

Newsletter



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

Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Ossie's Families,

On Wednesday and Thursday, we were delighted to welcome OFSTED into school to evaluate all aspects of school life. We had four inspectors in school during these two days and it was a real privilege to visit so many classrooms, alongside the Inspectors, at this time and observe the excellent start that the children have made to their learning, at the beginning of the new school year. It was also a pleasure to observe the children at break and lunchtime and the positive manner in which they are socializing. Throughout the two days the Inspectors consistently remarked on the positive behaviour, particularly how welcoming and polite the children were to visitors in our school. We are very much looking forward to sharing the results of the Inspection, towards the end of this half term, when it has been formally published.

On Tuesday the children in Year 5 and Year 7 had their photographs taken. You will find further details of these in this week's newsletter. For our children in Year 5 there are several significant events during the next couple of weeks. After allowing them time to settle into their new school, our children in Year 5 will be assessed to see what their needs are and how we can best help them learn and achieve. Next week the children in Year 5 will take assessments in reading and spelling, within their normal English lessons. As part of this process the children in Year 5 will also sit Cognitive Ability tests on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the following week (Week beginning Monday 21st September). Cognitive Ability tests (CAT) have been developed to understand children's ability and likely academic potential. They are also extremely helpful by informing teaching, by understanding the best way individual children learn.

On Friday 2nd October the children in Year 5 will take part in a Retreat Day. During this time, they will be introduced to what makes St Osmund's Middle School distinctive, particularly as a Church school. Alongside learning about Saint Osmund, they will also participate in a session on "Walking through the Bible", which they will continue in their forthcoming RE lessons and additionally create artwork on our school values of Hope, Community, Respect and Love. The day will culminate in the children in Year 5 singing the songs they learnt during the day to the whole school community, during Collective Worship, at the end of the school day. For our children in Years 6,7 and 8 I am sure that it will rekindle many happy memories and they will also enjoy singing the songs they previously learnt with 'ISingPop', when they started at St Osmund's Middle School.

Another date for your diary is the afternoon of Tuesday 6th October when the children in Year 5 will be going to St George's Church, Fordington, for their Welcome Service, in which they will look forward to the start of their journey at school over the next four years.

Finally, I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that many of our extra-curricular clubs started this week. I would very much encourage your child to participate in these opportunities offered as these clubs are not only invaluable in learning and developing new skills and talents, but also in helping to develop new friendships.

I wish you and your family a happy and relaxing weekend.



Mr S Beet
Deputy Headteacher



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Tuesday 22nd September—Global Languages Day Bake Off

Friday 2nd October—Year 5 Retreat Day

Tuesday 6th October—Year 5 Welcome Service

Wednesday 7th October—Tutor/Parent Consultation Evening (more details to follow)

Thursday 8th October—Open Morning for Prospective Parents

Thursday 15th October—5pm—Open Evening for Prospective Parents

Friday 16th October—Harvest Collection Worship (more details to follow)

Wednesday 14th October—Ski Trip Parents Information Evening—5pm

Tuesday 20th October—Last day of school

HALF TERM—21st October—30th October

31st October—Deadline for applying for Upper School (Year 8 Parents)

Monday 2nd November—BACK TO SCHOOL

Wednesday 11th November—Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 19th November—Just The Two Of Us (more details to follow)

OSSIE'S OPPORTUNITIES

If your child would like to attend a club, they do not need to sign up in advance, they can just attend on the day (with the exception of gardening club, chess club & concert band).

LUNCH		AFTER SCHOOL 3.15pm - 4.15pm
MONDAY	Zoneball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Zoneball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 Reading Club – SCA – Room 10	Wonderland Rehearsals – All Years – SSH – Music Room – see rehearsal schedule in newsletter KS2 Football – DKI / SDA / JFO—Field Netball – KS3 – ERE & JHA – Top Courts Basketball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Hall
TUESDAY	Street Soccer – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Street Soccer – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 Creative Writing Club – SCA – Room 10	Wonderland Rehearsals – All Years – SSH – Music Room - see rehearsal schedule in newsletter Football – KS3 – DKI – Field Netball – KS2 – WDA – Top Courts
WEDNESDAY	Basketball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Basketball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre OCAG – KS3 -HMU – Room 20	Pickleball – All Years – Sign up required
THURSDAY	GIRLS Street Soccer – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre GIRLS Street Soccer – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 OCAG – SCA – Room 10	2.45 - 3.15pm - Concert Band—KS3—SSH—Music—INVITE ONLY Basketball – KS3 – DRO & WDA – Sports Hall Rock & Pop Club – All Years – SSH – Music Room Gardening Club – All Years – Outside room 3 - (sign up with Miss Pike first before attending) Rugby – KS3 – DKI & GBI – Field Chess Club – INVITE ONLY – CMI - Library
FRIDAY	Dodgeball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Dodgeball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 Korean Club – SCA – Room 10	Badminton – Year 8 – Sports Centre Girls Rugby – KS3 – DKI - Field

YEAR 5 RETREAT DAY

Our Year 5 Retreat day will take place on Friday 2nd October. The Retreat day gives our new Year 5's the opportunity to get to know our school values and school vision. This day will enrich our RE curriculum and pupils will spend time being creative, learning about Saint Osmund and more about us as a school.

This day is onsite and fits into our normal school day timings. Pupils will be off normal timetable. Full school uniform should be worn if you normally have PE on a Friday.

YEAR 5 WELCOME SERVICE

Parents and carers are invited to our Year 5 Welcome Service on Tuesday 6th October, 1.30pm, at St George's Church, Fordington. The service will be approximately 45 minutes long and is an opportunity for us to welcome Year 5 students, and their families, into our school community.



MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Any medication (including asthma inhalers) left over from last year, that you would still like to use, must have a new form completed so that we can administer it. Forms are available from the school office. Any medication that does not have a new form will be disposed of on 30th September. We have already disposed of any medication that was out of date.



If you are bringing in new medications, they will need to be clearly labelled and in the original box. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

SCHOOL PHOTOS—YEARS 5—7

School photographs were taken this week for students in Year 5 & 7 and for any students who have not had a photograph in Year 6 & 8. You will soon receive a unique link from Tempest to order your photos.

TEMPEST
PHOTOGRAPHY

HARVEST—FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER

On Friday 16th October, we would like pupils to bring in food donations for our local Food Larder, Community Share creates community food larders, in our local area, for those in need. Food donations can be taken to our small hall, on the morning of Friday 16th October.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY HAVE AT LEAST 6 MONTHS LEFT ON THE BEST BEFORE DATE.

This is an opportunity to celebrate Harvest supporting our local community.

We are asking for:

Cereals
UHT Milk
Tinned Meat
Tinned Fruit
Tinned Veg

Cooking sauces
Baked Beans
Soups
Biscuits
Rice Puddings

Tinned Tomatoes
Custard
Coffee
Tea bags
Microwave Rice

Men's Toiletries
Women's Toiletries
Toilet Rolls
Shampoo
Tinned Tuna

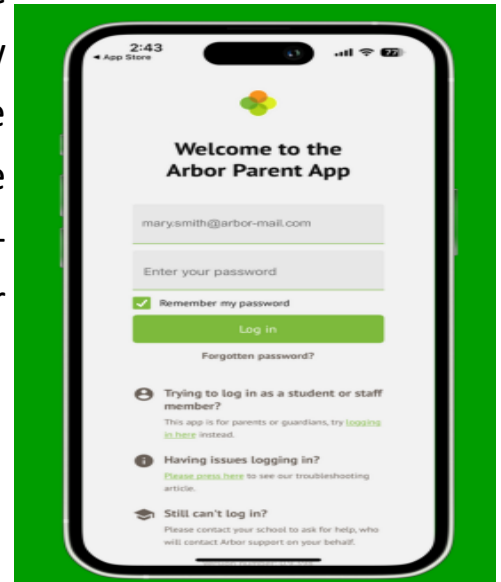
NEW ARBOR PARENT APP



Wow! Well done to Ossie's parents! 94% of students have at least one parent who has logged into the app. We know

that there are some issues if you are using the same email address as a partner. In these cases we ask that you contact us to have this amended, either by updating us with another email address or removing the duplicate email address.

Please email loginissues@stosmunds.wessex.ac



REHEARSAL PLAN FOR WONDERLAND—AUTUMN 1

Rehearsal plan for “Wonderland” – Autumn 1

Please find below the plan for this half term's rehearsals – we are really looking forward to seeing the cast back together next week!

Please do check it carefully – we are rehearsing things out of sequence in some weeks! Do email me on Imacnair@stosmunds.wessex.ac if you are unsure.

With the exception of Tuesday 8th September, we are not rehearsing with the Y6 and Y7 chorus on Tuesdays – the hope is that this gives the opportunity for these Ossies to attend another club on a Tuesday after school, should they wish.

After half term, Monday rehearsals for Wonderland will be suspended, and will turn into preparations for the Carol Service at the end of term, so our full cast will be required each Monday for these practices – we are very much hoping that all the cast will want to participate as part of the choir for this important school event. Tuesday afternoons will continue to be small group rehearsals for individual characters/ scenes.

WONDERLAND - AUTUMN 1

Monday 7 th September	Read through Scenes 1 – 4	Full cast
Tuesday 8 th September	Read through Scenes 5 – 8	Full cast
Monday 14 th September	Scene 1	Mum, Dad, Alice 1, White Rabbit
	Dinner Party (dance)	All Playing Cards
Tuesday 15 th September	Scene 7	Alice 7, Mock Turtle, Queen
	Dinner Party (dance)	All Playing Cards
Monday 21 st September	Scene 2	Alice 2, White Rabbit, Key, Table
	Caucus Race (dance)	Alice 3, All Animals
Tuesday 22 nd September	NO REHEARSAL Staff training session	
Monday 28 th September	Scene 3	Alice 3, Animals
	Pepper for the Soup (song and	Alice 4, All Cooks
Tuesday 29 th September	Pepper for the Soup (song and dance)	Alice 4, All Cooks
	All Scenes rehearsed so far: Scene 1, 2, 3 and 7	Mum, Dad, Alice 1, White Rabbit Alice 2, White Rabbit, Key, Table Alice 3, All Animals Alice 7, Mock Turtle, Queen
Monday 5 th October	All songs and dances	Full Cast
Tuesday 6 th October	Scene 8	All Alices, White Rabbit, All Playing Cards, King, Queen, Mad Hatter, Dormouse, Head Cook, Mum, Dad
Monday 12 th October	Scene 4	Alice 4, Cooks, Cheshire Cat, Caterpillar, Duchess
	Mad Hatter's Tea Party (dance)	Alice 5, Mad Hatter, Dormouse, March Hare, All Y6 and Y7 Chorus
Tuesday 13 th October	Scene 5	Alice 5, Cheshire Cat, Mad Hatter, March Hare, Dormouse
	Falling (movement)	Alice 1, White Rabbit
Monday 19 th October	Mad Hatter's Tea Party (dance)	Alice 5, Mad Hatter, Dormouse, March Hare, All Y6 and Y7 Chorus
	All Alone in Wonderland	Alice 3
Tuesday 20 th October	Oh, my ears and whiskers!	Alice 2, White Rabbit

GLOBAL LANGUAGES BAKE-OFF COMPETITION



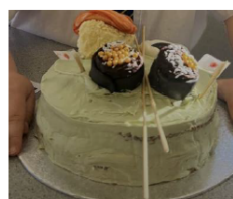
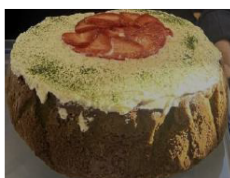
Global Languages Bake-Off Competition 2026

Tuesday, 22nd September 2026

Get ready to bake, create and celebrate the flavours of the world!

As part of our Global Languages Day celebrations, we are inviting our talented KS2 and KS3 bakers to take part in our very own Global Languages Day Bake Off!

We want to see your most delicious, creative and internationally inspired bakes. Your creation could be inspired by a country, culture or language from anywhere around the world.



The top 3 winners will each receive a £10 Amazon voucher. We will be judging on:

- Most authentic recipe
- Most imaginative and creative
- Best global inspiration



Please bring your entries to the DT kitchen **before tutor** time on **Tuesday the 22nd of September**.

We will be selling the baked goods in aid of a local children's charity – TBC.

We are not able to sell cakes that do not come with a list of ingredients. **Please collect an entry form from the main office.**

The bakes must not contain any nuts and must come with a clear list of allergens, highlighted on the entry form.

The entry form must be clearly visible and stuck to the container of your bake.

Please label your tins, tubs, trays, etc and collect them at the end of the day.



CULTURAL HERITAGE—GLOBAL LANGUAGES DAY



Cultural Heritage

This is an opportunity for you to wear traditional cultural clothing that represents and celebrates your family's heritage from around the world.

There is no donation for anything for doing this, just wear and share what is special in your heritage story.

Sports kit (such as football and rugby shirts) are not permitted, and this is not a non-uniform day.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Families across Dorset are being encouraged to check whether their children are eligible for free school meals from the September 2026 school term. This follows changes by central government.



From this autumn, all children whose parent/carer receives any level of Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals, regardless of how much their household earns. This removes the current £7,400 annual income cap and means more children will be able to have free school meals.

Free school meals can save families up to around [£495 on school lunches](#) per child per year, while also ensuring children receive a healthy, filling meal during the school day.

Click here to [apply for free school meals from September 2026](#)

To prepare for the change, parents or carers are able to apply or reapply, even if their child already receives free school meals this school year.

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/free-school-meals>

Open Days



We are welcoming parents of all Year 4 students, from any school, to come and visit our setting during our upcoming open days. You'll be able to chat to teachers, meet current students and discover how our Christian values of hope, community, respect and love run through our school. The school was judged as Good by OfSTED in all inspection areas (September 2022) and received a strong SIAMS report (January 2026). You are welcome to one or both events:

OPEN MORNINGS

The best way to learn about St Osmund's School is to witness a day in action. See our engaged, motivated pupils and staff working together to create an inspiring and nurturing environment, where pupils achieve their very best.

Thursday 8th October—Tours at 9am or 11am

Wednesday 18th November—Tours at 9am or 11am

Tuesday 8th December—Tours at 9am or 11am

Wednesday 13th January—Tours at 9am or 11am

Book your ticket now on Ticket Source: www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-osmunds-school

OPEN EVENING

Join us on Thursday 15th October, 5pm – 6.30pm, for an informative talk with Mr Biddle, the Head of School, and a tour of the school. You will have an opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Book your ticket now on Ticket Source: www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-osmunds-school

OSSIE'S ECO-CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Bring the whole family to our exciting Christmas Fayre on Friday 4th December, for another chance to see our school. The fayre is organised by our OCAG (Ossie's Climate Action Group) students and has an eco-theme. There will be stalls, food and exciting games. See our Facebook page for more details.



There is no parking on site. Please park considerably on the surrounding roads.

Barnes Way, Dorchester, DT1 2DZ T: 01305 262897

www.stosmunds.wessex.ac

 /stosmundsschool



FAMILY HELP ADVICE SESSIONS



Current Term 2026

Dorchester Locality
DorchesterFamily Hub

Family Help Advice Sessions

The opportunity for parents/carers to meet 1:1 with a member of our team to gain practical and friendly support, information and advice regarding children and young people aged 0-19.

Please feel free to drop in. However we advise that you book a time slot, which can be held face to face or over the phone.

Family Support Worker:

**From September
Thursdays 10am - 12pm**

**Dorchester Family Hub Room 1
in Dorchester Library**

For more details and to book a place, please email:
dorchesterfamilyhub@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

For more news, events and support, join us at
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/dorchesterlocality>



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

**ST GEORGE'S
CHURCH**



DRAGONS

SUNDAY SCHOOL. SHARING SCRIPTURE. SPARKING SOULS.

Age 5+ | 1030 Every Sunday (during term) | Church Hall

Games ♦ Crafts ♦ Songs ♦ Prayer

ST GEORGE'S
CHURCH

BARN DANCE

SAT 19TH Sept
6.30pm

HARVEST
2026



St George's Hall
Donations on the Door



Learn English

at Dorchester Library
and Learning Centre

We offer English lessons for
speakers of other languages
(ESOL) — available online and
across Dorset for FREE*

01202 123444

enquiries@salbcp.com

www.skillsandlearningace.com



 **SKILLS &
LEARNING**
Adult Community Education

• Check website for T&Cs.

ADVENTURE AT PORTLAND BILL



JOIN US FOR AN

ADVENTURE AT PORTLAND BILL!

COASTEERING & ROCK CLIMBING
WITH ADVENTURE 4 ALL

An exciting outdoor day of challenge, confidence and fun for young people!

OPEN TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE!

TRIP DETAILS



DATE:

Sunday 13th September



DROP-OFF:

9.15am at Portland Bill – Main Crown Estate Car Park, DT5 2JT



COLLECTION:

4.30pm at Portland Bill – Main Crown Estate Car Park, DT5 2JT



COST:

FREE!



Parents/carers will need to arrange transport to and from Portland Bill.

Please be aware that there is a charge for parking at Portland Bill car park, which parents/carers will need to pay.



TRY SOMETHING NEW!

WHAT TO BRING



Swimwear – ideally worn underneath clothes



A towel



Trainers or securely fitting water shoes – compulsory for coasteering (must not be slip-on shoes)



Comfortable clothing for rock climbing – tracksuit trousers or leggings recommended



Warm, dry clothes to change into afterwards



A drink and snacks



Sunscreen, if appropriate for the weather



Any medication they may require



Old shorts to wear over the wetsuit, if they have some

There are no changing facilities at Portland Bill, although public toilets are available. We recommend arriving with swimwear already on underneath clothing.



PARTICIPANT FORM & CONSENT

Adventure 4 All requires every young person to have a completed Participant Information Form before taking part.

Once your child has had a place confirmed on the trip, we will send a form home with them. This will need to be completed and returned to us before the trip.



WEATHER DEPENDENT

These outdoor activities are dependent on suitable weather and conditions. Adventure 4 All advises that on rare occasions an activity may need to be changed, postponed or cancelled if conditions make it unsafe to proceed.



SAFE, SUPERVISED & SUPPORTED

DYCC staff will be in attendance throughout the day to support the young people.

During coasteering and rock climbing, the group will be led and supervised by Adventure 4 All's experienced instructors.

A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO TRY SOMETHING NEW, CHALLENGE YOURSELF, BUILD CONFIDENCE AND HAVE AN ENJOYABLE DAY TOGETHER!



**QUESTIONS?
GET IN TOUCH!**



Sarah Davies – Youth Worker in Charge, DYCC



sarah.davies@dycc.org.uk

DYCC YOUTH CLUB



YOUTH CLUB

DYCC PROVIDES A SAFE INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT WHERE YOUNG PEOPLE CAN MEET WITH FRIENDS, TAKE PART IN FUN ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOP NEW SKILLS. TUCK SHOP IS AVAILABLE EVERY NIGHT.

 @dycc_dorchester



Sign up now!

www.thedycc.org

MONDAY 6PM - 8PM	YEAR 7	£2.50 ENTRY
TUESDAY 6PM - 8PM	YEAR 8	£2.50 ENTRY
WEDNESDAY 6PM - 8PM	POUNDBURY @ PIPS CAFE	£2.50 ENTRY
THURSDAY 6PM - 8PM	YEAR 5/6	£2.50 ENTRY
FRIDAY 6:30PM - 8:30PM	YEAR 9+	£2.50 ENTRY



DORCHESTER YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE, KINGS ROAD,
DORCHESTER DT1 1NJ

**FREE
SESSIONS**



RUGBY

TASTER 9.30am - 10.45 am **SESSIONS**

Dorchester Rugby Club
Sunday 13th September

Boys and Girls School Years 1-6
Bring a water bottle and boots (or trainers)



Dorchester Rugby club, Coburg Road, Dorchester, DT12HX
[HTTPS://DORCHESTERRFC.RFU.CLUB](https://dorchesterRFC.RFU.CLUB)

savills

DOMVS CHILDREN'S WRITING COMPETITION

Dear Parents,

Re: Story House: The DOMVS Children's Writing Competition

Our pupils have been invited to participate in **Story House: The DOMVS Children's Writing Competition**, an annual competition to recognise local writing talent.

As in previous years, the competition will be judged by **Lord Julian Fellowes**, local actor, novelist, film director, and screenwriter. The shortlist of winners, and their parents/guardians, will be invited to an **awards ceremony** at Dorchester in **January 2027** (exact date TBC), hosted by Polly Greenway from DOMVS, Lord Fellowes and his wife, Lady Emma Fellowes. At the event, there will be photo opportunities with Lord & Lady Fellowes.

The winner, runner-up and a highly commended entrant will each be awarded a certificate and book token, with the overall winner also receiving a trophy.

Guidelines:

- For authenticity, stories should be written by hand (in English), but digital submissions will be accepted from children who find writing difficult
- **The deadline is Friday 16th Oct 2026**
- **Stories should be submitted via email to storyhouse@domvs.co.uk**
- All stories should start with the following sentence provided by Lord Fellowes, ***'The sound was like nothing I had ever heard before'***, and will be judged on originality, imagination, spelling and grammar
- There will be three categories, and the child's year group will be based on their 2026/2027 school year:
 - Category 1 – Years 2 & 3 (up to 300 words)
 - Category 2 – Years 4 & 5 (approx. 400 words)
 - Category 3 – Years 6 & 7 (approx. 500 words)
- All entries must be clearly marked with the author's name, age, year group and school
- No more than one submission per pupil will be accepted
- Any accompanying illustrations must be by the author of the story (illustrations are not a necessity)
- Judges' decisions and prize allocation are final, and any form of plagiarism will result in disqualification
- Parents/guardians of the overall competition winner will not unreasonably withhold approval for the winner's photograph to be used in any press release and/or publicity material relating to the competition

This is an exciting opportunity for young minds to explore their imagination, sharpen their writing skills, and be recognised amongst the area's brightest talent.

Kind regards,

T: 01305 262897 www.stosmunds.wessex.ac

 [/stosmundsschool](https://www.facebook.com/stosmundsschool)

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