

St Oswald's CE Primary School and Nursery



MARCH 2025

Message from the Headteacher, Mrs C Reece

Dear Parents and Carers

World Book Day once again proved to be a highlight in our calendar. The corridors and classrooms were filled with an array of characters from beloved stories, showcasing the boundless imagination of our pupils and staff (and parents!). It was lovely to see the passion for reading come alive!

Hot on the heels of World Book Day came Red Nose Day. This year's 80s theme transported many of us back in time, with neon colours, big hair, and iconic games and films of that era creating a lively atmosphere throughout the school. It was truly 'a blast from the past' for some of us, bringing smiles and laughter to all.

I would like to thank you for your generous support of these events. Your commitment to these worthy causes has resulted in an impressive fundraising total of £133.50. This achievement not only contributes to important charitable work but also instils in our pupils the values of empathy and social responsibility.

As we look ahead to the weekend, I would like to wish all the mums, nans and special aunties in our school family, a very Happy Mothering Sunday. Your unwavering support, love and guidance play an invaluable role in the lives of our pupils. I hope you all enjoy a day filled with well-deserved treats and pampering.

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:

'Respect'

One of our school rules is: 'Be respectful'

[Matthew 7 v 12 says, 'Do to others as you would have them do to you.'](#)



Time to reflect:

We always try to treat each other with respect in school. Are you respectful at home? Do you follow instructions? Do you speak politely to your family? Do you tidy your room when asked?

Think what a difference you can make to everyone around you just by being respectful. Make a special effort this weekend to look after your mum!

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
March 2025
96.3%

Reception	95.9%
Year 1	96.6%
Year 2	94%
Year 3	94.5%
Year 4	97.5%
Year 5	98.7%
Year 6	96.4%



Attendance Ladder



Attendance winners: Well done to Year 5

Diary Dates

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date and Time	Event
Wednesday 2 nd April	Houses of Parliament Trip
Monday 7 th April	Last swimming session for Year 4
Thursday 10 th April 9am	Easter Service at School
Friday 11 th April 3.15pm	School closes for Easter
Monday 28 th April 8.40am	School Reopens for the Summer Term
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed

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

Spring Term 2025

School Closes for Easter	3.15pm Friday 11 th April 2025
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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

Autumn Term 2025

TED Day	Tuesday 3 rd September 2025
TED Day	Wednesday 3 rd September
School reopens for Children	Thursday 4 th September 2025



We have some exciting news!

Mrs. Beastall-Lewis is soon to have a baby and will be beginning her well-deserved maternity leave after Easter.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big, 'thank you!' to Mrs. Beastall-Lewis for all of her hard work in school and we wish her all the very best of luck for the impending birth of her new baby.



St Oswald's CE Primary School and Nursery

Sion Avenue, Kidderminster, DY10 2YL

w: www.stoswalds.worcs.sch.uk

t: 01562 751056

E: office@stoswalds.worcs.sch.uk

Free School Meals

We are encouraging parents to sign up for FSM by the 31st March 2025.



Please note that transitional protection for free school meals ends on 31 March 2025. After 31 March 2025, any existing claimants that no longer meet the eligibility criteria at that point (because they are earning above the threshold or are no longer a recipient of Universal Credit) will continue to receive free school meals until the end of their current phase of education (i.e. primary or secondary) as per the published document. New applications made on or after 1 April 2025 will not be protected.

More information can be found here, on the Government web site: [Free school meals: guidance for schools and local authorities - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/free-school-meals)

Inspire Embrace Succeed

Our Learning in Nursery

This month we have learning all about animals. We have covered pets, farm animals and ocean animals. The children have been matching pets to where they would sleep in our homes and what they would eat. When we were talking about farm animals, the children have created curly piglet tails with their fingers in the pink paint. For the ocean, children have made their own aquariums and each decorated a scale for the rainbow fish using a range of materials. This month we also celebrated pancake day with pancake races and pancakes to eat and decorate, world book day, took part in beep beep day, red nose day and this week we are getting ready for our mothers' day forest school session.



Next month, we will be learning all about Easter and the Easter story. We have lots of Easter crafts to make and wrap up on our 'I wonder what makes that noise' topic by exploring and talking about jungle animals.

Our Learning in Reception Class

This month we have been classifying and sorting the animal kingdom. Children have learnt to identify the differences and similarities between animals and classify them as mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds. We now know which sorts of animals may have laid the egg we have in the classroom. We have also enjoyed learning about road safety after celebrating 'Beep Beep Day'. Children learnt why it is important to wear a seatbelt and sit in a car seat and how to cross the road safely. In maths, children are using their subitising skills to notice when numbers are represented as a double and why. Children are beginning to know that some numbers that can be a double are also called even and those that can't be shared equally between two are called odd!



Next month, we will continue to learn about the Easter story and how Spring represents new life.

Our Learning in Year 1

This month we have been learning all about the space race! We have looked at the very first moon landing and learnt all about Neil Armstrong. We have used timelines in our history lessons to sequence events. We have really enjoyed the story 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers. In our sentence lessons we have focussed on choosing amazing language which will help us when we write our own stories. We have enjoyed a variety of space themed stories this month and had a great time on World Book Day thinking about our favourite story characters. In science, we have learned all about plants. We know the difference between garden plants and wild plants and can name some of these. We were inspired by the blossoms on the trees to create our Mother's Day cards. We hope you like them!



Next month, we will be learning all about London. We will think about where it is in the UK and understand why it is our capital city. We will think about some of its physical and human features. We will use the story 'The Queen's Hat' during our writing lessons. In science, we will begin to think about materials and their properties and in maths we will begin to understand simple fractions.

Our Learning in Year 2

This month we have been learning all about the United Kingdom. We have thought about the four countries that makes up the UK, as well as some key vocabulary to help us describe the land. We have worked hard in RE lessons to learn the story of Easter and why this is a really important time for Christians to feel close to Jesus. Our writing this half term has been a non-fiction information text about plants. The children chose a plant to write about in greater detail and shared lots of brilliant, interesting facts with their readers.

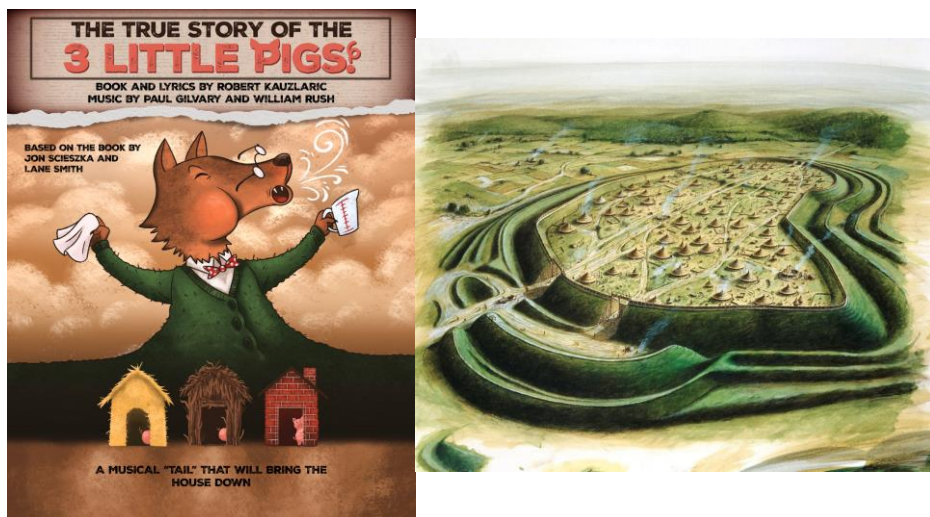


Next month, we will be learning all about how to stay safe online and what sorts of information it is safe to share. During our Computing lessons, we will also be thinking about how to create strong passwords. In our writing, we will be creating our own amazing non-fiction information texts about an animal of our choice. Our PE lessons will continue to focus on dance, and we will be adding to our already brilliant dance sequence. We will be focusing on moving to the beat of the music and ensuring that our actions match with our partner.

Inspire Embrace Succeed

Our Learning in Year 3

This month we have been letter and diary writing as though we are the wolf from *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs*, a twisted by Jon Scieszka. In Maths, we have been working on measurement, mass, capacity and volume. We have continued with Dance in PE on Monday, with focus on the skills of throwing, catching and accuracy through the medium of bat and ball games on Fridays. In Science we have performed two plant-based experiments, where we found out that we do not always need soil to grow from seeds, and that plants absorb water better in warm environments due to heat causing water to evaporate faster.



Next month, we will continue with the theme of Twisted Fairytales, transporting the wolf that we have written about into a different fairytale, making him a sympathetic protagonist rather than the villain. We will continue learning about the Iron Age in History, switching to Geography after the Easter holiday. RE will continue with looking at celebrations in Judaism and in Spanish, we will be looking at how to talk about our hobbies. In Maths, we are due to take on Fractions.

Our Learning in Year 4

This month we have been learning about different types of graphs in maths. We have been drawing and reading both bar graphs and line graphs. In science we have been looking at whether carbon dioxide has weight and carried out a little experiment with lemonade and Pepsi.

We have been working hard to improve our writing through the book *Arthur and the Golden Rope* which the children are really enjoying! In PE we have been inventing our own games with certain equipment which has been great to see the games they have been designing. In geography we have been learning about the Pacific Ring of Fire and about how earthquakes are measured.



Next month, we will be continuing our learning about solids, liquids and gases and finishing our unit in geography, moving on to look at the local history of Kidderminster specifically the carpet trade. In maths we will be finishing our unit on graphs and moving on to look at fractions. In guided reading will be continuing with *Secrets of a Sun King* and in English we will be carrying on with *Arthur and the Golden Rope*. We will be finishing swimming lessons at the end of this term and it has been great to see the progress the children have made. We will also be delivering the Easter service in the last week of term.

Our Learning in Year 5

This month we have thought of 40 acts of kindness that we can complete during Lent. One of these was to make birthday cards for Alan, a resident at a local care home who is turning 103! During our English lessons we have been writing stories based on the adventures of a group of children in the Amazon rainforest, linked to the book *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell. In maths lessons we have been learning how to compare and order decimals, before adding and subtracting them. We have also started learning about percentages and their fraction and decimal equivalents.



Next month, we finish our geography topic about South America and our science topic learning about life cycles of different animals. We will also think about Easter and how and why Christians mark Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

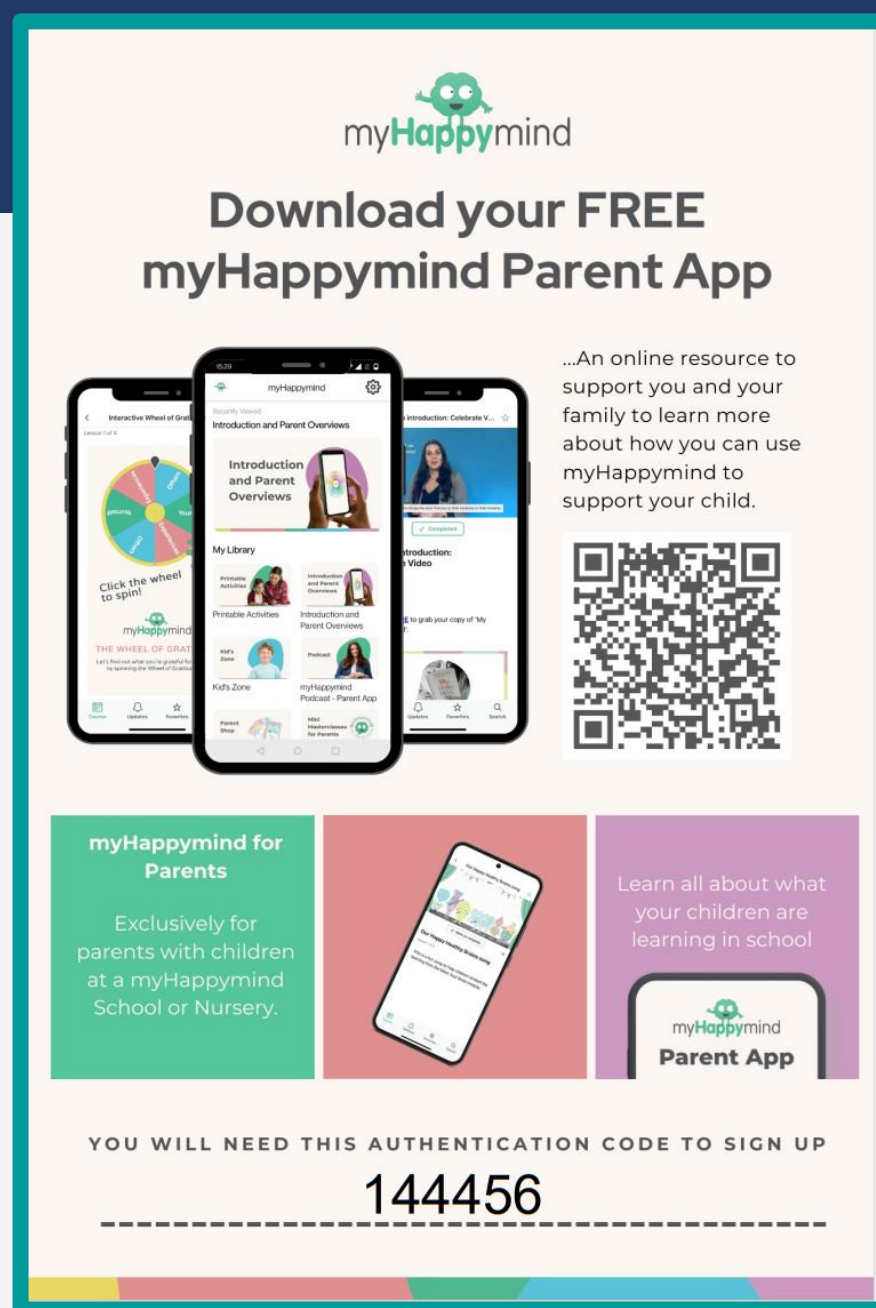
Our Learning in Year 6

This month we have been learning all about area, perimeter and angles in maths. In English, we wrote some excellent stories based on 'The Giant's Necklace' – Mrs Buckley was very impressed! In RE, we have continued with our topic 'What difference does the resurrection make for Christians?' and in geography we have continued with our North America topic. We have now found out about the populations in North American cities and the biomes found in this continent. As part of World Book Day, we put the Big Bad Wolf on trial and found he was... innocent!



Next month, we will be using *The Titanic* as a stimulus for our writing. We will finish our geometry topic in maths by learning about the properties of circles. We will finish our RE topic by carrying out art and drama activities and we will complete a Key Assessment Task to demonstrate all we have learnt about our geography topic on North America. We will also begin revising so that we feel prepared for the SATs tests in May.

Inspire Embrace Succeed



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

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144456



Actions from last year's parent surveys

As we approach the end of another successful term, I'm delighted to share some important updates with you. It's that time of year again when we seek your valuable input through our parental questionnaires. Your feedback is crucial in shaping our school's future and ensuring we continue to provide the best possible education for your children. Please check your emails for the link to our online survey.

Last year's responses highlighted many positives about our school. You praised our safe and happy environment, the diverse range of extracurricular activities and our caring and passionate staff. Many of you appreciated the individual attention afforded by our small school and the strong sense of community and family feel that we have here at St. Oswald's. We were also pleased to hear that you value the support provided for children with SEND.

You asked for	Actions taken
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved communication with parents, including responding to emails in a timely manner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We've implemented a 48-hour response time for emails and established a system to ensure messages are promptly forwarded to the relevant staff members. Parents will now receive notifications confirming receipt of their emails and be kept updated on the progress of their query. All trips to be given at least 2 week's notice. Use of Arbor in app messages to communicate. Please download the app if you haven't already done so.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better support for children with special needs, such as ensuring that discussed strategies are implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class teachers will keep parents informed about interventions in place, and we've arranged opportunities for parents to speak with class teachers or our SENDCO at least termly to review individual provision maps.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Us to address logistical issues such as parking and safety concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We continue to work closely with the police, our neighbours, and parents to improve this situation. We've increased our efforts with regular reminders, patrols, and direct communication with parents who park inappropriately. You may have noticed our new 'little police officer' sign at the front of the school, reminding everyone to park responsibly and safely.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Us to consider reducing the cost of after-school care to make it more accessible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We've reviewed our charging structure. Parents can now pay for just one hour if needed. We've provided information on applying for and accessing childcare vouchers to help fund the club free of charge. Unfortunately due to rising staff costs, we are unable to reduce the cost of the club.

World Book Day – Heroes and Villains



For **World Book Day** this year, the children dressed as their favourite storybook hero or villain. We were very impressed with the costumes – some of them were very imaginative! Across the school, the children took part in various World Book Day-themed activities and had a very enjoyable day. Well done to everyone who took part in the Potato Decorating Competition! It was a difficult decision because all of the entries were so fantastic. Congratulations to **Jessica in Year 4**, who won the competition and received a WHSmiths gift voucher as their prize!

Red Nose Day – Back to the 80's

£133.50
raised for
Comic
Relief



Sports News

This month has seen Year 5 and 6 competing in the Indoor Athletics competition and the Netball Tournament, against local schools from within the Wyre Forest area. We are so proud of all the children who have represented our school, demonstrating our vision of 'Inspire, Embrace, Succeed'. They have persevered when they found it hard, been great team players and supported each other, as well as being fantastic sportspeople, showing respect to their opponents.

A huge thank you to the staff who have supported these events, particularly Mrs Wilding and Miss Ratcliffe who led the netball team during the after-school tournament. Thank you to our netball coach, Sue, and our athletics coach, Ron, for all their hard work coaching the teams before and during the tournaments.



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

Eggciting Rewards

Easter Hunt Trail 2025 Saturday Morning 19th April

Crazy Golf

FREE EVENT

White Wickets Park X (Franchise) 10.30 am - 12 Noon

NO BOOKING REQUIRED
650 EGGS

Face Painting

For Children 11 Years & Under
MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT



Balloon Modelling

In the case of bad weather the Hunt will move to
X **Kidderminster Baptist Church**
on the Franche Rd, DY11 5BE - Use the other car parks

Organised by
Churches Together
www.ctik.info



Supported by
 **Wyre Forest**
District Council

Limited Parking Onsite
Please walk if possible.
There are paths from many directions

