



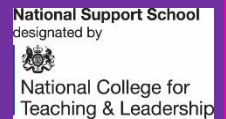
**ORMISTON SANDWELL  
COMMUNITY ACADEMY**



**Newsletter**  
April 2017



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OSCA has been designated as a

# National Support School

Congratulations to all students, staff and governors.

Congratulations also to Ms McMahon in her new role as a

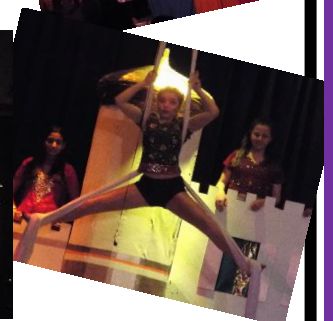
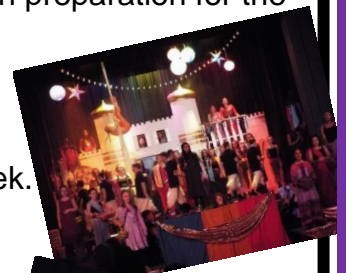
# National Leader of Education

## OSCA takes us to a Whole New World!

Students and staff at OSCA explored the sights and sounds of ancient Agrabah in their most recent production of 'Aladdin' based on the hit Disney film. Over 80 students worked with staff from Performing and Production Arts, since October to create the visual and musical spectacular. The students also went on a residential course to Ingestre Hall in Staffordshire, where they undertook an intensive weekend of rehearsals and fine-tuning in preparation for the sell-out shows.

Students performed to a full house for three nights: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, as well as a matinee performance to four invited primary schools. The cast also hosted the academy assemblies for the week.

This spectacular show really pushed the limits! They managed to capture the magic of Aladdin in this production that included a real flying carpet, an elephant and all the smoke and mirrors that a genie has up his sleeve! Our students showed resilience, hard work and real commitment to this production and we are so proud to have shared it with friends, families and our local community of Tividale."



## Winners of the 2017 OAT Annual Award

Congratulations to Mrs Laird, the winner of the Securing Futures Award and OSCA student Holly in E1, the winner of the Creativity Prize Award.

They both received their awards at the OAT Ceremony on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March, at the Grand Connaught Rooms in London.



## OSCA is First in Country to Get Top Award for Careers Advice

OSCA is celebrating after becoming the first school in the country to be credited as a 'Gold' standard institution for the quality of careers advice it provides its students.

Credited by Prospects, OSCA has achieved the highest, Gold-level accreditation, which is part of the Quality in Careers Standard award programme. The standard is awarded to schools and education providers who demonstrate the importance placed on careers and the vital support given to students to help decide about their next steps after leaving school. OSCA is the only establishment in the country to have achieved this standard so far.

The achievement marks the continued celebration of a successful two years in the academy's careers provision, in which it has accrued several awards and quality marks, including the 'Investors in People Silver Award' and the 'Basic Skills Quality Mark', recognising the commitment to improve life chances and create boundless opportunities for all of the students.

The announcement follows the success of Mrs Debbie Laird, the Academy's Lead for Careers Education, on her recent national recognition, as the winner of the 'Securing Futures' award at the Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) Annual Awards.

Mrs Laird has worked tirelessly over her last three years at the academy to create a careers and PSHE programme that ensures students are inspired, confident and equipped for their next steps. Her commitment to ensuring that the programme is engaging and inspiring, is reflected in the Academy's achievement of the 'Quality in Careers Standard' award.

OSCA is once again, leading the way and is proud to receive another award for this outstanding practice.

## World Book Day at OSCA

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, the English department staff brought famous characters to life in the classrooms for World Book Day. The staff dressed up as characters for the day and had organised a quiz and other activities, including a scavenger hunt for book covers, which had been placed around the site.

This was a fun day for everyone and a great way to get students involved with books.

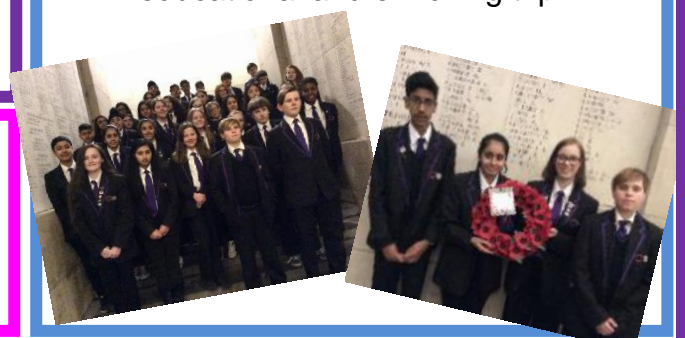


## Trip to Ypres in Belgium

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February, 41 OSCA students accompanied by staff set off on the 'Maths of war' trip to Ypres in Belgium to learn all about the history of World War I. The students also took part in several maths tasks associated with it!

On the Saturday night, our students attended the Last Post ceremony. They were the first to lay a wreath on behalf of OSCA at the Menin Gate. The students were an absolute credit to the academy and made all the staff feel very proud.

Everyone enjoyed this fantastic educational and enriching trip.



## Lost Property

If your son or daughter has misplaced any items in the academy, please ask them to go to the Student Hub to report their missing items.

## Dates for Your Diary 2016/2017 Academic Year

**Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> April** - Iceland residential departs

**Term Ends: Fri 7<sup>th</sup> April**

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April** - Iceland residential returns

**Easter Holiday: Mon 10<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

**Mon 24<sup>th</sup> April** - Training day

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup> April** - Follow Me Performances  
(Round Midnight Company)

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup> April** - Year 11 photos (pm)

**Wed 26<sup>th</sup> April** - Year 10 exam period starts

**Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> April** - Year 7 & 8 Junior Maths Challenge

**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> May** - Bank Holiday

**Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> May** - Year 8 Pathways (Deadline)

**Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> May** - Year 11 GCSE Drama exam (All day)

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> May** - Year 11 GCSE Drama exam (All day)

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> May** - Year 8 & 9 Immunisations

**Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> May** - Year 11 GCSE Drama exam (All day)

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May** - Bronze Duke of Edinburgh

Practice expedition departs from OSCA at 11.00am to Kinver

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup> May** - Bronze Duke of Edinburgh

Practice expedition day 2 in Kinver

**Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> May** - Year 7 & 8

Loughborough University sports trip

**Fri 12<sup>th</sup> May** - Year 10 exam period ends

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> May** - External exams start

**Tues 16<sup>th</sup> May** - Year 10 Consultation evening

**Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> May** - Year 9 FGM & body image workshops

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> May** - National School Sports Week

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> May** - Year 11 Leisure and Tourism  
(Intensive learning day)

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> May** - Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

**Sun 28<sup>th</sup> May** - Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

**Summer half term holiday: Mon 29<sup>th</sup> May to Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

**Summer Term Ends: Fri 21<sup>st</sup> July**

Please note that OSCA's term dates will differ slightly from the published Sandwell LA dates for the Christmas Break, as follows:

Term finishes Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017, 12pm.

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018 is a training day for all staff.

Students will return to OSCA on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

This will be a normal teaching day.

## Shakespeare House Council Project

Students in Shakespeare's House Council worked on their chosen project 'Helping the wider community'. The students organised an in house collection of food donations for the local food bank.

Head of House Mr Horton and Assistant Head of House Miss Joyce, were overwhelmed, by the kind and generous food contributions from the Shakespeare students in Years 7 to 10.

The local food bank were very grateful for their kind contributions. These donations help to support individuals and families going through tough times.



**OSCA's Pre-order kiosk is open for business to all students.**

**Pre-order lunch:  
Monday - Thursday  
Between  
8am - 8.35am  
&  
10.35am - 10.55am**

**Fridays  
8am - 8.30am**



## Reward trip to Flip Out in Oldbury

On Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March, OSCA students enjoyed an afternoon reward trip to Flip Out in Oldbury. The trip was a reward for their excellent attendance, punctuality and behaviour at the academy, from 31<sup>st</sup> October to the end of the February half term this year.

Over 500 students were eligible, even though the bar for attendance was 98% or above. The students also needed excellent punctuality and behaviour records.

Accompanied by staff, the students enjoyed an afternoon of fun and laughter as they bounced on the trampolines showing off their skills. They also had a lot of fun jumping in and battling out of the foam pits.

The students were a credit to themselves and the academy throughout the trip and this was a great way to say thank you to the students for their commitment to OSCA.



## PREFECT TEAM 2017/18

This year we are opening the Prefect roles up for applications, rather than selection by the Senior Prefect team.

As you know, being a prefect is a prestigious role and with it, come very high expectations from staff, students and all members of the OSCA Community.

We are opening up an application process for these roles for all Year 10 students that meet our Prefect criteria:

- 98% attendance or above.
- 5 lates or less.
- 5 behaviour points or less.
- No time in Reflection Room, Saturday detentions or Exclusions.

If you are interested in applying to join the newly formed Prefect team, and meet the above criteria, then please complete the application form that is available from the Student Hub.

**Forms should be completed and returned to Student Hub by 3pm on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017.**

**Mr Wagstaff, Mr Ahmed and the Senior Prefect team will then select the Prefect team from these applications.**

**Good luck!**

## Brand New Mathematical Calculators

Available to buy from the Finance Office  
at  
**OSCA**

£5.00  
each

