



'Learning and Growing Together'

December 2023 Newsletter



November past us by very quickly; We took part in the Remembrance parade and laid a wreath at the Memorial gates.



For Children in need we raised a whopping £221 coming dressed in our own clothes and dressing up our Teddy Bears.

You all raised an amazing amount for the DIY-a-thon- what an amazing idea- over £1600 to support improvements on our playground with new equipment to be installed.

Our Curriculum has been enriched through trips and activities; from learning more about Parliament in British Parliament Week, to odd Socks day for Anti Bullying Week and the Year 6 visit to The War Rooms, Westminster Abbey and Parliament Square in London



The School Day

Doors will open at 8.45 am Children will be able to come into school at 8.45am.

All doors and Playground gates will close at 8.55am. Registers will be taken between 8.55 and 9am. If your child comes in after 8.55 am they need to be taken to Miss Simons in the school Office. Learning will begin at 9am. The end of the day is 3.15pm

A polite reminder if you are using the ramp- please be considerate and thoughtful to those families who have pushchairs or prams. If you can use the steps rather than the ramp then that may ease congestion.

Staff will not be able to answer the doors after this time due to the fact they will be taking the register. We have an Open Door Policy, if you have any queries or would like to speak to your child's class teacher then there is more time at the end of the day; alternatively, you are able to make an appointment with your child's class teacher, or Mrs Wood, to discuss anything confidentially.

Notices

Vacancies; There is a Vacancy for The Clerk To Governors; This is a really good role that could work around family life. If you are interested please come and see Mrs Wood.

Contacting Staff; Staff will respond to emails between 8am and 5pm. Please allow 24 hours for an email response. If you wish to contact a member of staff or arrange an appointment, please contact the school office who will arrange with the class teacher for a convenient time to meet.

Uniform;

Uniform is available to purchase in school. Please ensure you label everything!!!! Our expectation is that you wear the full school uniform- no black skirts, shorts or trousers. Boots are not to be worn to school.

PE Kits- Our expectation is that the school PE Kit is worn to school- No **colourful leggings, football shorts or other sports gear**. If pupils do not come in the correct kit we will provide spares and ask them to change.

We do have a range of pre-loved clothes which we can provide for families if you require.



Please do not allow your child to wear jewellery to school. They will be asked to remove jewellery and place it in an envelope for safe keeping. If a child has their ears pierced and they are in KS2 studs can be worn, if they are in KS1 or EYFS no piercings are permitted.

Safeguarding

The Designated Safeguarding Lead at St Oswald's is Mrs Wood; Mrs Mansfield is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. If you have any concerns that a child is suffering or at risk then please call Starting Point on 01629 533190/01629 535353

Staying Safe in school links to staying safe within friendships. Understanding about relationships and healthy relationships. Mrs Peach has just reviewed the Anti bullying policy and has also created a Child Friendly Anti Bullying Policy which can be found on our website. Please click the link here to take you directly to the website page. [St Oswald's C of E Primary - Anti-Bullying- STOP \(juniperwebsites.co.uk\)](https://www.juniperwebsites.co.uk/st-oswalds-c-of-e-primary-anti-bullying-stop)

Online Safety

As Christmas is approaching many children and young people will be asking for new devices. It's important that parents think carefully about these devices and the parental features that are available. It's equally important parents think about what the device will be used for, e.g. an all-singing-all-dancing smartphone when it will only be used for messaging and the odd phone call, would a dumb phone be better?

Internet Matters has put together a couple of really good guides for parents:

How to choose the right phone for your child - [HERE](#) and Children's tech guide 2023 - which has guides on a huge range of tech from laptops to gaming consoles, smart TV's and much more. The guides can be found [HERE](#).

Please click on this link for information on how to set up parental controls on your broadband at home.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/networks-wifi/>

Remember parental controls (although important) are not the only solution as they only prevent access to certain types of web-sites. Conversations at home about responsible online behaviour are the best forms of safety.




Mobile Phones: Governors have requested that the school Playground becomes a Mobile free zone. Whilst you are on the school playground please refrain from using your Mobile phone.

Staying safe online is a Safeguarding Responsibility of us all. We have the mantra that 'It could happen here!' If we become aware that your child is playing on games which are not age appropriate or if they have apps on their phones which are not age appropriate, then we will be in contact with you to discuss the reasons the games have an age limitation.

We are using 'My Voice' which helps all of us as a community to keep our children safe. If you have any concerns or worries and would like

to report anything then you can do so by using this quirky code.



NEUROHUBS ARE WELCOMING LOCAL SPACES FOR NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 0 TO 25 AND THEIR PARENTS AND CARERS


Do you or your child struggle with:

- Being out and about
- Communication and interaction
- Education, work or play
- Sleeping
- Eating
- Toileting
- Crisis and behaviour
- Sensory processing

We may be able to help by providing:

- A listening ear
- Connections to services, peers and activities
- Training for parents and individuals
- Information and advice
- Helpful fact sheets and toolkits

Joined Up Care Derbyshire



Our safeguarding governors are Mrs S Revie and Mr P Lamb.

Supporting our Young Children

Neuro Hub- supporting Neuro diverse children.

If you would like any further information about these Hubs please contact Mrs Wood.

Travelling to school



The beginning and end of the school days are extremely busy on Mayfield Road outside school. Please think very carefully where you park. It is safer to arrive 5 minutes early and park away from the school gates and walk the last 5 minutes to school. You will have noticed that there are signs outside school restricting parking and this will be monitored by the Traffic Warden. Our motto is '**Park Away Stride Today!**' Where possible please walk, scoot or cycle to school. During December you are able to park in the car parks in Ashbourne for free after 2pm with your Derbyshire dales parking disc displayed.



Attendance

The register is taken between 8.55-9am. If your child comes to school after this time they will be marked as late.

Attendance at school is crucial- every day your child misses equates to lost learning. If your child is unwell then please contact the school office on the first day of absence. The phones will be manned from 8am. Please email the school office if your child is unwell not the class teacher; info@st-oswalds.derbyshire.sch.uk

If Miss Simons or Mrs Waring have not heard from you regarding your child's absence by 9.00am then they will call you. The Attendance policy is on the school website. Holidays are not permitted during term time. Attendance is rewarded with certificates on a monthly basis.

This link is very good if you are not sure about what to do if your child is unwell; [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Parent Pay:

Please check your child's ParentPay account and ensure any outstanding bills are paid. Miss Simons and Mrs Waring are looking at what outstanding payments are on ParentPay and will be in contact over the next few weeks.

Governors

Our Board of Governors support our school to strive to be the best it can be. They act as a critical friend to the head teacher and the senior leadership team. More information about the role of the Governors can be found on the school website. We would like to welcome two new Governors to our school team- Mr Thomas Kidsley who joins us as a Co-opted Governor and Mr Scott who joins us as a Parent Governor.

We have a **vacancy** for a Foundation Governor within the school. A Foundation Governor is someone within our school community who has a different or no faith background and are able to show a commitment to the Christian Ethos of the school and who can work closely with the school supporting and promoting the Character of the school.

If you think that this person could be you please come and see Mrs Wood- drop her an email info@st-oswalds.derbyshire.sch.uk

Reading and Homework

We ask that you read with your child daily- 10 minutes a day is crucial in developing your child's love of reading and stamina. Reading books are changed twice a week and your child will be heard read up to three times a week individually and during Guided Group reading sessions.

Homework will be sent out weekly. The amount of homework increases as your child moves through the school. All homework will be linked to the learning your child will be doing in class. Our Homework policy is on our website if you would like to find out more.

Helping in school

If you would be interested in helping in school; listening to children read helping in lessons and supporting the school in any way then please drop us an email or pop and see Mrs Wood or one of the class teachers. If you are interested in helping or you have a relative that is interested in helping then we would love to have you be part of the team.

Classroom Values

We treat each other with dignity.

- We listen and respect each other's points of view and opinions.
- We treat each other as we wish to be treated with compassion.
- We work together to make decisions.
- We celebrate our uniqueness.
- We persevere in all we do listening to instructions.
- We stand up for what is right.

Our Golden Rules and Classroom Values

We have extremely high expectations of behaviour within the school. We expect every child to follow the Golden Rules and our classroom values;

Values Corner

This term we will be revisiting our school's core values and then thinking about Generosity- what that means as we approach harvest- how can we be generous. We will be raising money for Children in need and have been thinking about British Parliament Week and Remembrance Day.



Dates for the term ahead;

Autumn term 2023

Friday 1 st December	Year 1 and EYFS visit the Pantomime
Tuesday 5 th December	Year 2 visit St Oswald's Church as part of the curriculum
Wednesday 6 th December	EYFS visit The Methodist Church
Friday 8 th December	Christmas Jumper day- Bring in a gift for the Tombola
Monday 11 th December	Year 5& 6 Basket ball tournament QEG's
Tuesday 12 th December	Year 3 visit St Oswald's Church as part of the curriculum EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity
Wednesday 13 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity
Thursday 14 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity
Monday 18 th December	Christmas Fair- 3.30pm All welcome to attend!
Tuesday 19 th December	Year 3 visit St Oswald's Church as part of the curriculum
Friday 22 nd December	Carols in Church 9.15am

	Christmas party and Christmas Lunch
Last Day of the school Term	
Christmas Holiday Period	
Return to school on Monday 8 th January 2024	

Spring Term 2024

8 th January	Return to school
29 th January (week Commencing)	Speak out Stay Safe Assemblies led by NSPCC
6 th February	Safer Internet Day
9 th February	Shrovetide Lunch Wear Shrovetide Clothes
12 th - 16 th February Half term	
19 th February	Return to school
Week commencing 19 th February	Parents Evenings this week
7 th March	World Book Day
8 th March	9am Mothers day Service in Church
11 th March	Year 3 & 4 Sports Hall Athletics
18 th March	Year 3 & 4 Hi5 Netball
27 th March	Last Day of the Term
28 th March	INSET Day School Closed to children
29 th March to 12 th April Easter Holiday	
Return to school 15 th April	

