

St Oswald's CE Primary School and Nursery



February 2025

Message from the Headteacher, Mrs C Reece

Dear Parents and Carers

As we embrace the vibrant spirit of learning and growth at our school, I am delighted to share with you some of the recent experiences and achievements that have enriched our pupils' educational journey.

Our commitment to fostering understanding and respect for diverse cultures and beliefs has been beautifully exemplified by the recent visits of our Year 3 and Year 5 pupils to a local Mosque. This excursion forms an integral part of our curriculum and aligns with our pledge to ensure that every child at St. Oswald's has the opportunity to visit all the places of worship they study during their time with us.

The impact of this experience has been profound. Our pupils have returned with a deepened appreciation for other religions, speaking eloquently about the respect they have developed through this first-hand encounter. It is heartening to witness how these visits contribute to nurturing open-minded, culturally aware young individuals who will shape our future society.

Such educational experiences are fundamental to our vision at St. Oswald's. We believe that by exposing our pupils to diverse perspectives and traditions, we are equipping them with the knowledge and empathy necessary to thrive in our interconnected world.

In other news, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated Extras and Mr. Hodgetts for organising a super Valentine's disco. Their commitment to our school community is truly commendable raising much-needed funds for our school.

The success of the Valentine's disco serves as a testament to the strong sense of community that we cherish at St. Oswald's.

Have a lovely weekend and Ramadan Mubarak to all our Muslim families and friends!
Mrs C Reece

Christian Values 'Service and humility'



[Matthew 21 v 1-9 tells how Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey](#)



Time to reflect:

Jesus did not ride a stallion. He choose a donkey. Why?
It was to show that he was a different kind of king. He was coming as the Prince of Peace, in humility, not as a high and mighty conquering hero. This event marked the start of the last week of Jesus' life.

Attendance and Attendance Awards

Our whole school attendance for the month of
February 2025
96.3%

Reception		99.1%
Year 1		94.5%
Year 2		93.4%
Year 3		95.9%
Year 4		98%
Year 5		95.9%
Year 6		98.4%

Attendance Ladder



Attendance winners: Well done to Year R

DEFINITION OF SPIRITUALITY

Spirituality at St Oswald's is about making meaningful connections. This can evoke positive emotions within us such as: **thankfulness**, **feeling at peace**, **feelings of awe and wonder**, **contentment** and a **sense of belonging to something bigger than ourselves**.

Diary Dates

Date and Time	Event
Spring 2 Term – Mondays	Netball Years 5 & 6 - Please see the Arbor email dated 31/1/25 for exact dates
Spring 2 Term – Tuesdays	Street Dance – Years Reception, 1 & 2 - Please see the Arbor email dated 31/1/25 for exact dates
Spring 2 Term – Wednesdays	Indoor Athletics – Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - Please see the Arbor email dated 31/01/25 for exact dates
Tuesday 4 th March	Action Peace – Year 5
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day – Heroes and Villains!
Friday 21 st March	Comic Relief – 80s Theme!

St Oswald's CE Primary School Term Dates 2024/25

Autumn Term 2024

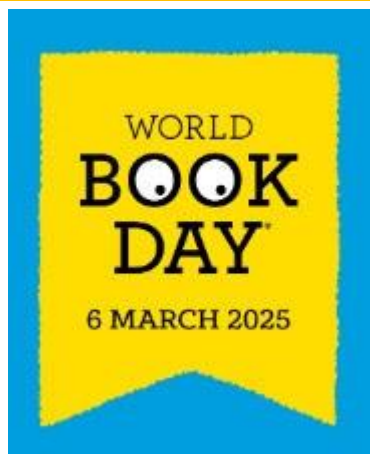
TED Day	Monday 2nd September 2024
School reopens	8.40am Tuesday 3 rd September 2024
School Closes	3.15pm Thursday 24 th October 2024
TED Day	Friday 25 th October 2024
Half Term	Monday 28 th October 2024 to Friday 1 st November
School reopens	8.40am Monday 4 th November 2024
School Closes for Christmas	3.15pm Friday 20 th December 2024

Spring Term 2025

TED Day	Monday 6 th January 2025
School reopens	8.40am on Tuesday 7 th January 2025
School Closes	3.15pm Friday 14 th February 2025
Half term	Monday 17 th February 2025 to Friday 21 st February
School reopens	8.40am Monday 24 th February 2025
School Closes for Easter	3.15pm Friday 11 th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

School reopens	8.40am Monday 28 th April 2025
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May 2025
School closes	3.15pm Friday 23 rd May 2025
Half term	Monday 26 th May 2024 to Friday 30 th May 2025
School reopens	8.40am Monday 2 nd June 2025
TED Day	Monday 30 th June 2025
School closes	3.15pm Friday 18 th July 2025
TED Day	Monday 21 st July 2025



World Book Day is on **Thursday 6th March** and this year our theme is **'Heroes and Villains'**! We would like the children to come to school dressed as their favourite storybook hero or villain.

On the day, the children will take part in various activities inspired by this theme. What makes a hero? What makes a villain? What is an anti-hero?

The children can also take part in a potato character competition at home! They should decorate a potato to look like their favourite storybook hero or villain. Potatoes (labelled with the child's name and class) must be brought into school on World Book Day, when they will be judged. The most creative potatoes will win a prize!



For more information, see the letter that was emailed.



St Oswald's CE Primary School and Nursery

Sion Avenue, Kidderminster, DY10 2YL

w: www.stoswalds.worcs.sch.uk

t: 01562 751056

E: office@st-oswalds.dowmat.education



This year's Comic Relief event will be held on Friday 21st March. Since Comic Relief is celebrating 40 years our theme for the day is the 1980s. To support this worthy cause, we are asking children to come to school dressed in fashions from the 1980s. Some ideas might include bright colours (especially neon), leg warmers and big hair.

We would like to further support the charity by asking for a donation of £1 per pupil.

We can't wait to see your costumes and be transported **back to the 1980s!**



Inspire Embrace Succeed

Our Learning in Nursery

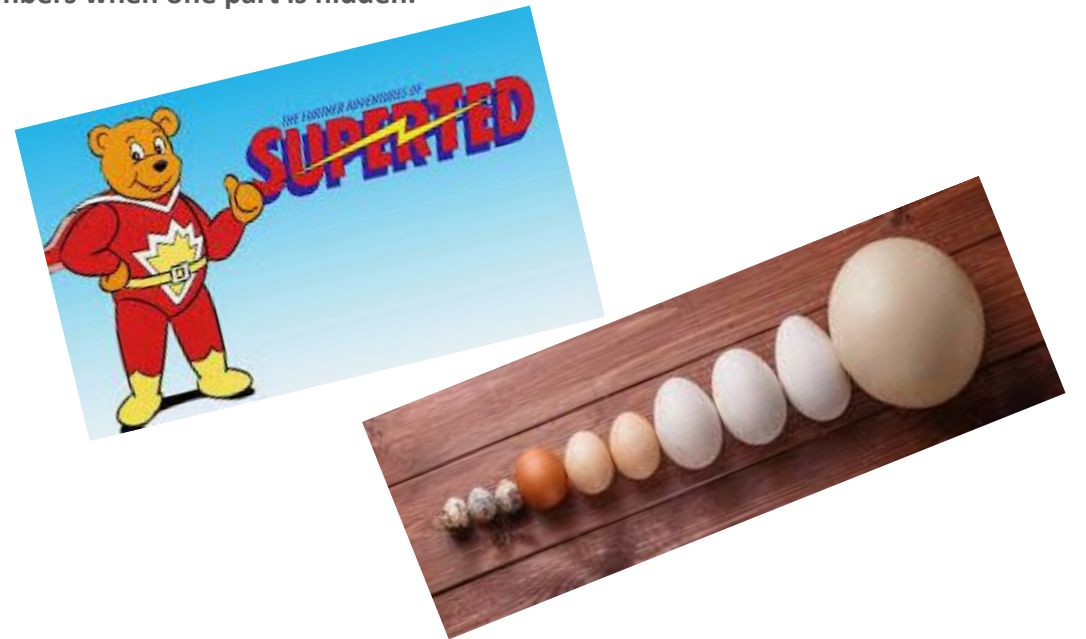
This month we have continued our 'I wonder what it is' topic and have talked about our senses. Our guided reading book was 'Amazing', this led to lots of discussions about how we are all different and what the children think makes them amazing. In nursery, we have introduced our 'Unique You' box. One child a week gets to take this home and fill the box with things that make them one of a kind. It has been great to see the children so confident when talking about themselves and excited to show their nursery friends what make them unique. The box has included swimming badges, drawings, baby items and family photos so far. This will continue throughout the school year and all children will have the opportunity to bring in items that make them 'one of a kind'.



Next month, we are looking forward to pancake day on the 4th March and continuing with our new topic 'I wonder who is making that noise'. We have lots of different animal activities planned, firstly focusing on pets.

Our Learning in Reception Class

This month we have been learning about our character strengths and noticing when we have shown them. These are strengths such as bravery, honesty, kindness, friendship, love of our life and our world. Children have been showing lots of love towards our world whilst we have been recycling! Children enjoyed watching Super Ted during Drawing Club and afterwards they designed a new home for the squirrel that Super Ted had to save after Pirate Pete chopped down all the trees in the forest and destroyed his habitat. This month we have also been learning the numbers that are made from '5 and a bit' (6,7 and 8). We have been trying to find the missing parts of these numbers when one part is hidden.



Next month, we will be developing our theme 'I wonder what is inside?'. We will take the children on a journey to discover what creature might be inside the egg. Can it be a zebra? And if not, why not?

Our Learning in Year 1

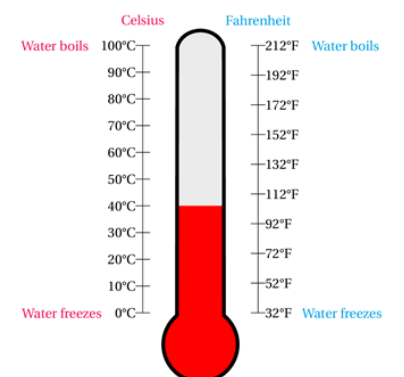
This month we have continued our study of Australia. We have learnt about Aborigines and looked at some artefacts. We even had a go at playing the didgeridoo! Thank you to Miss Cotter for sharing these with us! To show off our learning, we have written some information leaflets all about Australia. We have also finished our amazing Australian animal stories based on 'Wombat Goes Walkabout!'. In science, we have continued to sort and classify different types of animals, including nocturnal and diurnal animals.



Next month, we will start our history topic all about the first moon landing. We will start to look at the space race between America and the Soviet Union and use timelines to plot the main events. In our writing lessons we will invent a theme park based on space and write some persuasive leaflets. Our lead text, this term will be 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers. In maths, we will begin to learn about 2d and 3d shapes before moving on to a unit all about measuring length and height.

Our Learning in Year 2

This month we have continued learning about the United Kingdom. We have discussed the human and physical features of the UK, along with plotting these on maps. In maths, we completed our topic of mass. The children thoroughly enjoyed writing our twisted fairy tales in literacy, they all have a great imagination. In science, we completed our "plants" topic, and the children loved growing a bean in a bag. Each week they carefully inspected it, to see the progress it had made. We finished our P.E topic of gymnastics, and the children had great fun working on different rolls and cartwheels with the support of our P.E coach.



Next month, we will be learning about temperature in maths, then moving onto time. In literacy, we will begin our non-fiction topic, and the children will be writing information texts about their favourite flowers. In Geography, we will continue our topic of the United Kingdom, and we will be researching the capital cities. We will be starting our new book "The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark." in guided reading.

Inspire Embrace Succeed

Our Learning in Year 3

This month we have continued and completed our learning about Islam in RE. This unit of work culminated with a trip to the Mosque in Worcester, a trip that was a joint venture with Year 5. The children all had a lovely morning there and they got to see many of the things in real life that we saw throughout last month's learning. In Maths, we have been measuring in millimetres, centimetres and metres.

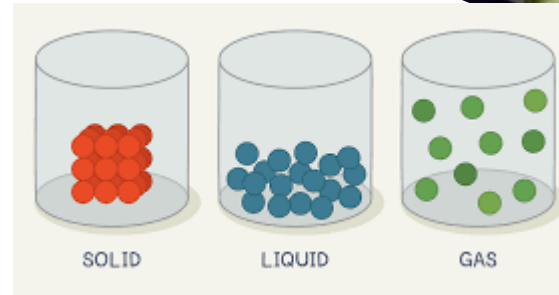


Next month, we will be moving on to History after last term's Geography, in which we will be learning about the Iron Age, continuing where we left off after the Stone Age. In RE, our next topic will be looking at Judaism, with a focus on what their religious festivals tell us about what is important to Jewish people. In Spanish we will be focussing on hobbies, and in Art we will continue printing in the style of William Morris. We will be continuing with ukulele in Music every Thursday, and PE will remain on a Monday and a Friday.

Our Learning in Year 4

This month we have continued learning about Ancient Egypt. We have looked at the mummification process, the afterlife and looked at different artifacts. In science we have been looking at solid liquids and gases and continuing our RE unit on Hinduism.

In English we have been reading the Egyptian Cinderella and have just finished our first independent write. We have used the structure of the original Cinderella and adapted it.



Next month, we will be learning about Earthquakes and Volcanoes in Geography and looking at the Pacific Ring of Fire. We will be designing and making pots out of clay and decorating them using techniques that we have learnt. In maths we will continue with our formal methods of multiplying and dividing. We will be continuing with our swimming lessons and having our PE session in school on a Friday afternoon.

Our Learning in Year 5

This month we have completed our self-portrait sculptures in art. We used a wire frame and clay to create a 3D model of our own faces! In English we have used the short film 'The Present' as inspiration for our own stories. In maths we have finished our fractions topics and have started learning about decimals, including making links between decimals and their equivalent fractions. To finish off the month, we joined Year 3 on a trip to visit the mosque in Worcester to start our new RE topic, learning about Islam.



Next month, we will be completing our RE unit about Islam and continuing to learn about decimals. We will also introduce percentages and think about how these link to fractions and decimals. In Geography we will learn about the continent of South America, which will link into our new English text. During Guided Reading lessons we will finish 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' and will welcome some visitors to talk to us about refugees.

Our Learning in Year 6

This month, we have created wallpaper designs inspired by the Victorian artist William Morris. We used a printing technique to create our designs. In music, we listened to two pieces of music about spring (one by Vivaldi and one by Max Richter) and responded to both pieces. We then composed our own music inspired by spring, using our learning about notation. In maths, we have completed our topic on measurements and in English we wrote persuasive speeches about topics that we felt passionately about. We also completed our history topic on Victorians by finding out about the pros and cons of the British Empire.



Next month, we will be moving on to our geography topic all about North America. Now that we have finished our RE topic 'Why Do Hindus Want to Be Good?' we will begin learning about 'What the Resurrection Means for Christians'. In science, we will begin our topic all about light. In maths, we will investigate area and perimeter in parallelograms and triangles, as well as how to find the volume of a cube or cuboid. In English, we will use Michael Morpurgo's book 'The Giant's Necklace' as a stimulus for fiction writing.

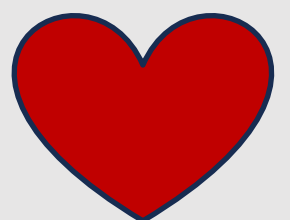
The Extras



Why not Volunteer with us!
We are always looking for new ideas and a little of your time to help raise money for our school. Ask at the school office for more information or catch one of us on the playground.
Daisy, Ruby and Lisa.



**Our Valentine's Disco raised
£434.18!**
Thank you for supporting us!



School Uniform Shop

Our new school
uniform shop...



St Oswald's Hoodie
£15.99



St Oswald's Book Bag
£6.99



St Oswald's T-Shirt
£6.99



St Oswald's V-Neck
£12.99 - £15.99



St Oswald's Cardigan
£13.99 - £15.99



St Oswald's Tie
£5.49



St Oswald's Crew Neck
Jumper
£12.99

CRESTED SCHOOLWEAR

01384 918220
27 Ryemarket Shopping Centre
Stourbridge
DY8 1HJ

Opening times are Monday, Wednesday, Friday and
Saturday 9.30 - 5pm

[St Oswald's CE Primary School –
Crested School Wear](#)

Community Information

Finance, Housing and Employment

If you are facing challenges around employment and income, please contact the local job centre who can with offer support with jobseekers' allowance, incapacity benefit, employment and support allowance and income support:

Job Centre Plus, Worcester Job Centre Plus, Haswell House, Sansome Street, Worcester, WR1 1UZ

Telephone: 0845 6043719

Citizen's Advice Bureau

Building Better Opportunities is a service to help local people move closer to employment.

NHS



Free support to help you stop smoking

Over 80% of cigarette smoke is invisible. Quitting is the best thing you can do to protect you and your family.

Available to mums, dads, carers, in fact anyone living with a child under the age of 19 in Worcestershire.

Quit and stay on track with:

- Free Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT)
- Rechargeable vapes (for anyone over age of 18)
- 1:1 support or family sessions with a trained advisor

Scan QR code for more information:



Smoke Free Homes Service

www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/smoke-free-homes

Stay Connected
Putting an end to loneliness

Delivered on behalf of
worcestershire
county council



Lambs & Ewe @Play at Lower Drayton Farm

🕒 14 Feb 2025 - 27 Apr 2025

📍 Play @ Lower Drayton Farm, Penkridge, Stafford



The Dinosaur That Pooped at The Alex...

🕒 2 Mar 2025

📍 The Alexandra Theatre, Queensway, Birmingham