



Friday 6th September 2024

Dear Families,

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a lovely summer. We have been absolutely delighted with how the children, as always, have settled so quickly and happily back into school life and are ready for another busy year at St Oswald's.

I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to our new Reception class children and their families.

Curriculum Evenings

Please find below the dates and times for the Curriculum Evenings that will be taking place in school over the next few weeks when teachers will give an insight into what your child will be learning and experiencing in their new class. Like last year, we have staggered the start times and dates to give the opportunity for those families who have children in different year groups to attend more than one if they wish.

Mrs Wills will be delivering a Reading workshop for Reception class parents and Miss Gray will be giving an overview of the KS2 SATs tests during the Year 6 curriculum meeting.

If you are unable to attend the sessions, the PowerPoint Presentations will be made available on the school website.

Applying for Free School Meals

I would strongly urge anyone who feels that they may be eligible to claim for Free School Meals to apply via the Newcastle City Council website or by following the link [HERE](#).

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 already receive free school meals. However, even if your children are in those year groups and you are eligible to claim, it would be of great benefit to the school as we receive funding for each pupil for the remainder of their time in school, not just for any period of eligibility. It is a straightforward and confidential process.

Reminder of PE days

Children will have PE on the following days this half term:

Reception: Monday & Thursday (no PE kit required for the first half term)

Year 1: Monday & Thursday

Year 2: Tuesday & Thursday

Year 3: Tuesday & Friday

Year 4: Monday & Wednesday

Year 5: Monday & Friday

Year 6: Wednesday & Thursday

The wearing of earrings during PE Lessons

The Association for Physical Education (afPE) strongly recommends removing all personal belongings at the beginning of every PE lesson to establish a safe working environment and to ensure children are able to participate actively without unnecessarily endangering themselves or those working around them. This applies to all ear and body piercings.

On PE days, children are encouraged to leave earrings at home. Children who do wear earrings to school on PE days will be asked to remove them by themselves as staff are unable to help with this. If earrings are unable to be removed, teachers may need to make adaptations in terms of how the child takes part in the practical aspects of the lesson (even if they have been taped at home). This may mean they have different tasks assigned to them during the practical elements of the lesson. Many thanks in advance for your support with this.

PTO



Change to the end of the school day

A reminder, that in order to comply with the government's expectation that schools should be open to all children for a minimum of 32.5 hours per week, the pick-up time for children in Reception and KS1 has changed slightly. The doors will open as normal at 8:35am and the children will be collected at 3:05pm instead of 3pm. Arrangements for KS2 remain unchanged (8:30am doors open; 3pm pick-up).

Term Dates 2024-25

For families that are new to the school, a copy of the term dates has been attached to the email this newsletter was sent out on.

Please note that school will close for the October half term at the end of the day on Thursday 24th October. School will therefore be closed to both children and staff on Friday 25th October. An extra day's holiday had to be allocated in order for school to be open for 190 days across the academic year.

Nut Allergies

As we begin the start of a new year, I would like to remind families that we have some children in school with **severe** nut allergies. Can I please ask that no snacks or packed lunches containing nuts are brought into school. Thank you.

Dates for Diaries

Please find below some key dates for the Autumn Term:

September

Monday 23rd September – Reception Reading meeting for parents 4:30pm – 5:00pm

Monday 23rd September – Year 1 Curriculum Evening 5:00pm – 5:30pm

Monday 23rd September – Year 2 Curriculum Evening 5:30pm – 6:00pm

Friday 27th September – Year 2 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9:00am

October

Tuesday 1st October – Year 5 Curriculum Evening 5:00pm – 5:30pm

Tuesday 1st October – Year 6 Curriculum Evening 5:30pm – 6:00pm

Wednesday 2nd October – PTA AGM in school 8:45am. All are welcome (Details to follow)

Wednesday 2nd October – Year 3 Curriculum Evening 5:00pm – 5:30pm

Wednesday 2nd October – Year 4 Curriculum Evening 5:30pm – 6:00pm

Friday 4th October – Year 6 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9:00am

Monday 7th – Friday 11th October – Book Week in school

Wednesday 9th October – Book Fair arrives in school

Friday 11th October – Book Character Day (Children can dress up as a book character or wear non-uniform)

Monday 14th October – NSPCC Workshops in Year 2, Year 5 & Year 6 (Details to follow)

PTO



Tuesday 22nd October – Parents’ Consultation Evening in school 3:20pm – 6:00pm

Thursday 24th October – Reception & Year 5 ‘Special Friends’ Liturgy for parents from both classes in school 9:00am

Thursday 24th October – Parents’ Consultation Evening in school 3:20pm – 6:00pm

Thursday 24th October – Break up for half term holidays

November

Monday 4th November – School re-opens for children

Friday 8th November – Year 4 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9:00am

Tuesday 12th November – Reception & Year 6 Height and Weights (Details to follow)

Thursday 14th November – Year 4 Hawkhirst Residential meeting for parents 5pm (Online)

Friday 15th November – Year 3 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9:00am

Thursday 21st November – Year 5 Keswick Residential meeting for parents 5pm (Online)

Thursday 21st November – Year 6 Borrowdale meeting for parents 5:45pm (Online)

Tuesday 26th November – Annual Nasal Flu Vaccination for all classes in school (Details to follow)

Friday 29th November - Year 1 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9:00am

December

Friday 6th December – Christmas Fair in school 3pm-5pm (TBC)

Tuesday 10th December – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity in school 9:00am

Wednesday 11th December – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity in school 9:00am

Thursday 12th December – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 12th December - Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity in school 9:00am

Friday 13th December - Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity in school 9:00am

Monday 16th December – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Party in school

Tuesday 17th December – KS2 Christmas Party in school

Wednesday 18th December – Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Production at Sacred Heart church 7pm **TBC**

Friday 20th December – Christmas Carols/Songs on the KS2 yard (Reception – Year 6) 2:30pm

Friday 20th December – Break up for the Christmas holidays

PTO for other important dates:



Monday 6th January 2025 – Staff Training Day (School Closed to children)

Monday 12th - Thursday 15th May 2025 – Year 6 SATs week (please do not book holidays during this week)

Friday 23rd May 2025 - Staff Training Day (School Closed to children)

Wednesday 18th - Friday 20th June 2025 – Year 4 residential to Hawkhirst

Monday 23rd - Wednesday 25th June 2025 – Year 6 residential to Borrowdale

Wednesday 25th - Friday 27th June 2025 – Year 5 residential to Keswick

With my very best wishes,



P Marley

