



As we approach the end of the academic year, I want to take a moment to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your unwavering support and dedication to our Year 11 students. Your encouragement and involvement have been instrumental in guiding them through this critical phase of their education.

We are eagerly looking forward to the upcoming final exams. This is a pivotal time for our students, and we are confident that their hard work and perseverance will pay off. Following the exams, we have our much-anticipated prom to look forward to, a wonderful opportunity for us all to come together and celebrate their achievements.

Throughout this term, our focus has been on establishing good routines within the academy, particularly in the way we enter our academy each day. It is essential to have a purposeful and safe entry, and I am proud to say that our students have really engaged with this initiative.

In addition, we have been emphasising the importance of enthusiasm and kindness—two core values that are integral to our school community. Our students have embraced these values, creating a positive and supportive environment.

I would also like to wish our Year 10 students the best of luck as they prepare for their mock exams. This is a crucial opportunity for them to demonstrate their knowledge and identify areas for improvement over the next two terms. We believe in their potential and are committed to supporting them every step of the way.

Thank you once again for your continued support. Together, we can ensure that our students achieve their best and create lasting memories.

**Kelly Hassall**  
Principal

## DIARY DATES

**Mon 17th June - Tues 2nd July**

Year 10 Mocks

**Friday 21st June**

Year 11 Prom

**Thursday 27th June**

Mental Health and Wellbeing Information Evening

**Wednesday 10th July**

Year 10 Parent's Evening

**Friday 12th July**

Year 10 Mock Results Day

**Monday 15th July**

Rewards Trips

**Thursday 18th July**

Sports Day

**Friday 19th July**

Last day of term for students

## Mental Health & Wellbeing Information Evening.

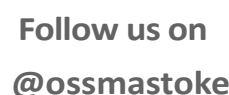
**Thursday 27th June 2024**  
5:30 pm - 7 pm

**Ormiston Sir Stanley Matthews Academy**



## YEAR 11 UNIFORM

A quick plea! We are collecting any spare uniform from Year 11 students who could donate. If you have any skirts/ties/blazers or sports kit please drop off at the main reception in the uniform donation box. Many thanks!



## WORK EXPERIENCE

Our Year 10 students have recently been out on Work Experience as part of our careers programme at OSSMA. Students were tasked with finding a work placement, and they worked hard to ensure they could participate in some fantastic opportunities.

54% of students spent two weeks in the working world, participating in placements that ranged from plasterer's apprentice to shadowing the Forensic Science department at Keele University.

This is an opportunity that ALL students will be expected to complete when they are in Year 10, and next year, it will be during the week of May 19th 2025. For our current Year 9 students, once your child has found a work experience placement, they will need to bring the details to school so the paperwork can be logged onto Unifrog, our online careers platform. If you have any questions or concerns about your child participating in work experience in Year 10, please email [npemberton@ossma.co.uk](mailto:npemberton@ossma.co.uk).



## WHOLE SCHOOL REWARDS TRIPS

Our end-of-year rewards trips are coming up on 15th July. Students in Years 7 and 8 will go to Drayton Manor, and Years 9 and 10 will go to Alton Towers.



There are only 235 places, so this will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. The trips are on Parent Pay, but students will be removed from the trip if they don't meet the success criteria. This is:

0 suspensions

No more than 5 B4s

No more than 2 PALP placements

\*\*Attendance and punctuality will be monitored, and your HOY will make the final decision.

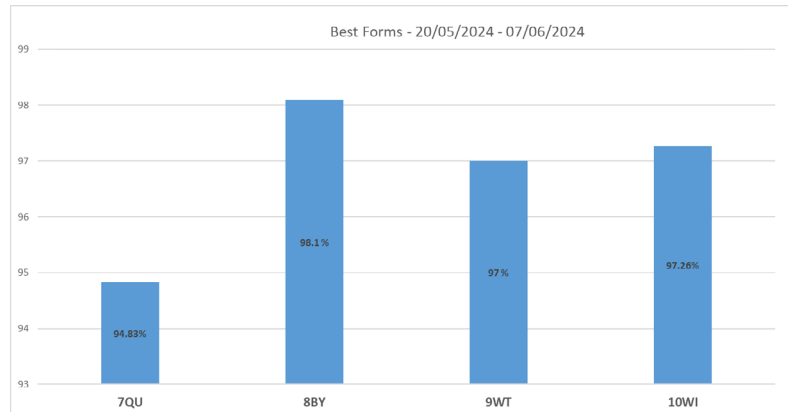


## ANOTHER THANK YOU TO OUR PARENTS AND CARERS!

Once again, a huge thank you to parents/carers for their support in helping us reduce the number of lates to school.

We ask for your continued support with this, as it helps to set a good precedent for your child's future post-OSSMA.

**Contact details:** Have you moved house, or do you have a new mobile or work number? If so, have you remembered to update the school? If not, please update us as soon as possible.



**Holidays:** This is a polite reminder that we cannot authorise any holidays taken during term time. If you are considering taking your child out of school for a holiday, please complete a Leave of Absence form as soon as possible so we know why they are absent.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING EVENT

You are invited to attend a Mental health and wellbeing information evening at OSSMA on Thursday, 27th June, from 5:30 pm-7 pm.

On the night, a wide variety of services will be available to speak to and offer support if you require it. This is part of our approach to supporting our students' and families' mental health and wellbeing and helping families access our internal and external support services.

Students are welcome to attend the evening with you, and anyone who is part of our Blurton community who you think may be interested. The following services have been invited to participate on the night:

- Adam Dunn from Dogsmindsmatter
- Stoke on Trent Foodbank
- Mental Health Support Team
- Catch 22
- YMCA Go
- Changes Health and Wellbeing
- CDAS (Community Drug and Alcohol Service)
- Caudwell Children
- Mrs Hackney OSSMA PSHE lead
- Mr Steve Oakley OSSMA SENCO
- Miss Shannon Nicholls, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead at OSSMA
- Mr Ian Wright, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead at OSSMA
- Mrs Nikki Shim - Multi Agency & Inclusion Coordinator
- Miss Caroline Thompson -Mental health Lead at OSSMA
- School nurse NHS



There will be refreshments available on the night so please sign up here <https://bit.ly/4c0N3i9> if you can attend. Please note there is no charge for this evening.

# E-SCOOTERS

We want to draw attention to some legalities surrounding e-scooters and their legal usage in the UK. Electric scooters (also known as e-scooters) fall under the category of “powered transporters,” which covers a range of personal transport devices powered by a motor.



E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles under the Road Traffic Act 1988. This means the rules that apply to motor vehicles also apply to e-scooters, including the need for a licence, insurance, and tax.

It's not currently possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them on the road or in public spaces. If you're using a private e-scooter, you risk the vehicle being seized under S.165 Road Traffic Act 1988 for no insurance.

If you cause serious harm to another person whilst riding an e-scooter, the incident will be investigated in the same way it would be if you were riding a motorcycle or driving a car. We ask that students do not travel to school on an e-scooter, and we will not store these on our premises during the day. If students bring an e-scooter to the academy, parents will be contacted, and students will be sent home with the device. More information can be viewed here <https://bit.ly/3yUg7cw>

## A TRIP TO BARLASTON DOWNS

Practical fieldwork is an integral part of some GCSE subjects, and Year 10 students have been enjoying their Geography fieldwork recently.

The fieldwork was an essential part of their GCSE course, and they enthusiastically got stuck in collecting data from the river at Barlaston Downs. Students went out in small groups with their teachers to collect data in the environment. They then went on to Hanley to discover the benefits of regeneration, which is also part of their course.



# YEAR 9 ENGLISH SPEAKING BOARD

24th-28th June is ESB Week for Year 9

We are delighted to once again be able to enrol our Year 9 OSSMA students in the English Speaking Board exam at Employability Level 2. This internationally recognised practical speaking qualification allows our learners to develop the oracy skills they need to achieve their aspirations. The week will run as follows:



**Monday and Tuesday:** Subject staff will deliver bespoke lessons on preparing a presentation, asking and responding to questions, CV writing, and interview techniques. Additionally, students will be taught how to make a professional telephone call to arrange a job interview.

**Wednesday:** Students will be in form classes where preparation and practice sessions will occur with their form tutor.

**Thursday and Friday:** We will welcome eight external assessors into OSSMA to assess our students' oracy skills in delivering a presentation on their chosen career, a Q&A session, a telephone call scenario where the students call a potential employer to change the date of a proposed interview, and a mock interview based upon their CV.

Fortunately, we have secured funding to allow each student to take the qualification at a reduced rate. The cost of taking the exam is £38 per student, similar to all external exams, such as GCSEs that your child will sit in Year 11. We will fund this through our exam budget, as we believe this puts our students at an advantage when applying for college courses and apprenticeships and eventually securing employment.

Results will be announced before the end of the term, and students will be awarded a certificate detailing their grade: Pass, Merit, Merit Plus, or Distinction. If you have any further questions about ESB, do not hesitate to contact Mrs J. George via email: [jgeorge@ossma.co.uk](mailto:jgeorge@ossma.co.uk). We wish all our students the very best, and we are confident that the results will show how amazing OSSMA students are with their oracy skills.

## SMASHING TENNIS SUCCESS

Our tennis team has recently been going from strength to strength!

Our team competed in the City Tennis Championship, where the organisers described the competition as "the strongest level seen in the last 40 years."

Alex C (Y7) and Ethan W (Y8) won the entire Year 9 competition, meaning we are Y9 City Tennis Champions. They won all of their matches, beating Trentham A & B and St Joseph's A & B. Aiden W (Y8) and Charlie H (Y8) finished 4th in a very strong field of Y10 competitors, winning a total of 11 games.

The boys also recently travelled to Stone to play St Dominic's Priory School for Year 8 boys Staffordshire Tennis Division 2 fixture. OSSMA won the overall fixture 12-0. The boys there won their section, so they will now play the winners of the other north group. They are hoping to win and play the winners of the central Staffordshire group to eventually be crowned champions, which would be an amazing achievement in such a prestigious tournament.



## YEAR 10 MOCK EXAMS AND PARENTS EVENING

Year 10 mock exams are a key part of the journey into our students' final GCSE year. The mock exams ensure that students are well prepared for the rigour of the exam period and have a real-life experience of sitting exams and planning their time.

Students have a mock exam results day, where they are given an envelope just like on their actual results day, and we will support them with advice and guidance moving forward. Year 10 Parent's Evening is on the 10th of July, and text messages will be sent out imminently. We encourage parents to book in for this as it is a fantastic opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss their transition to Year 11.

| Date                | Period 1 and 2                                                                                                    | Period 3 and 4                                      | Period 5                    |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Week A</b>       | <b>English Literature – Paper 2</b>                                                                               | <b>Computer Science</b>                             |                             |
| Monday 17th June    | 2 hr 15                                                                                                           | 1hr 30                                              |                             |
| Tuesday 18th June   | <b>Maths Paper 1</b><br>1 hr 30                                                                                   | <b>Biology</b><br>1 hr 15 / 1hr 45                  |                             |
| Wednesday 19th June | <b>Chemistry</b><br>1 hr 15 / 1hr 45                                                                              | <b>History Paper 1 – Crime + Punishment</b><br>1 hr |                             |
| Thursday 20th June  |                                                                                                                   | <b>Geography Paper 1 - Physical</b><br>45 mins      |                             |
| Friday 21st June    | <b>Maths Paper 2</b><br>1 hr 30                                                                                   | <b>French Writing</b><br>1hr 20                     |                             |
| <b>Week B</b>       | <b>English Language-Paper 1</b>                                                                                   | <b>History Paper 2 - Living under Nazi rule</b>     |                             |
| Monday 24th June    | 1 hr 45                                                                                                           | 1 hr                                                |                             |
| Tuesday 25th June   | <b>Psychology</b><br>1hr 45                                                                                       | <b>Geography Paper 2 - Human</b><br>1 hr            |                             |
| Wednesday 26th June | <b>Maths Paper 3</b><br>1 hr 30                                                                                   | <b>Drama</b><br>1 hr                                |                             |
| Thursday 27th June  | <b>French - Reading and Listening-<br/>Theatre/Dance</b><br>1hr 45<br><b>Religious Studies 1hr 45-Sports Hall</b> |                                                     |                             |
| Friday 28th June    | <b>Catch up session</b>                                                                                           | <b>Catch up Session</b>                             |                             |
| <b>Week A</b>       | <b>Art</b>                                                                                                        | <b>Art</b>                                          | <b>Art</b>                  |
| Monday 1st July     | 5 hrs                                                                                                             | 5 hrs                                               | 5 hrs                       |
| Tuesday 2nd July    | <b>Hospitality</b><br>3.5 hrs                                                                                     | <b>Hospitality</b><br>3.5 hrs                       |                             |
| Wednesday 3rd July  | <b>Photography</b><br>5 hrs                                                                                       | <b>Photography</b><br>5 hrs                         | <b>Photography</b><br>5 hrs |
| Thursday 4th July   | <b>Textiles</b><br>5 hrs                                                                                          | <b>Textiles</b><br>5 hrs                            | <b>Textiles</b><br>5 hrs    |

## OUR AMAZING ORACY AMBASSADORS!

Our OSSMA Oracy Ambassadors recently travelled to Birmingham, having entered the OAT Oracy Workshop and debate competition against six other OAT schools.

As expected, the students were amazing at the event intended to build confidence and teach students to use body language and positive affirmations to succeed in public speaking. Levi said he wished every day at school could be like this. Students will be participating in debate sessions soon and are very much looking forward to it!

