

# St. Oswald's Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter 15/11/2024



Mission Statement  
We walk in the footsteps of Jesus so that we may have life in all its fullness.  
John 10-10

School Website: [www.st-oswaldsrcsch.co.uk](http://www.st-oswaldsrcsch.co.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. We have lots happening this term, please read our detailed newsletter to find out when our Christmas Celebrations will take place in the coming weeks. I would like to thank all of you for your generosity in supporting the school to fundraise for Children in Need. We have raised £179! I was really impressed with the children's 'Pudsey' outfits and painted faces.

I hope you all enjoy your weekend and I look forward to seeing you in the coming weeks as we begin to prepare for Christmas. We are always grateful that you continue to support our school community.

Best wishes,  
Mr Woodhouse

### Attendance

Attendance continues to be absolutely fantastic this term, thank you to everyone for your efforts. Please keep it up through the rest of the term!

Red	Under 92%
Amber	92-96.99%
Green	97% and above

Please remember that new statutory attendance guidance has come into effect this term, with some changes to the way attendance is monitored and penalty notices are issued by the Local Authority. Please see the "Every School Day Matters" flyer for details.

If your child is going to be absent, please inform the school office on 01915 367922 by 9am on each morning of the absence.

### Attendance Award

Congratulations to Year 3 who won the Attendance award this week with 98.5%

**Reception 96.8%**  
Year 1 97.5%  
Year 2 98.3%  
Year 3 98.5%  
Year 4 97.0%  
Year 5 97.7%  
Year 6 98.4%

Our school target is at least 97%

### Great Christmas Clothes Swap

Christmas clothes are so bright and festive, and yet they only get worn a handful of times before your child grows out of them and then we face the expense of buying new outfits every year.

This year we would like to invite you to bring any pre-loved, good condition festive clothing in to school during the week of 25th-29th November. This includes Christmas jumpers, dresses, shirts, even hats or leggings.

On the afternoon of 29th November, we will lay out all the clothes on tables in the hall, and invite you in after school with your children to choose a new Christmas outfit to take home.

This will mean beautiful outfits get a longer life, it will reduce clothing waste and spread some extra festive cheer for free.

### Nursery & Reception Autumn Festival

On Tuesday 19th November, all Nursery and Reception class families are invited to our Autumn Festival after school from 3.30-4.30pm. It will cost £2.50 on the door and there will be snacks, treats and activities.

### Year 6 Carol Service

This year for the first time, Year 6 will be leading an evening carol service at St Oswald's Church. It will take place on 9th December at 5.30pm. Everyone is invited to join us there!

### Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

\* Mr Woodhouse \* Mrs Keith \* Mr Smith \* Miss Godfrey \*

## Oliver Twist

On Wednesday we had a visit from Arty Fact Theatre, who performed Oliver Twist for all the children. It was a fantastic performance, with lots of songs and interactive parts—some of the children even got up on stage to pickpocket! It was brilliant to be able to bring professional theatre into school, to fire their imaginations with links to history, important people and creative elements like set design and costumes.

## Remembrance Day 2024

We have spent a lot of time this week reflecting on the sacrifices made by our armed forces. We had a whole school assembly lead by the DLI Association, South Shields Branch. They taught us about the history of why we remember, and how South Shields was affected in the Wars.

Our Choir went out of school on Armistice Day to sing at the West Part Remembrance Service. They gave an incredibly moving performance of “Lovingly Remembered” by Andrew Lloyd Webber, originally composed to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day. Our Choir represented us wonderfully within our community and we are very proud of them.

## Year 1 Class Worship

Thank you to all the parents and carers of Year 1 who attended their Class Worship this week, it was lovely to see so many of you. Year 1 enjoyed talking about what they had learned about sharing, from sharing real items to sharing their gifts and talents. They also thought about sharing in the context of making sacrifices for others, as so many people did in the World Wars.

## Asda CashPot for Schools

This is the last push for Asda Cashpots—there are 15 days left for you to raise money for us simply by scanning your Asda rewards app every time you shop. We currently have over £600 in our pot, so thank you all very much!

**Cashpot for Schools is our mission to support primary schools across the UK.**

Every time you shop with Asda Rewards from 2nd September to 30th November, we will donate 0.5% of your total spend to a primary school of your choice. Plus, Asda will pop £1 into your school's Cashpot every time someone opts in.

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is on before school every morning, and includes breakfast and games/activities. It costs £3 and is run on a drop-in basis so you can use it whenever you need to without the need to pre-book. **Please arrive between 8 and 8.15am.**

## First Holy Communion

Children in Year 4 are invited to make their First Holy Communion in June 2025. If you would like your child to make theirs, please see Father Keith after 11am Mass at St Oswald's any Sunday this half term. He will be able to give you more details and a registration form to fill in. Forms must be returned to Father Keith by 22nd December.

## Puzzles and Games

If anyone has any jigsaw puzzles for younger children (6-50 pieces preferably), wooden puzzles or board games they no longer need, we would love to take them off your hands. They will be used in our Breakfast Club and across our Early Years classes.

## Catholic Social Teaching Awards

Please email [tso\\_info@stoswaldsrc.co.uk](mailto:tso_info@stoswaldsrc.co.uk) with any ways your child has put their faith into action outside school this half term. For example; charity fundraising, exemplary behaviour towards others, volunteering in the community or taking an active role in the parish.

## Free School Meals

Please follow this link to check your child's eligibility for Free School Meals. If you are already eligible, you need not reapply, as once confirmed, eligibility remains in place until the end of primary school.

<https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/pp-bccet>

## 2025 Reception Places

The deadline for applying for places in our Reception (2025) class is 15th January 2025. Please remember that attending our Nursery does not automatically guarantee a place in Reception—you MUST still apply via the council's website.

A promotional graphic for Asda Cashpot for Schools. It features a green background with white and yellow text. The main text reads "you scan, WE DONATE ££s TO SCHOOLS." in a bold, sans-serif font. Below this, it says "Download the Asda Rewards app and opt-in today". There are two yellow starburst shapes: one on the left with "CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS" and one on the right with "ASDA Rewards". A small "Find out more" button is in the bottom right corner.



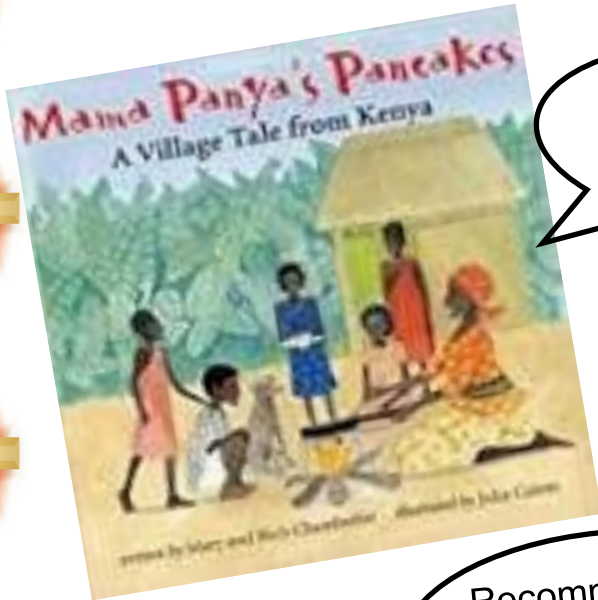


## Recommended Reads!

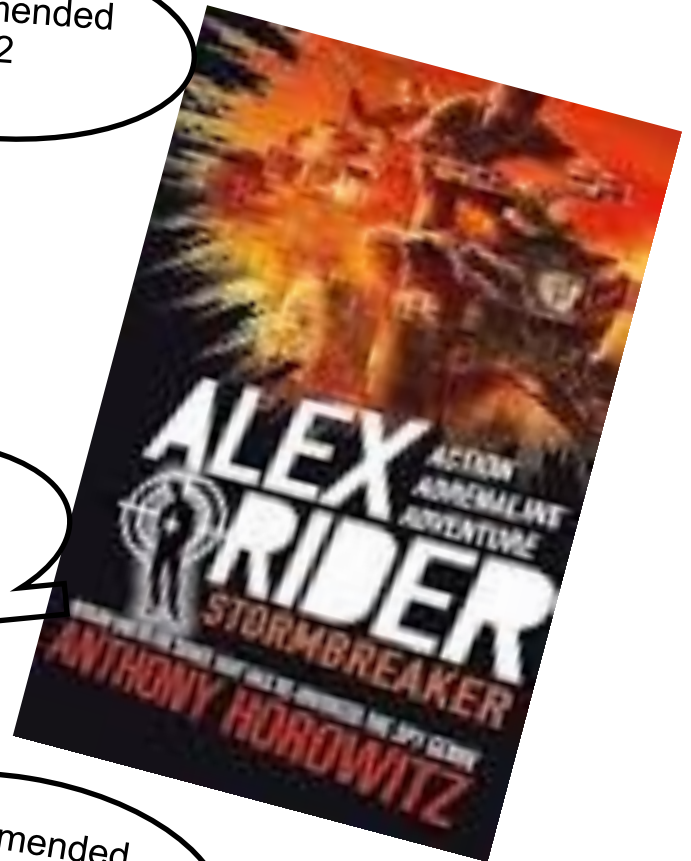
Reading for pleasure opens up new worlds for children. It gives them the opportunity to use their imagination to explore new ideas, visit new places and meet new characters. Interestingly, reading for pleasure also improves children's well-being and empathy. It helps them to understand their own identity, and gives them an insight into the world and the views of others.

Here are some books that our children have enjoyed reading this half term so far. You can find them and hundreds of other fantastic books for free in our local library, The Word.

If you discover any new favourite books you'd like to share, please let us know! You can email [tso\\_info@stoswaldsrc.co.uk](mailto:tso_info@stoswaldsrc.co.uk) with what you've been reading, or let your class teacher know.



Recommended  
by Year 2



Recommended  
by Year 6



Recommended  
by Year 5



Recommended  
by Reception