



**ORMISTON SANDWELL
COMMUNITY ACADEMY**


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Newsletter
February 2018



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Tuesday 27th February
Wednesday 28th February
Thursday 1st March
Tickets £4.00 each
Available from Reception

Continued Success in Athletics

OSCA's Year 9 student Ethan in S6 and Year 11 student Michelle in 11.1, competed at the Alexander International Athletics Stadium High Performance Arena in Birmingham over the weekend of the 6th and 7th January.

Ethan won both of the under 15 boy's 60m races, with impressive style, achieving the third fastest time in the country. This was an amazing performance, as the 60m is not Ethan's strongest event; however, he trained well over the winter and Christmas period, which helped him produce this very fast run.

Michelle won her first race and drew in a dead-heat in her second, in the under 17 women's 60m. Michelle also achieved a personal best time, making her the eighth fastest time in the country.

Both students are fully dedicated and commitment to training and have exemplary attitudes to their sports. They are both working towards being serious contenders for the commonwealth games in Birmingham in 2022.

We wish them both all the best in their next competitions and look forward to hearing about their next achievements.

2018 OAT Annual Awards Ceremony

Many congratulations to this year's OAT Trust's Golden Ticket Winners:

Miss J Cooper - Winner of the Securing Futures Award (Staff Award)
Michelle (in 11.1) - Winner of the Sporting Champion Award (Student Award)

They will receive their awards at this year's Annual Awards Ceremony, held on 15th March, at the Grand Connaught Rooms in London.

Brilliant Club

On Thursday 18th January, twenty-four Year 9 students attended the Brilliant Club Launch trip to New College, Oxford University, to start their Scholars Programme.

Throughout the day they attended both an IAG and study skills session before engaging in their very first tutorial, based upon two supra curricula 'Pain, neuroscience and a good excuse to electrocute people' and 'The Renaissance and its legacy: beauty, genius and revolution'. The students additionally received a tour and were utterly inspired by the university, the undergraduate students and overwhelmingly beautiful environment.

It was an absolute pleasure to hear our students say with complete self-belief and confidence, "Yes, I am going for Oxford!"

The students were a credit to the Academy, not only for their impeccable behaviour but also from their participation. They had a brilliant time broadening their horizons and taking a multitude of photos in the Harry Potter hot spots!



OSCA Visits WSP

On Thursday 25th January students from Year 8 through to Year 11, visited WSP, one of Europe's largest design and engineering firms. The students took part in practical sessions in which they planned and built their own school.

For the first part of the planning, the students had to decide on the location, taking into account geographical factors and plotting the catchment areas of other schools. They then got to experiment by budgeting for and building their own drainage system, using straws and connectors. The students built their structures by purchasing supplies (straws and tape) to see who could build the most stable structure to hold the most weight. The winning team (Cordelia in S8, Jessica in S2, Amit in V6, David in 11.8, and Thomas in S5) built a two-story structure that could hold six chocolate bars.

The students really enjoyed the visit and left with a better understanding of the different stages involved in town planning and careers in architectural engineering.

Once again, our OSCA students did a great job representing the academy, with their total engagement in the sessions and impeccable behaviour.

OSCA's Christmas Jumper Days and Staff Raffle

Thank you to everyone who donated or wore a Christmas jumper to help raise funds for the Save the Children charity.

Over the course of the two Christmas jumper days at OSCA, you raised an amazing £476.99. This money combined with the £114.00 raised in the staff raffle, means we raised a grand total of £590.99 for the charity.

cyberstart game

Some of our OSCA students in Key Stage 4 have been taking part in a new £20 million UK government project, to find the next group of Cyber Security experts.

Cyber security jobs will need to be created, in order to keep the UK safe from future cyber-attacks. To help find these potential experts, students aged 14-18 can complete a series of 'hacking tasks' to test their ability to solve problems.

OSCA has 21 students in Year 10 and 25 students in Year 11, that have been selected to go through to the next stage.

We wish them all the best in their next round, which will take place in April.

Year 9 Aimhigher Trip to Aston Hall

Year 9 students have recently completed an 8 week Aimhigher Coaching Programme, taught by a student from Birmingham City University. The project aim was to develop the students' independent living skills. On Wednesday 31st January, the students visited Aston Hall as the culmination of the project and celebrate all their hard work.

Across the course of the project, the students planned their day - deciding where they would go, how they would get there, and ultimately, how they would spend their budget. The students settled on Aston Hall, planned a public transport route from OSCA to the venue (on foot, buses and trains), and then decided on a £5 lunch budget to spend at Tesco's after the tour.

The students enjoyed catching public transport, taking ownership of day, engaging with the Aston Hall tour and choosing their lunch. Everyone had a great day and they all enjoyed having the valuable opportunity to practice some of the skills they have been focusing on during the project.

The behaviour of the students was impeccable throughout the trip and they were a real credit to the Academy.



Street Dance Workshop

On Thursday 21st December, 20 boys from Years 7-10, took part in a street dance workshop to develop their knowledge of the dance style and improve some dance skills. The afternoon was extremely successful with all the boys enjoying themselves and developing an understanding of street dance's importance within the performing arts sector.

The students performed fantastically well and were attribute to themselves and the Academy.

Students Help Local Food Bank

Students at OSCA care deeply about their community and are always looking at ways to get involved in helping others in need.

This term, members of the student House Council, researched which local food banks they could help. The students decided that the Trussell Trust's local food bank was a charity that they would like to raise donations for, and consequentially the students designed and created posters to advertise the charity drive throughout the academy over a two-week period.

On Friday 9th February, the students invited two members of the Trust, Christina Murray (Food Action Worker) and Andy Toase (Warehouse Coordinator), to the academy to present the donations. These contributions will help the trust provide support to our local community, helping people in crisis by providing them with a minimum of three days emergency food and support.

Both Christina Murray and Andy Toase from The Trussell Trust, were delighted to collect the students donations and thanked them for their help and support in helping others in need.



Dates for Your Diary 2017/2018 Academic Year

Term Ends:

Monday 12th February - Year 9 Exam Week
Friday 16th February - Year 8 & 9 HPV Vaccine

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2018

Tuesday 27th February - PAPA Production
Beauty & the Beast (Matinee and Evening Performance)

Wednesday 28th February - PAPA Production
Beauty & the Beast (Evening Performance)

Thursday 1st March - PAPA Production
Beauty & the Beast (Evening Performance)

Friday 2nd March - Year 11 Mock Fortnight Starts

Wednesday 7th March - French Trip Parents Meeting
Great Hall 5.30pm to 6.00pm

Wednesday 14th March - Year 8 Science Trip
to the Big Bang Fair

Thursday 15th March - KS3 PE Trip
to Loughborough University

Friday 16th March - Year 11 Mock Fortnight Ends

Monday 19th March - Year 11
Geography Compulsory Field Trip

Tuesday 20th March - Year 8 Parents Evening

Wednesday 21st March - Oxford Inspire Trip - Star
Students

Friday 23rd March - Rewards Trip

Tuesday 27th March - Geography Field Trip
to the Azores Departs

Term Ends:

Thursday 29th March

Easter Holiday:

Friday 30th March to Friday 13th April

Saturday 31st March - Geography Field Trip
to the Azores Returns

Summer Term:

Monday 16th April - Training Day

Tuesday 17th April - Term Starts

Monday 7th May - Bank holiday

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June

Monday 2nd July - Training Day

Term Ends:

Friday 20th July

Please Remember

NO MONEY will be taken at the tills. Students should only queue for food if their account is in credit.

Please ensure students accounts are topped up, either online or by using the cash loaders located in school.

Please see the Finance Department if you have any problems.

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

**Pre-order lunch
Monday - Thursday
between 8am - 11am
8am - 8.30am on Friday**

Brand New Mathematical Calculators

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

