On Wednesday 1st May sixteen Year 10 OSCA students went on an amazing trip to London to see ‘Wicked’, at the Apollo Victoria Theatre. The students were absolutely incredible and a credit to the academy. For some students it was their first trip on a train, the underground system and London.

They saw Buckingham Palace, the changing of the guards, Downing Street, Big Ben and the fabulous show ‘Wicked’ the musical.

This year there are forty students taking part in the Bronze DofE programme. From the 10th-11th May students were on their practice expedition in and around Kinver.

All six groups successfully completed the expedition and it proved to be a great learning opportunity for all involved. The two day expedition meant students needed to be self sufficient for both days, carrying all of their kit required in a rucksack.

The students now progress onto the Assessed Expedition where they will hopefully complete the expedition section of the award.

Students learnt about projection, debate and confidence building skills with the Trust's speaking experts. Towards the end of the day, each student chose a topic that they were passionate about, then prepared and delivered a speech to their group on that subject.

Winners were chosen from each group, who then move through to the year group final, with the winner being entered into the regional final.

The students were praised for their behaviour, engagement and impassioned speeches. Stay posted for updates of how our finalists do! Well done to all of Year 10 for their participation and for stepping out of their comfort zone!

Many congratulations to them all!
Lost Property

We have a large amount of lost property in the Student Hub. Please be aware, due to limited space that we can only keep it for three months before it is donated to a local charity.

Please remind your child to check the Student Hub if they have lost any items in school.

International Francophonie Day

On Wednesday 20th March, we celebrated La Francophonie Day at OSCA. International Francophonie Day (or La Journée Internationale de la Francophonie) is observed within the International Organization of La Francophonie’s 77 member states every year on the 20th March, to celebrate the French language and Francophone culture. In order to celebrate this day, our French Ambassadors prepared a House Competition in the form of a quiz. A big well done to the House Shakespeare and their winning tutor group S8!

Sandwell Schools Cup

OSCA’s Year 8 football team played against St Michaels school on Tuesday 30th April, in the quarter finals of the Sandwell Schools Cup competition and won 3 - 2.

All students behaviour and attitude was fantastic throughout match (and so was their overall performance). A special mention to Year 7 Caiden in P4, who was playing in the older age group and performed brilliantly.

Well done to them all and good luck in the next match!

Blackwell Outdoor Adventure Trip

On Wednesday 1st May OSCA’s PE department took a group of Year 7 students to Blackwell Outdoor Education centre, to participate in team-building and life skills activities.

The students were involved in a variety of activities including; Team building, crate stack, giants ladder and giants zip wire.

This was a very enjoyable day, all of the students were fantastic and did the academy proud.

Trip to Aston Villa

Students from Years 9 and 10 who are interested in a career in sport had an extremely enjoyable trip to Aston Villa football club on Tuesday 9th April.

The students as usual did OSCA proud and it was noted by the course organisers how polite and attentive our students were at all times.

Mixed Martial Arts

Congratulations to the following students who have diligently attended the Mixed Martial Arts session run by MAC Dudley on a Wednesday after school.

Mixed Martial Arts Students
Lily V1
N’Vantay S1
Mateusz S10

These students had the honour of receiving a Martial Art belt. Over the next few weeks they will be acquiring tags to recognise the different skills that they are learning.

If any students would like to be part of the Mixed Martial Arts session on Wednesdays after school, please see Mrs McKinney.

School ties are available to buy at OSCA, from the Finance Office and the Student Hub @ £4.50 each
**Trip to Morocco**

On the 10th to 16th April, twenty-two students accompanied by staff, had the opportunity to visit Morocco. On the first day they flew into Marrakech, had a walking tour of the city seeing the Koutoubia Mosque and Djemaa El Fna Square. They then travelled across the Atlas Mountains heading south to Ouarzazate.

On the second day they visited a fourteenth Century Kasbah and the town of Agdz on their way through the edge of the Sahara desert to the desert town of Zagora.

The third day led them to the local potteries where students could see some of the industry that occurs in the desert and had a chance to buy some local goods. They then travelled to the Tinfou Dunes where some students rode camels whilst others walked through the sand dunes. After lunch they had a 2km trek into the desert to a desert camp where we were entertained by local Berber people.

Day four meant they travelled back to Ouarzazate and visited the Atlas Film Studios where many Hollywood movies and TV shows like Game of Thrones have been filmed.

Day five saw them travel back through the Atlas Mountains to Marrakech. They spent the afternoon visiting a Royal Palace, a Berber Pharmacy selling herbs, spices and Argan oil and the Yves San Laurent Gardens. In the evening they enjoyed a meal in a traditional Moroccan restaurant with entertainment before travelling home early on day six.

This was a wonderful experience for both the students and staff. The student’s behaviour was brilliant throughout the trip and they were a credit to OSCA.

**Aim Higher Reach Higher**

Despite getting off to a bit of a rocky start, the Aim Higher Reach Higher trip on Tuesday 14th May to Redpoint Climbing Centre, truly embraced the ethos of the day. The group was divided into teams of three and cycled through three separate and equally challenging activities. The aim of the day was to learn how to set tangible and achievable goals with conversations about their futures scattered throughout the day. Students spanned great distances - some having the advantage of longer arms than others. Students took a leap of faith, got competitive rock climbing and belaying, and maintained a strong grip on the bouldering wall.

Miss Simmons and Jack in V6, raced to the top together, they have both conceded to a draw as it was too close to tell from the floor who the outright winner was.

The best score - uncontested in bouldering golf was ten moves to fully traverse the wall but the highlight was not in the limited number of skilful moves made by this reigning champ but in the communication and peer to peer coaching that was observed. Resilience and tenacity was also a moment of pride for staff who were observing. Every goal that was set at the beginning of the day was attempted and all attempts were achieved.

**Year 10 CSI Birmingham - Newman University**

Twenty students travelled with Mr Cooper & Mr Mohamed to Newman University to learn more about forensic science on Friday 10th May. The students heard how techniques were used to record different information that could lead to crimes being solved and criminals being caught. They learnt how to take and analyse fingerprints, detect blood, and many other fascinating techniques.

In the afternoon, the students put these techniques to the test by investigating their own ‘crime scene’ - all dressed in their protective suits, gloves and masks!

All the students involved were outstanding in their participation and behaviour with most teams managing to solve the crime using the skills they had learnt during the day.
**Dates for Your Diary**

**2018/2019 Academic Year**

**Summer Term**

**Wed 22nd May** - Year 8 to 10 French Residential to the Cote D’Azur Departs from OSCA

**Thurs 23rd May** - Bostin Fittle Workshop

**Sun 26th May** - Years 8 to 10 French Residential to the Cote D’Azur Returns

**Mon 27th to Fri 31st May** - Half Term

**Mon 3rd June** - Year 7 Exam Week

**Wed 5th June** - Visit to the University of Gloucester

**Fri 7th June** - DoE Bronze Expedition & Silver Practice Expedition Departs from OSCA 9.00am

**Fri 7th June** - Bostin Fittle Workshop 3.30pm

**Sat 8th June** - DoE Bronze Expedition Returns to OSCA at 4.00pm

**Sun 9th June** - DoE Silver Expedition Returns to OSCA at 4.00pm

**Mon 10th June** - PE Cricket World Cup Week

**Mon 10th June** - Year 10 French Speaking Mocks All Week

**Fri 14th June** - Year 9 PE Growth Mindset Residential Departs from OSCA at 11.20am

**Sun 16th June** - Year 9 PE Growth Mindset Residential Returns to OSCA

**Mon 17th June** - Women’s Football World Cup Week in PE

**Mon 17th June** - Year 9 Exams start

**Tues 18th June** - Year 7 Geography Trip to ‘We the Curious’ in Bristol

**Thurs 20th June** - External Exam Season Ends

**Fri 21st June** - Sports Day

**Mon 24th June** - Year 9 Exams Continue

**Mon 24th June** - Year 10 GCSE Compulsory Fieldwork Carding Mill Valley Day

**Thurs 27th June** - Year 9 Exams End

**Thurs 27th June** - PAPA Paris Residential Departs

**Thurs 27th June** - Bostin Fittle Trip to the Black Country Living Museum

**Fri 28th June** - DoE Silver Expedition Departs from OSCA at 9.00am

**Sun 29th June** - DoE Silver Expedition Returns to OSCA at 4.00pm

**Mon 1st July** - Training Day

**Tues 2nd July** - Training Day

**Wed 3rd July** - New intake Day and Evening

**Thurs 4th July** - New intake Day 2

**Fri 5th July** - Year 10 Rewards Trip

**Fri 5th July** - French Ambassador Reward Trip

**Mon 8th July** - PE World Cup Netball & Wimbledon Week

**Mon 8th July** - Year 11 Leavers’ Assembly

**Tues 9th July** - Academy Awards

**Thurs 11th July** - Year 8 STEM Challenge at Dudley College

**Thurs 11th July** - Girls Network Session 10

**Fri 12th July** - L4S Day 3

**Fri 12th July** - Year 11 Prom

**Mon 15th July** - Year 10 Work Experience Week

**Mon 15th July** - Unifest

**Wed 17th July** - Bostin Fittle Celebration Event

**Thurs 18th July** - Years 7 to 9 Rewards Trip

**Fri 19th July** - Term Ends

**Mon 22nd July** - Summer Holiday

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**Inflatable Fun Week in PE**

The P.E department hosted a charity activity for students in Years 7 to 10 from Tuesday 30th April to Friday 3rd May.

The students had access to two inflatable assault courses to run through, climb up, scramble over and slide down.

Voluntary donations of £1 were given by students and staff, to raise money for the Smile For Joel Charity.

This is a charity set up in the memory of a Sandwell teenager who was killed during the Tunisia terror attacks in 2015. After the attacks the remaining family members set up Smile For Joel as a fund raising charity to support and help shattered/ broken families who are victims of traumatic bereavement through homicide.

More information can be found at [https://www.smileforjoel.com](https://www.smileforjoel.com)

Thank you to all those who donated.

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**Brand New Mathematical Calculators**

Available to buy from the Finance Office at OSCA

£8.00 each

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**Year 7 Class Band**

On Thursday 8th April Sandwell Music Service put on a concert in the Great Hall at OSCA.

Members of our Year 7 Class band performed three pieces, showcasing what they have learnt so far this year.

This was the first time the students had performed on their instruments in public and they did a great job.

Well done to everyone involved in the show!