

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wednesday 2nd July 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. **'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!'

We hope that by working together, attendance will improve and children will achieve fully in school. Please click on the [link](#) to see the guidance for parents regarding attendance:

We reward good attendance each week and are aiming for at least 96% or better attendance.

Congratulations to our Nursery class who had the highest attendance for the last week - Well done again to **Year 2 with 98.62%** attendance! Other class attendance was as follows: **Y1 - 95.17%, N - 95.14%, Y3 - 94.83%, Y6 - 94.67%, Y5 - 93.05%, Y4 - 91.07% & R - 90.32%**

The classes in **green** are above our target of **96%** and those in **red** are below, some significantly below. We will be targeting those with poor attendance. All classes were above our target last week this is great news and hopefully will continue.

Staff leaving

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to two much loved and appreciated members of staff who have been a key part of the staff team and have significant roles within the school.

Mrs Carr who has worked at St. Oswald's since January 2015 as the Early Years Leader and Reception class teacher and later becoming the Assistant Headteacher. We are going to miss her calm demeanour and passion for early years greatly. She has also been an 'inspirational leader for RE, as was recognised in our recent SIAMS inspection and led the staff well in ensuring high quality RE is taught and a rich curriculum organising trips and visitors for the whole school. She has worked alongside staff in other schools, coaching RE and helping to improve the delivery of the subject. I am sure you would like to wish her well in her new venture as a Play Therapist.

Mrs McNally has worked in St. Oswald's for 21 years, firstly as part of the Behaviour Improvement Team and then as our Parent Support Advisor. During this time, she has supported many families in a variety of ways, utilising her knowledge of other agencies and local charities and support groups to help in any way possible. She has also trained in Draw & Talk and ELSA to support the emotional well-being of our pupils. Mrs McNally has always gone above and beyond and has held the PFA together over the years, raising funds for those extras that the school budget does not allow for, such as play equipment and visits from the farm that the whole school has enjoyed. Thanks to Mrs McNally all those extras have been taken care of. After so long of putting others first we wish her well in her retirement where she can enjoy time for herself doing what she wants to do. These are just a few of the roles that both have undertaken, not to mention being active members of the wider school community, attending church events, school plays and running after school clubs.

I am not sure how either will be replaced but taking on the challenge in reception class will be Mrs Maguire as Early Years Lead and Reception class teacher. (currently SENDco whilst Mrs Keiley is on Maternity leave)

The Parent Support Advisor role has been renamed as Pastoral Mentor which Mrs Brannigan will begin in September.

Sponsored Walk 11th July

Our annual sponsored walk will take place on 11th July, sponsor forms are being sent home with your child today. This year all monies raised will be going to school fund. Please send all sponsor money into school by the end of the term. Thank you.

After School Clubs for September

Details of after school clubs on offer for September can be viewed on our [website](#). Please note that all clubs start w/c 15.09.25.

Please note that all clubs run for 10 weeks, and end w/c 24.11.24. To request places for your child for the clubs please send an [email by clicking on this link](#).

Changing from School Meals to Packed Lunch

If you would like to change your child from school meal to packed lunch or vice versa when we return in September or at any time throughout the school year, please remember that you must contact school to give school a week notice.

All children in Year 2 have been receiving Universal Infant Free School meals which will continue until the end of Year 2, so if you want to change, you will need to let us know before we return in September.

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](#).

Upcoming Events

July

2 nd July	Summer fair – 3.00PM onwards in the school hall. No after school clubs tonight.
4 th July	Reports being sent home
8 th July	Year 5 to Go Outside, Formby
9 th July	Parent meetings in the school hall if parents wish to follow up from the school reports
11 th July	Sponsored walk (weather permitting)
14 th July	Dress Rehearsal for Year 6 AM & Year 6 leavers BBQ PM (details to follow)
15 th June	Stay N' Play – Nursery AM & Nursery and Reception PM
16 th July	Golden Apples winner's treat AM Year 1 dance performance in the school hall at 3.00PM
17 th July	Nursery, Reception and Year 1 to Imagine That. Years 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 dance performances in the school hall PM (details to follow of timings for each class) Year 6 Leavers service at 6.00PM in school hall all welcome
18 th July	Final TT Rockstars competition, End of Term Service at church 9.45AM – all welcome Finish at 2.00PM

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.

Online Safety Newsletter & Video

Delivered by Kooth, [free webinar](#) on how to keep young people safe online and on smart devices, many parents have come to school with issues caused at home with online use by their children, we hope you find this useful. Attached to the newsletter is the monthly online safety newsletter.

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.

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)

Article 3 The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children.

Christian Values This month's Christian Value is **Perseverance**

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." Hebrews 12:1-2



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*

