

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wednesday 26th February 2025

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% (22/23)	94.45% (23/24)	+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 pupils / 228	138 pupils/226	+ 12 pupils = 5.8%
January	126 pupils / 228	113 pupils/235	-13 pupils = 5.5%

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, is free to sign up to and you can unlock a wealth of parenting know how.

Carbon Monoxide Detector

Carbon monoxide detectors are being sent home with the eldest child in each family today for families in Reception to Year 6.

World Book Day 6th March

As always, we will be marking World Book Day by dressing up as our favourite book characters. Children can bring in their favourite books with them to share if they wish to. Book token vouchers are being sent home today with your child.

World Book Day Menu

Our World Book Day menu is on 06.03.25, the menu consists of:

Astro Chimp Space Station Burger, Pirates in Pyjamas Peas, Winnie the Pooh Pick up sticks chips, Harry Potter & Goblet of Fire Veggie Rolls, The Gruffalo Baked Beans, Magical Snowman Mashed Potato, Paddington Bear Sandwiches & The Secret Lake Jelly.

Envelopes are being sent home with your child today for children in Years 3 to 6.

St Oswald's Spring Market

Please see attached flier for St Oswald's Church spring market taking place on 15.03.25.

Total Fitness Swim Academy

Please see attached flier for families to come and try children's swimming lessons and baby lessons for **FREE!** On Sunday 02.03.25 from 9.00AM.

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 our SENCO via the school office.

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 4 will be swimming every Wednesday afternoon.

Upcoming Events in School

February

27th February Year 5 swimming AM

28th February TT Rockstars competition for KS2

March

3rd March 9am - Year 5 swimming. 11.15am – Mini-church for all Nursery and Reception families at church.

4th March 9am - Year 5 swimming.

5th March 9am - Year 5 swimming 10am – Whole School Communion – Years 1 – 6, all families welcome.
2pm - Year 4 swimming

6th March **World Book Day**

9am - Year 5 swimming (wear PE kits so they can change into costumes when return from swimming.)

11th March 9.15am - Year 5 Class Assembly in school hall. All year 5 families welcome.

12th March 2pm - Year 4 swimming

13th March Y4 & Y6 to Philharmonic.

17th March Energy Efficiency Day

18th March Year 4 5 Class Assembly in school hall. All year 4 families welcome

19th March 2pm - Year 4 swimming

24th March Assessment week

25th March Year 3 Class Assembly in school hall. All year 3 families welcome

26th March 2pm - Year 4 swimming

28th March TT Rockstars competition

31st March 10.30am – Stay N' Play Nursery. 2.15pm – Stay N' Play Nursery & Reception.

Article 30: Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

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)

Christian Values This month's Christian Value is **Justice**.

Romans 12:19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

Yours sincerely,



Miss E Murtagh
Headteacher



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*

