioned, enabled the steel marble to go uphill, delaying its descent!

Partnership co-ordinator and Teacher of Science at OSSMA, Sarah Masters said: "Organising the Physics Olympics was such a rewarding experience. Witnessing our students' 'geek out' with fellow physicists reaffirmed the purpose of the partnership with the Ogden Trust," says Sarah.



NAVAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Recently Year 10 students participated in a presentation about the Royal Navy and the careers available to students in the service.

Following this students participated in a 90-minute ready, steady, cook style challenge hosted by serving members of the Royal Navy. Students made pavlova and fishcakes during their challenge and they had a thoroughly fantastic experience!

