

So far in 2015/16

Education Ossett Community Trust (EOCT) is made up of ten schools in Ossett. We work together in order to provide additional opportunities for the children of Ossett.

It has been a busy few months since September, EOCT has continued to provide opportunities for students and staff, building on our close working relationships in the town.

Students' Voice Conference

Year 11 students from Ossett Academy organised and facilitated the Students' Voice Conference in March.

The theme of the conference was Diversity in Learning. The conference was attended by 40 students from EOCT schools who listened to presentations and took part in workshops and activities.

We were very grateful to our main conference sponsor – Alicia Mai Jewellers and our other sponsors RTC Travel, Spedding Goldthorpe and Building Ossett Better.



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The Book Awards



Students in our school book clubs are getting very excited as we get closer to the Book Awards event in June.

The Riveting Reads Award shortlisting event took place in January where 43 books were whittled down to just 5

by the students. Students from school book clubs are now reading their way through the 5 shortlisted titles and will then vote on their favourite. The winner will be announced at the Book Awards event at Highfield School in June which will be attended by some of the authors themselves, so autograph books at the ready!

The shortlisting event for the picture book awards will take place in April at Dimple Well Infants. Representatives from Key Stage 1 from all EOCT schools will attend this fun event and will vote on their favourite picture book.



Music Activities

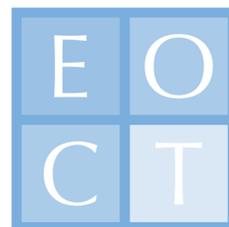
Our music co-ordinators continue to work together to produce high quality music experiences and events in the town.

In December students from EOCT schools sang carols in the town centre. This event saw us raise £128 for Wakefield Hospice. Thank you all who joined us on that cold December day.



In March all primary school choirs participated in a concert at Trinity Church. This was a wonderful event with all songs being based around the theme of peace.

We are beginning to plan for our next musical events and activities which will include the EOCT celebration event at Ossett Town Hall in July and an exciting video project which we are working on with schools in Wakefield and Dewsbury. We were successful in receiving funding from the Safer Communities Fund for this project.



The School Exchange Project

An exciting new project and experience for our Year 2 students.

At the 2015 Students' Voice Conference some attendees suggested that it would be good if students could write to students in other EOCT schools. The EOCT headteachers also thought this would be a good idea and the School Exchange and Penpal Project was born.

Since January 2016 Year 2 students have been exchanging letters with their penpals in other EOCT schools. In March the first school exchange took place with 50% of year 2 students visiting their EOCT penpal. In April the second exchange will take place.

Whilst spending a whole day with their penpal, students are looking at ways in which their penpal's school is different to their own and taking ideas for change or improvement back to their own school. Feedback from both staff and students has been very positive about the experience.

Partnership working

EOCT's relationship with Ossett Rotary has developed this year. Ossett Academy students again attended the Rotary Technology Challenge and the won the foundation level tournament.

The Rotary Club is funding places for Ossett Students on their Youth Development Under Sail programme in the summer.

At the end of the school year all EOCT year 2 students will be presented with a dictionary by Ossett Rotary. Also Ossett Academy will host and provide entertainment at the Rotary Musical Evening, this will take place on 9th June.

Next year we hope that more Ossett students will participate in Rotary activities such as development of an Interact club and involvement in Young Chef and Young Musician competitions.

We continue to work closely with Building Ossett Better CIC; they supported the Students' Voice Conference through help, guidance and sponsorship, and we will be working together with Ossett Academy to develop a community volunteering programme.



EOCT's organisation members

The Big Build

Now in it's 5th year the Big Build Project is going from strength to strength.

Working with graduate engineers from Jacobs Engineering over 300 students are participating in engineering lessons.

Students will also be participating in stadium visits as this year the theme of the project is 2016 Olympics. 90 students will take part in the Big Build day at Ossett Academy in July.

Photos from 2015 Big Build



Staff training

Over 70 members of staff attended training on various topics in February. Feedback was very positive and suggestions were made for further training that EOCT staff would like to undertake. School staff have also been attending subject meetings throughout the year in order to share good practice across all EOCT schools.

Get in touch...

If you have any comments or would like more information on our activities and events you can contact the EOCT Co-ordinator Sarah Haigh:

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