



Hope, Honesty, Respect, Forgiveness, Perseverance, Friendship

## April 2024 Newsletter

There was a fantastic buzz around the Reading Shed when we opened it on 7<sup>th</sup> March.



We have our reading champions who will help look after this for us. Well done to the children who have volunteered.

Gardening Club started with drive and determination in March- the Gardening Club children have added spring plants to our pots at the front entrance. They have planted Rhubarb clumps and are preparing the ground for onions and herbs. Watch this space! This club happens on a Tuesday and is run by a wonderful volunteer.

We have some news we would like to share. Mr Daughtry is leaving his position as caretaker at St Oswald's in a few weeks' time. We shall be very sorry to see him leave as he has been a stalwart through challenging times of building work and conversions! He will be taking a new position as Grounds Keeper at Brailsford Golf Club. I am sure you will join with me in wishing Mr Daughtry all the best in his new role.

### **Mother's day Service**

The Mother's Day Service was a wonderful opportunity to say thank you to the Mother's and Grandmothers in our lives. It brought a smile to all of our faces.

### **We have listened....**

The Annual School Questionnaire highlighted that you would like to see more after school clubs. This needs to be balanced with staff workload and the current Wraparound care that we offer as a school.

The Forest School Club runs every Monday night for EYFS and Year 1 children. Primary Stars run a Sports Club on a Wednesday Evening and there is a new Performing Arts club starting this month- an email was sent out before the Easter Holidays.

A couple of comments from the questionnaire highlighted that you did not know what your child was learning. Each half term we send home the overview sharing what your child will be learning this term. This is also on the school Website under your child's class page.



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.

Feedback from the Annual Questionnaire can be found on the School Website. Thank you to all who responded.

<https://www.stoswaldsschool.co.uk/page/?title=Questionnaires&pid=83>

### **Curriculum Show case;**

The children's artistic skills have been developing really well over the past few months;

Here are some photos which can show case the children's skills.

Year 2 children were developing their drawing and sculpting skills using LS Lowry as the inspiration.



Year 6 Pupils have been developing their skills of drawing Roses which look 3 Dimensional.



Whilst Year 3 pupils have been finding out about Pop Art and recreating Andy Warhols print of Mount Vesuvius.



EYFS have been thinking about Spring and using the medium of chalk to draw a daffodil.



Year 1 Pupils have been using texture and line to recreate the painting of the Tiger in the Jungle.



### **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.

Let us hope that the Summer Term will enable us all to be outside and getting rid of all the illness.

### **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.

Top Tips from Child line for staying safe online.

There are lots of things you can do to keep yourself safe online.

- **Think before you post**  
Don't upload or share anything you wouldn't want your parents, carers, teachers or future employers seeing. Once you post something, you lose control of it, especially if someone else screenshots or shares it.
- **Don't share personal details**  
Keep things like your address, phone number, full name, school and date of birth private, and check what people can see in your privacy settings. Remember that people can use small clues like a school logo in a photo to find out a lot about you.
- **Watch out for phishing and scams**  
Phishing is when someone tries to trick you into giving them information, like your password. Someone might also try to trick you by saying they can make you famous or that they're from a talent agency. Never click links from emails or messages that ask you to log in or share your details, even if you think they might be genuine. If you're asked to log into a website, go to the app or site directly instead.
- **Think about who you're talking to**  
There are lots of ways that people try to trick you into trusting them online. Even if you like and trust someone you've met online, never share personal information with them like your address, full name, or where you go to school. [Find out more about grooming.](#)
- **Keep your device secure**  
Make sure that you're keeping your information and device secure.
- **Never give out your password**  
You should never give out your password or log-in information. Make sure you pick strong, easy to remember [passwords](#).
- **Cover your webcam**  
Some viruses will let someone access your webcam without you knowing, so make sure you cover your webcam whenever you're not using it.

## Staying Healthy;

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.

Mrs Wood is the Senior Lead for mental Health and wellbeing. She has been updating the web page for Mental Health Support and this has ideas for signposting if you feel you should need any help. Please look on our website page for any support or sign posting.

<https://www.stoswaldsschool.co.uk/page/?title=Mental+Health+and+Wellbeing&pid=58>

### **Governors;**

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

There is a vacancy 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](https://stoswaldsschool.co.uk/download.asp) ([stoswaldsschool.co.uk](https://stoswaldsschool.co.uk))

15 <sup>th</sup> April	Return to school
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Year 5&6 Quad Kids Athletics
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 and Year 6 History Van
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Class Photos
13 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Key Stage 2 SAT's
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 Pupils to Alton Towers
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3&4 Kwick Cricket
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 5 & 6 Primary Arts Day at QEG's
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day- Break Up for Half term
Half term	

3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Multiplication Test Week for Year 4
10 <sup>th</sup> June	Multiplication Test Week for Year 4 Phonics Screening Test Week for Year 1
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Father's day service
21 <sup>st</sup> June	Sports Day for Juniors am Sports day for EYFS and Infants pm
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve date; Sports Day Juniors am Reserve date; Sports Day Infant pm
28 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS and Key Stage 1 Sponsored Walk
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Transition days- children with their new teachers
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Transition days- children with their new teachers
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition days- children with their new teachers
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Key Stage 2 Sponsored walk Sleepover; Year 2 and Year 3 pupils
19 <sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 will now be an INSET day. Therefore, children will return to school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January. There will no longer be an INSET day on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February. Apologies if this has caused any inconvenience. We hope we have given ample notice.