



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Families,

### **Welcome Back!**

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. It has been a real pleasure to see how quickly and happily the children have settled back into school life. As always, they've returned full of energy and ready for another exciting and busy year at St Oswald's.

A particularly warm welcome goes to our new Reception children and their families – we're so pleased to have you join our school.

### **Curriculum Evenings**

As you will see in the Dates for Diaries at the end of this newsletter, over the next few weeks, we will be holding our Curriculum Evenings in school. These sessions provide a valuable opportunity for teachers to share what your child will be learning and experiencing in their new class this year.

As we did last year, we've staggered the dates and start times to allow families with children in different year groups to attend multiple sessions, if they wish. Mrs Wills will be leading a Reading Workshop for Reception parents and Miss Gray will provide an overview of the KS2 SATs during the Year 6 Curriculum Evening.

If you're unable to attend, all PowerPoint presentations will be uploaded to the school website for you to access at your convenience shortly after the meetings.

### **Free School Meals – Please check your eligibility**

I would strongly encourage any families who believe they may be eligible for Free School Meals to apply via the Newcastle City Council website, or by clicking the link [HERE](#).

While all children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 automatically receive free school meals, it's still important to apply if you're eligible. Doing so provides the school with additional funding (known as Pupil Premium), which supports your child's education throughout their time at St Oswald's, not just while you qualify.

The application process is simple, confidential, and can make a real difference to both your child and the wider school community.

### **School Day Timings Reminder**

Please note the start and finish times for each year group:

- **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2: 8:35am – 3:05pm**

- **Years 3, 4, 5 and 6: 8:30am – 3:00pm**

Arriving on time helps children begin their day in a calm, positive and confident manner, ready to make the most of their learning.

### **Term Dates 2025-26**

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.

### **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.

**PTO**



### **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 & Friday

**Year 2:** Thursday & Friday

**Year 3:** Tuesday & Wednesday

**Year 4:** Tuesday & Thursday

**Year 5:** Monday & Wednesday

**Year 6:** Monday & Friday

### **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.

### **Class Emails**

A reminder that each year group has a dedicated class email address that parents can use to contact their child's class teacher for general queries or information. However, for important or urgent matters, please contact the school office directly to ensure a timely response.

Pupil absences must not be reported via class email addresses. Absences should be reported to the school office either by phone or email as they are regularly monitored throughout the school day.

[office@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk](mailto:office@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk)

[reception@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk](mailto:reception@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk)

[year1@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk](mailto:year1@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk)

[year2@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk](mailto:year2@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk)

[year3@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk](mailto:year3@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk)

[year4@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk](mailto:year4@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk)

[year5@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk](mailto:year5@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk)

[year6@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk](mailto:year6@stoswaldsnewcastle.co.uk)

### **Information for parents**

With an increasing number of children and young people regularly feeling overwhelmed, it has never been more important to support them in managing stress - especially as they return to school. To help with this, I've attached a helpful guide that offers practical tips for parents and carers. It includes advice on recognising early signs of stress, promoting healthy sleep routines, and encouraging small, everyday actions that can help children feel more in control. I hope you find it useful.

**PTO**



### **Bikes and Scooters on School Grounds**

For the safety of everyone on site, can I ask that both children and parents dismount from bikes and scooters when entering the school grounds at drop-off and pick-up times. This helps to prevent accidents and ensures a safe environment for all members of our school community. Thank you.

### **Dates for Diaries**

Please find below some key dates for the Autumn Term:

#### **September**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 4 First Holy Communion meeting for parents at Sacred Heart Parish Hall 7pm

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** – Reception Reading meeting for parents 4pm – 4:30pm

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** – Year 1 Curriculum Evening 4:30pm – 5pm

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** – Year 2 Curriculum Evening 5pm – 5:30pm

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September** – Sacred Heart High School Year 6 Open Evening

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September** – St Mary's High School Year 6 Open Evening

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 2 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9am

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 5 Curriculum Evening 4:30pm – 5pm

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 6 Curriculum & SATs information Evening 5pm – 5:30pm

#### **October**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October** – Year 3 Curriculum Evening 4:30pm – 5pm

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October** – Year 4 Curriculum Evening 5pm – 5:30pm

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October** – Book Fair in school (Details to follow)

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** – Book Character Day (Children can dress up as a book character or wear non-uniform)

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** – Year 6 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9am

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October** – Year 6 visit to the Newcastle Eagles for 'STEMFEST'

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents' Consultation Evening in school 3:20pm – 6:00pm

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October** – Newcastle PE Service leading Team Games sessions for Year 5 & Year 6

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents' Consultation Evening in school 3:20pm – 6:00pm

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October** – Reception & Year 5 'Special Friends' Liturgy for parents from both classes in school 9am

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October** – Break up for half term holidays

**PTO**



## **November**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – School re-opens for children

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November** – Annual Nasal Flu Vaccination for all classes in school (Details to follow)

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 3 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9am

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November** – Children in Need

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 4 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9am

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November** - Year 1 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9am

## **December**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** – Year 5 Carols at St Mary's Cathedral with other Newcastle Catholic Primary Schools

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December** – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity in school 9am

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December** – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity in school 9am

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December** – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity in school 9am

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity in school 9am

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December** – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Party in school

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – KS2 Christmas Party in school

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Lunch day

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Production at Sacred Heart church 7pm **(To be confirmed)**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Carols/Songs on the KS2 yard (Reception – Year 6) 2:30pm

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Break up for the Christmas holidays

## **Other important dates:**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026** – Staff Training Day (School Closed to children)

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026** – Year 6 SATs week (Please do not book holidays during this week)

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026** - Staff Training Day (School Closed to children)

With my very best wishes,



P Marley