



As we approach the end of term, I want to take a moment to celebrate the hard work and dedication demonstrated by our Year 11 students. Having recently completed their mock exams, they have shown exceptional focus and commitment. This level of resilience is truly inspiring, and I'm confident it will set them up for continued success in the coming months.

Across all year groups, we've seen a noticeable improvement in attendance, which is fantastic. Regular attendance plays a key role in academic achievement, and I encourage all students to continue prioritising their time in school. Every minute of every lesson is an opportunity to learn, grow, and progress.

It's also been a busy and exciting term, with some fantastic opportunities in both sport and extracurricular activities. Students have been involved in a range of events and school trips, which have enriched their learning experience and provided them with memories to last a lifetime. I am proud of the enthusiasm and teamwork shown across all areas.

As we head into the festive season, I'd like to remind everyone about our Over 55s Christmas Meal. This special event is about bringing our community together, and tickets are now available for purchase. I encourage everyone to support this wonderful initiative—it's a great way to celebrate the season and strengthen the bonds that make our school such a vibrant place.

Finally, with the colder weather now upon us, please ensure that students are dressed appropriately for the conditions. A warm coat, is essential!

Thank you for your continued support, and let's keep up the great work.

Kelly Hassall
Principal

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 4th December
Year 8 Parent's Evening

Wednesday 18th December
Year 11 Mock Results Day

Friday 20th December
Last day of Term

Tuesday 7th January
Students return to the academy.

Wednesday 15th January
Year 11 Parent's Evening

Wednesday 5th February
Year 10 Parent's Evening

Wednesday 2nd April
Year 11 Parent's Evening

Wednesday 18th June
Year 7 Parent's Evening

AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION

Congratulations to Jack T, Ethan, and Aidan W for their outstanding contribution to the OAT Leadership Conference. These young individuals took on the significant responsibility of opening this prestigious event, demonstrating leadership skills beyond their years. Their poise, professionalism, and ability to engage with attendees were truly commendable. Their performance as hosts not only reflected well on themselves but also represented OSSMA in the best possible light.



In addition to the exemplary hosting, our academy's presence at the conference was further enhanced by the remarkable performance of our Matilda cast. The talented group of students delivered a captivating musical medley that left a lasting impression on all in attendance. Their performance was a testament to the hard work, dedication, and artistic abilities nurtured within our school's performing arts programme.



BLUE PETER STAR!

We are always extremely pleased to hear what our students do outside of the academy.

Recently, Noah T from Year 8 took part in filming a Blue Peter special. This was a great experience for Noah who also participated in our school musical last year.

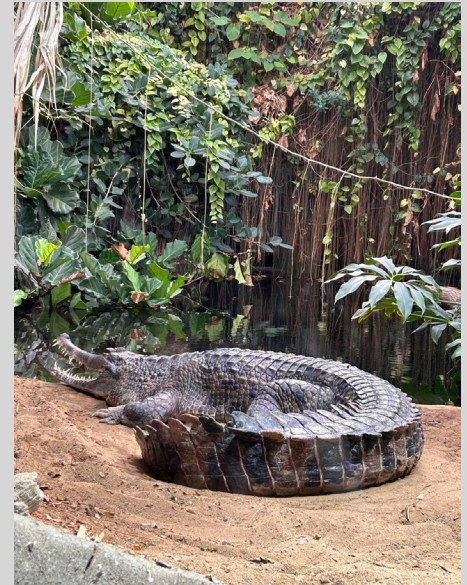
The programme is on BBC Iplayer and it is a zombie/wicked special and Noah is on about 10 minutes in to the show! Well done Noah!



CHESTER ZOO TRIP

Recently 90 Year 8 students had a fantastic day out at Chester Zoo. This was organised by the Geography Department.

Students discovered about plant and animal adaptations for their next unit on the Amazon rainforest. They saw sloths, jaguars and spider monkeys, flamingos and crocodiles.



Science STEM Club

Please join us on
Tuesday afternoons in
F02 at 3:30

You will be conducting
experiments to show
off and improve your
practical skills!!!

DANCE CLUB

WHERE: Dance studio

WHEN: Tuesday afterschool 3:30 – 4:25

WHO: Run by Miss Birchall

Everyone is welcome!

If you want to dance, or practice your moves come and join
dance club.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The Attendance Focus Fortnight which wrapped around half term was a success, with almost 800 students attending for 100% on these days.

This was an increase of over 0.5% on last year, and the attendance team would like to say a huge well done to every student who did this! Your rewards are with Heads of Year and will be distributed through your forms. This time of the year is notorious for coughs and cold, upset stomachs and worse, so the resilience shown by this wonderful group of students is highly commendable. Thank you to all the parents who have supported us, it is very much appreciated.

December will see another attendance incentive; The Ten Days of Christmas taking place between 4th & 18th December. Every student who maintains 100% attendance between those days will be put into a daily prize draw in year groups. Names will be picked on a daily basis with the chance of winning a voucher.



LOCAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE OVER WINTER

We know that the cost of living crisis, fuelled by rising inflation and increasing energy bills, is impacting Stoke-on-Trent residents, businesses and communities.

We are all facing tough financial challenges. If you are struggling, a range of support may be able to help you. The council administers a number of grants, benefits, relief funds and other support. As we approach winter and face cost of living pressure across our communities, Stoke-on-Trent will come together and support the most vulnerable.

We want to ensure that you receive all of the support and benefits you may be entitled to because #helpisathand. Scan the QR code for more details.



AUTUMNAL PEACE

Crackled leaves fall on the ground
As all the summer goes by, without a sound
A crashed bang, the wind has struck

But it's my love that changes, not in the slightest luck
The moment when peace is all we know
But the devil's red arrow
Shows me the way to go

A hole in my heart
Pulls our love apart
The daisy chain has broken
And so has my love-sick token

The silver lining is nowhere to be seen
All that has gone, forgotten and been
The birds' nest, is empty of food
But the crow is forgotten, and the dove is now shooed

New growing trees, and plants away
The blue sky, has so much it had to say
But my eyes are broken, a bullet filled cry
My love turned to hatred and the bullet will bite
Ezara W, Year 11.

OVER 55'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday
11th December 2024

arrive at 2.30pm • Meal served at 3pm

£10 per person

Price includes: 3-Course Meal, Mince Pies on arrival, Festive Entertainment, and all Soft Drinks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO PURCHASE A TICKET, PLEASE CONTACT THE ACADEMY ON 01782 882200, EMAIL info@osma.co.uk OR CALL INTO RECEPTION.

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Stoke City first team stars Junior Tchamadeu and Frank Fielding joined the Potters' Chief Operating Officer Simon King at Ormiston Sir Stanley Matthews Academy to unveil a new mental health tree designed by students.

Alongside attendees from Stoke City Community Trust, the trio met with staff and students at the Blurton-based Academy to reveal the tree which was created as part of the Premier League Inspires project.

The metallic tree features inspirational messages on its leaves and will be a safe space for students to be themselves and focus on their mental health.



MANCHESTER CITY TRIP



OSSMA students are also offered a range of trips and extra-curricular activities and the PE Department run a diverse range of activities. Students recently travelled to the Manchester City Etihad Stadium to watch Manchester City v Tottenham women.

They had a great time, with the match being televised on Sky Sports!

