



'Learning and Growing Together'

November 2024 Newsletter



It has been another busy month, There have been many visits taking place- the Year 1 Pupils met Mary Anning and took part in fossil hunts at Wollaton Park and Year 3 Pupils visited Cadburys World.

Children have participated in Sporting Events at QEG's at were successful in Cross Country, and the football tournaments. Thank you to the parents who joined us to help on those days.

Parents Evenings have been a good way for staff to share the successes this term and the progress your children have made since starting in September.

The Friends of the School held their first meeting a few weeks ago and have lots of events planned throughout the year. Anna Blundell is Chair of this, Ruth Fenton is Secretary and Victoria Bettany is Treasurer. The team would welcome as many volunteers as possible. Volunteers help events to be successful! All proceeds come back into school to support us in purchasing resources.

The School Day

Doors will open at 8.45 am Children will be able to come into school at 8.45am.

All doors and Playground gates will close at 8.55am. Registers will be taken between 8.55 and 9am. If your child comes in after 8.55 am they need to be taken to Miss Simons in the school Office. Learning will begin at 9am. The end of the day is 3.15pm

We would advise that due to congestion on the playground and the sheer number of pupils we have that you remain considerate and patient around the school gates. If you have a child in Key Stage 2 you may continue with the arrangement

of meeting near the church as this also gives your child independence when leaving school. Children in year 5 and 6 are able to walk home on their own (or walk to a specific meeting point) if this is going to happen we will need confirmation and an MS Teams form will be sent out at the beginning of the academic year in relation to this

We would suggest that when picking up your child you pick up your youngest child first.

Staff will not be able to answer the doors after this time due to the fact they will be taking the register. We have an Open Door Policy, if you have any queries or would like to speak to your child's class teacher then there is more time at the end of the day; alternatively you are able to make an appointment with your child's class teacher, or Mrs Wood, to discuss anything confidentially.

Staffing:

Any positions available are advertised on the Derbyshire County website Sylvia Hainsworth who has been the catering assistant at St Oswald's is retiring after 30 years. We wish her well as she enjoys retirement and is able to spend more time with her family.

Contacting Staff: Staff will respond to emails between 8am and 5pm. Please allow 24 hours for an email response. If you wish to contact a member of staff or arrange an appointment please contact the school office who will arrange with the class teacher for a convenient time to meet.

Uniform:

Uniform is available to purchase in school. Please ensure you label everything!!!! Our expectation is that you wear the full school uniform- no black skirts, shorts or trousers. Boots are not to be worn to school.



PE Kits- Our expectation is that the school PE Kit is worn to school- No colourful leggings, football shorts or other sports gear. If pupils do not come in the correct kit we will provide spares and ask them to change.

We do have a range of pre-loved clothes which we can provide for families if you require.

Please do not allow your child to wear jewellery to school. They will be asked to remove jewellery and place it in an envelope for safe keeping. If a child has their ears pierced and they are in KS2 studs can be worn, if they are in KS1 or EYFS no piercings are permitted.

Safeguarding

The Designated Safeguarding Lead at St Oswald's is Mrs Wood; Mrs Mansfield is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. If you have any concerns that a child is suffering or at risk then please call Starting Point on 01629 533190/01629 535353

Online Safety

Our Curriculum

Our curriculum, is underpinned by the school vision- 'Learning and Growing Together' 'We nurture the tiny seeds to grow into the mighty tree as Jesus describes in the Kingdom of Heaven' This is the aim of all of the staff at St Oswald's ensuring that we nurture all talents and develop the children's skills and knowledge through the curriculum- enriching and providing a wide range of experiences.

Travelling to school



The beginning and end of the school days are extremely busy on Mayfield Road outside school. Please think very carefully where you park. It is safer to arrive 5 minutes early and park away from the school gates and walk the last 5 minutes to



school. You will have noticed that there are signs outside school restricting parking and this will be monitored by the Traffic Warden. Our motto is '**Park Away Stride Today!**' Where possible please walk, scoot or cycle to school. During September you are able to park in the carparks in Ashbourne for free after 2pm with your Derbyshire dales parking disc displayed. If you have an Ashbourne residents badge you are able to park in the Leisure centre car park from 2pm without paying which is just a short 5 minute walk then to school.

Attendance

The register is taken between 8.55-9am. If your child comes to school after this time they will be marked as late.

Attendance at school is crucial- every day your child misses equates to lost learning. If your child is unwell then please contact the school office on the first day of absence. The phones will be manned from 8am. Please email the school office if your child is unwell not the class teacher; info@st-oswalds.derbyshire.sch.uk

If Miss Simons or Mrs Waring have not heard from you regarding your child's absence by 9.00am then they will call you. The Attendance policy is on the school website. Holidays are **not** permitted during term time. There is a monthly reward system for attendance.

This link is very good if you are not sure about what to do if your child is unwell; [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

We have had a huge number of pupils receive 100% attendance awards in September and October as well as children receiving star stamps for their books when they have had between 98% and 10% for the half term. Well done everyone!

Parent Pay:

Please check your child's Parent Pay account and ensure any outstanding bills are paid.

Fruit in school



Fruit in school is free for Key Stage 1 children. We ask that children try the fruit and have a single piece if they are not keen. In Key Stage 2 the children can bring in a healthy snack to school- fresh fruit/vegetables, etc. (No nuts due to allergies and no pepperoni sticks, no items wrapped in wrappers, etc.) We are a health promoting school and we have pupils who have allergies therefore we need to be mindful of what we bring into school

Keeping Healthy

Keep an eye on the medicine Policy and the list of Ailments and what to do which is detailed on the school website.

Governors

Our *Governors* are a dedicated group of people who support in the leadership of the school. More information can be found about our *Governing Body* on the school website.

Reading and Homework

We ask that you read with your child daily- 10 minutes a day is crucial in developing your child's love of reading and stamina. Reading books are changed twice a week and your child will be heard read up to three times a week individually and during *Guided Group* reading sessions. Star stamps are given and the new *Reading Reward* system is working very well.

Homework will be sent out weekly. The amount of homework increases as your child moves through the school. All homework will be linked to the learning your child will be doing in class. Our *Homework policy* is on our website if you would like to find out more.

Helping in school

If you would be interested in helping in school; listening to children read helping in lessons and supporting the school in any way then please drop us an email or pop and see *Mrs Wood* or one of the class teachers. If you are interested in helping or you have a relative that is interested in helping then we would love to have you be part of the team.

Spare Clothes- If like me you have had a bit of a sort out during the holidays we would really love to have any spare girls or boys pants or socks that your child has grown out of- please pass on any spares to your child's class teacher. Many thanks!

Our Golden Rules and Classroom Values

We have extremely high expectations of behaviour within the school. We expect every child to follow the School Values in respect of behaviour.

Classroom Values

We treat each other with dignity.

- We listen and respect each other's points of view and opinions.
- We treat each other as we wish to be treated with compassion.
- We work together to make decisions.
- We celebrate our uniqueness.
- We persevere in all we do listening to instructions.
- We stand up for what is right.

Values Corner

This term we will be revisiting our school's core values and then thinking about Compassion what that means as we approach Remembrance and Advent- how can we show compassion in our lives. How can we help others in need- The Shoe Box Appeal is one way of doing this, providing gifts for those who are in need and showing compassion to those who may not experience a good Christmas. We have also been learning about The British Values in school- Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Tolerance and Respect.



The school Council is now up and running and there are 6 committees all with Chairs and Vice Chairs. Further information about this will be coming out to families soon so watch this space!

Dates for the term ahead;

Half term	
Tuesday 5 th November	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 8 th November	Year 3 Pupils Autin Puppet workshop
Sunday 10 th November	Remembrance Parade
Monday 11 th November	Remembrance Service in Church
Tuesday 12 th November	Anti Bullying Week

	<p>Odd Socks Day</p>  <p>TAG Rugby event</p>
Friday 15 th November	Imperial war Museum Year 6 Visit
Tuesday 19 th November	Year 2 Visit St Oswald's Church TAG Rugby
Wednesday 20 th November	Year 4 Tatten Hall Trip
Tuesday 26 th November	Year 2 Visit St Oswald's Church Year 5& 6 Hockey QEG's
Monday 2 nd December	Advent Service at St Oswald's
Tuesday 3 rd December	Year 3 visit St Oswald's
Friday 6 th December	<p>Christmas Jumper day- Bring in a gift for the Tombola</p> 
Tuesday 10 th December	<p>Year 3 visit St Oswald's Church as part of the curriculum</p> <p>Year 5& 6 Basketball tournament QEG's</p>
Wednesday 11 th December	School Christmas Lunch
Thursday 12 th December	3.30pm Christmas Fair - Come and Join us for a sprinkle of Christmas Magic
Tuesday 17 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity
Wednesday 18 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity
Thursday 19 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity
Friday 20 th December	Carols in Church 9.15am

	Christmas party and Christmas Lunch
Last Day of the school Term	
Christmas Holiday Period	
Return to school on Monday 6 th January 2025 this is an INSET day.	
Children return to school on Tuesday 7 th January	