



**ORMISTON SANDWELL  
COMMUNITY ACADEMY**



National Support School  
designated by



## Newsletter February 2019

**[OAT]**  
Ormiston Academies Trust  
AN OAT ACADEMY

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# INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

## Gold Until 2021

### Investors in People 'Gold Award' for OSCA

This is a fantastic accolade for OSCA to have achieved. Only 2% of institutions nationally have gained the Gold Award status, through demonstrating best practice in leadership, empowerment and staff development. This award confirms that OSCA's vision of teamwork and drive is a winning formula and a great place to work.



**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

**Tickets £4 each**  
Available from the Academy Reception

### UK Youth Parliament

Many congratulations to Year 10 student Steve in P2, who has been newly elected as Sandwell's Member of the UK Youth Parliament! He will attend annual sittings in Parliament to voice the concerns of young people in Sandwell.

A huge well done to all OSCA's finalists of the UKYP. @SHAPESandwell

## Kieran Continues to Shine

Year 8 student Kieran in S6 is currently enjoying performing as Michael Jackson in the touring West End show 'Motown'. Kieran's contract has now been extended from April to the 6<sup>th</sup> July, touring Bradford, Nottingham, Stoke, Newcastle and Hull. This is a fantastic achievement and a great tribute to Kieran's talent.

Everyone at OSCA is immensely proud of Kieran, we wish him all the best in his continued tour and look forward to sharing the news of all his future achievements.



## Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award

Many congratulations to Year 9 student Subhaan in D9, who is the first student to receive a certificate from Buckingham Palace.

Subhaan completed his course for the Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award outside of school hours and received his Bronze certificate from the Duke of York's Inspiring Digital Enterprise scheme.



The course can be completed by anyone who is 14 years and over. Mr Bateman who is 'Curriculum Leader for Computing & Business' at OSCA, has more information for anyone wishing to take part and complete the course.

## 40@40 Challenge

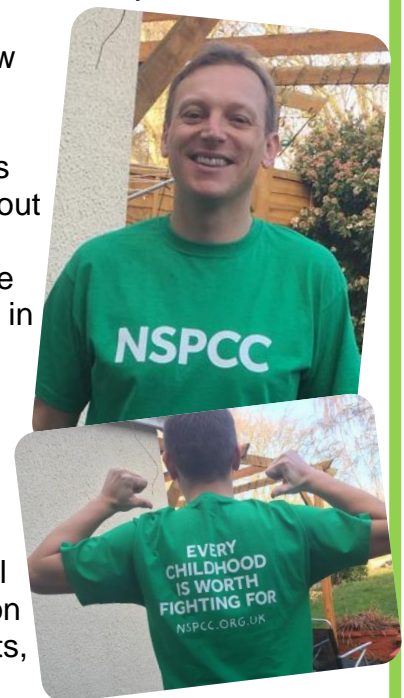
OSCA's Connexions Adviser Mr Lee Groucutt has taken on a 40@40 fundraising challenge throughout 2019, to run 40 races to raise money for the NSPCC.

After facing years of health problems and a dream of one day running the London Marathon, Mr Groucutt turned to running in 2015 to turn his life around. Since running a Marathon in 2017, he has been an active member of the local running community. This year he is preparing to turn 40 years old and he saw 2019 as the perfect opportunity to take on the challenge.

Having kicked off on 1<sup>st</sup> January, Mr Groucutt's challenge will involve twenty half marathons, ten 10k runs and ten 5k runs before 29<sup>th</sup> December 2019, with local races including the Solihull Half Marathon, the Birmingham 10K and the Lichfield Half Marathon. Mr Groucutt will even add some fun and adventure to the challenge by running some of them in fancy dress.

The academy is now now planning on hosting multiple fundraising activities and events throughout the year, to help Mr Groucutt support the work of the NSPCC in their fight to protect children today and prevent abuse tomorrow.

Mr Groucutt is an excellent role model and a true inspiration to all OSCA students, showing that if you believe in yourself you can achieve your goals in life.



## 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 3 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.



## Safeguarding Ambassadors

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, ten OSCA students were invited to West Bromwich Town Hall, to receive their Safeguarding Ambassador certificates from the Mayor of Sandwell, Joy Edis. The students had all undertaken full training for their important role at OSCA.

We congratulate the students and wish them all the best in their new positions at OSCA, as student Safeguarding Ambassadors.

Well done to: - Thomas P5, Abbie V8, Nathan V1, Annie D4, Emily S2, Mitchell P3, Melissa V1, Elmore P1, Ellie P5 and Ellie S9.



## Medical Mavericks Visit OSCA

Students in Years 9 and 10, were thrilled to receive a visit from Medical Mavericks for a science workshop with a difference on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January. The visit was as part of OSCA's Aimhigher programme, which is designed to get students thinking about future career opportunities.

Medical Mavericks deliver Careers, STEM and Sports Science enrichment experiences for schools with truly hands-on workshops. Their aim is to inspire students to make more informed decisions about their career and lifestyle choices, while introducing the students to the many careers within the NHS and the wider world around them. The students also had the chance to test out real-life medical equipment.

Students enjoyed practical experiences including using an ultrasound machine to see inside their own body, recording and printing an ECG from their heart, using a real needle to take blood from a fake arm, seeing inside the eye with an iPhone retina scan and taking basic medical observations like blood pressure, oxygen and temperature.



This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to think about what a medical career might be like and try their hand at something new. The students were completely engaged with the hands-on experiments and thoroughly enjoyed the workshops.

## Congratulations Abbie in P8

Abbie is a dedicated member of a mixed martial arts club and has recently attained her 2nd Dan. This great achievement shows Abbie's true commitment to her sport.

We wish Abbie all the best in her next competition and look forward to sharing the news on her next achievements.

## Aston University

Ten students from Year 8 and 9 were selected to take part in the "Journée de la Francophonie" at Aston University. This event was organised in partnership with 'Routes into Languages' and allowed Key Stage 3 students, to experience an afternoon at University as well as developing useful life skills.

The students all enjoyed eating at the University Café, before taking part in workshops on the topic of carnival in French speaking countries.

The students were organised into small groups and mixed with students from other schools. They were all asked to work together to produce a presentation in French to the rest of the audience. This would be nerve-racking for most people but not our students, they took on the challenge and showed their amazing ability for teamwork, perseverance and courage.



## Dates for Your Diary 2018/2019 Academic Year

### Spring Term

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Year 9 Aim Higher  
Creative Arts Careers Trip

**Wed 13<sup>th</sup> to Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Year 11  
Curriculum Enhancement

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Year 10 Aim Higher Geography Trip to  
University of Birmingham

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Feb** - House Council Trip to the Houses of  
Parliament

**Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Feb to Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> February** - Half Term

**Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Feb** - PAPA's Production Week

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup> to Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Feb** - PAPA's Production of  
Mary Poppins

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Feb** - OAT Bostin Fittle Launch at OSCA

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Rugby Six Nations Week in PE

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Year 11 Speaking Mock Exams  
All Week

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Mar** - PE Trip to Loughborough University  
(Key Stage 4)

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Girls Network Session 6

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Year 9 Move 4 Dance Festival

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Year 11 Speaking Mock Exams End

**Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Year 8 Parents Consultation  
Evening & Pathways

**Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Mar** - OAT Bostin Fittle Workshop at  
OSCA

**Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Year 10 Mock Exams Start

**Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Mar** - PE Trip to Loughborough University  
(Key Stage 3)

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Year 8 & 9 Team Maths Challenge

**Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Year 10 & 11 Girls Network Trip to  
PWC

**Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Year 10 Mock Exams End

**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Apr** - Year 10 Speaking Mock Exams  
All Week

**Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Apr** - Girls Network Session 7

**Fri 12<sup>th</sup> April** - Term Ends

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> April to Fri 26<sup>th</sup> April** - Easter Holiday

### Summer Term

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> April** - Training Day

**Tue 30<sup>th</sup> April** - Term Starts

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May** - Bank Holiday

**Mon 27<sup>th</sup> to Fri 31<sup>st</sup> May** - Half Term

**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> July** - Training Day

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> July** - Term Ends

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> July** - Summer Holiday

## Duke of Edinburgh Programme

The Duke of Edinburgh Programme is continuing to thrive here at OSCA and we currently have 40 students completing their Bronze Awards.

As part of the award, they have to complete two expeditions. The first is a practice expedition, in and around Kinver from Friday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May. The second is an assessed expedition, in and around Clent/Waseley from Friday 7<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June.

We wish them all the best and look forward to sharing the news of their next expectation.

## Do you love writing? Are you aged between 10 and 13 on June 14<sup>th</sup> 2019?

If you are, you can enter this year's BBC Radio 2, 500 Words short story competition!

To enter, write an original fictional story on any subject or theme in 500 words or fewer. Your story will be judged on its originality, plot, characterisation, use of language and enjoyment.

The top fifty shortlisted entrants will receive a pair of tickets to the final, which this year is to be held at Windsor Castle.

Six finalists will have their winning stories read by superstar celebrities live on BBC Radio 2. In addition to this, six well-known illustrators will each be set the task of illustrating one of the winning stories. The gold prize winner will receive Chris Evans's height in books and 500 books for their school, so pick up your pens and start writing!

**Please see Mrs Rixson in the LRC for help in submitting your entries, which must be completed by 7.00pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Good Luck!**



We're working  
towards Artsmark  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



The Quality in Careers Standard >>>

