

As we approach the end of May, I am pleased to share some significant highlights from recent weeks at OSSMA.

Our Year 11 students are progressing well through their GCSE examinations, and I would like to extend my congratulations to them on their continued dedication and focus. The finish line is now in sight, and we remain confident in their ability to achieve their best outcomes.

Year 10 students have recently completed their work experience placements, which have proven to be exceptionally successful. These placements have provided valuable opportunities for our students to gain practical insight into the world of work, develop professional skills, and explore potential career pathways. The feedback from employers and students alike has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are proud of how our young people have represented the academy during this important experience.

We have also been delighted to facilitate numerous educational trips for our students in recent weeks. Most notably, our Spain trip is currently underway, and we hope our travelling students are enjoying a rewarding and enriching experience abroad. These trips play a vital role in broadening our students' horizons and creating memorable learning opportunities beyond the classroom.

As we enter the May half-term break, I wish all members of our school community a restful and enjoyable time with family and friends.



Kelly Hassall
Principal

GOING FOR GOLD!

OSSMA PE have done it again and have been awarded GOLD in the Schools Games Mark.

The School Games Mark is a government-led award scheme. It celebrates schools' commitment to developing competitive sport within their school and community. It allows schools to assess their PE provision and create an action plan for improvement.

The PE Department have worked hard as a team to achieve the highest GOLD status which reflects their commitment to offering a wide range of sporting opportunities to OSSMA students- well done team PE!

Email: info@ossma.co.uk

Web: www.ormistonsirstanleymatthewsacademy.co.uk

DIARY DATES

Friday 22nd May

Last day of term - Own Clothes Day.

Monday 1st June

Students return to the academy

Friday 19th June

Year 11 Prom

Monday 29th June -Friday 3rd July

English Speaking Board Week Y9
Work Experience Week 2 - Y10

Monday 13th July

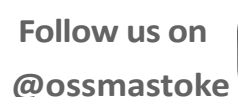
Whole school rewards day

Thursday 16th July

Sports Day

Friday 17th July

Last day of term

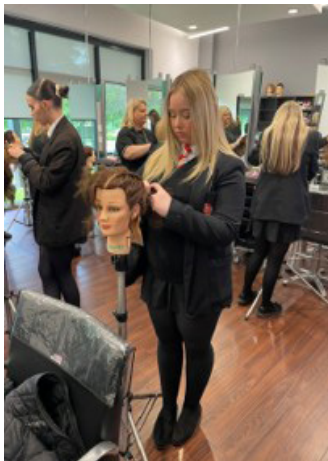


A trip to college!

Recently, some students visited Newcastle College to experience three different hair and beauty courses offered there.

The girls took part in a Hair session where they demonstrated their plaiting and hair curling/straightening skills, a Make-up session where they practised applying make-up on other Newcastle students, and finally a hand massage session where they enjoyed a massage and asked the other students about the courses offered.

All the girls were amazing, engaged well with the other students, and really enjoyed the experience!



Year 9 Maths Assessments

On Wednesday, 17th June, Year 9 students will all undertake their End-of-Year Maths assessments.

These will take place during periods 1 and 2, and the whole year group will be assessed. The information gathered will support staff in making decisions about setting and tiering as students move into Year 10 and their GCSE programme.

The paper is a non-calculator paper, and students have received a revision sheet similar to that pictured.

We encourage students to use [Corbett Maths](#) for revision. This is a free platform with useful instructional videos that use the same techniques as in lessons, and each topic includes practice questions with answers available to support parents.

The topics that will be on the assessment are listed opposite with the Corbett Video number alongside..

Mock Paper Revision List (Non-Calculator)	
Topic	Corbett Video Number
Adding Decimals	90
Directed Number	205, 206
Inequalities	176
Rounding	279a
Mixed Numbers & Improper Fractions	139, 140
Decimals	92, 94
Indices & Roots	172, 214, 228
Function Machine	386
Angles in Parallel Lines	25
Probability Scale	251
Distance-Time Graphs	171
Collecting Like Terms	9
Algebra – Multiplying Term	18
Rearranging	7
Scatter Graphs	165, 166, 167, 168
Recipe	256
Enlargement	104
Percentage Change	233
Reverse Percentage	240
Probability Trees	252
Percentage Increase/Decrease	238

Rugby Roses!

Recently, 10 Year 7 girls attended the Stoke School's Rugby competition. The girls were outstanding both physically and mentally!

The team won all their games and were also announced the winners of the following categories by the coaches: Most Improved, Most Skilled, and Best Teamwork! They absolutely did OSSMA proud!

Well done to Alex A, Isla Rose S, Leisha B, Zunairah H, Hephz O, Lexi F, Holly B, Lily Grace P, Star B and Taylor Bow H.



Football Update!

We are always proud of our students who represent the academy, but are especially proud of our Year 8/9 football team, who recently became 5-a-side City Champions! They scored over 20 goals overall and were a credit to themselves, winning two games 5-0! A massive well done to Brooke S, Daisie C, Jaime-Leigh R, Faith R, Tyler-Mai R and Isla R.

Also, the Year 9 boys and Mr Edwards attended the 5-a-side tournament. They finished in a respectable 4th place in the city.

Unfortunately, our Year 11 boys lost 4-2 in the Sentinel Cup semi-final recently. The boys gave it their all but faced a strong Alsager side. Well done to all involved.



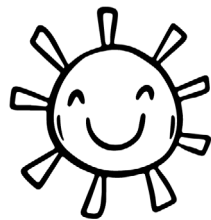
Cricket success

Well done to Cameron C in Year 11 who recently hit 111 for Moddershall Cricket Club. Amazing!



SEND-inclusive activities

May 2026 half term



Find the updated list of activities in and around Stoke-on-Trent at:

<https://localoffer.stoke.gov.uk>

Please send any suggestions for activities to include to localoffer@stoke.gov.uk

Ditch the Blade Campaign

This month Staffordshire Police are highlighting their #DitchTheBlade campaign. Carrying a knife is not a common thing, the statistics show that 99% of young people ages 10 to 29 don't carry a knife, but those that do can put themselves and others in danger.

People often stereotype, but the truth is that any child from any background may choose to carry a knife. If you have concerns that your child, or any young person you know, may be carrying a knife, you can find advice, real life experiences and link to support organisations on the Staffordshire Police website www.staffordshire.police.uk/ditchtheblade



OAT STEM Finals and Trips!

Recently, six of our Year 10 students competed in the OAT STEM final.

They had to deliver a presentation to a panel of judges about renewable and sustainable energy sources. They built a model of a weather station, which included a solar farm, and how the weather station could be used for education purposes.

We did not win, unfortunately, but we did achieve a very respectable 2nd place. Well done to Megan C, Miruna C, Ethan and Aiden W, Hayat H and the amazing team captain, Oliver W!



Each year, our students have the chance to engage with four STEM opportunities.

1. Students had the opportunity to go to Harper Adams University for a day of Ecology and Zoology
2. Students had the opportunity to visit Staffordshire University for a Forensic Science day, which was extremely well received
3. Students had the opportunity to visit Stoke-on-Trent 6th form college to engage in a Lego Robotics event, which students absolutely loved.
4. Students had the opportunity to visit Derby University for a day of Forensics, Business and Healthcare workshops.

Students had a tour of the university, and they got the opportunity to discuss university life with current university students



Emotions can be difficult to understand - even for adults!**But where will they end?**

The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Violence Reduction Alliance is sharing the Where Will It End? campaign to support children to understand and manage their emotions and feelings to help prevent them from becoming involved in violence.

If you've noticed your child struggling and want to help them to identify and manage their emotions, click on the link below to access a number of useful resources. #WhereWillItEnd

Visit: www.wherewillitend.co.uk



May half-term is upon us, which hopefully means the sunshine will appear and the final stretch towards the end of the school year is in sight. Just a few reminders in the lead up to these final few weeks, and to keep in mind for the next academic year.

Attendance & Punctuality to School - Whilst we have seen a slight improvement in attendance, we have to highlight that punctuality to school is becoming a concern. Can we please ask parents/carers to reiterate the importance of arriving at school promptly? All students, unless agreed with the Attendance Officer, should be on the Academy grounds for form line-ups by 8.35 am, ready to enter the academy at 8.40 am. The gates shut at 8.40 am, and anyone arriving after this time may be given an after-school detention. School is open from 7.45 am for breakfast (which is free), so we ask that, if you have to drop off siblings, students attending this academy are dropped off first. This instils good practise in readiness for exams, post-16 education, and, of course, employment, where poor punctuality could have a detrimental effect on their prospects in the workplace.



Medical Appointments - we do ask that, where possible, medical appointments take place either before or after the school day. We understand this isn't always possible, so if your child has an appointment during the school day, we expect them to attend around the time of the appointment and provide evidence of it. Failure to provide this information will result in the absence being unauthorised.

Holidays during Term Time - a polite reminder that we cannot authorise term time absences unless they are for exceptional circumstances; and unfortunately, family holidays do not fall into this area. We need to remind you that any unauthorised absences linked to holidays may result in a penalty notice from the Local Authority.

Are your contact details up to date? We have seen an increase in address anomalies, and student addresses not matching parents' details. You can check on Arbor and make the necessary changes, or email the academy at office@ossma.co.uk if you prefer. It's a legal requirement to ensure that address and contact details are correct, and that at least 2 emergency contacts are recorded. We would appreciate it if you could spend a few minutes checking and updating as needed.

Thank you, as always, to the Parents and Carers who support us in all areas of attendance and punctuality at school; it is appreciated.

May the Half Term be with you



Join us for an out-of-this-world stay and play session packed with space adventures for little explorers.

Tuesday	10am until 11.30am	Blurton
	1pm until 2.30pm	Hanley Market
Wednesday	10am until 11.30am	Normacot
	1pm until 2.30pm	Bentilee
Friday	10am until 11.30am	Tunstall Salvation Army
	1pm until 2.30pm	Abbey Hulton
	1pm until 4pm	Green Space Meir, Stansmore Road Park
Saturday	1pm until 4pm	Green Space Chell Heath, Burnwood Primary

See the back for addresses

Tuesday 26 May until Friday 29 May

Blast off into a galaxy of fun this half term!

Keep up to date with
Facebook



@Stoke-on-Trent Best Start Family Hubs

or Visit the Digital
Family Hub



<https://familyhub.stoke.gov.uk>