

Welcome

Hello and welcome to the first newsletter of this school year. It has been a busy and successful half-term, with lots of progress being made in all areas. There has been lots of positivity at OSCA over the past eight weeks, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our OSCA community for upholding a brilliant uniform standard. Since we returned in September, there has been a significant improvement since last year and we are grateful to our community for helping us with this. On the same note, we have seen an improvement in behaviour across all years and are students are doing really well. It has been a lovely atmosphere here at OSCA.

We have exciting times ahead, as we are in the early stages of developing a student council for next term. This will be a fantastic asset to our school, as we can hear students' ideas to make OSCA an even better place to be. As you will know, we have been having work done at the front of school. This is to install a new electric gate, which will increase the safety of our school site and we're excited for this to take shape over the half-term holidays. Thank you to our contractors who have been working hard to make this happen.

Thank you to our students, staff and community for your ongoing support. We are excited for what the rest of this year holds for Team OSCA.

Kind Regards,



Attendance Rewards

We're giving away a brand-new iPad!

We are excited to celebrate our students who show their commitment to learning by attending school every day with the opportunity to win a brand-new iPad! For every 100% attendance week a student has, they will receive one entry into the prize draw! The more weeks of perfect attendance a student achieves, the greater their chances of winning! The winner will be announced on **Friday 27th March**.

Consistent attendance plays a vital role in academic success, as it ensures students aren't missing out on key learning opportunities. We're incredibly proud of our students who are showing up for their education every day!

Well done all!

Attend to
Achieve
at OSCA

Eco Club Success

Miss Wakeman and her team from eco club have been successful in gaining our first ever eco flag for the school! The students have worked extremely hard for this achievement, and we are all very proud! In order to earn their first Eco Flag, the Eco Club have been taking part in litter picks at lunch time, creating posters to put up around school, and they have also grown some plants and potatoes earlier this year.

All of their hard work has paid off and we are so happy for all involved! Well done all!



Sporting Victory

Our boys football teams have had an amazing start to the year as they have brought home some incredible wins for OSCA in their football matches. There has been some impressive skills being shown, as the teams have worked together to secure success in their matches. Their commitment to training and their positive attitude both on and off the pitch have really paid off. We're so proud of their achievements and the way they have represent our school. We're excited to see what the rest of the season brings!



Open Evening 2025

In September we held our annual Open Evening to welcome prospective students and their families to OSCA. Our teachers opened their classroom doors and spoke to visitors about their subjects, so they could see what would be in store for them here at OSCA. There was a lot to get involved in, including science experiments, watching PAPA performances and learning more about the curriculum. Our open evening was a huge success, as were our open mornings which we also held that week. We'd like to say thank you to those who visited us, as well as our students who helped out on the evening.



OSCA Connect Launch

Last month, we celebrated the official launch of OSCA Connect - our brand new SEND facility. It was a great opportunity for visitors to experience Connect, as they were able to see the new facility and what it offers for all of our students. Guests listened to speeches by Mrs Dickens, our Strategic Sendco, Mr McKinniss, our Head of School, and Dr Tim Roome, Senior Educational Psychologist for Sandwell Inclusion Support. It was a brilliant event, and we would like to thank everyone for joining us to celebrate this amazing new space.



Geography Fieldwork

Our GCSE geographers were taken out on their mandatory Geography field work this month, as they ventured into Birmingham to collect their findings. They exhibited exemplary attitudes and fully engaged with the learning opportunities presented during the trip. Well done to everyone involved! The knowledge gathered will be invaluable as they continue to develop their coursework and deepen their understanding of the subject.



Hello Yellow Day

The 10th of October was World Mental Health Day, and we showed our support at OSCA by taking part in Hello Yellow day for the charity Young Minds. In the lead up to the day, we asked students to take part in an activity where they were asked 'How would you show compassion to a friend who is struggling?'. They filled in speech bubbles with their answers, which all went towards a big display in our canteen. We also asked students to wear a yellow top or accessory to show their support, and we held a bake sale to try and raise as much as we could. We ended the day by raising almost £350 for Young Minds charity, and we'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped us raise this!

Student Achievement 🏆

It is always a pleasure to hear about our students succeeding outside of school. One of our students, Drake, recently competed for Team Great Britain in the World Kickboxing Championship. The event took place in Luxembourg, and was a highly competitive international event. Drake's performance was exceptional, as he took home two bronze medals! We'd like to say a huge well done to Drake, as this is an amazing achievement and something to be very proud of. We are all looking forward to what he achieves next.



New Electric Gates at OSCA 🔒

As you will know, works have commenced for our brand new electrical gates at the front of school. The construction began a couple of weeks ago, and the new feature is starting to take shape. We are excited to see more progress happen over the half-term. The new gates are going to be a great feature for OSCA, as it will increase the security of our site. Please keep an eye on our social media for further updates!



Sandwell College

T Level Bus 🚌

We were lucky enough to welcome Sandwell College to OSCA last week, as they brought over their T Level bus. Our Year 11 students were able to board the bus and speak to representatives from the college about their options. The students who attended were all interested in taking the T-Level route when they leave OSCA, so this was a great opportunity for them to speak about this further. Staff members from Sandwell College were very impressed with our students, as they were engaged and keen to find out more. It was a valuable and inspiring experience that helped our students gain a clearer understanding of their future pathways. Thank you to Sandwell College for coming to OSCA and speaking with our students. We look forward to continuing providing experiences like this for our students.



Rewards Trip

Tuesday 9th December

Ninja Warrior!

It's important to reward the students who keep a consistently high standard while at OSCA. For our December rewards trip, we will be taking students to Ninja Warrior for a fun filled day to celebrate all of their hard work. To secure their place on the trip, students must have no reflection room/fixed term suspensions, above 95% attendance, no U codes, no more than 5 lates and more positive achievement points over behaviour points. We hope the students will enjoy this well-earned experience!

Important Dates

Monday 4th November - Staff training day, school is closed to students.

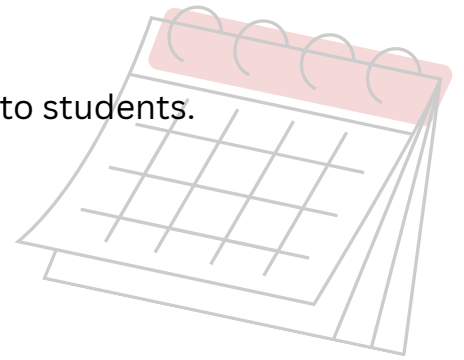
Tuesday 5th November - All students return to OSCA.

Tuesday 5th November - Year 11 mocks start.

Monday 24th November - Flu vaccination mop up session.

Tuesday 9th December - Ninja Warrior Rewards Trip.

Tuesday 16th December - Year 11 PCE



Safeguarding Notice

As school is closed there will be no DSLs available. However, parents can contact the following;

Social Care

Sandwell Children's Trust 0121 569 3100

Dudley 0300 555 0050 (out of hours - 0300 555 8574)

Birmingham Children's Trust - 0121 303 1888 (out of hours - 0121 675 4806)

Police

101 or 999

Mental Health

Black Country Minds;

Dudley - 01385 324 689

Sandwell - 0121 612 6620

Other agencies

Childline - 0800 1111

NSPCC - 0808 800 5000

Samaritans - 116 123

OSCA Home School Agreement

OSCA agree to:

- Provide a framework of teaching, learning and guidance, known as 'The OSCA way' which is appropriate to the age and ability of each individual young person;
 - Provide a safe and secure learning environment;
 - Keep parents informed about the progress of their child;
 - Contact parents if there are problems/concerns with attainment, attendance/punctuality, behaviour or equipment;
 - Provide a range of experiences in and out the classroom to develop cultural capital;
 - Make every effort to enable all students to achieve high standards of work and behaviour by building positive relationships and developing a sense of individual responsibility;
 - Ensure there is a suitable character curriculum which ensures students know how to function in the real and digital world safely;
 - Value all students as individual members of the OSCA community.
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Students of OSCA agree to:

- Attend school regularly and on time;
- Attend each lesson on time and fully;
- Bring equipment needed for each lesson and wear correct uniform at all times on school premises as well as on the way and from school;
- Ensure you are 'ready to learn' when in any classroom and behave with courtesy and respect in corridors, public spaces during lesson and social times;
- Build positive relationships with all members of the school community and take responsibility for their actions;
- Follow instructions by members of staff without argument.
- Respect school property and equipment;
- Tell an adult about any issues that might affect their work or behaviour;
- Ensure use of digital platforms and social media is respectful to other members of the OSCA community;
- Behave in an appropriate manner on the way to and from school;
- Not have a mobile phone out while on school property.

OSCA Home School Agreement

Parents/Carers agree to:

- Ensure that their child attends school regularly and on time and to contact the school with an explanation on the first day of any absence.
- Avoid taking holidays in term-time;
- Ensure that their son/daughter is equipped for work each day and wearing correct uniform;
- Respect the rules at OSCA and support the behaviour system fully, ensuring you are always supportive of school decisions;
- Make the school aware of any problems/concerns that might affect their son's/daughter's work or behaviour;
- Attend Parental Consultation Evenings and other information evenings;
- Check my son's/daughter's use of social networking sites and seek advice if and when appropriate;
- Support the school in ensuring that my child behaves in an appropriate manner on the way to and from school;
- Be respectful to all members of the OSCA community at all times;
- Always make an appointment to see a member of staff as staff members are not always available;
- Ensure contact details are kept up to date and ensure that they fully engage with OSCA and are contactable.

We hope you have a lovely half-term!

Thrive, Empower, Achieve, Make A Difference

TEAM OSCA

Opportunity, Scholarship, Compassion, Achievement