

St Oswald's CE Primary School and Nursery



JANUARY 2025

Message from the Headteacher, Mrs C Reece

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have made a brilliant start to 2025. Our KS1 and KS2 classes delivered 'Inspire Reading Workshops' that showcased the incredible progress our pupils have made in their literacy skills. The children performed texts they had been studying, demonstrating their improved fluency and prosody. They eloquently explained why regular reading is crucial for their academic success. Thank you to those who were able to attend, I hope you enjoyed both the performances and the opportunity to engage in creative activities with your children. For those unable to join us, please refer to your emails for the PowerPoint presentation shared during the workshop, which contains fascinating insights into the importance of reading.

Through our recent fundraising efforts, we have raised an astounding £505.32 from the book fair. Additionally, our sponsored Stop, Drop and Read! event raised a further £558. These funds will be invaluable in expanding our library and acquiring new reading books, directly benefiting our pupils' educational experiences.

I am immensely proud of our pupils who represented St. Oswald's at recent external events. Our young athletes showcased their skills and sportsmanship at the Sports Panathlon Event, while our talented singers made us proud at the Young Voices event. These opportunities not only allow our pupils to demonstrate their abilities but also foster important life skills such as teamwork, confidence, and resilience.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to providing diverse opportunities for our pupils to grow and learn from. Your ongoing support and involvement are much appreciated

Mrs C Reece

Our vision is to:

Inspire Embrace Succeed

"I came so that they may have life and life to its fullest" John 10:10

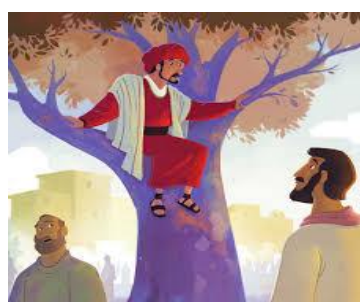
Christian Values



This half term we are looking at people
Jesus meets and the values he demonstrates.

Jesus meets Zacchaeus (Luke 19 v 1-10)

Zacchaeus was especially unpopular as he was a chief tax collector and a wealthy man. However, he must have realised that his life needed to change and he was determined to see Jesus – even though this meant climbing a tree.



Time to reflect:

Everyone makes mistakes, it's part of being human. Sometimes our mistakes hurt others and then we need to say sorry. Sometimes mistakes made by other people hurt us. When this happens, we need to be able to forgive. As Zacchaeus found out, forgiveness can be difficult and costly but without it a new start is impossible!

DEFINITION OF SPIRITUALITY

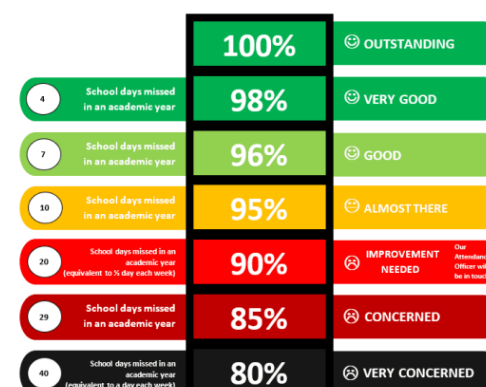
Spirituality at St Oswald's is about making meaningful connections. This can evoke positive emotions within us such as: **thankfulness**, **feeling at peace**, **feelings of awe and wonder**, **contentment** and a **sense of belonging to something bigger than ourselves**.

Attendance and Attendance Awards

Our whole school attendance for the month of
January 2025
94.7%

Reception		92.8 %
Year 1		93.1%
Year 2		96.3 %
Year 3		94.8 %
Year 4		96 %
Year 5		92.8 %
Year 6		96 %

Attendance Ladder



Attendance winners: WELL DONE TO YEAR 2!

Diary Dates

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date and Time	Event
Tuesday 11 th February 3.30 – 6pm	Parents Evening
Thursday 13 th February 3.30 – 6pm	Parents Evening
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st February	Half Term
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
Monday 6 th March	World Book Day – All Years
Friday 21 st March	Comic Relief - Red Nose Day

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 6th January 2025
School reopens	8.40am on Tuesday 7th January 2025
School Closes	3.15pm Friday 14th February 2025
Half term	Monday 17th February 2025 to Friday 21 st February
School reopens	8.40am Monday 24th 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 26th May 2024 to Friday 30 th May 2025
School reopens	8.40am Monday 2nd June 2025
TED Day	Monday 30th June 2025
School closes	3.15pm Friday 18th July 2025
TED Day	Monday 21st July 2025



St Oswald's CE Primary School and Nursery

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w www.stoswalds.worcs.sch.uk

t: 01562 751056

E: office@st-oswalds.dowmat.education

Say 'Hi' to our newest staff member, who will be joining us this Spring term.



Hi I'm Mrs. Jones, I'm really excited to start my new job after moving to Kidderminster from Hampshire. My main hobby is building Lego, I love being out and about in forests enjoying nature and finding new places to explore. If I'm not exploring, I'm usually found having a cup of coffee somewhere cosy.

Inspire Embrace Succeed

Our Learning in Nursery

This month we have been learning all about our senses. We have made play doh and slime and talked about how it feels when we touch it. The children have also all engaged in a touchy-feely game to guess what was in the box before being able to take it out.

All the children are taking it in turns to go out into the sensory garden where again we are using our senses to touch, smell, see and hear what is around us. This topic has also led us on to disabilities and differences between people. We have looked at how people who are visually impaired would have help and how people who have a hearing impairment would communicate.



For the first part of February, we will be continuing with the same topic, as well as making Valentine's surprises for the people we love. When we return after half term, our topic will be 'I wonder who is making that noise?'

Our Learning in Reception Class

We began our term with a surprise guest in our classroom – a hermit crab who had an old tin can for his shell. We discovered that he had been sharing a rock pool with his friends, Bristleworm and Anemone. Children saw lots of photos of real hermit crabs using all sorts of junk for shells and they thought it was unsafe for them. We have been learning all about what happens to our rubbish and followed the journey of a glass bottle and of a plastic carton through the recycling factory. Children have been sorting rubbish by its material whilst singing Ten Green Bottles and putting them into the correct recycling bins. We have also learnt how plastic in the oceans affect the wildlife in the tropical coral reefs – such as sea turtles. Children have been inspired by a green super-hero called Michael Recycle and transformed old junk into a fantastic new vehicle for him. We are now becoming individual green heroes by doing litter picking in our own playground and trying now to be wasteful with paper and food in the hall.



Next month, we will be learning more about the properties of materials and investigate materials that will make a suitable junk modelling boat. We will also have fun speculating why we don't have chocolate mugs, glass footballs, ice sofas and paper umbrellas.

Our Learning in Year 1

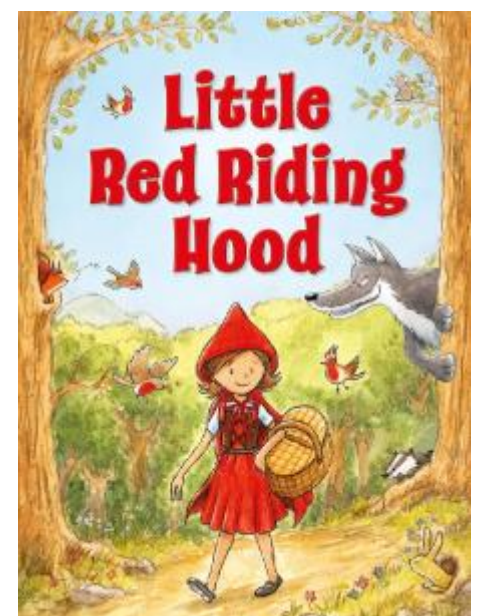
This month we have been learning all about Australia! We have used Google Earth and our atlases to find the continents of the world and we have located Australia. Our lead English text 'Wombat Goes Walkabout' has inspired us to find out about Australian animals. We have been writing some wonderful story sentences using adventurous adjectives and verbs. In RE, we are beginning to learn about Judaism and the special objects that might be found in a Jewish home. In science, the children have used the iPads to capture the signs of winter as part of our ongoing learning about seasonal change. We have noticed many changes in our environment since the autumn!



Next month, we will be continuing to find out more about Australia, thinking about its physical and human features. We will learn more about the city of Sydney. We will write some travel brochures to persuade tourists to visit Australia. In science we will be learning to group and classify animals in different ways, using scientific vocabulary such as mammal, reptile, amphibian, carnivore, nocturnal. In maths we will become even more efficient at addition and subtraction by learning some clever calculation strategies.

Our Learning in Year 2

This month we have been learning about the United Kingdom! We have been using Google maps to research remote islands around Great Britain. Our English text 'Little Red Riding Hood' inspired us to plan and write amazing narratives. We have come to the end of our unit on fractions in maths, the children have been working very hard to find fractions of amounts. In science, we started an experiment to grow a bean plant. We will be carefully observing this to see if our predictions were correct. In P.E we have been doing gymnastics and learning to forward and backwards roll. The children have been working very hard to master the skills of balance and direction too.



Next month, we will be starting our new maths topic of time. In English we will be continuing with our narrative writing. In guided reading we will be finishing our book 'Rainbow Bear' and we will begin reading our new book 'The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark'. We will start to learn about the worlds continents in geography and then start investigate Antarctica and the Arctic.

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Our Learning in Year 3

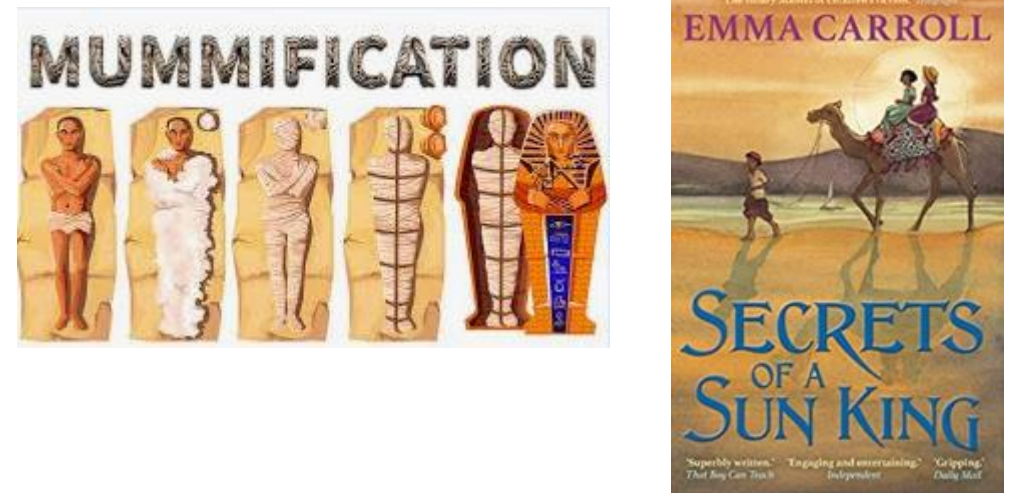
This month we have continued persuasive writing by finishing our Stone Age history topic with a holiday brochure for Skara Brae and Grime's Graves, two of the UK best preserved Stone Age landmarks. We have continued working on using our times table knowledge to solve a variety of problems, including multiplication and division of two-digit number using practical and written methods. The children delighted in performing the story Leon and the Place Between for their Inspire Workshop, which was a real highlight of this half term so far. The children showed off some impressive reading skills alongside excellent watching and listening to perform a conducted musical performance.



Next month, we will start writing a twisted fable, based on 'The True Story of the Three Little Pigs'. In Guided Reading, we will be continuing to look at 'The Iron Man', which the children have very much enjoyed so far. In Geography, we will continue to look at Rivers, Mountains and Coasts, and Spanish will see us continue to learn the names for different musical instruments. Ukulele will continue every Thursday, and PE will continue to be Mondays and Fridays.

Our Learning in Year 4

This month we have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians. Year 4 loved learning all about the mummification process in history! We have been using the class text *The Egyptian Cinderella* for our writing and creating some fantastic character descriptions. In our guided reading we have started *Secrets of a Sun King* which the children have enjoyed. In maths we have been continuing with our multiplication and division. We have had our first few weeks of swimming and the children have already made so much progress, it has been lovely to watch. We have started our science unit on states of matter and acted out what the particles are like in each one. This week the children have been experimenting with different clay techniques in preparation for making a clay pot.



Next month, we will be continuing using our books in guided reading and English. In history we will be looking at artifacts and the afterlife of the Ancient Egyptians and in science we will be looking into liquids, gases and solids more. We will be designing and making a clay pot and putting our techniques we have learnt to the test!

Our Learning in Year 5

This month we have been learning about refugees in our English lessons, linking to our new Guided Reading text 'The Boy at the Back of the Class'. In maths we have started our fractions topic, finding common denominators so that we can compare, add and subtract proper fractions, improper fractions and mixed numbers. We have found that we definitely need to use our times table knowledge to help us! We've enjoyed finding out about the Ancient Greeks, including exploring some myths and making links about Greek beliefs with Anglo Saxon and Ancient Egyptian beliefs (from our learning in Year 4).

On Readathon Day we enjoyed buddy reading with Year 3 and sharing a poem about refugees with our parents.



Next month, we will be continuing to investigate different materials in Science and testing whether changes we make to them are reversible or irreversible. Look out for our 3D self portrait sculptures in art – we will be making these out of clay. In English, we will be completing a fiction unit based on the short film 'The Present'.

Our Learning in Year 6

This month, we invited parents and carers to our Inspire Reading Workshop. The children explained the importance of reading and ways that adults can support them with their reading at home. We also performed a poem called 'For Word' by Benjamin Zephaniah, tried some 'word art' and spent time at the book fair! In the classroom, we have been using David Attenborough and Greta Thunberg as inspiration for biography writing. We have been finishing our topic about decimals in maths and continuing with our Victorians topic in history. Most recently, we learnt about the positive and negative impacts of the Industrial Revolution.



Next month, we will be starting our new maths topic on percentages. In English, we will use Greta Thunberg's speeches on climate change as inspiration for our own persuasive speeches. In history, we will find out about the lives of the rich and poor in Victorian society and what life was like for those who lived in workhouses. We will continue with our science topic: 'Evolution and Inheritance' and our RE topic: 'Why do Hindus want to be good?'

Inspire Embrace Succeed

READATHON DAY!

On Monday 20th January we celebrated our annual school Readathon Day. The children took part in various reading activities during the day, including Buddy Reading between classes.

They also took part in our sponsored 'Stop, Drop and Read' event, which involved having to stop whatever they were doing at the sound of a bell and read!

Sponsor money can be given to your child's class teacher or taken to the office. Please make sure it is in a sealed envelope and handed in by Friday 7th February. All money raised will go towards books for the children to use in school – for example in their class reading corners or the school library!



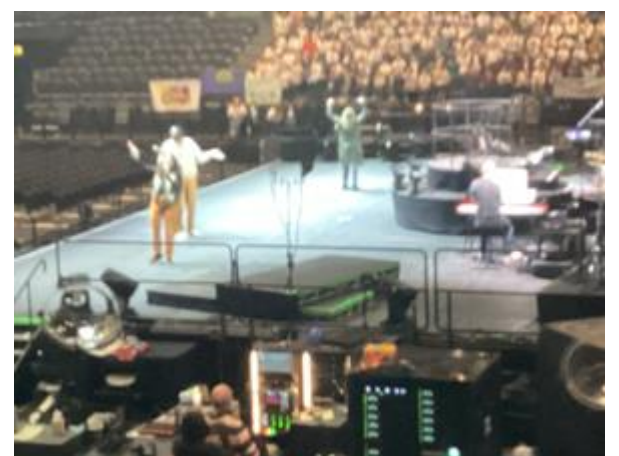
YOUNG VOICES 2025!

On Tuesday 14th January children from across KS2 went to Young Voices at the BP Pulse Live Arena. They had a fantastic time singing and dancing to a number of different songs, including a Bob Marley medley, a Hairspray medley and the choir favourite, the pop medley! A huge thank you to the staff who gave up their time to teach the children the songs and those who went on the trip, helping it run very smoothly!



SPORTS NEWS

On Thursday 23rd January eight children from across KS2 attended the Panathlon event at Wolverley High School. They took part in a number of different events, which are all based on different disability sports. They had a fantastic time, representing our school incredibly well and with a positive 'can do' attitude! Thank you to the staff who gave up their afternoon to support the trip.



Inspire Embrace Succeed

Safer Internet Day

Online safety training for parents and guardians by West Mercia Police

Learn more about the dangers of kids being online and how you can help to keep them safe.

Join our free one hour online parent awareness session to give yourself a head start in an ever changing digital world.

Date: Tuesday 11 Feb 2025

Time: 10am

Location: Microsoft Teams via Eventbrite

Sign up to the Eventbrite session by clicking on the following link:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-safety-child-exploitation-session-for-parents-and-guardians-tickets-1123477364039?aff=oddtcreator>



Protect our children!

Safeguarding: Online Safety

If you have concerns around the safety of your child or a child you know online, the following links will provide you with information, support, and advice to help understand the risks and keep your child safe online:

- [Think U Know | Information for parents](#)
- [Online safety | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)
- [Educate Against Hate](#)
- www.internetmatters.org
- [BBC | 8 tips for staying safe online](#)

Sexting is the sending or receiving of sexually explicit images, videos or conversations online.

[Sexting and sending nudes | NSPCC](#)

[Think U Know | Parents Sexting Guide](#)

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

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](#)



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

Community Information



Ofsted Registered

SAVE 10% BOOK EARLY*



CIRCUS
THEME DAY WEDS 19TH FEB

17th - 21st February 2025

Multi-Sports Activity Camp

Hurst Green Primary School (Halesowen), St Josephs Primary School (Stourbridge), Hallfield School (Edgbaston), St Catherine's Primary School (Kidderminster), Straits Primary School (Lower Gornal)

Book online at rbholidaycamps.co.uk*
Children aged 4-12**

rbholidaycamps.co.uk 0121 695 1394 info@rbholidaycamps.co.uk

Camp Pricing

Timings	5 Day Early Booking Offer*	Standard Prices
Long Day 8am - 6pm	£162	day / £36 5 day week / £180
School Day 9am - 3.30pm	£123.75	day / £27.50 5 day week / £137.50
Half Day** 8am - 12pm 12.30am - 4.30pm	£90	day / £20 5 day week / £100
Half Day** 9am - 12pm / 12.30pm - 3.30pm	£81	day / £18 5 day week / £90

*Early booking offer expires 27th January 2025
** 4 year olds can only book half day camps

 **Childcare Vouchers Accepted!**

 **Save 10% when you book early!**

Book your place online today at rbholidaycamps.co.uk

Contact us today!
0121 695 1394
info@rbholidaycamps.co.uk

Scan the QR code for more information!




FOR ALL

TFA 

THE FOOTBALLERS ACADEMY

Feb Football Frenzy

Wed 19th February

Ages 6-14 ✪ Boys & Girls ✪ Late Pickup Available ✪ 9am - 3pm

Tournament Style Games ✪ Penalty Shootouts ✪ Fun Activities

£30

Book now on our website



www.thefootballersacademy.co.uk

Stourton Park, Bridgenorth Road, Stourbridge, DY7 6QZ

Community Information

Parenting Support

The Starting Well Partnership offer a range of parenting support, information, groups, and courses. For information on the groups available please visit: [Parenting groups | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](https://parentinggroups.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk)

Parenting Talk is an online hub offering information, advice, and a free confidential online chat with a parenting advisor.

[Parent Talk - Support for Parents from Action For Children](https://parenttalk.org.uk)

Homestart can work with you to provide one to one support in the family home each week. This service provides support tailored to your needs and can help you as parents they learn to cope and build confidence to provide as best you can for your children.

[Home-Start | South Worcestershire \(home-startsw.org.uk\)](https://home-start.org.uk)



Starting Well Partnership
EVERY CONTACT SHARES A LIFE

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