

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wednesday 8th January 2025

Happy New Year to you all!

Thank you to all for your continuing support school as we strive for the best possible for all our children. On behalf of all the staff and Governors we wish all our families a peaceful and prosperous 2025.

SIAMS Inspection

Please see attached report following our inspection on Friday 4th December 2024.

Our School Vision

Through valuing all individuals as children of God we believe in promoting an inclusive school community, rooted in mutual respect, understanding and kindness towards others. As God taught us:

'Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their life.' (Proverbs 22:6)

Our school's vision is to nurture a resilient community where the love of learning thrives. We foster an environment where every member feels supported in order to flourish, be empowered to overcome challenges, embrace growth and contribute positively to God's world.

'Life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

Attendance

Last year we had a huge drive to improve attendance. This is a shared objective in schools across the country and in Sefton, particularly in our cluster of schools in the STRAND group (all local schools.) We will be sharing good practice among our schools and a shared message. **'You can't teach an empty chair.'**

St. Oswald's own message is **'You have 190 days to come to school and 175 to do everything else!'**

Be in To Win

Last year we introduced Be in to Win which replaced the 100% attendance reward for the year. We appreciate that there were unavoidable absences and that some children were missing out when it was genuinely unavoidable that they were absent.

To ensure that **all** pupils were able to achieve, we reduced the 100% awards to a full month. To this end if they are absent for a genuine reason they will still be able to work towards the next full month to receive the award and a small prize. We hope that this will also build resilience and drive as they will be encouraged that if they haven't made it for this month then it is ok, because they can try again for next month. We feel it is important for children to know that not everything goes well all the time and that is how things go at times, however, there is always a new opportunity and other chances for success.

Date	Attendance last year	Attendance current year	Improvement
Summer Term	91.5% (22/23)	92.6% (23/24)	+1.1%
Overall for the year 2023/24	91.6%	93.6%	+2%
Autumn Term	93.6% (23/24)	94.45% (24/25)	+0.85%

Date	Attendance 2023/24 (last year)	Attendance 2024/2025 (this year)	Improvement
September	142 pupils /228	151 pupils/228	+ 9 pupils = 3.94%
October	116 pupils / 228	132 pupils /228	+ 16 pupils = 7%

November	142 pupils /228	100 pupils /228	- 42 pupils = -18.43%
December	126 out of 228	138 pupils/226	+ 12 pupils = 5.8%

After School Clubs for January 2025

This information can also be found on our [website](#). All clubs will start W/C 13.01.25.

There are two types of clubs.

- Clubs that we have received funding for – run for 11 weeks and end w/c 31.03.25.*
- Clubs that are funded by school – run for 10 weeks and end w/c 24.03.25

If you would like to request a place for your child in the club, please click to send an [email](#).

Mentor Lunch 16 January 2025

Our mentor lunch takes place on 16.01.25. Envelopes are being sent home with children from Y3 – Y6 today. Please return your envelope with payment to school as soon as possible. Please note that there is no facility for packed lunch on this day.

Parent's and Friend's Association (PFA)

The raffle winners were as follows:

1 Luxury Hamper	Jacob Hobson	Reception
2 Aintree Footgolf for 5 people	Jacob Hobson	Reception
3 Bowlers Riding Lesson	Victoria Flender	Y2
4 Someone Wonderful Gift Set	Ella-Loti Ferris	Y4
5 Revelation Vanity Case	Theo Jones	Nursery
6 Hand Knitted Teddy	Eddy Armstrong	Y2
7 Play Away Vouchers	Ella Coggins	Y4
8 Acorn Farm Family Pass	Lucia Kelly	Y1
9 Lush Gift Set	Skai Lowe	Y1
10 Wax Melt Gift Set	Stephen Cunningham	Y2
11 F&F Slipper Socks	Miss L Jones	Welfare
12 Fox's Biscuit Selection	Joel Hobson	Nursery

Dates for 2025

For school term dates for the forthcoming academic year and upcoming events for this year, please see the school calendar on our [website](#).

Year 3 will be swimming every Wednesday afternoon.

Beth Tweddle Gymnastics coaches for Years 1 & 2 every Tuesday afternoon.

Upcoming Events in School

January 2025

9 th January	Year 6 swimming AM
13 th January	After school clubs begin. Year 6 swimming AM, 11.15AM - Mini-church for Nursery and Reception at church, all families welcome.
14 th January	Year 6 swimming AM
15 th January	Year 6 swimming AM, 10.00AM Communion for Year 1 -Year 5 at church, all families welcome.
	Year 3 swimming PM
16 th January	Year 6 swimming AM and Mentor Lunch for all
22 nd January	Year 3 swimming PM
27 th January	Chinese Week to celebrate Chinese New Year
	09.30AM Y5 Football Event at Liverpool FC Academy (Selected pupils)
28 th January	09.30AM Y5 and Y6 Sportshall Athletics event at Kings Leadership Academy (Selected pupils) 2.00PM Parent coffee afternoon/drop in for parents of children with SEND or concerns – Graduated Approach to SEND.
29 th January	Chinese New Year. Year 3 swimming PM
30 th January	Chinese New Year Lunch
31 st January	TT Rockstars competition for KS2

February

3 rd February	Children's Mental Health Week 1.30PM Year 3 / 4 Dodgeball event at Kings Leadership Academy (Selected pupils)
4 th February	Year 3 to Jodrell Bank
6 th February	Safer Internet week
7 th February	Year 6 to Liverpool Cathedral for Eucharist event
11 th February	Year 5 to Jodrell Bank
14 th February	Last day for this half term.

Half Term

24th February First Day back
Year 5 swimming AM (Monday to Thursday for 2 weeks)
25th February Year 5 swimming AM
Away football match at Holy Spirit
26th February Year 5 swimming AM
1.15PM Year 3 EFC football event at Goals (Selected pupils)
27th February Year 5 swimming AM
28th February TT Rockstars competition for KS2.

Free 12 Week Level 1 Childcare Course

Hugh Baird College are offering a free 12 week level 1 childcare course for anyone aged 19 or over which is designed for anyone wanting to work in or new to the sector. Please see attached for more information.

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We still have places available as follows:

Daily for Year 4 TT Rockstars from 08.30AM

Daily for Year 6 SATS Booster from 08.30AM

Monday	Number Ninjas	Year 1 and 2	
Tuesday	*Yoga	KS1	3.15PM
	*Yoga	KS2	4.15PM
Wednesday	*Wide Awake Club	All	08.00AM
Thursday	*Multisports	Year 5 and 6	
	Study Support	KS2	
Friday	*Multisports	Year 3 and 4	

If you would like to request a place for your child in the club, please click to send an [email](#).

SEND Coffee Afternoon 28th January 2025

Please join us for a SEND drop in coffee afternoon with our Sefton Inclusion Consultant, Joanne Cowans. Joanne supports our school with training and guidance and has offered to meet with parents informally to discuss any questions or concerns they may have, in particularly around the Graduated Approach and what this means for your child's support in school from 2:00PM- 3:15PM.

Expert Support For Every Parenting Challenge

This is a free website that offers lots of parenting advice on a whole range of everyday topics and challenges such as friendships, screen time, school life and mental wellbeing. There are short videos and articles that you can access that offer you reassurance and strategies to use with your child/children. It is well worth a look. It is free to sign up to and you can unlock a wealth of parenting know how. <https://www.myfamilycoach.com/>

CAMHS

The Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) put together a monthly newsletter for parents and professionals, signposting support such as groups, training and workshops. Click the [link](#) to have a look and see if there is anything of any interest. If you have any questions you can contact Mrs Keiley (SENDco and Mental Health lead) via the school office.

Article 3:

The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children.

Christian Values This month's Christian Value is **Thankfulness**

Thessalonians 5:18 *'In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.'* Thanksgiving is not just for the good times but in all things. Embracing this mindset can be challenging, especially during hardships, but it aligns us with God's will. It shapes our hearts to see the silver lining, promoting a spirit of resilience.

Appointment of New Vicar at St. Oswald's Church

From the Archdeacon of Knowsley and Sefton:

'I am very pleased to be able to announce that Rev Jackie Parry has been appointed as associate priest of Netherton and Sefton. Jackie is currently a member of the chaplaincy team at Clatterbridge and Arrowe Park hospitals on the Wirral and associate priest at St Luke's Church Crosby. She is also Dean of Sector Ministers for the Diocese of Liverpool supporting chaplains in their roles across 23 different sectors. Everyone on the interview panel were delighted to meet her and believe that she is the right person with the right skills for this role. Thank you all for your prayers during this time and I look forward to commending her to you at her licensing service which we hope will be at the beginning of March.'

From Rev Jackie:

Hi everyone. I just wanted to say how delighted I am, and what a tremendous honour it is, to be called to serve as Associate Priest in this wonderful community of faith. I truly believe that this is where God is calling me to serve Him and His people and I am very much looking forward to meeting you, and getting to know you all, soon. Being a born 'n' bred scouser and having lived in Sefton for many years, I know Sefton very well and so already feel at home and part of the community.

I believe that God is starting a new chapter in Sefton church communities, and it is a privilege to be part of this new chapter with you, and I pray that the Holy Spirit continues to pour himself upon each and every one of us as we journey together in faith. Please would you join me in praying for God's guidance and wisdom on how we can best serve Him and His Kingdom, here amongst the people of Netherton Sefton, and beyond!

I'd like to thank the panel for welcoming me so warmly, and for all their guidance and support. during this discernment process, it is very much appreciated.

See you in March....if not before!



A Prayer for our School

*This is our school,
Let peace dwell here,
let peace begin with me.
Let the room be full of contentment
Let love abide here
Love of human kind, love of life itself
And love of God
Let us remember that as many hands build
a house,
Many hearts build a school.
Amen*



Yours sincerely,

Miss E Murtagh
Headteacher