



As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere thanks and share my pride in the incredible achievements of our students.

This year has been filled with countless moments that have showcased the talent, resilience, commitment and character of our young people. Whether in the classroom, on the stage, on the sports field, or through opportunities to develop their wider skills, our students have continued to impress us with their ambition, determination and willingness to embrace every opportunity.

Just this month, we have celebrated the success of our Year 10 students, who successfully completed their Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition. We are equally delighted to celebrate the success of our Year 8 Arts Award students, all of whom achieved their Ofqual-recognised qualification (pictured below). Every one of the students who entered was successful, demonstrating creativity, dedication and a genuine passion for the performing arts.

Sport has also provided many memorable moments this year, with our students demonstrating determination, teamwork and excellence across a wide range of competitions. Their commitment and sporting spirit continue to be a source of great pride for our school community.

Beyond the classroom, educational visits to South Africa, Spain, London, Belgium and many other destinations have provided our students with invaluable enrichment opportunities, broadening their horizons, building confidence and creating lasting memories. Behind every success lies the hard work and determination of our students, the unwavering dedication of our staff, and the invaluable support of our families and wider community. Together, we

continue to create an environment where every young person is encouraged to thrive and achieve their full potential.

To our students, thank you for making us proud every single day. Your resilience, creativity, kindness and ambition embody everything it means to be part of OSSMA, and you continue to inspire us with all that you achieve. We also look forward to welcoming our fantastic Year 11 students back on Results Day and celebrating the next stage of their journey as they receive the results of all their hard work.

I wish all of our students, families and staff a restful, enjoyable and well-deserved summer break. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of opportunities, successes and celebrations.

Kelly Hassall
Principal

DIARY DATES

Mon 31 August

Bank Holiday

Tue 1 September

Staff INSET: Academy closed for students

Wed 2 Sep – Fri 23 Oct

Academy open to staff and students

Mon 26 Oct – Fri 30 Oct

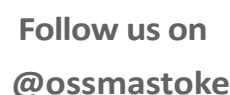
Half term holiday

Mon 2 Nov – Fri 18 Dec

Academy open to staff and students

Mon 21 Dec – Fri 1 Jan

Christmas holiday

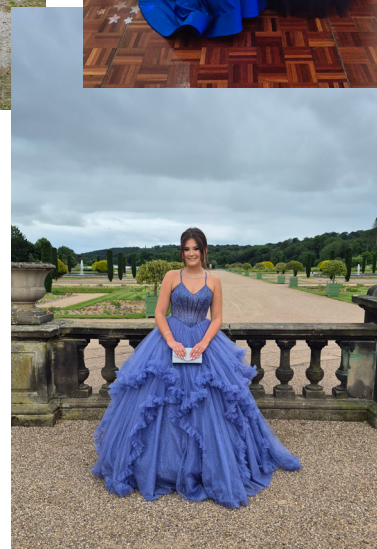
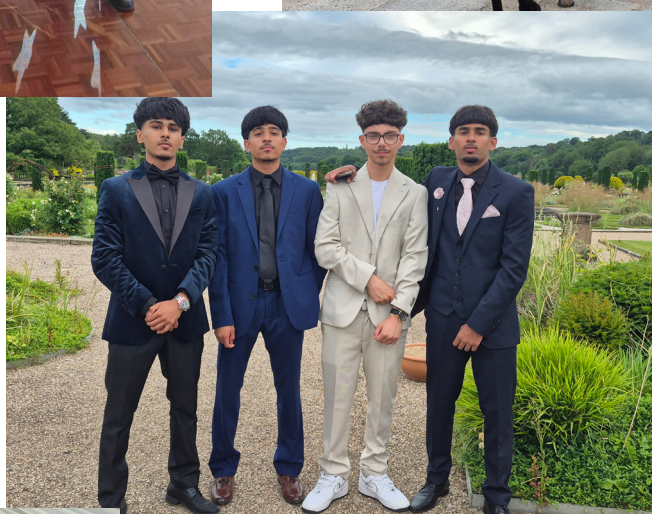


Class of 2026

What an amazing night!

Our Year 11 students certainly know how to do prom! The dance floor was packed all night, and we couldn't be prouder of our Class of 2026.

We hope you all had a fantastic evening celebrating together and making memories to last a lifetime. Wishing each and every one of you the very best for the future—we can't wait to see what you achieve next!



Whole School Rewards Day

Our Whole School Rewards Day was a blast!

What an incredible day celebrating our students' achievements, commitment to our core values, and everything that makes our OSSMA community so special.

It was fantastic to see so many students enjoying a well-deserved reward for their hard work, positive attitudes, and dedication throughout the year. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a memorable success!



YOUTH SPEAKS VICTORY

What an amazing way to end the year with a fantastic win for OSSMA in the 2026 Youth Speaks competition.

With their topic In a world of influencers are we just glossing over glossaphobia?

Nadia, Laney and Amnah from Year 8 came first place in the city wide public speaking competition. They beat off stiff opposition and shone through with teamwork, confidence and humour.

Congratulations to you on this amazing achievement.



SILVER DUKE OF EDINBURGH

A huge shout out to our 23 amazing Year 10 students who successfully completed their Silver Expedition last week in some truly challenging conditions!

They experienced plenty of highs—from witnessing cows giving birth, spotting frogs, and enjoying some memorable moo-offs—to a few lows, including sunburn, nettle stings, blisters, nosebleeds, and even asthma attacks.

Despite it all, every single one of them showed incredible resilience, determination, and teamwork to reach the finish. We couldn't be prouder!



ATTENDANCE UPDATE

The Attendance Team would like to say a huge thank you for the support of parents & carers during 25-26 academic year. We can't believe how quickly this year has gone!

As we close the doors on another academic year at OSSMA, our sights are firmly focused on our return in September and the months that follow, with exciting reward events dotted around the year, currently being finalised. One area of focus for us next year will be punctuality to school, so we would ask that you speak with your child/children over the summer break and explain to them the importance of arriving in school promptly (8.35am in readiness for form at 8.40am). We know that the majority of students already arrive punctually, but we are seeing an increasing number of students arriving significantly late, thus having an impact on their learning. Arriving promptly to school, ready to learn, instils a good foundation for when they leave us and venture out into the wider world.

We hope you have a lovely summer break, and we look forward to seeing students back in school in September.



TRANSITION FROM PARENT PAY TO ARBOR PAY

We are pleased to announce that, following the successful launch of our Arbor Parent Portal and App, we will be moving our school payment system from ParentPay to Arbor Pay. This means you will be able to manage and pay for school meals, trips and clubs all in one place using the Arbor Parent Portal or the Arbor Parent App. All parents have recently been emailed with full details about the transfer. Please make a note of the following key dates:

- **ParentPay closes: 17 July 2026**

After this date, you will no longer be able to make payments through ParentPay. Please ensure that any outstanding balances are cleared before this date.

- **Arbor Pay goes live: 1 September 2026**

From this date, all school payments should be made through Arbor Pay via the Parent Portal or Parent App.

What Happens to Existing Balances?

School Meals - Any remaining balance on your child's Parent-Pay meal account will be transferred to Arbor Pay during the summer holidays.

School Trips - Payments already made towards ongoing school trips will automatically transfer to the new system.

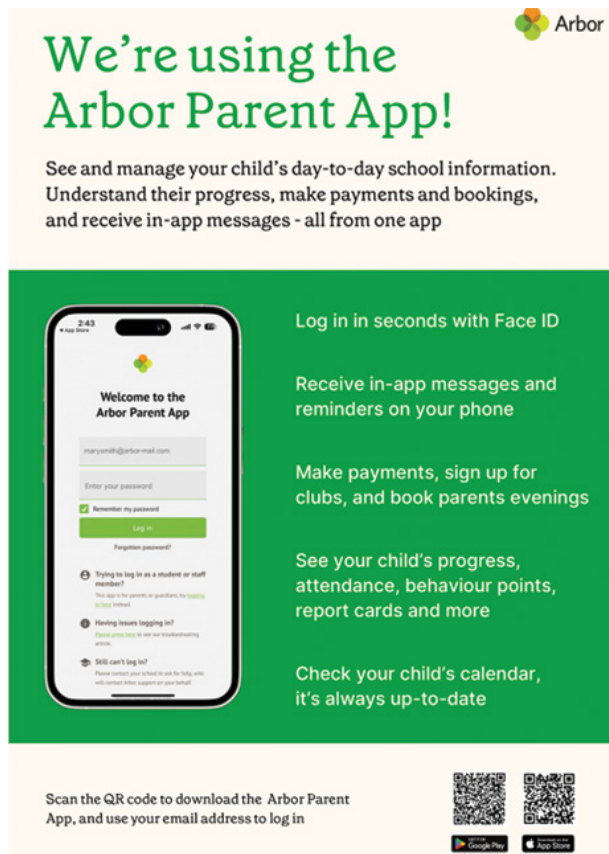
School Shop - From 1 September 2026, all school shop purchases, including school ties, must be made through Arbor.

Please bear with us while we complete the transfer of balances. During August 2026, you may not immediately see your balance in Arbor Pay while the migration is taking place.

Accessing Arbor Pay

Arbor Pay can be accessed through the Arbor Parent Portal or the Arbor Parent App. If you need help getting started, please refer to the "Log in to the Parent Portal and the Parent App" guide available in the Arbor Help Centre.

If you experience any difficulties accessing the app or logging in, please contact the school office. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation as we introduce this improved payment system.



We're using the Arbor Parent App!

See and manage your child's day-to-day school information. Understand their progress, make payments and bookings, and receive in-app messages - all from one app

Log in in seconds with Face ID

Receive in-app messages and reminders on your phone

Make payments, sign up for clubs, and book parents evenings

See your child's progress, attendance, behaviour points, report cards and more

Check your child's calendar, it's always up-to-date

Scan the QR code to download the Arbor Parent App, and use your email address to log in

QR codes for Google Play and the App Store

IMPORTANT CHANGE TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS ELIGIBILITY

From September 2026, all children in households receiving universal credit will be eligible for Free School Meals.

This change means that every child in a household receiving universal credit will qualify, regardless of their household's income.

Please apply online @ <https://admissions.stoke.gov.uk/citizenportal/LIVE/en>



UC Universal Credit

A MESSAGE TO OUR YEAR 10 STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

As we come to the end of another successful year, we would like to thank all of our Year 10 students and their families for their continued support and wish everyone a wonderful summer break.

When students return in September, they will begin their final year at secondary school as our new Year 11 cohort. It will be an exciting and significant year, with many opportunities to challenge themselves, achieve their potential and create lasting memories before they move on to the next stage of their education.

We are incredibly proud of everything this year group has achieved throughout Year 10. They have demonstrated resilience, determination and maturity, and we are confident they have the potential to make this our strongest Year 11 cohort yet.

Year 11 is an important year, but students will not be facing it alone. Our dedicated staff will be on hand every step of the way, providing academic support, revision guidance, pastoral care and encouragement to help every student succeed.

Over the summer, we encourage students to enjoy a well-earned break, spend time with family and friends, and return in September refreshed, motivated and ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges that Year 11 will bring.

Thank you once again for your ongoing partnership and support. We look forward to welcoming our new Year 11 students back in September and celebrating their successes throughout the year ahead.



HOLOCAUST MUSEUM VISIT

Our Year 9 students recently visited the Holocaust Museum, where they explored a range of powerful artefacts, photographs, and personal testimonies that brought history to life.

During the visit, students took part in a workshop exploring the roles of victims and perpetrators. They demonstrated excellent oracy skills through thoughtful discussion and respectful engagement. A special thank you to Tom Scruton, who led the workshop brilliantly and made a lasting impression on our students.

The highlight of the day was meeting Holocaust survivor Janine Webber, aged 94, who shared her remarkable and deeply moving account of her experiences during the Holocaust, including her time in the ghetto. Hearing her testimony was an unforgettable experience that left a profound impact on everyone present.

Our students were exemplary throughout the visit. Their behaviour, maturity, and thoughtful responses reflected great credit on themselves and the school.



SPORTING STARS

City Tennis Tournament Success for Year 9 and 10 Boys

Our Year 9 and Year 10 boys' tennis teams represented the school brilliantly at the City Tennis Tournament held at Florence Tennis Club. This fantastic competition requires every player to contribute to the team's overall points tally, making teamwork and consistency just as important as individual performances.

Year 10 – City Champions!

The Year 10 team produced an outstanding performance, winning every match on their way to becoming City Champions. They finished comfortably ahead of the competition with impressive victories over St Joseph's, Trentham, St Peter's and St Thomas More. Congratulations to Aiden W, Ethan W, Charlie H and Ethan Y on a superb achievement!

Year 9 – City Runners-up

The Year 9 team also impressed, finishing 2nd in the City. This was an excellent achievement, particularly as tennis is not the first-choice sport for any of the players. Their determination, teamwork and resilience throughout the tournament were exceptional. Well done to Hunter M, Tom W, Charlie R and Hasnaat M.

Well done to both teams on representing the school with such skill, commitment and sportsmanship. We are incredibly proud of your achievements.



SPAIN TRIP

The PE Department took 47 pupils to Club Aire Libre in Spain during the May half-term break.

Pupils enjoyed an unforgettable week packed with exciting activities, including a range of water sports at the beach, a day trip to the vibrant city of Barcelona.

One of the highlights of the trip was a fantastic visit to the water park in Lloret de Mar.

The trip was a great success, with pupils embracing new experiences, building friendships, and creating lasting memories.



NORTH WEST ORMISTON SPORTS CUP SUCCESS

Recently, our students proudly represented OSSMA at the North West Ormiston Sports Cup, and what a fantastic day it was! Every student demonstrated impeccable behaviour, outstanding teamwork and excellent sportsmanship throughout the competition. Their determination and support for one another were a credit to the school.

To top off an incredible day, we finished 2nd overall, missing out on first place by just 29 points. Congratulations to every student, your effort, commitment and sportsmanship were outstanding, and we couldn't be prouder. We are incredibly proud to announce the following students were crowned North West OAT Champions:

Year 7 Boys	Year 7 Girls
100m – Harvey B 200m – Frazer R 300m – Anas T 800m – Harvey B Discus – Frazer R Relay Champions Dodgeball Champions	100m – Hephz O 200m – Tyra M 300m – Hephz O Discus – Hephz O Shot Put – Lexi F Long Jump – Crystal G Speed Bounce – Isla Rose S Relay Champions Dodgeball Champions
Year 8 Boys	Year 8 Girls
100m – Cody R 200m – Cody R 800m – Hasnaat M Long Jump – Cody R	800m – Jaime Leigh R Long Jump – Jaime Leigh R
Year 9 Boys	Year 9 Girls
200m – Dillon B 800m – Jake R Shot Put – Charlie M	300m – Losana B Shot Put – Lacey May N Speed Bounce – Losana B
Year 10 Boys	
400m – Reece L Speed Bounce – Ollie M Discus – Alfie R	

AMAZING ALFIE!!

Recently, Alfie R in Year 10 proudly represented Staffordshire at the prestigious Mason Trophy, competing against athletes from 10 counties: Nottinghamshire, West Midlands, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Cheshire, Northamptonshire, Hereford & Worcester, Derbyshire, Greater Manchester and Shropshire.

Despite competing in an age group a year above his own, Alfie produced an outstanding performance, achieving two personal bests. His results were:

1st place – U17 Boys' Hammer: 56.87m (PB) Achieved the National Standard and qualified for the English Schools Championships.

5th place – U17 Boys' Javelin: 44.70m (PB)

This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to Alfie's hard work, commitment and dedication. We are incredibly proud of his success. Congratulations, Alfie!

