Newsletter

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

Friday 9th October

Dear Ossie's Families,

As we move into October, we are taking time to recognise and celebrate Black History Month- this year's theme being 'Honouring Our Communities'.

This theme is particularly meaningful at St Osmund's because it reflects our school values of Hope, Community, Respect and Love. It provides an opportunity not only to celebrate the achievements and contributions of Black people throughout history, but also to explore the many different stories, experiences and communities that have helped shape the country that we know and love today.

In Year 8 History this term, we have been studying aspects of Black history, with a particular focus on uncovering stories that have often been overlooked or underrepresented in traditional historical narratives. As Ossie's historians, our pupils have been developing the core skills of historical enquiry: asking thoughtful questions, investigating and analysing evidence, considering different interpretations and reaching informed judgements.

At St Osmund's, our intention is for all pupils to leave the classroom with a broad and accurate understanding of Britain's past. Sometimes that means looking at stories that have not always appeared in history textbooks. Doing so does not change history; it helps us understand it more fully. By studying these stories alongside others, pupils develop a broader understanding of the history that we all share.

Throughout this unit, pupils are exploring the work of historians who have helped bring previously overlooked stories into wider historical understanding. We are using the work of David Olusoga, Mary Beard and Miranda Kaufmann to encourage pupils to think critically about how history is constructed, whose stories are remembered and whose stories may have been forgotten and why.

Being a historian means being curious. We do not simply accept the first version of a story we encounter. We are detectives, we ask questions, we challenge assumptions. What is the evidence? How reliable is it? Whose perspective are we hearing? What might be missing? Can we be confident in the conclusions we reach? Curiosity, critical thinking and intellectual confidence are qualities that we seek to nurture in all our pupils.

These are not just important historical skills but are also essential life skills. In a world where young people are surrounded by vast amounts of information, developing the ability to think critically, weigh evidence carefully and consider different viewpoints is more important than ever. History provides a powerful opportunity to practise these skills in a thoughtful and structured way.

At the heart of our learning has been the understanding that Black history is British history. It is not a separate story that sits alongside the history of Britain; it is woven into it. The same is true when we explore the histories and experiences of people from South Asian, Middle Eastern and other communities whose stories have also helped to shape Britain. The people, families and communities we have been learning about were part of Britain's past, just as the communities we live alongside today are part of its present and future.

This is why these stories matter. Every person's story has value and the experiences of different communities have helped to shape the society we share. If we hear only some voices, we see only part of the picture. By

exploring a wider range of experiences and examining evidence carefully, we gain a richer and more complete understanding of our nation's history.

Black History Month is a time for celebration. We want our pupils to recognise and celebrate the achievements, resilience, creativity and contributions of Black individuals and communities, both in the past and today. As we celebrate Black History Month, we see it not simply as a moment in the school calendar, but as part of our ongoing commitment to helping young people understand the many people and communities who have shaped Britain. By learning about these stories together, we gain a deeper understanding of Britain's past and of the communities that continue to shape it today. In doing so, we also strengthen the sense of community that lies at the heart of our school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us create our school community where every voice matters, every story is valued and every person is treated with respect, dignity and love.

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



Ms E Stone

Year 8 Lead

KS3 History Lead

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 14th October – Year 6 Height & Weight Measurements

Wednesday 14th October— Year 8 Ski Trip Parents Information Evening—5pm

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

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



Tuesday 20th October – School Disco

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

Monday 16th November Odd Socks Day

Thursday 19th November—Just The Two Of Us

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 pickleball, gardening club & concert band).

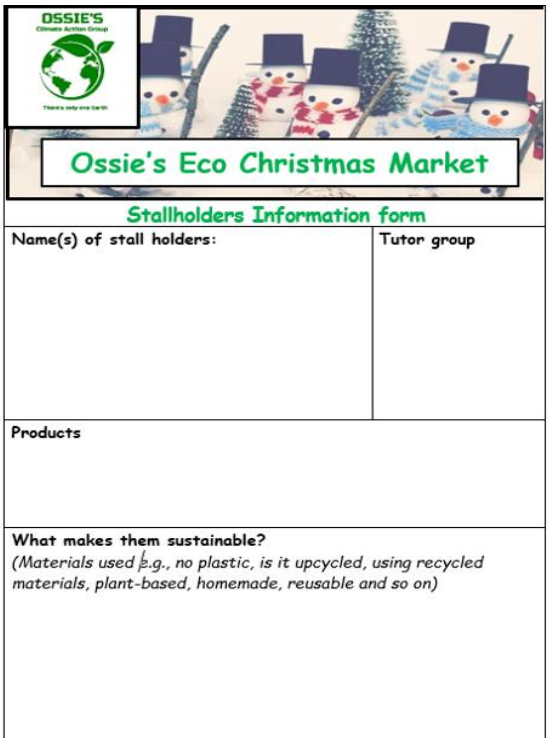
	LUNCH	AFTER SCHOOL 3.15pm - 4.15pm
MONDAY	Zoneball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Zoneball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 Reading Club – SCA – Room 10 OCAG – KS3 – HMU / EWA – Room 20	Wonderland Rehearsals – Y6 - Y8 – SSH – Music Room – see rehearsal schedule in newsletter KS2 Football – DKI / SDA / JFO—Field 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 – Y6 – Y8 – SSH – Music Room - see rehearsal schedule in newsletter Football – KS3 – DKI – Field Netball – KS2 – WDA – Top Courts Art & Textiles – KS3 – SPA/SST – Art & Textiles Room
WEDSNESDAY	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 - CANCELLED Basketball – KS3 – DRO & WDA – CANCELLED DUE TO FIXTURE Rock & Pop Club – All Years – SSH – Music Room - CANCELLED Gardening Club – All Years – Outside room 3 - (sign up with Miss Pike first before attending) Rugby – KS3 – DKI & 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 – DKI - Field Dungeons & Dragons Club – Year 8 – EST - Library

POPPY APPEAL

We continue to raise vital funds for the poppy appeal. Paper poppies and other merchandise is available in the office at break and lunchtime. Cash only.

OSSIE'S ECO CHRISTMAS MARKET





OSSIE'S HERITAGE

It is time for us to update and replenish our wall showing the cultural mix within Ossie's. This visible representation of our school shows how culturally diverse we are, and it significantly helps in giving our Ossie's a sense of belonging in our school. We are proudly English and also seek to know and celebrate the additional countries that are special in our stories.

If your child was born in England, and both of your child's parents were born in England, then there is no need for you to complete this form. Ossie's Heritage Form 2026 – Fill out form

If your child was born in a country outside of England or if either/both parent/s were born outside of England, then complete this form if you wish to share the country or countries that your child has an immediate heritage connection with. If your child was born outside of England, and each parent was also born in a different country, this means that anyone completing the form can only tick a maximum of 3 countries.

HARVEST – 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 and support 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

SPORTS ROUND UP

Wow! What a fantastic week of sport at St Osmund's!

On Monday, Ossie's welcomed Budmouth for a Year 7 football match. Both teams delivered impressive performances, and the game was played in a fantastic spirit.

On Wednesday, Ossie's headed to the Milton Abbey 6-a-side tournament. Despite the cold, wet and windy conditions, both the boys' and girls' teams played some outstanding football and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. However, it was the girls who stole the show, winning the competition in style with an incredible 16 goals scored and none conceded!

Finally, St Osmund's hosted DMS for the first Year 8 rugby match of the year. Both teams put in excellent performances, and the match was a brilliant example of the values of rugby, with TREADS demonstrated throughout.

Congratulations to all of the boys for representing the school and to Arlo for being the Player of the Match for his excellent low-tackling in defence, in addition to his scoring for the team in attack.





A huge congratulations to everyone who took part, and a big thank you for the fantastic attitudes, teamwork and sportsmanship shown throughout the week. You have all done St Osmund's proud!





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 lmacnair@stosmunds.wessex.ac if you are unsure. 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 5th October	All songs and dances	Full Cast
Tuesday 6th October	Scene 8	All Alices, White Rabbit, All Playing Cards, King, Queen, Mad Hatter, Dormouse, Head Cook, Mum, Dad
Monday 12th October	Scene 4 Mad Hatter's Tea Party (dance)	Alice 4, Cooks, Cheshire Cat, Caterpillar, Duchess Alice 5, Mad Hatter, Dormouse, March Hare, All Y6 and Y7 Chorus
Tuesday 13th October	Scene 5 Falling (movement)	Alice 5, Cheshire Cat, Mad Hatter, March Hare, Dormouse Alice 1, White Rabbit
Monday 19th October	Mad Hatter's Tea Party (dance) All Alone in Wonderland (movement)	Alice 5, Mad Hatter, Dormouse, March Hare, All Y6 and Y7 Chorus Alice 3
Tuesday 20th October	Oh, my ears and whiskers! (movement)	Alice 2, White Rabbit

JUST THE TWO OF US!

Tickets are now available to purchase via Arbor!





SILENT DISCO

Tickets are now available to purchase on Arbor. If you are in receipt of targeted or Ever 6 pupil premium, there will be no cost but a ticket still needs to be purchased via Arbor.



OCAG CLOTHES SWAP



OCAG CLOTHES SWAP





OUR FIRST SWAP OF THE YEAR!

NO MORE THAN 5 ITEMS PER PERSON

BRING IN TROUSERS, SHORTS, T-SHIRTS, JEANS, JUMPERS, SKIRTS AND DRESSES.

ITEMS MUST BE WASHED AND IN GOOD CONDITION.

WE DON'T WANT SWIMMING COSTUMES, PYJAMAS OR LEGGINGS.

BRING CLOTHES IN TO MS MUGRIDGE IN ROOM 20

CLOTHES AGED 10 TO 16

KS2 CLOTHES SWAP
MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER AND TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

KS3 CLOTHES SWAP
WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER AND THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

ALL YEAR GROUPS CLOTHES SWAP
FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER



LET'S SHARE, CARE AND GIVE CLOTHES A NEW HOME!

OSSIES OPEN DAYS

Open Days

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

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.



Ofsted Good Provider

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

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

www.stosmunds.wessex.ac /stosmundsschool

WHEN THE ADULTS CHANGE PARTNER SCHOOL

Fun for all the family

FOREST PRAISE

Songs, Stories & lots of Messy Crafts!



Tea, Coffee, Bacon Rolls & Vegan Sausages



FREE

10.30-12.00

Last Saturday of the month

St George's Church Hall

United Church Dorchester | St George's Church

FUNDRAISING AUCTION – FORMER STUDENT, JACOB!



LOCAL FOOD LINKS COMPETITION

DESIGN A Christmas Jumper



In honour of this years **'Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day'** we need your child's help – by drawing or painting the design for a Christmas Jumper.

The only things we ask are: the image represents the theme of Christmas, it is A4 in size, please do not use a jumper template as we need the image to be printed onto a jumper and the work of art should be sent to us via email – other than that your child can be as creative as they want!

It's totally free to enter and your child could **win their design printed on a jumper ready for Christmas Jumper day.**

What to do:

1. Draw your Christmas design on an A4 piece of plain paper. Please **DO NOT** use or draw a jumper template.







2. Please include your child's name, age, class, year and school on your email.

3. Email your design to **comps@localfoodlinks.org. uk by Monday 16th November.**

We will accept the following file types: PDF or JPG.

LOCAL FOOD LINKS

OCTOBER HALF TERM



LEWESTON HAF CAMPS

PRIMARY SPORTS & EDUCATION

LEWESTON HAF CAMPS

HOLIDAY FUN FOR AGES 5-13




FOOTBALL


LASER TAG


GLOW SPORTS


ARTS & CRAFTS


INFLATABLE ASSAULT COURSE


SWIMMING

LOTS MORE ACTIVITIES INCLUDING...

- Nerf Wars
- Dodgeball
- Capture the Flag
- Street Dance
- Tennis
- Cricket
- Archery
- Gardening/Horse Grooming
- Baking & Pizza Making
- Board Games
- Silent Disco
- Film & Popcorn
- Team Games
- Arts & Crafts
- ...and much more!

HAF DAY
9:00am – 1:00pm

FREE

FUN, ACTIVE & INCLUSIVE SESSIONS FULLY FUNDED FOR ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

STANDARD DAY
9:00am – 3:30pm

£10

A FULL DAY OF ACTION-PACKED ACTIVITIES

EXTENDED DAY
8:00am – 5:30pm

£15

MORE TIME
MORE ACTIVITIES
MORE FUN!

CHILDREN WITH FREE SCHOOLS MEALS COME FOR FREE



BOOK NOW

https://www.primary-sports.co.uk/events/2026/10/26/leweston-ultimate-activity-haf-camps-october-half-term-2026

LEWESTON SCHOOL
Sherborne, Dorset
DT9 6EN

07903 347412

ed.doble@primary-sports.co.uk

PLAY | LEARN | MAKE FRIENDS | BE ACTIVE

Rotary YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION

Rotary YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION



INFORMATION PACK

2026-27

ROTARYGBI.ORG

Rotary Great Britain & Ireland

Rotary YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION



INFORMATION PACK

2026-27

ROTARYGBI.ORG

Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland

Rotary YOUNG WRITER COMPETITION



INFORMATION PACK

2026-27

ROTARYGBI.ORG

Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland

FUNDAMENTAL INSTRUMENTAL

ATTENTION ALL BUDDING MUSICAL EXPLORERS

GET READY... YOUR MUSICAL JOURNEY IS ABOUT TO BEGIN IN WESSEX.

COME AND JOIN YOUR NEW TEAM OF EXPLORERS FOR

FUNDAMENTAL INSTRUMENTAL

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



Youth Music Wessex - where musical adventures begin
For further information on Youth Music Wessex activities please visit
www.youthmusicwessex.org
Company no. 13626829 Registered: England & Wales
Address: Lytchett Minster School, Post Green Road, Lytchett Minster, Poole, Dorset. BH16 6JD

YOUTH MUSIC WESSEX CIC