



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school for the start of another academic year – I hope you have all had a lovely summer. It has been an absolute pleasure to see 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. If you are unable to make the meetings, the PowerPoint Presentations will be available on the school website soon after the meetings.

### **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:** Monday & Friday

**Year 3:** Wednesday & Friday

**Year 4:** Wednesday & Thursday

**Year 5:** Thursday & Friday

**Year 6:** Monday & Tuesday

### **Change to Christmas Fair Arrangements**

This year, along with the PTA and the Parish, we have decided to change the way we run the Christmas Fair. Rather than holding it in the Parish Hall after Sunday morning Mass, we will be having it in school on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December between 3pm and 5pm.

We would like to maintain our link with Sacred Heart Parish at this time of the year so have decided to have a Christmas Choir Club in the second half of the Autumn term who will sing festive songs for Parishioners on the stage in the Parish Hall after Mass on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December instead.

Parishioners, of course, are still very welcome to join us for our Christmas Fair in school on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December.

**PTO**



## Nut Allergies

Just as a reminder, 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 in advance for your support with this.

## Dates for Diaries

As you know, we take great pride in the variety of exciting and enriching experiences we offer your children throughout the course of the year. Children go on external visits, workshops led by outside agencies are a regular fixture throughout the school, and every class has the opportunity to take part in sporting competitions or in-school sessions led by the Newcastle Sports Service. We aim to provide a variety of after school clubs for all age groups between now and the summer which we hope as many children as possible will participate in. Details of after school clubs and other dates which have not been confirmed yet will follow soon.

## September

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September** – ‘Being Safe around Dogs’ workshops for KS2

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September** – Reception Reading meeting for parents 4:30pm – 5:00pm

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 1 Curriculum Evening 5:00pm – 5:30pm

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 2 Curriculum Evening 5:30pm – 6:00pm

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 3 Curriculum Evening 5:00pm – 5:30pm

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 4 Curriculum Evening 5:30pm – 6:00pm

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September** – Year 2 Liturgy for parents in school 9:00am

## October

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** – Year 5 Curriculum Evening 5:00pm – 5:30pm

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** – Year 6 Curriculum Evening 5:30pm – 6:00pm

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October** – Year 6 Liturgy for parents in school 9:00am

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October** – Book Week in school

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October** - Book Character Day (Children can dress up as a book character or wear non-uniform)

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents’ Consultation Evening in school 3:15pm – 6:00pm

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents’ Consultation Evening in school 3:15pm – 6:00pm

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – Reception & Year 5 ‘Special Friends’ Liturgy for parents from both classes in school 9:00am

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – Break up for half term holidays

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October** – School re-opens for children

## November

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – Year 4 Liturgy for parents in school 9:00am

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 4 Hawkhurst Residential meeting for parents 5pm

**PTO**



**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 3 Liturgy for parents in school 9:00am

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November** – Nasal Flu immunisation for children in school (Reception – Year 6)

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November** – Year 5 Keswick Residential meeting for parents 5pm

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November** – Year 6 Borrowdale meeting for parents 5:45pm

### December

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** - Year 1 Liturgy for parents in school 9:00am

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** – St Oswald's Christmas Choir to perform festive songs in the parish hall after Mass

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 5 & Year 6 Team Games session led by the Newcastle Sports Service

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Fair in school 3pm-5pm

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity in school 9am

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity in school 9am

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity in school 9am

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 3 & Year 4 Nativity in school 9am

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Party in school

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – KS2 Christmas Party in school

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Production at Sacred Heart church 7pm **TBC**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – Christmas Carols/Songs on the KS2 yard (Reception – Year 6) 2:30pm

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – Break up for the Christmas holidays

### Other Important Dates:

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January** – Staff Training Day (School Closed to children)

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 6 SATs week (please do not book holidays during this week)

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May** - Staff Training Day (School Closed to children)

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 4 residential to Hawkhirst

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 4 First Holy Communion Celebration at Sacred Heart Church

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 5 residential to Keswick

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June** – Year 6 residential to Borrowdale

With my very best wishes,



P Marley