



Hope, Honesty, Respect, Forgiveness, Perseverance, Friendship

March 2024 Newsletter

There have been a few changes and additions so far this term.



We have had a wonderful Timeline created for the corridor in the main building. This is where all the children line up for lunch. The timeline shows world History events, British History events and local History events. It has been lovely to hear the children sharing and talking about

their knowledge.



We also have a new 'Reading Shed' on the playground with benches close by for those who wish to sit and read or choose a book. This purchase has been supported by Friends of the School - so thank you very much for the support in the fundraising for this.



How do you know what your child is learning?



Thank you for joining us at parents' evenings. It was a superb turn out this term with a mixture of face to face and phone calls where it was more convenient for parents. We hope that you found them useful.

If you would like to find out more about what your child is learning then please look at the individual class pages which will highlight the work for the half term. You will be able to find out about the text/book that your child will be reading that half term. The class page will also support you if you want to further support your child at home. The best way to do this is by reading with your child everyday- this can be your child's reading book, a library book, books from home, magazines, instructions, etc. If you want to support your child with maths, TT Rock stars, Number bond work are all helpful.

Attendance:

Attendance at school is compulsory. Holidays should not be booked or taken during term time. Schools cannot authorise any holidays taken during term time. The school attendance Policy can be found on the attendance section of our school website. We know that there are a lot of illnesses at the moment from coughs, temperatures and sickness.

Uniform:

Please label every item of your child's uniform. If they lose an item of uniform and it is not found in the classroom or cloakroom, we have a lost property box near the office. Children can come and look in the box at playtime or lunch time, or parents can look before or after school.

PE Kits Key Stage 2; Please can you ensure that children come to school in the appropriate PE attire. We do not have School PE tracksuits to purchase as they are too expensive; it is much more reasonable to purchase black/navy leggings or tracksuit bottoms from Amazon/Asda/Tesco. Please also ensure that your child wears the school PE T- shirt and the School hoody.

Staying Safe is paramount and we have a duty of care to ensure that all our children stay safe both inside school and outside school. As we know Safeguarding is everybody's business.

A reminder that gates will remain closed on the playground until 8.30am.



Each month I will provide links to useful websites to support keeping your child safe online.

We would strongly urge you to ensure that you review your settings so that you know who your children are chatting to online as well as ensuring the suitability of the games they are playing.

For Parents - Assessing Smartphone Readiness

"Is my child old enough to have a phone?" It's a common, understandable question that I get from many parents, but it's also one that is very difficult to answer as there are so many factors involved. For younger children it's often peer pressure, with older children social isolation is very common.

The Institute for Digital Media and Child Development have put together some tip sheets for parents which I think are really useful. There are 3 parts:

- Assessing readiness.
- Preparing for healthy use.
- What now?

There is a useful link here [Smartphones: Assessing Readiness - Children and Screens](#)

Staying Healthy;

We have had several head lice outbreaks at school. If your child has head lice it is essential that you treat your child. You can purchase head lice shampoo from the Pound Shop as well as other chemists in the area. Please ensure you treat your child prior to them coming to school. Once they have been treated then they can return to school. If your child's hair is longer than shoulder length it should be tied up.

We have also had a very nasty sickness bug doing the rounds. Our policy is that if your child has been sick then they must be absent for 48 hours. By doing this we try then to stop the spread of the germ.

Measles;

Please see the school website for up to date information about measles. [St Oswald's C of E Primary - Illness and Actions \(juniperwebsites.co.uk\)](#)

Mental Health and Wellbeing.



Being positive helps our mental health. Having a positive and cheerful outlook on life is the best way to start the day. In EYFS Mrs Mansfield and her team have started an 'Affirmation Station'

This is a great way to affirm those positive feelings and begin to understand your own feelings and that having different feelings is ok!

Personnel:

Mrs Peach has secured a full-time position at St Oswald's following a successful interview process last month. Congratulations Mrs Peach, we look forward to continuing to work with you.

As you are aware from previous correspondence Miss Austin is expecting her second child. She will begin maternity leave on Monday 3rd June. For the duration of the Summer term Miss Birt will continue to work all day on a Thursday, Mrs Bunting will teach the children all day on the Friday and Mr Wood will be with them on a Wednesday afternoon for PE at the leisure centre. All these adults are known to the children and this will ensure continuity for the final half term.

Feedback from Parents

We try hard to act upon feedback that we receive as a school. We do value feedback. Some of the feedback this term has been in relation to 'Progress Reports.' We are currently reviewing what these may look like next year.

Information you receive; we try and keep emails down to a minimum and try to include as much information as possible on the monthly newsletters however some parents ask for more

information and some want less so it is hard to get a balance. Key Dates are always on the newsletters and then additional notices follow as reminders. Please do read all emails from school and if a response is required do this as soon as possible to reduce admin time spent chasing responses.

Governors;

Further information about our Governing Board can be found on the school website.

There are two vacancies for Foundation Governors at the school, if you are interested in finding out more about becoming a Governor at St Oswald's please come and see Mrs Wood. Being a Governor is an interesting role. It enables you to help shape the strategic direction of the school.



Contacting Staff;

If you wish to contact a member of staff please do so by contacting the School office and they will pass your email or phone message to your child's respective teacher.

Future dates;

All our dates and events can be found on the website. We have added onto the website the term dates for the rest of this academic year and for 2023-2024. [download.asp \(stoswaldschool.co.uk\)](https://stoswaldschool.co.uk/download.asp)

1 st March	9am-9.30am- SRE Drop in for Parents- learn more about how we teach Se and relationship Education come and see Miss Austin in an SRE drop in. See what resources we use to teach your children.
1 st march	Year 4 visit Birmingham Sealife Centre
7 th March	World Book day- Children to come to school wearing their Pyjamas- Curling up with a Book at Bedtime is the theme.
8 th March	Mothers Day service in Church 9.15am
15 th March	Year 5 at the Adams Family QEG's production
19 th March	1.30pm Year 4 Pupils Music Concert to parents

21 st March	World Poetry Day
27 th March	Easter Service 9.15am
	Last day at School for the children.
28 th March	INSET Day
Easter Holiday	
15 th April	Return to school
22 nd April	Year 5&6 Quad Kids Athletics
29 th April	Year 4 and Year 6 History Van
2 nd May	Class Photos
13 th - 16 th May	Key Stage 2 SAT's
13 th May	Year 3&4 Kwick Cricket
21 st May	Year 5 & 6 Primary Arts Day at QEG's
24 th May	Last day- Break Up for Half term
Half term	
3 rd June	Multiplication Test Week for Year 4
10 th June	Multiplication Test Week for Year 4
	Phonics Screening Test Week for Year 1
14 th June	Fathers day service
28 th June	EYFS and Key Stage 1 Sponsored Walk
2 nd July	Transition days- children with their new teachers
3 rd July	Transition days- children with their new teachers
4 th July	Transition days- children with their new teachers
5 th July	Key Stage 2 Sponsored walk
	Sleepover; Year 2 and Year 3 pupils
19 th July	Year 6 Leavers Performance 'Pantastic' performed to the parents

Term Dates for 2024-2025

Please note a change to the INSET days' recently planned in. We always try and ensure our INSET days are the same as QEG's this means that if they amend them we are subject to change.

Please note 6th January 2025 will now be an INSET day. Therefore, children will return to school on Tuesday 7th January. There will no longer be an INSET day on Thursday 6th February. Apologies if this has caused any inconvenience. We hope we have given ample notice.