

Newsletter



St Osmund's
CE Middle School
Hope · Community · Respect · Love

Friday 8th May 2026

Dear Ossie's Families,

As we conclude our fourth week in school, it is lovely to reflect on the breadth of learning which has taken place since our return from the Easter break and the opportunities which lie ahead.

Our oldest learners in Year 8, have been taking their geography learning outside of the classroom to the river, on their trips out of school over recent weeks. They have been collecting data from the River Frome as part of looking at how rivers change over distances. They have explored aspects such as cross-sections and velocity as well as doing a field sketch. This is great preparation for their next steps as geographers at upper school. Mrs Mugridge is keen to see Ossies continuing their passion for geography through taking it at GCSE.

In Year 5, our pupils have been learning all about what makes an effective persuasive speech. A fortnight ago, I popped into their English lessons to see them performing example speeches with fantastic expression and conviction. This week I have witnessed them preparing to write their own Battle Cry speeches. The pupils of 5LSO explained to me how they are excited to compose a speech to inspire their fellow villagers to join them in battle using lots of persuasive vocabulary. This unit is based off our Spring term class novel in Year 5 – Viking Boy by Tony Bradman.

In music, Year 7 are exploring reggae music, specifically Three Little Birds by Bob Marley. They are working in pairs and trios using keyboards and ukuleles to practise their skills and prepare performances inspired by this genre. Meanwhile in drama, Year 7 like Year 5, are focussed on speeches. They are drawing inspiration from Macbeth by William Shakespeare. Using various scenes in this well-known play including the famous witches scene, they are building on their speech delivery skills learnt in Year 5 and focussing on giving powerful performances.

Our Year 6 teachers and pupils have been busy getting ready for SATs – revising key elements of spelling, punctuation, grammar, reading and maths in order to ensure everyone feels prepared. On Monday to Thursday next week our Year 6 pupils will be undertaking the national end of key stage two assessments (SATs). We encourage all of our pupils to adopt a balanced view on this matter. They have worked hard, and this is their opportunity to show off their extensive knowledge and skills in both English and maths. We recognise for some pupils this can feel overwhelming and have therefore supported them by offering ample time to practise and familiarise themselves with the test structure across their time in key stage two. If you have Year 6 pupils at home, please do reinforce what a wonderful opportunity this is for them to demonstrate all that they know whilst not over-emphasising the value of these assessments. They are awesome regardless of their test outcomes.

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend in the sunshine,

Mrs Sophie Farmer
Assistant Headteacher



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Monday 11th May—Thursday 14th May—Year 6 SATs Week

Tuesday 19th May—Paris Parents Information Evening

Friday 22nd May—Non Uniform Day for Ossie's Fest

Monday 25th May— Friday 29th May—HALF TERM

Monday 1st June— Back to school

Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th June—Year 8 Retreat Day—details to follow

Friday 5th June—Ossie's Fest

Tuesday 16th & Thursday 18th June—Year 7 Coastal Trip—letter to follow

ENRICHMENT WEEK

Watch this space for Enrichment Week updates! We will be adding to this section over the next few weeks to remind you of any action you may need to take.

Things To Do:

- Check you child's medical and dietary requirements are correct on Arbor. You can find these on the main menu under 'profile', dietary requirements / medical conditions.
- Upload a copy of your child's passport and GHIC card (Paris trip) as per the letter sent to you on Monday 9th March.
- Tuesday 19th May—Paris Parents Information Evening—5pm

Please note that there will be no wraparound care during Enrichment Week.

OSSIE'S OPPORTUNITIES

	LUNCH	AFTER SCHOOL
M O N D A Y	<p>Zoneball – KS2 –WDA – Sports Centre</p> <p>Zoneball – KS3 – WDA – Sports Centre</p>	<p>Wonderland Auditions – All Years – SSH – Small Hall</p> <p>Art Club – KS3 – SST – Art Room</p> <p>Dodgeball – KS3 – WDA – Sports Centre</p> <p>Rounders – KS2 – ERE, JHA – Field</p> <p>Softball – KS3 – DKI - Field</p>
T U E S D A Y	<p>OCAG – KS3 – HMU – Rm 20</p> <p>OCAG – KS2 – SCA – Rm 11</p> <p>Art Club – Year 6 – SST – Art Room</p> <p>Street Soccer – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre</p> <p>Street Soccer – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre</p>	<p>Rock & Pop Club – All Years – SSH – Music Room</p> <p>Athletics – All Years – DKI, ERE, WDA, JHA - Field</p>
W E D S	<p>Basketball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre</p> <p>Basketball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre</p> <p>Creative Writing – KS2 – Room 11</p>	<p>Pickleball – All Years – Sign up required</p> <p>Tennis – KS3 - ERE – Top Courts</p> <p>Creative Writing Club – INVITE ONLY - Library</p>
T H U R S	<p>Computer Club – KS2 – LPi – ICT Room</p> <p>KS3 OCAG Energy Savers – HMU – Rm 20</p> <p>Street Soccer – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre</p> <p>GIRLS Street Soccer – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre</p>	<p>2.45 - 3.15pm - Concert Band—KS3—SSH—Music— INVITE ONLY</p> <p>Handball – KS3 – DKI – Top Courts</p> <p>Gardening Club – All Years – Outside room 3 - (sign up with Miss Pike first before attending)</p> <p>Rounders – KS3 – DRO – Field</p> <p>Cricket – KS3 –GBI – Field</p> <p>Tennis – KS2 – WDA – Top Courts</p> <p>Volleyball – KS3 – AMI – Sports Hall</p> <p>Coding Club – GOT, LFO, ICT Room</p> <p>Chess Club – INVITE ONLY – CMI – Library</p> <p>Wonderland Auditions – All Years – SSH – Small Hall</p>
F R I	<p>Chaos Tag – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre</p> <p>Badminton – KS3 – WDA – Sports Centre</p>	<p>Badminton – Year 8 – CURRENTLY FULL</p>

HAVE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGED?

Children from families who are entitled to free school meals (FSM) will receive financial help from the school for uniform, including school shoes, additional learning resources, financial support for both curriculum and residential trips along with free hot meals, provided by Local Food links. **Funding is also available to provide a supermarket voucher of £15 per student for May half term.** To check if you are eligible for free school meals please click on this link—it only takes two minutes! <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/free-school-meals>



REMINDER—WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

We'd like to remind all parents that our school is a nut free school. We kindly ask all parents and carers to support us by ensuring that packed lunches and snacks brought into school do not contain nuts. By working together, we can create a safe and inclusive space where every child can learn without unnecessary risk. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

SKILLS FOR WORK

Year 7 PSHE lessons after half term will be looking at "Skills for Work" and considering different job options. If you feel that you would be able to come in and share your experiences and your careers journey with a class of Year 7 pupils, we would love to hear from you!

The lesson times are at various points during the school week, so hopefully we can find a slot that would suit your availability. You could do a 25 minute session or a 50 minute session, depending on your preference!

These sessions have proved incredibly useful in previous years, and the pupils get so much out of the experience.

If this is something you could help with, please email the school office, office@stosmunds.wessex.ac .

WRAPAROUND CARE

Please note there will be no wraparound care provided during Enrichment Week, Monday 29th June—Friday 3rd July (inclusive).

YEAR 8 RETREAT DAY

Year 8 Retreat Days take place on Wednesday 3rd June (for teaching groups 8.4, 8.5 & 8.5) and Thursday 4th June (for teachings groups 8.1, 8.2 & 8.3).

The aim of the day is to give the Year 8 pupils a space and time to think more about their transfer to Upper School and the choices they will be making in the next few years. The days are led by leaders of local Dorchester Churches and in the past they have been very successful and helpful for our pupils.

The Retreat days will be held at Dorchester Baptist Church, so the pupils will walk there, accompanied by school staff. The retreat day is within normal school hours and the pupils should wear school uniform.

They will need to take a packed lunch, a water bottle and a waterproof coat. The retreat days are built into our school calendar to enrich our RE curriculum and Christian values as a church school.

WONDERLAND THE MUSICAL

We are absolutely delighted to have shared the KS3 cast this week. We were blown away with the quality of auditions - our talented Ossies made the job of casting very difficult indeed!

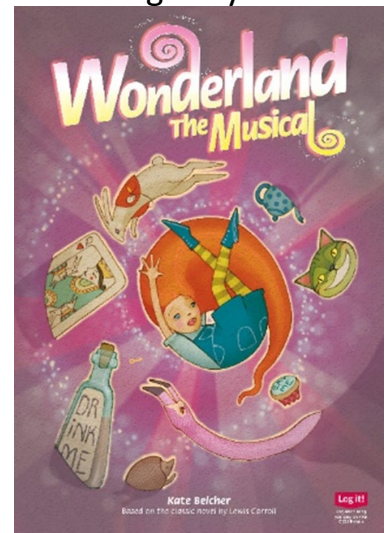
Rehearsals until half term:

Monday 11th May: FULL CAST - all year groups

Thursday 14th May: All Alices only

Monday 18th May: FULL CAST - all year groups

Thursday 21st May: Head Cook and Cooks only



Please note: from September, it is likely that rehearsals will be on Mondays and Tuesdays: please bear this in mind for planning commitments to outside clubs/ lessons etc.

If your child no longer wishes to take part, or you have any queries, please get in touch with Mrs. Macnair.

FROSSIES

Frossie's, our Parent Teacher Association, continue to make a remarkable difference to our School life at St Osmund's, supporting opportunities that enrich every child's experience. This year alone, they have generously donated £1,500 towards Enrichment Week, helping to provide exciting activities and memorable learning experiences.

Their ongoing fundraising efforts are also contributing towards a new school mini bus, which will open up even more opportunities for trips and wider learning.

Last year, they ensured every child was given the opportunity to enjoy a special Christmas lunch, an act of kindness that meant a great deal to our whole school community.

Frossie's relies on the support of parents and carers, and we would love to see more people get involved, whether by helping at events or joining the committee. Together, we can continue to build something truly special for our children.

To get involved, please email frossies@stosmunds.wessex.ac

NON-UNIFORM DAY IN EXCHANGE FOR A DONATION TO OSSIE FEST

In exchange for wearing non-uniform to school on **Friday 22nd May**, please could we ask for the following donations to be brought to school on the morning of **Friday 22nd May**:

KS2 (Years 5 & 6) — Soaps and smellies

KS3 (Years 7 & 8)— Sweets and chocolate

All items are to be of the value up to £1.00

June 5th 5pm-9pm

OSSIE'S FEST 2026

Ossie's Fest is back for 2026, tickets available now on Arbor, more information coming soon!



We are looking for sponsors and raffle prizes for our fun family event, if your business or workplace may be interested in supporting, please get in touch with your friendly PTA team - frossies@stosmunds.wessex.ac



Ticket prices £3 an adult, £2 a child when purchased in advance, 50p increase per ticket on the night.

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT WITH OSSIE'S FEST



Ossie's Fest is back for 2026, and we need your help to make it bigger and better than ever! This is our main fundraising event as we continue on our mission to purchase a new minibus for the school.



We are still seeking sponsorship for this event:
Main sponsors - £250, you will be featured in all our promotional material and can bring banners and flyers to the event.

Stall sponsors - £100 to sponsor a stall and your business will be featured as the stall sponsor and highlighted on our posters.

With thanks to Ben at The Car Shop Dorchester
for agreeing to be our first sponsor!



We are also seeking raffle prizes and plant donations for our plant stall, plus additional volunteers to help us man stalls -we will be running two sessions so you will still have plenty of time to enjoy the event.



June 5th, 5pm to 9pm. St Osmund's School Field.
If you can help support us, please get in touch with your friendly PTA
team:

frossies@stosmunds.wessex.ac

Thank you!

WESSEX ARTS FEST

Wessex Arts Fest - Saturday 9th May 10am - 3pm. FREE ENTRY FOR ALL!

Come and join us for a day celebrating the arts at Thomas Hardy School. A day for all the family! Music and Drama performances by young people, workshops for all ages (adults and children). Come and Try instrument sessions, Music Tech, Ceilidh dance, Pre-school music, Big Sing, BBQ, Cakes and much more!

Come and watch, or sign-up in advance to take part in various sessions. We'd love to see you!

music.wessex.ac



FREE!

WESSEX SCHOOLS
music

**WESSEX
ARTS FEST
2026**

Saturday 9th May
@ Thomas Hardy School
10am – 3pm

A day of music, drama and dance performances
and workshops for all the family.

Performances by orchestras, jazz bands, rock bands, choirs and individual young
musicians from across the local schools.

Drama, musical theatre and dance performances by students from The Thomas
Hardye School.

Workshops for all to take part in (sign-up in advance!)
"Come and Try" instrument sessions and music tech sessions
Ceilidh dance, Dance workshop, Big-sing workshop, Pre-school music, Samba
workshop, Folk music workshop, Street band workshop, BBQ, refreshments and
more!

music.wessex.ac



**DORSET
MUSIC
SERVICE**



Dorset
Council



**OCTAGON
MUSIC HUB**

Supported using public funding by
Department
for Education



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

DORSET POLICE—WEBINAR



Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to invite you to attend an upcoming online webinar for parents and carers of children aged 10–18, focusing on knife crime awareness and prevention.

We understand that knife crime is a topic that can cause concern for families. The purpose of this session is to provide reassurance, share accurate information, and help you feel confident in supporting your child.

During the webinar, representatives from our local policing team will:

- Provide up-to-date information showing that knife crime levels in our area remain low
- Explain what local police are doing to prevent knife crime and keep young people safe
- Offer practical advice on signs to look out for if you are worried about your child
- Share guidance on what to do and who to contact if you have concerns
- Answer questions from parents in a supportive and informative environment

This session is designed to be informative, reassuring, and helpful, whether you currently have concerns or simply want to stay informed.

Webinar Details:

Date: 20th May 2026

Time: 19:00-20:00

Joining instructions: Online (joining details will be provided after registration)

If you would like to attend, please register using the link below:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/70e6d64d-b00a-43f1-be1f-3b65e8835ff8@4515d0c5-b418-4cfa-9741-222da68a18d7>

We strongly encourage parents and carers to take advantage of this opportunity to hear directly from local police and to ask any questions you may have.

If you have any questions about the webinar, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support in helping keep our young people safe.

FAMILY SKITTLES NIGHT

**FRIDAY 8TH MAY
FRAMPTON VILLAGE HALL**

BAR AND BBQ FROM 6.30PM

**Kids skittles 6-7pm (arrive at 5.45
for a prompt 6pm start)
Adult skittles to follow**

RAFFLE TO BE DRAWN AT 8.30PM

Live music by Aron House

**Please come along and support this
community event, in aid of village funds.**



CERNE GIANT FESTIVAL

18th April - 9th May

**Cerne
Giant**



Festival

CERNE ABBAS

www.CerneGiantFestival.org

Family-Friendly Events

Seasonal activity trail

FREE

Thorncombe's Leaf Trail

Friday 22 May to
Sunday 28 June

Come and enjoy our free family-friendly nature trail across our beautiful reserve.

Slow down and look closely to discover which leaves belong to which trees, noticing the rich variety of shapes and textures.

Follow the Thorncombe Loop to discover the hand-painted discs scattered around the reserve. Pick up a free pocket map to help guide you.

Our off-road mobility scooters can be used on this trail. Please book in advance on **01305 251228**.



dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/hardysbirthplace





LET'S
GO
FLY

DORCHESTER KITE FESTIVAL

Sat 6th June, 11am-4.30pm
The Great Field, Poundbury

Design a Kite Competition!

Help launch Dorchester's first ever Kite Festival by designing a kite to represent our town. Take inspiration from the landscape, places, and people to create 'A Celebration of Dorchester'. Use your creativity and imagination to decorate the template on the reverse of this sheet.

Designs will be judged by the Mayor of Dorchester. The winning design will be made into a real kite by an artist and flown by the Mayor to start and end the festival!

Please don't forget to fill in your contact details so we can get in touch with the lucky winner.

Parent/guardian please complete so we can find our winner! BLOCK CAPITALS

Name of Child: _____ Age: _____

Name of parent/guardian: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel/Mobile: _____

Parent's email: _____

Please tick to allow us permission to use your design for future marketing:

Enter by Midday Friday 15th May 2026

To enter, send your entry form and design to us by

Email: conniehollings@dorchester-tc.gov.uk

Post/drop-off: Dorchester Town Council, 19 North Square, Dorchester, DT1 1JF



Please see following page for the kite template

My Celebration of Dorchester!





CASTERBRIDGE CANTER

**CHARITY FUNDRAISER FOR
DORCHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL PTFA**

**Wednesday 8th July at 7pm
10K & 5K trail race**

10K and 5K chip timed trail races around some absolutely stunning farmland. A pure trail run with no roads, maybe some hills, and 90% crosses private land with special permission just for this event! It promises to be a challenging and enjoyable evening with bar, BBQ and lots of cake.

Find us on Facebook for more information

ENTRIES NOW OPEN AT

www.casterbridgecanter.co.uk

ESCAPELINE

Need support?

ESCAPELINE PROVIDES
CONFIDENTIAL TELEPHONE
SUPPORT AND ADVICE TO
PARENTS AND CARERS WITHIN
THE SOUTH WEST OF ENGLAND
AFFECTED BY CRIMINAL AND
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION.

WE'RE HERE IF YOU NEED US:

**Tuesday's &
Wednesday's
10am - 1pm**



0800 389 3899

LONGMEAD COMMUNITY FARM OPEN DAY



Longmead Community Farm

Strengthening and Supporting Families



OPEN DAY

Thursday 11th June 10am -6pm.

All professionals and wellbeing facilitators welcome
Come meet the team, see our facilities and learn more about
the services we offer.

Longmead Community Farm, Milborne St Andrew, Blandford DT11 0HU

T: 01305 262897 www.stosmunds.wessex.ac

 /stosmundsschool

Email addresses for staff can be found on our website under 'About us/School Staff'