

20th December 2024

Dear Families,

I hope you are all well.

The season of Advent and the end of the Autumn term are always such a special (and busy!) time at school, and this year has certainly been no exception. We have all been incredibly proud of the children over the last few weeks as they prepared for and performed in their wonderful Nativity plays. They have given us the perfect start to the upcoming festivities and celebrations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the families and friends of the children at St Oswald's for contributing so much to the life of our school. Your support - whether attending performances, Celebrations of the Word, Christmas Fairs, carol singing, etc - during what we recognise is a very busy time, is greatly appreciated by everyone in school. Thank you!



Christmas Parties

The children from Reception to Year 6 got the chance to let their hair down this week during their Christmas parties. They got to dance to their favourite Christmas songs and have lots of fun with their friends.



PTO

Carol Singing

This half-term, Mrs Morris and Mrs Summersby have been leading an after-school Christmas Choir Club. The children have really enjoyed the sessions, and all their hard work culminated in fantastic performances at Sacred Heart Church and the Gosforth Shopping Centre. They helped spread a lot of Christmas cheer across our community. We also ended the term with our annual Christmas Carols on the yard, which is always such a special event that sets the tone for the exciting days ahead (and the rain just about stayed away!)



Term Dates for 2025-26

The term and holiday dates for 2025-26 have now been published and can be viewed on our school website by following the link [HERE](#). I have also attached a copy to the email I sent with the newsletter.

Reception Class Parents' Evening

As mentioned in my previous newsletter, instead of receiving an end-of-term Autumn report, parents of children in Reception class will be invited to sign up for an additional Parents' Evening. When we return in January, information will be sent out to arrange to meet with Mrs Wills on either Tuesday 14th January, or Monday 20th January.

PE Arrangements for next half term

After Christmas, all classes will continue to have PE on the same days as they currently do:

Reception: Monday & Thursday

Year 1: Monday & Thursday

Year 2: Tuesday & Friday

Year 3: Tuesday & Friday

Year 4: Monday & Wednesday

Year 5: Monday & Friday

Year 6: Wednesday & Thursday

PTO

Parent Governor Role

When we return after the Christmas break, we will be seeking volunteers who would like to be considered for the role of Parent Governor, as we currently have a vacancy.

No special qualifications are required; the most important thing is that you have a keen interest in the school and a willingness to invest time in playing an active role in the Governing Body's work.

Further information will be provided in the new year, so please take some time to consider if this is something you would be interested in. Thank you.

Dates for Diaries

Please find below some updated key dates for the Autumn term (recently added dates in red):

January

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

Tuesday 7th January 2025 – School re-opens for children.

Tuesday 14th January 2025 – Reception class Parents' Evening

Monday 20th January 2025 - Reception class Parents' Evening

Thursday 30th January 2025 – Year 4 trip to the Laing Art Gallery

Other dates for Diaries:

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)

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

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

Finally, on behalf of myself, staff and Governors, I would like to thank you, once again, for your support and kindness this term.

I hope that you and your families have a wonderful Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all when school re-opens on **Tuesday 7th January 2024!**

With my very best wishes,



P Marley