



As we approach the end of this term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you sincerely for your continued support. As a new leadership team, our aim has been to create a calm, safe environment where all students can learn, thrive, and achieve and your partnership has played a key role in helping us move toward that vision.

We've also enjoyed an exceptional year in sport, one of our most successful in recent memory that you can see later on in this newsletter. A huge number of students have taken part, and we are proud of those achievements.

In addition to sporting success, we've seen a wide range of enrichment opportunities offered to students, including memorable trips to Belgium and Cape Town, which helped broaden students' horizons and raise aspirations. Other successful enrichment experiences this academic year have been the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, numerous university visits linked to STEM, Abbey House Farm, Jorvik Viking Centre and Kenilworth Castle.

One of the highlights of this term was our Rewards Carnival on Tuesday 15th July, which was a resounding success with students. It was designed to be inclusive, allowing more students to participate, and at no cost to families. I also had the privilege of hosting a rewards lunch for our students who have consistently modelled our OSSMA CREECK values throughout the academic year, a great time was had by all as you can see below.

I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff, who have worked tirelessly to provide so many valuable experiences for our young people.

As you may have seen from my letter earlier this week, we will be moving to a mobile phone-free school environment starting in September. We're making this change because we care deeply about students' well-being and learning. Your support with this policy will be crucial, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful break, and we look forward to welcoming students back to the academy in September.

**Kelly Hassall**  
**Principal**



## DIARY DATES

**Thursday 21st August**

GCSE Results Day 9-11am

**Mon 1st & Tues 2nd September**

INSET days

**Wednesday 3rd September**

Students return to the academy

**Wednesday 17th September**

Welcome to Year 11 Evening

**Wednesday 24th September**

Year 6 Open Evening

**Wednesday 8th October**

Welcome to Year 10 Evening

**FREE LOCAL EVENTS OVER**

**SUMMER SCAN BELOW**



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[@ossmastoke](https://www.instagram.com/ossmastoke)





## Sporting Stars 2024-2025

It has been an incredible Year for Team OSSMA and the Performance Faculty winning multiple cups and tournaments. Here are our Champions of 2024-2025!



**Year 10 Boys 5-a-side Football City Champions 2025**



**City Girls 5-a-side football Champions 2025**



**Girls Year 7/8 Stoke City 'Play on the Pitch' City Tournament - Champions 2025**



**Year 8 Girls 5-a-side Football City Champions 2025**



**Year 10 Boys City 11-a-side Football Champions 2025**



# Sporting Stars 2024-2025



**Year 9 Boys Tennis City Champions 2025**



**City Badminton Champions 2025**

## Amazing Athletics Achievements

Alfie R in Year 9 has achieved an outstanding milestone—he is now the English Schools Champion and officially ranked number 1 in the UK for Junior Boys Hammer!

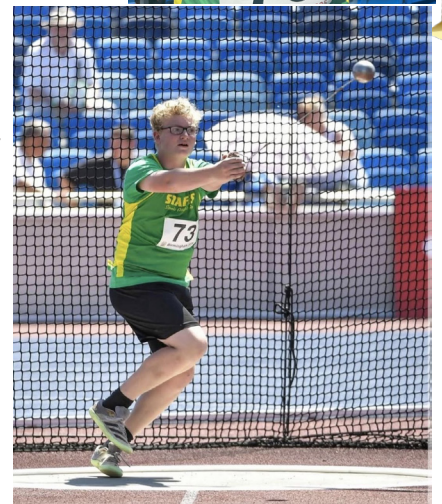
Being selected to represent Staffordshire at the English Schools Athletics Championships—competing against 48 counties—was already an honour. But to go on and win the entire event by an impressive margin of 5 metres, with a throw of 54.40m, is nothing short of phenomenal.

This is one of the most prestigious national competitions for young athletes, and winning it is an extraordinary accomplishment. This season Alfie has competed multiple times and is currently:

- Regional Champion in Discus
- 2nd Place in Regional Javelin Championships
- Achieved English Schools qualifying standards in Javelin, Discus, and Hammer
- Achieved National Standard in Hammer
- Ranked Number 1 in the UK in Hammer
- English Schools Champion in Junior Boys Hammer.

Alfie's commitment, determination, and relentless drive to improve himself are truly inspiring.

Out of the entire Staffordshire team, only two medals were awarded one was to Alfie, who took gold in the Hammer. A huge well done!

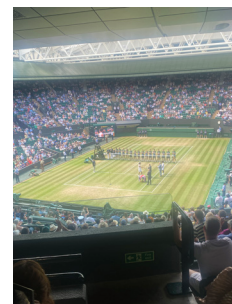


**Other outstanding athletes include Jaime Leigh R Year 7 and Aaron R in Year 9 who are both City Champions for High Jump. Well done!**



## A TRIP TO WIMBLEDON

Recently, the Performance Faculty took a trip to Wimbledon. It was a swelteringly hot day and a fantastic time was had by all!



## SPORTS DAY WINNERS!

It is always a hotly contested competition each year with a healthy amount of rivalry among staff and students, but this years triumphant forms are below. Pictures of some of our winners are also on our social media platforms.

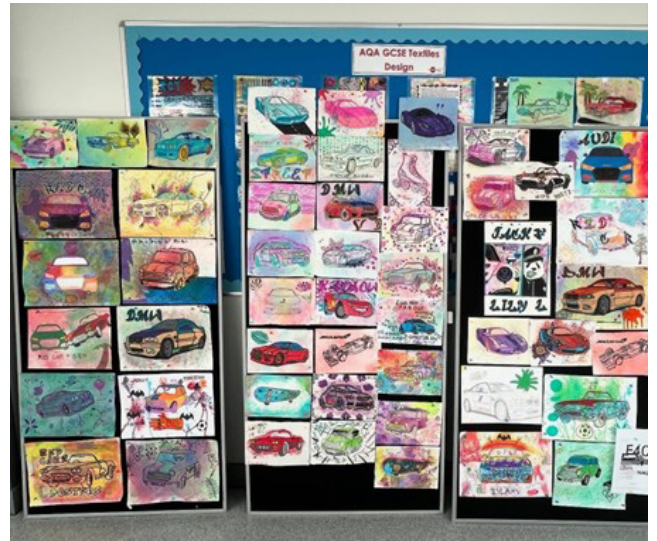




## ART EXTRAVAGANZA!

Y8 have responded to the theme of 'Transport' by exploring the use of water colour paints, paint pens, and pencil crayon.

They created their own exhibition from their responses to the challenge of designing their own piece of transport themed art.



Y9 have explored mixed media watercolour techniques, and looked at local architecture – they have created some beautiful responses inspired by the work of the artist Neil Whitehouse.



During Enrichment week, Years 7 and 8 had chance to create their own piece of a puzzle for our OSSMA Community Jigsaw Mural – they created a fantastic mural which captures their life at OSSMA and has turned into a celebration of our amazing community.





## YOUTH SPEAKS

Recently, the OSSMA Y9 team performed incredibly well at the Stoke Sixth Form College in the annual oracy event, 'Youth Speaks.'

Chairperson, Scarlet D; keynote speaker, Layla-Jai T, with the vote of thanks from Lucie P, were delivering on the topic of Stoke-on-Trent citizenship in a centenary year.

The team excelled themselves in a strong field of speakers and their confidence shone in front of SASCAL leaders, the Rotarians, teachers, family and friends.

Joint winners of the competition were Ormiston Meridian and Discovery Academy - well done to those teams who were stiff competition.

Going head-to-head with eight city schools, Team OSSMA were certainly a close second in our unbiased opinion!

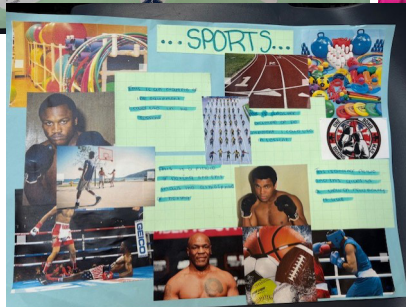


## English Speaking Board

This term our Year 9 students have successfully completed their ESB Level 2 Certificate in Speech (Grade 4) Speech for Employability.

The assessment was made up of a four minute presentation on a chosen career, job interview and professional telephone call. Our students worked so hard to prepare over the week with subject staff and form tutors.

Distinctions came from all groups and we have had some excellent results. Well done Year 9!



## SCHOOL SYNERGY - APP DOWNLOAD REMINDER

Calling all OSSMA parents! Stay connected with our FREE Synergy App and celebrate your child's success! Get instant updates on:

- CREECK Awards
- Attendance, detentions, and school events
- Messages from teachers

It's super easy to use:

1. Download from the App Store or Google Play
2. Log in with your credentials
3. Update your contact details in seconds

Accurate information (phone, email, medical) ensures you never miss a thing!

# RESULTS

**GCSE Results Day Thursday 21st August 9-11am**

Year 11 students are invited in to collect their exam results on the above date between the hours of 9am and 11am. If students are unable to collect results in person please can they email [sjones@ossma.co.uk](mailto:sjones@ossma.co.uk) to receive a form to complete, nominating a designated adult for collection on their behalf.

No results will be issued over the phone or to anyone without completion of the nomination form, with prior notice.



## MEDICAL MAVERICKS

Recently we welcomed the Medical Mavericks Team to OSSMA to carry out medical workshops.

Year 9 students had a brilliant time in their medical workshops, where they learned to take blood pressure and pulses, listen to heartbeat and breathing using stethoscopes, conduct ECGs and bone plate scans, and even learned how to draw blood from a human arm!

Some highlights were: Jess C drawing blood with absolute precision, Tamzin D overcoming a fear of needles to draw blood, Amelia H showing off skills as a keyhole surgeon and Fatima B and Grey A discussing potential medical careers.



## POETRY CORNER

**ashes in the wind, by Olivia M, Year 8**

They told us war would make us men  
said steel and smoke would forge our names  
in stone,  
that the flag would never forget us.  
But the wind remembers better than any  
monument.

We marched beneath skies  
that forgot how to cry.  
Boots in mud,  
souls in fire,  
our youth traded for thunder.

The first shot  
was not the loudest.  
It was the silence after,  
when breath paused  
and the world narrowed  
to blood on a friend's collar  
and a prayer we didn't believe.

We slept with ghosts beside us  
some we made,  
some we lost.  
They whispered through our dreams,  
asking why  
no one came back whole.

Letters home turned thin,  
each line a lie we told ourselves:  
"I'm fine."  
"We're winning."  
"Home soon."

But the truth doesn't fit in envelopes.  
It stays buried  
beneath helmets,  
beneath ribcages,  
beneath the noise we carry years later.

Now,  
the war is over  
on maps.  
But it still flickers behind closed eyes,  
in firework nights  
and empty mornings.

We are medals without shine,  
memories without age,  
names carved in stone,  
and ashes in the wind.



## LEGO WORKSHOP

Recently 11 of our Year 8 students travelled to Stoke 6th Form College for an a Lego robotics workshop.

The afternoon saw the students design, programme, build, and pitch their robots. They were using challenging programming software in order to give their robots have different functions.

They behaved fantastically all day and did us proud.



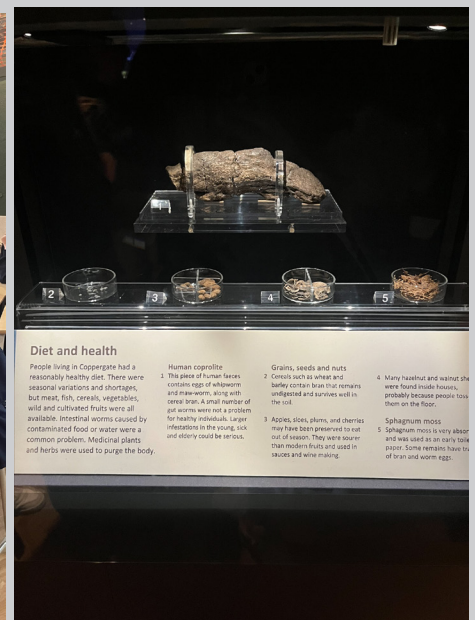
## A VIKING ADVENTURE IN YORK

Year 9 students recently took a trip to the Jorvik Centre in York. Students took part in a workshop at the DIG site where they saw firsthand the items which had been excavated. They then had a go at archaeology themselves and uncovered different artefacts from 4 different time periods.

A big chunk of the day has been spent at Jorvik centre. Students were able to see the replica Coppergate dig and could see the outline of the Viking settlement. They then had the opportunity to look around a replica Viking settlement and could experience the sights, sounds and smells!

The highlight of the day for students was in the museum exhibition where among the skeletons, swords, and axe heads was the worlds largest excavated poo- which even the King has held!

All in all, our visit to the Jorvik Viking Centre and DIG was a resounding success. The students returned with a deeper understanding of Viking history and a newfound appreciation for the work of archaeologists. We're already looking forward to our next adventure.





## UNIFORM UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Many thanks for your support this academic year in ensuring that our students are adhering to the high standards of uniform at OSSMA.

We are delighted to see so many of our students consistently following the uniform policy, which we believe fosters a positive school culture, image and creates a positive learning environment for all.

Your efforts in ensuring that your child is in the correct uniform every day plays a key role in maintaining these high standards and we as an academy appreciate it greatly.

There are a few key changes to the uniform policy from September 2025 which we have gone through with the students in assemblies, form time and in PE lessons. These include the change to our school skirt which must be 20 inches in length, black and pleated. The pleated skirts are available at most school retailers including School's In which is located at 41 Weston Road in Meir.

We would also like to provide an important update regarding our uniform for PE lessons. Students can wear black jogging bottoms, shorts or leggings, that must be plain black with no lines, branding, or logos.

However, from September, please ensure that PE shorts are mid-thigh length unisex sports shorts as pictured in our uniform guidance and opposite. Cycling shorts or Nike Pro shorts of any length are not permitted. Suitable unisex sports shorts are widely available from major retailers, including Amazon, Matalan, and M&S. The link to our full uniform policy is [here](#).



## SILVER DUKE OF EDINBURGH CHALLENGE

Twenty students completed their Silver DofE qualifying expedition last weekend in the White Peak. Students (and staff!) walked over 55 miles, across challenging terrain, in 30-degree heat.

They walked for 3 days and camped for 2 nights, carrying their belongings on their backs. They had to navigate their routes using a map and a compass and smashed it.

A massive well done to all!



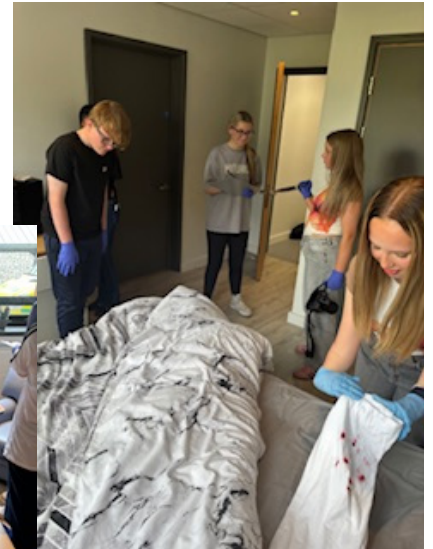


## STEM ACTIVITIES

Over the past few weeks, our students have had the opportunity to engage with lots of STEM opportunities.

Students had the opportunity to go to Harper Adams University for a day of Ecology and Zoology. Students also had the opportunity to visit Staffordshire University for a Forensic science day which was extremely well received

A final trip saw students visit Derby University for a day of Forensics, Business and Healthcare workshops. Students had a tour of the Univer-



## REWARDS DAY

Our whole school rewards day was well received by students, with go karts, inflatables, laser tag and an alternative game of football!

Students also had candy floss and popcorn, took part in a quiz and had their rewards assembly to celebrate the years success. The fantastic summer weather we have been having deserted us but the students had a great time!

