



**ORMISTON SANDWELL
COMMUNITY ACADEMY**



National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership

Newsletter

July 2019



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OSCA Wins Good Diabetes Care Award



OSCA has received a national award in recognition for the excellent care provided to our students with Type 1 diabetes. The 'Good Diabetes Care in School Award' from Diabetes UK is in recognition of the great support OSCA provides to our students whilst working closely with their families and healthcare professionals to ensure that the students can achieve their potential.

For receiving the award, OSCA will now receive ongoing support from Diabetes UK to help with best practice and updated methods of care, as well as featuring on the charity's School Honour Wall.

Express & Star STEM Challenge

Seven OSCA Year 8 boys took part in the special Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths focused project. The boys showcased their work producing a fully working wood and aluminium prototype of a plastic bottle compressor they named 'Bottled Up.' Sarah Davies from the Steel company Schmolz+Bickenbach, mentored the group and provided support throughout the process to ensure the prototype was put together in time for the competition.



Alongside 20 other schools, the group presented their prototype and was judged on four different categories: Best Teamwork, Best Presentation, Best Operating Model and Best Plan. During one presentation, a judge from University of Wolverhampton commended the pupils for their in-depth knowledge and working model. Whilst they didn't win, the group enjoyed the challenge and greatly benefitted from the chance to develop their teamwork, presentation and design skills. Well done to them all!

Silver Award in the BTEC Awards

Many congratulations to Year 11 student Paige in 11.3, who was nominated for the very prestigious BTEC Award 2019. Paige impressed the panel and was awarded a Silver Award. This year was the first time the BTEC Team had awarded Silver Awards. The standard was so high this year they introduced Silver to recognize and encourage nominees who made it through to the finals by demonstrating outstanding achievements and commitment throughout their BTEC studies.

Silver Award winners have to:

- Achieved - or are on track to achieve - excellent grades.
- Demonstrated clear passion for their subject and a significant contribution to the life and/or study of others (e.g. mentoring or coaching).
- Given examples of high achievement and going "above and beyond" in their commitment to an extracurricular activity, for example volunteering, entering competitions, taking the initiative to develop their skills through additional work placements or otherwise gaining industry experience outside of what's expected from the course.



We applaud Paige on this fantastic achievement and thank her for all of her hard work and commitment she showed to her studies and academy life here at OSCA. Paige has been an excellent role model for the students and we wish her good luck and all the best for her future.

OSCA Represented at European Careers Conference

OSCA's Connexions Advisor Lee Groucutt, represented the academy at the recent European Careers Conference Exchange in Estonia. Mr Groucutt who is our lead careers adviser with Connexions Sandwell, went along to the four-day conference to deliver a talk about the current state of careers guidance in English schools. During the presentation, Mr Groucutt shared how OSCA's school community has worked together to create and sustain leading careers guidance for its students.

The talk followed OSCA being awarded the national Quality in Careers Gold Standard by the careers organisation Prospects earlier this year, as well as the school's hat trick of 100% movement into learning for Year 11 leavers for the last three years.

The talk was extremely well received at the conference, where education and careers experts from across Estonia and Europe were in attendance.



OSCA Pupils Visit World-Leading Science Centre

The Science department at OSCA took a group of Year 9 and Year 10 students to visit the ground-breaking CERN centre (The European Organization for Nuclear Research) in Switzerland from the 17th to 19th May .

During the visit to the centre, (which was opened in 2008 and is one of the world's leading laboratories for particle physics) the students explored the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), the world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator.

The students enjoyed the opportunity to ask CERN's expert scientists and engineers questions about the particle accelerators and colliders. They also had the chance to visit Switzerland's only Science Museum, St Peter's Cathedral and the Museum of Natural History, as well as experiencing a boat ride across the sights of Lake Geneva.

The students were enthralled by the trip and their behaviour, motivation and conduct was impeccable throughout, on what was an unforgettable experience.

Sporting News

Many Congratulations Summayyah in D3, on getting through to the Semi-finals of the England Boxing National Championships at Priory Park.

Well done Summayyah and all the best in your next competition!



Uniform Selling Dates at OSCA

Thursday 1st August - 2pm to 7pm
(Easy payment scheme available on this date)

Uniform supplied by
GOGNA Schoolwear & Sports
Tel: 0121 523 5572
www.gognaschoolwear.co.uk
Email: info@gognaschoolwear.co.uk

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.

School ties are available to buy at OSCA, from the Finance Office and the Student Hub @ £5.00 each

OSCA Pupils Take MFL Trip to Nice

On Wednesday 22nd May, thirty-four OSCA students travelled to Nice in the French Riviera for five days of discovery and adventure. During their time there they discovered the beautiful town of Grasse where they visited the oldest perfume factory 'Fragonard'. The students also visited Cannes to see the Palais du festival (Cannes Film Festival) and the gorgeous sandy beaches.

The next day was spent in Monaco visiting the Oceanographic museum and the Prince's private car collection. They also got to see the F1 racing track and some famous drivers including Daniel Ricciardo, Charles Leclerc and they even saw a glimpse of Lewis Hamilton. Students and staff also enjoyed a visit to a traditional sweet and chocolate factory in Nice and spent some time shopping in local markets, including a nocturnal market!

On the last day, which included a visit to the largest Russian Orthodox Church outside of Russia, students took the time to reflect on everything they had learned about the local history and culture of the area.

Our students were impeccably behaved and really enjoyed their time there and didn't want to come back to rainy England!

Student French Ambassadors

On the 9th July, fifteen French Ambassador students enjoyed a trip to the Olive Grove in Hednesford, where they had the opportunity to have a French Breakfast experience. The students completed a range of language activities (including problem solving tasks), mostly speaking in French the whole morning which was amazing to see (and hear)! Indeed, they got to use their French for real purposes, which has helped to develop their confidence and motivation.

Well done to all the students on their excellent behaviour and language skills, they were a credit to the academy.

Visit to Plas Gywnant

Over the weekend of the 15th and 16th June, team PE braved Snowdonia National Park with twenty-one Year 9 and six Year 8 students and headed out to the Plas Gywnant Outdoor Education Centre.

The objective of the weekend was to provide opportunities for the students to challenge themselves: physically, mentally, emotionally and socially.

The students undertook a steep abseil from Eagle Rock, kayaked through valleys and gorge walked up waterfalls and through caves. They analysed the techniques that they used to overcome the many intricacies of the challenges using a few key strategies: Just- do- it, Understand others, A fail is not failure, Think about it, Let it all out.

It was a pleasure to see the students develop so much in just a few days. Their aim is to apply these new found skills in other life situations.



Sandwell Cup Final

OSCA's Year 8 Football team got through to the Sandwell Cup Final on the 25th June. They had played brilliantly all season and this was a fantastic achievement for them all. Their final game was against Sandwell Academy (who had reached the Semi finals of the national competition).

Our students played an excellent game but unfortunately lost 2-0 to their competitors. Our students attitude and effort was fantastic throughout the game. Well done to them all!

Year 11 Leavers' Assembly

On Monday 8th July, OSCA held its last assembly for the Class of 2019. Invited guests of parents, carers and staff joined the students in a celebration of their time here at the academy.

Ms McMahon gave a very moving speech to the students before each Head of House presented their House Awards to the students. Year 11 student Paige, gave a very emotional performance of the song 'A Million Dreams' from 'The Greatest Showman'. This was a lovely but emotional occasion for everyone that attended and a fitting tribute to all the students.



We wish the Class of 2019 good luck and all the very best for their future.

OSCA'S Annual Summer Awards

On Tuesday 9th July, OSCA held its sixth annual Summer Awards event. The ceremony celebrated the student's achievements over the last year. The evening started with Ms McMahon welcoming everyone to this special event and introduced our guest speaker OSCA's Chair of Governor's, Mr David Lloyd, to present the awards.

The awards were presented to students for their achievements in the Brilliant Club and Duke of Edinburgh scheme. There were also subject, House and Principal awards. This was an amazing evening with over 500 invited guests celebrating the students' hard work and achievements.



The evening also included an amazing student performance from Paige in Year 11 singing an enchanting version of the song 'I Dreamed a Dream' from 'Les Miserables'. This was a fantastic event and a very proud occasion for all the parents, students and staff.

Year 11 Prom

On Friday 12th July, the Class of 2019 held their Prom at the Grand Station, in Wolverhampton. The weather conditions were perfect for the students to make their grand entrances in a fabulous array of transport.

In true OSCA style, the students arrived looking incredible; the girls were dressed in a stunning collection of exquisite colours and sparkles and the boys all looked debonair in their elegant and very dapper suits.

The evening started with students having their prom photos taken before Ms McMahon officially started the event off by welcoming "The Class of 2019" to their Prom. After the thank you speeches, it was time to enjoy the delicious two-course meal, before taking to the dance floor to dance the night away.

This was an amazing event and a fantastic way for the students to celebrate the end of their school life together. We wish them well and thank them for being such wonderful students that have been a pleasure to have at OSCA.



Dates for Your Diary 2018/2019 Academic Year Summer Term

Thurs 18th July - Year 7 to 9 Reward Trip
to Drayton Manor

Fri 19th July - Summer Term Ends

Dates for Your Diary 2019/2020 Academic Year Autumn Term

Mon 2nd Sept - Training Day

Tues 3rd Sept - Training Day

Wed 4th Sept - Term Starts for Years 7 & 11

Thurs 5th Sept - Term Starts for Years 8, 9 & 10



We're working
towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts
Council England

