

School News

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been very busy in school this term as we continue to work with a range of improvements. Many of you have downloaded our Parent App which facilitates much more timely communication with home; please ensure that you have followed the link sent to your personal email account once you have downloaded SIMS Parent App from the App Store. The school office can help, should you require it. Partnership with you at home and working together is very important to us.

Could we state again, please, that moderation of your child's social media and messaging is required - we spend a lot of time in school dealing with things that happen out of school time.

We have been working on using our gifts and talents well and putting others first in our decisions. Students have been very engaged with selfless thinking. As we gallop towards Easter, we would like to wish you all a happy family time.

Saira Sawtell
Headteacher

School Production

Rehearsals are in full swing for our school production which will be held at The Thomas Hardy school on 15th and 16th July.

We have enjoyed a recording session at Weymouth college and are hoping to be mentored by the 6th formers at Budmouth College.



ST OSMUND'S PTA

Thank you to everybody who donated money last week for non-uniform and/or attended the Easter Bingo night. We raised over £800 for the school!

We are always looking for permanent members of our school PTA to help organise events and raise funds for the school. If you can help please contact the school office by emailing: office@stosmunds.dorset.sch.uk

Year 5 News

Our Egyptian day was a huge success; everybody looked amazing in their costumes. Thank you for supporting your children with their Egyptian artefacts. We had some wonderful items handed in.

Safewise Trips

Year 5 will be visiting Safewise in Weymouth. The children will be learning about safety in the home and community as well as how to keep their bodies safe and healthy.

Dates for each visit: 5Ws – Thursday 2nd May, 5Le – Thursday 9th May, 5Lm – Friday 10th May, 5Ma – Wednesday 1st May, 5Sh – Wednesday 8th May, 5Cm – Friday 3rd May

Year 6 News

SATS

Only a few weeks after the Easter holidays, all Year 6 children will sit their SATs tests. So that they are as well prepared as possible, we are sending out Easter holiday packs for maths, reading, punctuation and grammar revision. These practice questions encourage children to spend ten minutes a day on each subject, so that the aspects covered over the last few months are not forgotten.

The holidays are an important time for the children to rest, relax and spend time with their families. Therefore, the amount that they complete is for you and your child to decide. We are really pleased with the hard work that the year group has put in so far.

Year 7 & 8 News

We hope that pupils are looking forward to the forthcoming Scotland, Bude and France trips. Please return any outstanding medical forms, passports and EHICs as soon as possible.

Mrs Skinner will be holding an information evening for the France trip on Tuesday 30th April at 6pm.

SCHOOL YEAR 2020/21

Half-Term October 2020

We will be having a two-week half term in October 2020, which will be Monday 19th to Friday 30th. The majority of DASP schools will also be having this two week half term.

Please email any comments to the DASP office: daspoffice@manorpark.dorset.sch.uk by

A GUIDE TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS & PUPIL PREMIUM

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium is additional funding given to publicly funded schools to raise attainment and help the individual child by providing specific support. Parents of children who might be entitled are strongly encouraged to apply for Free School Meals/Pupil Premium funding because it enables schools to access additional funding which is used to provide support to improve access to learning. It is up to the school how the money is spent, but Ofsted check that we use it to help raise attainment of pupils from lower-income families. This provides a considerable amount of additional funding to St Osmund's school and can be used to really help children to achieve their potential as they move through their schooling.

Which pupils qualify for funding?

To be eligible you must be in receipt of one of the following benefits: Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, the guarantee element of Pension Credit, Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit), Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

Benefits of applying for free school meals

Registering does not mean that your child has to take up the free school meals if they don't want to. Additional benefits available for children in receipt of free school meals include funding for: any curricular day trip, DT/ART contributions, ingredients for food technology, SATs revision books, calculators and £30 (per key stage) towards school uniform.

From September 2019 any pupil in receipt of free school meals will also be eligible for financial support of £200 in relation to any residential trip or activities week costs. This support can be used at any point during your child's time at St Osmund's. It can be used as a lump sum or smaller amounts per trip. This can be used at your discretion, please contact the school office for more details.

How do I apply?

Please go to <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> to apply.

Dates for your Diary

- Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April—**Easter Holidays**
- Tuesday 23rd April - **Back to school**
- 29th April—**ADDITIONAL INSET DAY**
- Tuesday 30th April—**6pm Parent Information Evening for Year 8 France Trip**
- Monday 6th May—**Bank Holiday**
- Monday 13th May —Friday 17th May —**Year 6 SATs week**
- Monday 20th to Friday 24th May —**Activities Week**
- Monday 27th to Friday 31st May —**Half Term**

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

The governing body have been working hard, in light of our recent Ofsted inspection, to improve and be more effective.

The restructuring of the Governing committees is high on the agenda and has already begun, this is in line with the new Ofsted framework being introduced in September. There have been some departures and two new parent governor appointments to date.

Governors are spending more time in school, meeting with staff, attending assemblies and linking up with specific departments to challenge and support. Governors are also attending more group meetings with parents such as the SEND and post Ofsted meetings.

Some of the governors attended a governing conference which included some fantastic workshops around improving the governing body as well as presenting the opportunity to speak to governors from other schools and share ideas.

If you wish to raise anything with the governors, please make contact via the school office.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Dorset Schoolwear will be taking over the ordering and selling of St Osmund's school uniform. You can order uniform over the telephone, online or by visiting their shop in Weymouth. Orders can be delivered to the school, free of charge, within five working days. Tel: 01305 760804 <https://dorsetschoolwear.co.uk/>

NEW-TO-YOU UNIFORM SHOP

The PTA have set up a 'new-to-you' school uniform shop in the sports centre. It will be held on the first Thursday of every month, term-time only, between 3.15pm and 4.15pm (you will not be able to enter the building before 3.15pm). They will be selling clean, second-hand jumpers, trousers/skirts and PE kit, at bargain prices. If you can help run this shop or you have any uniform that you can donate, please contact the school office.

LOST PROPERTY

All lost property will now be kept at the sports centre. No lost property will be held at the office. Parents will only be able to access the lost property after 3.15pm.

Please clearly name all uniform so that lost items can be returned to their owners.