

Newsletter



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

Friday 18th September 2026

Dear Ossie's Families,

After all the excitement of Ofsted last week it has been back to business as usual for both staff and students this week. However, it seems nothing slows down at Ossie's as I am quickly finding out. I just wanted to introduce myself as the newest member of the senior leadership team and new SENCO of the school. Going from a small village school to one the size of this school has been an adjustment for me, but I have been impressed with the friendliness and politeness of all students and how engaged they have been in every aspect of school life. As the year progresses, I hope I will have the chance to meet and chat to you all and get to know the parents of St Osmund's.

For Year 5, this week, the children have continued to learn what it takes to be an Ossie, working hard on their new topics across the curriculum and learning our behaviours and routines, which involved their first fire alarm drill. I can safely say they all did brilliantly as we knew they would. They have also been involved in reading, spelling and maths assessments that will allow us to further support them over the coming year and next week they will complete Cognitive Ability tests (CATs) which will inform our teaching further.

Year 6 have continued to impress teachers as they enter this all important SATS year, especially in the core subjects but also in those wider curriculum areas. I have had the pleasure of coming into classes to find out about the children's learning. There has been some wonderful writing, drawing and experiments going on with children fully engaged.

For our Year 7s and 8s, it has been about getting back to the normalcy of school and setting examples for our younger students. They have not disappointed here either. Again, going into lessons and seeing these young people engaged in their learning but also happy to stop and talk to you about it and share stories in the lunch hall about their day, shows maturity, especially for Year 8 as they start their final year with us.

School clubs are in full swing with different sports happening both at lunchtime and afterschool, along with other more sedate pastimes and I want to give a shout out to the students all practising Alice and Wonderland. It has been a joy to hear them from my office this week. Projection is not going to be a problem when the show opens later in the school year.

So as the weather starts to turn and autumn creeps up on us, I wish you all a good weekend as you spend time as a family or stand on a touchline as I do every weekend and we will see you fresh and ready for another week.

Mr Copping

Assistant Head Teacher—SENDCo



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— Year 8 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)

SCHOOL STREET

Our School Street is to help keep our children safer on their arrival to and exit from school. It enables our Ossie's to disperse into smaller groups whilst walking home. Parents and carers, please work with us and remind our children that whilst the street is closed to the majority of our parents, there will be a few parents/carers, school transport and local residents that gain access past the barrier during the periods of school street closure. We must all be alert to these road-users. We would also like to remind parents/carers that our disabled spaces at the rear of the school are for those dropping-off or meeting students who have a school access pass.

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 & 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 – Y6 - Y8 – SSH – Music Room – see rehearsal schedule in newsletter KS2 Football – DK1 / 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	All clubs cancelled due to staff training
WEDNESDAY	Basketball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Basketball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre OCAG – KS3 -H MU – 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 – DK1 & GBI – Field Chess Club – CMI - Library
FRIDAY	Dodgeball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Dodgeball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 Korean Club – SCA – Room 10 Comic Club – KS2 – SPA – Textiles Room	Badminton – Year 8 – Sports Centre Girls Rugby – KS3 – DK1 - Field

YEAR 5 RETREAT DAY

Our Year 5 Retreat Day will take place on Friday 2nd October. The Retreat Day gives our new Year 5s 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 last week for students in Year 5 & 7 and for any students who have not had a photograph in Year 6 & 8. You can order through the

Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk

TEMPEST
PHOTOGRAPHY

If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555.

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

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.



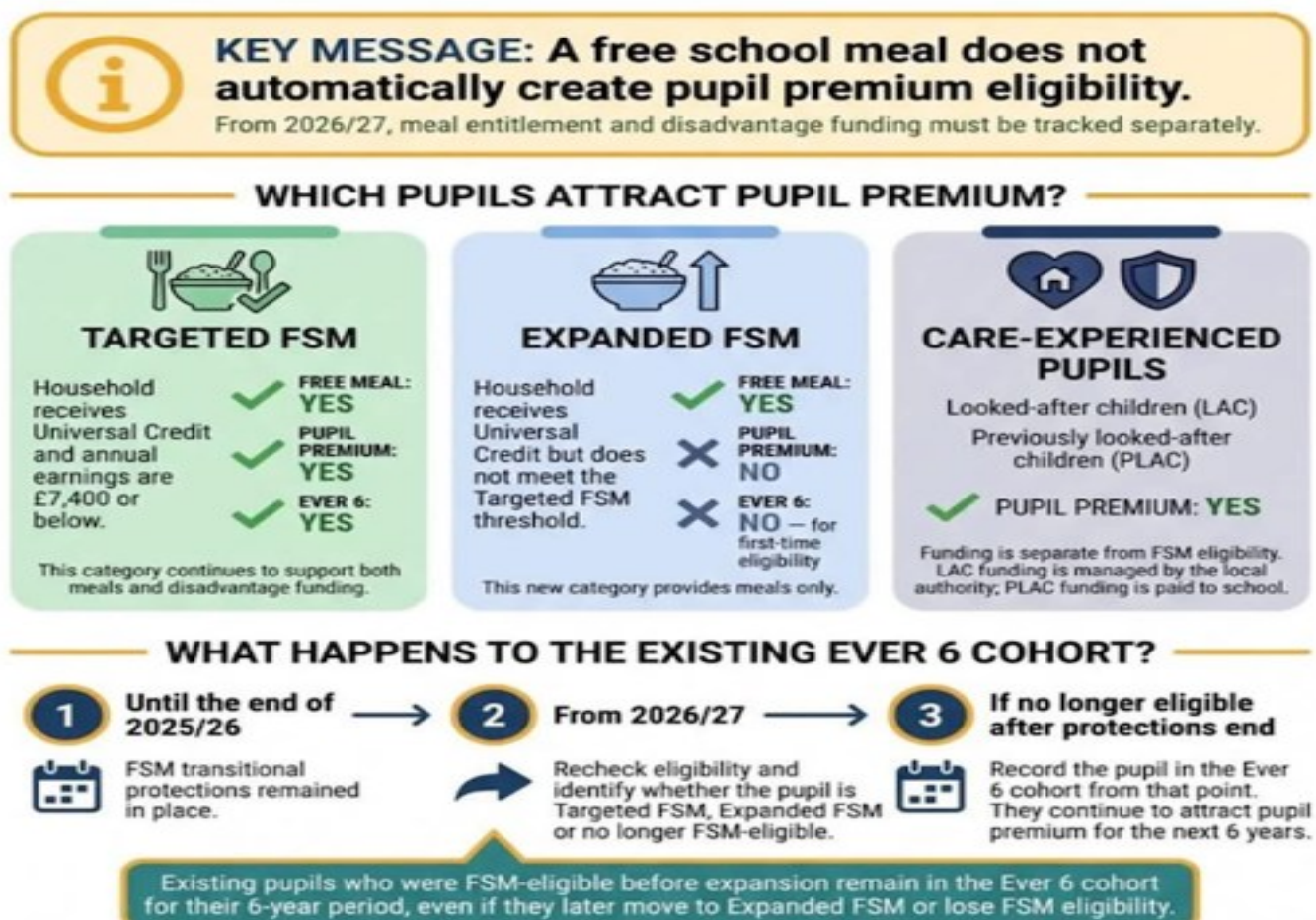
From this autumn, all children whose parent/carer receives any level of Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals, regardless of how much their household earns. This removes the current £7,400 annual income cap and means more children will be able to have free school meals.

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>



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



Deadline for nominations is Friday 25 September 2026, 5pm.

What do nominees and winners receive?

All nominees will receive a certificate to recognise their amazing efforts.

Out of the school staff nominated in England, one primary school and one secondary school winner will be selected by a panel of children and young people.

Each winner will receive a physical trophy and certificate – as well as the following prizes:

We are absolutely delighted to have the School Staff Award in England sponsored again this year by the wonderful **Radnor FAM**. Thanks to their generous support, each winner will receive:

- A year's supply of Radnor products;
- A £100 voucher for a retailer of your choice.

We will announce the winners on Monday 16 November to get Anti-Bullying Week started with a bang! All prizes shall be arranged after this.

How to nominate:

Pupils can nominate their teacher or a member of school staff for Anti-Bullying Week 2026's School Staff Award.

To do so, pupils have to ask another member of staff to help them fill out the form below (forms need to be filled out by a member of school staff so that we can contact the school for certificates and/or prizes). Parents/carers can also help to complete this at home.

**Click on this link to
complete your nomination**



<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/school-staff-award-england>

When you complete this nomination form, the following information will help when asked:

- Select 'Secondary School',
- Provide the school's name and address: St. Osmund's CE Middle School, Barnes Way, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 2DZ
- Use 'Gareth Biddle' for the nominated senior person,
- Use head@stosmunds.wessex.ac for the email address,
- Only use your child's first name and first initial of their last name,
- Your child will need to know their school email address.

REHEARSAL PLAN FOR WONDERLAND—AUTUMN 1

Rehearsal plan for "Wonderland" – Autumn 1

Please find below the plan for this half term's rehearsals.

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



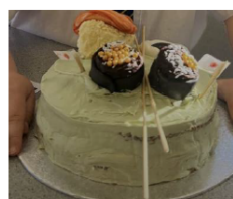
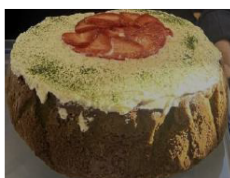
Global Languages Bake-Off Competition 2026

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.



LOST PROPERTY



We currently have a surplus of lost property. Whilst this is routinely sorted and re-distributed back to your child, we ask that you help us by ensuring all of your child's school uniform items are fully named so that it can be returned to them quickly.

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



DORCHESTER YOUNG MUSICIAN FESTIVAL



For all young musicians in Dorchester
and the surrounding area

SATURDAY
7TH NOVEMBER
2026



THOMAS HARDYE SCHOOL
9:30AM - 5PM



music.wessex.ac





Hello Cello!

Beginner cello classes for newbie musical explorers

Saturdays 9am - 9.40am

Adventures
begin **October**
3rd 2026! Sign up
today

Group learning from as little as **£5** per week
with optional additional one to one **"lessons with the pros"**
Get ready to make those floorboards rumble!

For further information on the class, instrument loan and bursaries, please visit: www.youthmusicwessex.org/hello-cello.html or use the QR code opposite

Youth Music Wessex CIC - Company No. 13626829 - Registered:
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Registered Address: Lytchett Minster School, Post Green Road,
Lytchett Minster, Poole, BH16 6JD



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SATURDAY
MORNINGS
9am - 9.30am



group
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Class supported by Robbie's family and friends,
YMWes and Dorset Music Services

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.



Are you a budding musical explorer? Then look no further – because your journey begins on Saturday mornings in **Wessex!**

Come and join your fellow explorers, at the

Wessex Recorders

– an accessible gateway to the world of music-making for beginners and beyond.

Group classes, one-to-one lessons and the

Wessex Recorder Ensemble

– for players of grades 2-5.



<https://www.youthmusicwessex.org/wessex-recorders.html>

Youth Music Wessex CIC – Company No. 13626829 – Registered: England & Wales
Youth Music Wessex, Gainsford Theatre Building, Lytchett Minster School, Post Green
Road, Poole, BH16 6JD

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Book online
as required

SHORT, PROJECT-BASED, MINI COURSES - THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

INSTANT FUN IN A YOUTH MUSIC WESSEX ADVENTURE
FOR MUSICAL NOVICES AND MUMS AND DADS ALIKE

Course* participation fee £15 per child.
(*3 week courses). Age range 5 years and above.
To register follow the QR code or visit
www.youthmusicwessex.org/fundamental-instrumental



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Youth Music Wessex - where musical adventures begin

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Address: Lytchett Minster School, Post Green Road, Lytchett Minster,
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WESSEX

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TO OUR NEW TEAM



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MAKE NEW
FRIENDS



DEVELOP
SKILLS



FUN, FRIENDLY
& SUPPORTIVE
ENVIRONMENT

BE PART OF
THE HAWKS!

INTERESTED? PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL



CALL OR MESSAGE
STEVE MAY:
07876 133268



EMAIL:
steve.mncfc@
btinternet.com

