



ST OSWALD'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

8 SEPTEMBER 2017

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 1

The weekly newsletter aimed at keeping you up to date with life at
St Oswald's school.

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back to our new academic year 2017/2018.

Our doors opened to the children on Wednesday 6 September and it was great to see all our children returning to school after the holiday in their full school uniforms ready to start in their new classrooms with their new teachers. They have all made a very impressive start to the new year.

Our new reception children have joined the school part-time and will be joining us full-time from Monday 18 September. They are settling in extremely well to their new school and are quickly learning all their new routines. They have been enjoying time in their classroom and getting to know their new teacher and friends.

Father Dave will open our school year with a Mass next Tuesday morning 12/9/17 at 9:30am. Parents, families and parishioners are welcome to attend. Reception won't be joining us for this Mass but they will have their own special Mass once they are settled into school.

As always this academic year we will again be continuing to promote and maintain the highest standards in all school areas and we ask all within our school community to join us in this aim. Please help us to achieve and maintain the highest standards at our school by:

Supporting your child's learning through working with staff; attending parents' evenings and meetings and supporting your child with their class work and homework so they succeed and achieve their best.

Ensuring your child proudly wears the correct uniform in school which includes; no jewellery (except plain stud ear-rings), smart hair styles - no extreme cuts, excessive hair gel or hair decorations, no make up or nail varnish, and appropriate school shoes.

Promoting excellent timekeeping and attendance, keeping term time absence for sickness only to an absolute minimum and not taking holidays during term time.

Insisting your child displays excellent behaviour, manners, conduct and shows respect and kindness towards others at all times.

Encouraging your child to take personal responsibility for their work, learning and actions.

It is our mission at St Oswald's to promote excellence in education so that children will develop a love of learning, a thirst for knowledge, an understanding and appreciation of their faith, religion and the world they live in and have happy times with us. Together I believe we can achieve our mission.

This year we have seen improvement in our attainment across the school from EYFS, Y1 (Phonics) to KS1 and KS2. We are delighted with the improvements we have made on our 2016 results and happy now to be above national in all areas. We will be working this year to improve on our 2017 results and raise attainment even higher in 2018.

I very much looking forward to working in partnership with you throughout this academic year to raise standards further and provide the very best for the children. Please remember if you have any problems or concerns regarding your child, their education or school policies, please contact us. We are always ready to listen and will always do the best we can to help.

Thanking you in advance for your support. I look forward to working with you all to make it a great academic year for St Oswald's school.

Miss H T Lennon

Head Teacher



Reminders

SCHOOL DINNERS

The cost of a school dinner for Junior children is currently £2.20 per meal or £11 per week, however, please be aware that from 2nd October 2017 this will be increasing to £2.30 per meal (£11.50 per week.)

Please send dinner money in your child's book bag in an envelope on a Monday morning.

Infant children continue to receive free school meals.

A copy of the new menu will be posted on our school website next week. Parents may find it useful to look at these with their children at the start of the week or each evening.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thanks to all parents for turning the children out so smartly in full school uniform for the start of this new academic year.

Can parents ensure that all uniform is labelled to help prevent loss of goods or confusion after PE lessons!

In school we constantly tell children to play nicely and not to play rough games. If parents could reinforce this message to their children it may prevent uniform being ripped and damaged during playtimes at school.

Children only need in school their official school book bag, lunch box and PE bag.

Due to the increase in the amount of text books and homework for upper junior children, official school backpacks are available for Year 5 and Year 6 pupils only. These are available from the school office priced £8.50.

There is no need for children to bring their own stationery or pencil cases into school as these are supplied.

At St Oswald's we wear our uniform for equality and as a sign that we are proud to be part of St Oswald's School.

HAIRSTYLES

All longer than shoulder length hair (girls and boys) should be neatly tied up for school. As a guide if hair is long enough to be tied up then please do so. Use hair gel lightly and no extreme hair decoration please.

PE

All children have PE lessons twice a week as part of the national curriculum. Your child's PE bag should be in school all week. If you wish to wash your child's kit, the bag can be taken home on a Friday evening and returned to school on Monday morning. If your child has pierced ears, the earrings must be removed by the child before the PE lesson starts. If your child is unable to remove their own earrings parents must take on the responsibility and remove the earrings the morning of the PE lessons. If earrings can't be removed plasters provided by parents can be placed over the ears.

A copy of the school uniform policy can be found on our school website and outside the school office.

www.stoswaldscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk

Holiday Dates



Attached to this newsletter are the Holiday Dates for the new academic year 2017/18 and also for the following year 2018/19.

We try to give parents as much advance notice as possible for school holidays so that parents can organise diaries and work commitments to fall in with the school holidays.

Holidays in term time throughout the authority will generally not be authorised.

We would like to remind you to note again the change to the Easter holiday pattern this academic year. This year the Easter weekend **falls outside** the Spring break (1 week, 1 day).

Next week we will be sending out to all parents with the newsletter diary dates for this academic year. These annual diary dates are subject to change so please do check diary updates on the weekly newsletters throughout the year.

After-school Clubs

After-school clubs will commence week beginning Monday 18 September for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

Letters will be sent home next week so please look out for these if your child wishes to sign up to any of these extra-curricular activities.



Early Doors Reading Club

Will continue for children this term Monday to Friday 8am–8.45am at the school.

The cost of each session is £2.00 per session and can be paid daily or weekly. Please indicate with your payment which days your child will be attending.

Children are dropped off at the school office and the club takes place in the school library.

PROMPT START



Thanks to all parents who have made a great effort this week to ensure that their children are in school on time enabling the school to get off to a prompt start in the mornings. Please remember registration starts at 8.55am and all children should be settled in class for this time. Any children who arrive after this time will be recorded late.

BOOK TRUST

Today all Reception children have a special book present from the Book Trust to take home to enjoy. The Government encourage and support reading at home through the Book Trust.



Blessing of the Animals

You and your pet (or a photo of your pet) are invited to a special Blessing of Animals Service at St Benedict's Church on Sunday 17th September 2017 at 2.00pm.

The service will be followed by refreshments.

All are welcome.

Celebration Assembly

This year Celebration Star Assembly will continue to take place on Thursday afternoons at 3:00pm. As always parents, family and friends are most welcome to attend this weekly celebration which will be starting next week Thursday 14 September.

Our new Reception children will join us for assembly later in the term once they are settled in to school life. Keep your eye on the newsletter for the date of their first assembly.



Nut free

Health & Safety

Please be aware when choosing your child's snack and lunches that we have children in school who have nut allergies.

Please go nut free!



Thursday 5 October

This academic year we will be investing heavily in new reading books for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. To help raise standards in reading it is important that children have quality reading books for use at home and in school. All fundraising throughout this academic year will be used to purchase new books.

CONDOVER MEETING YR 6 Parents

Wednesday 13 September

3:30–4:00pm

Yr 6 classroom with Mrs Foy



DOG FREE AND SMOKE FREE SCHOOL—Health & Safety

Dogs

Although we all love our four legged friends we ask parents not to bring dogs onto the school grounds. We ask that dogs are left safely in cars or outside the school gates. Thank You.

Smoking

St Oswald's School is a smoke free school we ask that all adults refrain from smoking on the school premises.