

St Oswald's CE Primary School and Nursery

NOVEMBER 2025

Message from the Headteacher, Mr A Hackley

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the past two weeks I have been able to hear the pupils learning their Christmas songs and practising for the Nativity – it really is a special time of year especially for the children. As we approach the start of Advent, we enter a season of hope, preparation, and reflection. Advent is an important time in the Christian calendar when we look forward to the celebration of Christmas and the coming of light into the world. It reminds us of the importance of kindness, patience, and community as we prepare our hearts and homes for this joyful season. I will be encouraging the children to complete an 'Advent Calendar of Kindness' where they try to do a kind and thoughtful deed every day leading up to Christmas– it could even include tidying their bedroom or helping with the washing up!

We also have some bittersweet news to share. At the end of this term, we will be saying a sad goodbye to Mrs Poole, our wonderful Office Administrator and the friendly face of St Oswald's. After five years of dedicated service, she will be leaving us to take up an exciting new role. Mrs Poole has been an integral part of our school family, always ready with a warm welcome and a helping hand. She will be greatly missed by staff, pupils, and parents alike, and we wish her every success in her new adventure.

Thank you for your continued support as we journey through this special time of year together.

Mr A Hackley

OUR VISION

Inspire Embrace Succeed

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

Our main port of communication is via **Arbor In-App Messages** – please allow notifications on your device, to ensure you receive essential communication sent out. Emergency communication will still be via phone or text.

Christian Values

Our Christian value this half term is
Courage



'Do to others as you would have them do to you.' Matthew 7.12



Time to reflect:

Often we show respect to someone by the way we speak to them. What do you think this means in practice?

Do you treat one another's possessions with respect? How do you show it? Think of some practical ways that you show respect to each other in your family.

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
NOVEMBER 2025 92.2%

Reception	88.6%
Year 1	92%
Year 2	96.6%
Year 3	95.1%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	90.4%
Year 6	88.7%



Attendance Ladder



Attendance winners: **Well Done to Year 2!**

Diary Dates

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date and Time	Event
Friday 5th December	Rearranged cross country tournament for invited Y5 and Y6 pupils
Tuesday 9 th December 9.15am	KS1 Nativity – allocated seats. Please book via Arbor trips
Wednesday 10 th December 9.15am	KS1 Nativity – allocated seats. Please book via Arbor trips.
Friday 12th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 12th December During school hours	Santa Dash
Friday 12th December 2.30pm	KS2 Carol Service – please book via our Arbor school shop
Monday 15th December 9am	KS2 Carol Service – please book via our Arbor school shop
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch – Please book via School Food United
Wednesday 17 th December 2.30pm	Rocksteady Concert – Invite only
Thursday 18 th December 2.30pm	Nursery Christmas Performance
Friday 19 th December 2025 3.15pm	End of the Autumn Term

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Date and Time	Event
Last session 8 th December-3.15-4.15pm	Choir
Last session 11 th December-3.15-4.15pm	Football
Last session 12 th December-3.15-4.15pm	Cricket

Sign up to Spring Clubs from 6pm Friday 28th November 2025



St Oswald's CE Primary School and Nursery

Sion Avenue, Kidderminster, DY10 2YL

T: 01562 751056

SMS: Arbor In-App Message (free)

E: office@stoswalds.worcs.sch.uk

W: www.stoswalds.worcs.sch.uk

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

Autumn Term 2025

TED Day 1	Monday 1 st September 2025
TED Day 2	Tuesday 2 nd September 2025
DoWMAT TED Day	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
School reopens	8.35am Thursday 4 th September 2025
Half term	Monday 27 th to Friday 31 st October 2025
School reopens	8.35am Monday 3 rd November
School closes	3.15pm Friday 19 th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

TED Day 3	Monday 5 th January 2026
School reopens	8.35am Tuesday 6 th January 2026
Half term	Monday 16 th to Friday 20 th February 2026
School reopens	8.35am Monday 23 rd February 2026
School closes	3.15pm Friday 27 th March 2026

Summer Term 2025

School reopens	8.35am Monday 13 th April 2026
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May 2026
School closes	3.15pm Friday 23 rd May 2026
Half term	Monday 25 th to Friday 29 th May 2026
School reopens	8.35am Monday 1 st June 2026
TED Day 4	Monday 19 th June 2026
School closes	3.15pm Friday 17 th July 2026
TED Day 5	Monday 20 th July 2026



BBC

Children
in Need

Drum roll please.....

This year St Oswald's helped raise

£112.97p

"You make life lighter for children"

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Our Learning in Nursery

This month we have been learning about the story of Guy Fawkes, Remembrance Day and we have started our new topic 'I wonder what it is like'. So far with this topic the children have used their senses to explore the touchy feely bag, slime and gloop. We have talked about what it feels like and added new descriptive words to describe how it feels. The children have used their sense of smell to differentiate what was in the smelly pots that Mrs Barnes had made. The scents included perfume, coffee and orange.

In Maths time this month we have been subitising up to 2, they have all been able to identify 1 and two without having to count and match to the numeral 2. During our PE time, we have been practising our catching skills and working on our core strength.



Next month In nursery we will be in full Christmas mode. The children will be singing in our nursery Christmas performance and have already started to learn the songs. We have a fun week planned for the last week of term and lots of Christmas crafts to do.

Our Learning in Reception Class

This month we have been wondering where in the world we are. We have explored the planets in our solar system, had an alien visit our classroom, looked more closely at towns and the countryside and are finding out more about our local town – Kidderminster! All whilst continuing our phonics and maths learning. In maths we have been exploring numbers up to 5, creating our own patterns and using the vocabulary big and small to compare different items. In PE we have been learning to put different high, medium and low movements together in a dance sequence based on Superworm. The children have enjoyed wriggling, tunnelling and posing as the different characters.



Next month is Christmas, Christmas, Christmas! Not only will we be getting ready for our Nativity performance, we will be exploring 2D shapes, learning how to keep safe when crossing the road and looking at maps to help different story characters find their way home.

Our Learning in Year 1

This has been a very busy month in year 1! In our writing lessons, we have written some amazing stories – retelling Little Red Riding Hood from the wolf's point of view. I am so proud of their achievements! In our maths lessons, we have been looking at subtraction and 2d and 3d shapes. How many can you spot around you? In our history lessons, we have been learning about Rowland Hill, who was born in Kidderminster. Please go and see his statue outside the Town Hall next time you are in the town centre. In our music lessons we have used the glockenspiels to accompany a song. In RE we have been understanding what it is like to be part of a Christian faith community. We recreated a baptism in the class!



Next month, we will be working hard towards our nativity performance 'Baarmy Bethlehem'. The children are already enjoying singing the songs. In our writing lessons, we will be developing our poetry skills and making interesting word choices to create our own poems. In science, we will continue to explore our senses and perform some simple investigations. In art, we are developing the skill of printing. We will apply this skill when making our Christmas cards!

Our Learning in Year 2

This month we have been working incredibly hard across all our subjects. In maths, they have completed their addition and subtraction topic and are now close to finishing multiplication; practising at home will really support their progress, especially learning the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. In writing, the children have been exploring biographies and their key features, and they are excited to begin writing their own about a famous person of their choice. In history, Year 2 are wrapping up their topic on the Great Fire of London, which they have thoroughly enjoyed learning about!

2, 5 and 10 Times Tables

5 x 2 =	6 x 5 =	3 x 10 =
10 x 2 =	7 x 5 =	2 x 10 =
4 x 2 =	1 x 5 =	5 x 10 =
2 x 2 =	2 x 5 =	7 x 10 =
7 x 2 =	4 x 5 =	10 x 10 =
8 x 2 =	3 x 5 =	4 x 10 =
1 x 2 =	9 x 5 =	9 x 10 =
9 x 2 =	5 x 5 =	1 x 10 =
6 x 2 =	10 x 5 =	8 x 10 =
3 x 2 =	8 x 5 =	6 x 10 =



As we approach Christmas, the children are getting really excited about learning the songs and their parts for our Christmas play 'Barmy Bethlehem'! In science, they will continue to work scientifically and carry out several investigations to compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials. In maths, they will now focus on the division of the 2, 5 and 10 times table as well as learning about length and will use metre sticks and rulers to compare the length of every day objects. During PE lessons, they will continue developing key skills within gymnastics and dance which they have very much enjoyed this half term!

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Our Learning in Year 3

This month we have finished our unit on 'Stone Age Boy' and have written our own adventure story based on the Neolithic period. We have developed our knowledge of the Stone Age during our History lessons to further support our unit. In Maths, we have focused on developing our multiplication and division skills and using these facts to help us solve word problems. In PE we have been exploring symmetrical and asymmetrical shapes in gymnastics and exploring movements in dance. The children also really enjoyed their session with the Kidderminster Harriers to develop their ball skills.



Next month, we will be continuing to learn about the Stone Age in History and developing this further with our new book in English all about Skara Brae. We will be developing our multiplication and division facts further by looking at multiplying and dividing 2-digit numbers with and without remainders.

We will also be continuing to rehearse our carols ready for the KS2 service.

Our Learning in Year 4

This month we have been learning about multiplication and division in maths and looking at fact families. In our writing lessons we have been learning about Sicily and looking at how we can be persuasive when we write. The children have really enjoyed going to forest school and working towards their next badge.

In science they have really enjoyed our unit on sound. We have looked at the inner components of the ear and looked at how sound travels through vibrations.



Next month, we will be learning to solve word problems to do with multiplication and division. In writing the children will be creating their own persuasive holiday brochures and trying to persuade the staff to book their holiday! We will be practicing our Christmas songs for our carol service.

Our Learning in Year 5

This month we have been using the short film 'One Small Step' as a stimulus to write stories about our dreams. We have been learning about the Earth's position and movements within space, including how the moon moves around the Earth and why it appears to change shape. In maths we have been practising formal methods for multiplication and division, including multiplying two- and three-digit numbers together.

On Remembrance Day, Year 5 led a poignant and moving service for the rest of the school and their parents/carers.

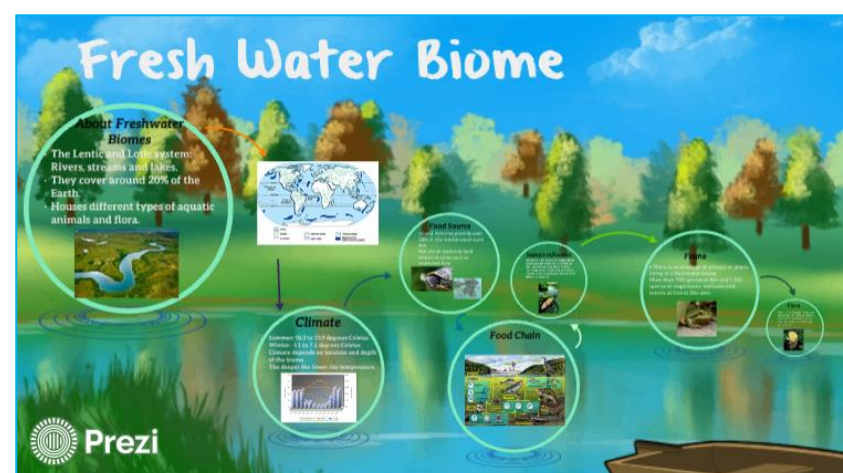


Next month, we will rehearse Christmas carols ready for the carol service at the end of term and prepare for the festivities! We will also finish reading 'The Silver Sword' in Guided Reading and create non-chronological reports about rainforest animals in English.

We will continue our 'Daily Mile' on the playground – it will be good practice for the postponed cross-country tournament on the 5th December!

Our Learning in Year 6

This month, we have been learning about fractions in maths. We have used the animation 'Alma' as a stimulus for writing some creepy short stories! In geography, we have been learning about freshwater biomes and the creatures that live in them. In science, we have been learning about electricity and investigated the effect of adding batteries to a circuit with bulbs. In Guided Reading, we have continued reading Harry Potter.



Next month, we will finish reading Harry Potter in Guided Reading and use John Lewis Christmas adverts as a stimulus for our writing. In maths, we will move on to learning about decimals and percentages. We will finish our geography and science topics and complete Key Assessment Tasks to demonstrate our learning. We will also begin rehearsals for our Key Stage Two Christmas Service and enjoy our last Christmas in primary school!

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...An online resource to support you and your family to learn more about how you can use myHappy mind to support your child.



myHappy mind for Parents

Exclusively for parents with children at a myHappy mind School or Nursery.

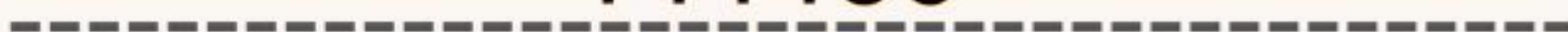


Learn all about what your children are learning in school

myHappy mind
Parent App

YOU WILL NEED THIS AUTHENTICATION CODE TO SIGN UP

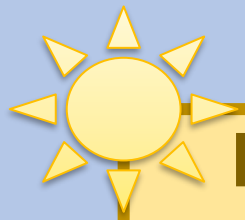
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Wraparound Care Provisions

Wraparound care provisions is a fun, nurturing environment with a range of enrichment activities tailored to the needs of the children. The children have the choice of free play which builds lovely new friendships. We offer toys, games, technology, relaxation, reading, role-play, outside play (weather permitting) and lots of seasonal arts and craft activities for your young person to enjoy.



Breakfast Club

We open our doors at 7.40am and charge £4.30 per session. You can drop at any time between 7.40 and 8.30am. Children can have a healthy breakfast of cereal, toast, bagel, fresh fruit and squash, making them ready for the school day ahead. Cut off for booking sessions will be 12 midday the day before.



After School Club

We close our doors at 5.30pm and charge £4.60 if collected by 4.30pm or £8.20 if collected by 5.30pm. You can collect any time between 3.30pm and 5.30pm, by ringing the bell at the side entrance to the back playground or by calling our wraparound mobile phone number 07507565364. Light healthy snacks are also provided in after school club. Cut off for booking sessions will be 12 midday for after school club on the same day.

Booking and Cancelling Wraparound for All Children - Nursery to Year 6

All wraparound sessions are booked via Arbor, our parent portal (unless your child is of nursery age): <https://st-oswalds-primary-school.uk.arbor.sc/?/home-ui/index> – you will find wraparound services under clubs and payment is due at the time of booking also through Arbor. If for any reason you need to cancel the session, you can do this on Arbor by cancelling before the days cut off time of 12 midday for After School Club the same day and Breakfast Club for the following day. This will give you a full refund.

Universal Credit and Nursery Funded Hours

We are more than happy to supply a letter of evidence of your child's attendance at wraparound. Our school's URN number is 144456, should you need to provide this. We can also accept funded nursery hours as childcare providers, should you need a little extra time before or after nursery hours. Please contact us on office@stoswalds.worcs.sch.uk should you need assistance. For more information please take a look at the Government website to assist with funding childcare up to 11 years old: <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Late School Pick Up: If your child is still on school premises at 3.25pm, they will be taken across to after school club, where an admin charge of £4 will be added to the usual ASC charges.

Late Collection Fee: If your child is not collected by 5.30pm, when ASC closes, this is charged at £5.10 for every 5 minutes after. If you have booked for a 4.30pm collection and arrive after this time, you will be charged the 5.30pm cost (an additional £3.60) plus the admin fee of £4.

Unattended Booked Sessions (eg due to illness) will still be charged unless 24 hours notice has been given of the cancellation. This should be done via the Arbor app.

School Uniform Shop

NOW OPEN IN
KIDDERMINSTER!



St Oswald's Book Bag
£6.99



St Oswald's Tie
£5.49



St Oswald's T-Shirt
£6.99



St Oswald's V-Neck
£12.99 – £15.99



St Oswald's Hoodie
£15.99

CRESTED SCHOOLWEAR

01562 227077

30 Worcester Street
Kidderminster
DY10 1EQ

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

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



St Oswald's Cardigan
£13.99 – £15.99

Pre-
Loved
£2

St Oswalds stocks pre-oved uniform in the office foyer. All items are £2 and you can get a great bargain! The money raised stays in our school and is used for things like books and play equipment for classes and communal areas. Payable using the Arbor app, under clubs – pre-loved uniform

Donate

If your child has outgrown their uniform or they are moving on, please donate their freshly washed uniform to our Pre-Loved sales via the office. Asides from the items pictured above we can also accept PE kits, shoes pumps/trainers, forest school items, coats and packaged underwear.

Community Information

Reflection



Expressing yourself is a way of showing who you are, on the outside and the inside. Creativity isn't just about making something pretty – it can also help us relax, think, share feelings, and feel proud of our ideas.



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Resource
one



Look at the resource below, which shows some different ways people can be creative.



Dancing

People use movement to share feelings and tell stories. Dancing can make us feel happy, calm, or full of energy.



Music

Singing or playing instruments helps people share their feelings and ideas. Music can be fast, slow, loud, or quiet to match our mood.



Writing

Stories, poems, and songs help to use words creatively. Writing can let us share our thoughts and dreams.



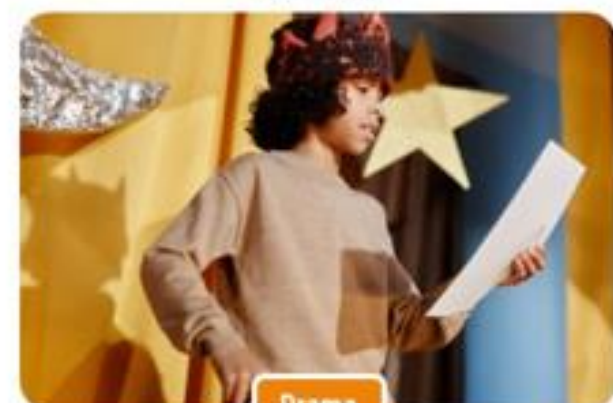
Making and designing

Building, cooking, or creating new things can help us use our imagination to make ideas come to life.



Art

We can draw, paint, and make things to show our ideas and feelings. Everyone's art is different because we all imagine in our own way.



Drama

Acting and role play can help people show feelings and understand others.

How do you like to be creative? How does being creative make you feel?

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