

# St. Oswald's Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter 04/04/2025



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.stoswaldsrc.co.uk](http://www.stoswaldsrc.co.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the Spring Term I would like to thank you for your continued support. It has been an extremely successful term including our recent Ofsted Inspection in January which we are extremely proud of. Your children have continued to work hard in all areas of the curriculum and their positivity and exceptionally good manners fills me with great pride. It was a pleasure to see so many of you attend Parent's Evening over the last few weeks to celebrate the fantastic progress that your children are making. I was really impressed with the fantastic Easter gardens and bonnets that your children spent so much time making at home, I know that the parents who came into school to look at them were just as impressed!

Please remember that the school will close next Friday (11th April) at 1.15pm. I wish you all a happy and restful Easter break when it comes.  
Best wishes,

### Attendance

Attendance continues to be quite strong, with whole school attendance being 95% this school year. Please continue to do your best to be in school whenever you are able!

Red	Under 92%
Amber	92—97%
Green	Above 97%

If your child is going to be absent for **any reason**, please inform the school office on 01915 367922 by 9am on each morning of the absence. This includes illness, medical appointments and any other reason for absence.

Please remember that new statutory attendance guidance has come into effect this year. Please see the "Every School Day Matters" flyer for details.

### Attendance Award

Congratulations to Year 2 who won the Attendance award this week with 100%!

Nursery—94%  
Reception — 94.2%  
Year 1 – 95%  
Year 2 –100%  
Year 3 – 96.5%  
Year 4 – 96.1%  
Year 5 – 94.8%  
Year 6 - 97.4%

Our school target is at least 97%

### Easter Bonnets/Gardens of Gethsemane Competition

Thank you all for putting in so much effort to your Easter Bonnets and Gardens. There were some incredibly creative entries this year. Please see later in the newsletter for some photos!

### Y1 Phonics Meeting (Parents)

We invite all Year 1 parents and carers to a Phonics Screening Check meeting on **Thursday 10th April at 9:05am** in the school hall, to support you and answer any questions you may have about the check.

This year, the phonics check itself takes place during the week of Monday 9th – Friday 13 June 2025.

### Children's Easter Raffle

The children will all bring home 5 raffle tickets to sell to their families and friends. Each ticket is 50p. Tickets and money will need to be returned to school by Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April. Good luck everyone!

### Lent Walk for CAFOD

Please continue to fill in your logs of distance walked at home, and bring them into school every Friday of Lent to add to the whole school total.

### Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mr Woodhouse

Mrs Keith

Mr Smith

Miss Godfrey



## Lenten Alms

This year the School Council have been involved in deciding how we prepare for Lent. Lenten alms is an important aspect of Lent when we learn about giving to others. The school council would like to support local charities Hospitality and Hope, The Key Project and Pawz for Thought. They were very passionate that we also helped animals in need as well as people.

The children may choose to give something up for the period of Lent or help in other ways, be kind to others etc. For each kind deed they do outside of school they could perhaps be gifted a piece of produce to bring in for one of the charities, a tin of soup, packet of pasta, dog biscuits etc.

Over the period of Lent the children will have a card in class and they will be able to colour a cross on the card for each donation they bring in. When their card is full (4 crosses) it will be added to the hall display.

At the end of Lent we will gift all the donations brought in to school to the charities named above.

## School Meals

School meals are free for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Meals for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 should be paid for **in advance** via ParentPay. Accounts that fall into debt will be asked to provide a packed lunch until the debt is cleared.

Meals cost £2.50 per day (£12.50 per week). Please see the menu on our website for the options available each day.

**Please follow this link to check your eligibility for Free School Meals.** If you are already eligible, there is no need to recheck.

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

## Y5 and Y6 Residential Trips

Just a reminder that both Y5 and Y6 trips are available to pay by installments via ParentPay. Please make sure full payment is made by 21st May 2025.

## Staff Car Park

Please note the school car park is for staff use only—please do not use it during drop off and pick up times for Breakfast Club and the general school day. Unfortunately it is a very small space and we do not have room for visitors spaces.

## Healthy Tuck Shop

Our fabulous Mini Vinnies have raised an amazing £84 by running a healthy tuck shop at break time. They sold fruit, bread sticks, crackers and juice to KS2.

Proceeds from the tuck shop will be donated to Pawz for Thought

## Catholic Social Teaching Awards

At the end of each half term, we present a special Catholic Social Teaching Award to every child who is putting their faith into action within our school community and the wider world. We would like parents to nominate their child for this award by letting us know about their child's achievements outside of school, for example; charity fundraising, exemplary behaviour towards others, volunteering in the community or taking an active role in the parish.

Please email [tso\\_info@stoswaldsrc.co.uk](mailto:tso_info@stoswaldsrc.co.uk) by **Tues 8th April** with details of how your child has put their faith into action this half term.

## [Link for pupils to vote in BCCET Awards](#)

### Chadwick Celebration Awards 2025 Pupil Nomination Information



One of Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trusts values is **Celebration** and we want to celebrate all our staff across the Trust who go that extra mile. There are seventeen categories in our awards and **only pupils can nominate** in the Inspirational Staff Award category.

Nominate staff from your school for our Inspirational Staff Award

[www.tinyurl.com/pupil2025](http://www.tinyurl.com/pupil2025)





## Learning Through Workshops

We have enjoyed a variety of workshops in school recently.

Groundwork (West Boldon Lodge) came and taught us all about the lifecycle of plants, and helped us to design a pot and plant a seed. The children from Nursery to Year 3 are now excitedly waiting for the first sprouts!

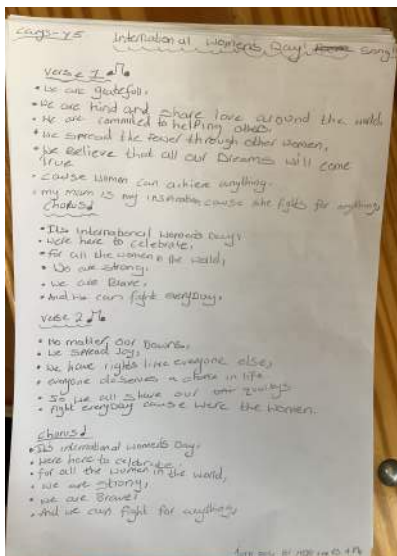


More than Dance came in and helped us use dance to explore our Catholic faith in new and creative ways.



Northern Gas came to teach us about what "Carbon Neutral" means and how we can achieve it. We also looked at pipelines and how they connect.

We learned about Stronger Shores with Durham Wildlife Trust, who delivered a workshop for Years 3, 4 and 5. We learned all about climate change, coastal erosion and the different marine life species that are local to us.



Active Kids delivered an International Women's Day workshop to KS2 using poetry, song and dance to explore the topic of strong women in history.



## Music Festival

Our Choir (18th March) and Year 2 (20th March) put on fantastic performances at the South Tyneside Music Festival recently. Well done to them all for practicing so hard and working with other schools to create a show we're all so proud of.

## Mother's Day Raffle

Congratulations to Aston in Year 4 who won the Mother's Day Hamper. £136 was raised



## Nursery Stay and Play—Friday 28th March



Thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended our Nursery Stay and Play. The children had so much fun showing you around their Nursery and sharing all their learning with you.



### Key Dates Spring Term 2

Friday 11th April—Easter Raffle Drawn  
**Friday 11th April—Last day of term—1.15pm finish**

### Key Dates Summer Term 1

Monday 28th April—Return to school

Monday 5th May—Bank Holiday

Mon 12th—Thurs 16th May—SATs Week (Year 6)

Wednesday 21st-Friday 23rd May—Year 5 Residential

Fri 23rd May—Last day of half term (3.25pm finish)

### CAFOD Distances

As we enter the final week of the CAFOD Big Lent Walk, we would like to celebrate the incredible achievements and distances some of our families have participated in together.

Nursery: Madison - 3km Ada 2.1km

Year 1: Meredith - 5.3km

Year 2: Darcie - 25km, Amelia - 13.5km, Jessica - 25.2km, Summer - 52.2km

Olivia, Phoebe, Charlotte. Aria, Vitoria, Jessica, Olivia, Summer and Ella all joined Mrs Keith, on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, to walk 1km at break time.

Year 3: Abby - 7.4km, Ben - 2km, Jase - 20.4km

Year 4: Hannah - 8km, Seren - 1.6km

Year 5: Emily - 37.25km

## AWARDS—21st March 2025

### FOOTPRINT AWARD

Jack - Reception  
 Xander - Year 1  
 All Year 2 - Year 2  
 Alfred - Year 3  
 Caiden - Year 4  
 Rhys - Year 5  
 Billy - Year 6

### ENGLISH AWARD

Tommy S - Reception  
 Zachary - Year 1  
 Dominic - Year 2  
 Ben - Year 3  
 Hayden - Year 4  
 Harvey - Year 5  
 Isla - Year 6

### MATHS AWARD

Myla - Reception  
 Cody - Year 1  
 Summer - Year 2  
 Emily—Year 3  
 Mason - Year 4  
 Amelia-Rose - Year 5  
 Heidi - Year 6

### GOLD HOT CHOCOLATE

#### AWARD

Roman W - Reception  
 Bo - Year 1  
 Olivia S - Year 2  
 Malakai - Year 3  
 Salvador - Year 4  
 Estrella - Year 5  
 Godswill - Year 6

## AWARDS—4th April 2025

### FOOTPRINT AWARD

Lucy and Evie - Reception  
 Aidan - Year 1  
 Dominic - Year 2  
 Nicole - Year 3  
 Lois - Year 4  
 Phoebe - Year 5  
 - Year 6

### ENGLISH AWARD

Kythen - Reception  
 Grace - Year 1  
 Vada - Year 2  
 Freddie - Year 3  
 Millie - Year 4  
 Louie - Year 5  
 - Year 6

### MATHS AWARD

Sophia - Reception  
 Charlotte - Year 1  
 Laila - Year 2  
 Freddie - Year 3  
 Aston - Year 4  
 Louie - Year 5  
 - Year 6

### GOLD HOT CHOCOLATE

#### AWARD

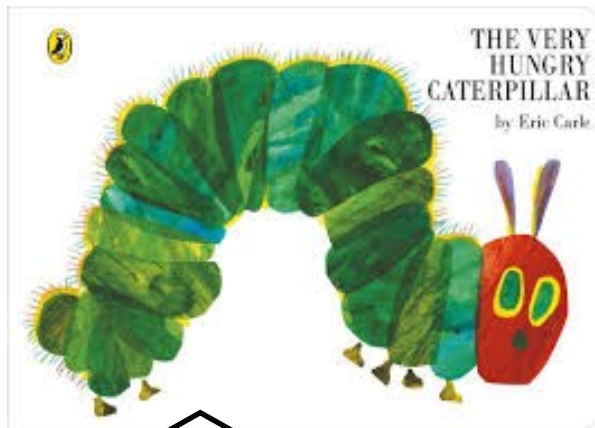
Quinn - Reception  
 Reuben - Year 1  
 Isla - Year 2  
 Hugo - Year 3  
 Zac - Year 4  
 Rhys - Year 5  
 - Year 6



## Recommended Reading!

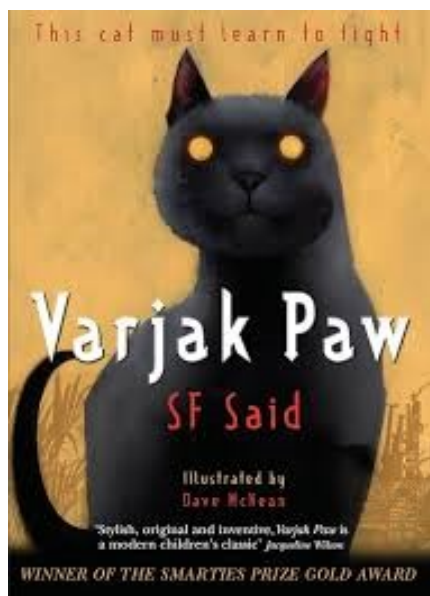
Here are some books that our children have enjoyed reading this half term so far. You can find them and hundreds of other fantastic books for free in our local library, The Word. If you discover any new favourite books you'd like to share, please let us know!

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.

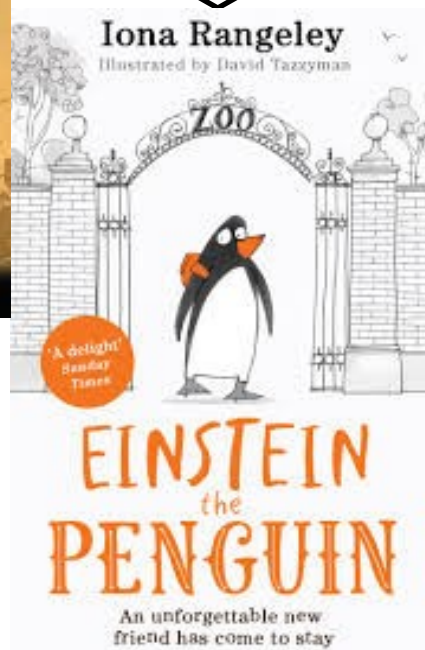


Recommended  
by  
Nursery

Recommended  
by Reception



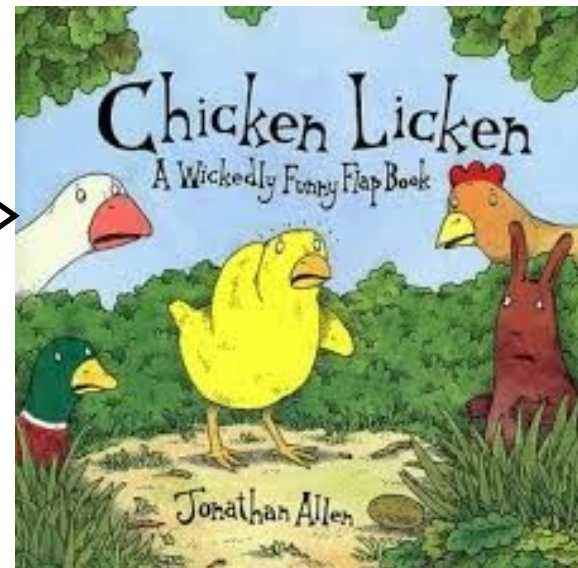
Recommended  
by Year  
5



Recommended  
by Year 2



Recommended  
by Year 3



Recommended  
by Year 1



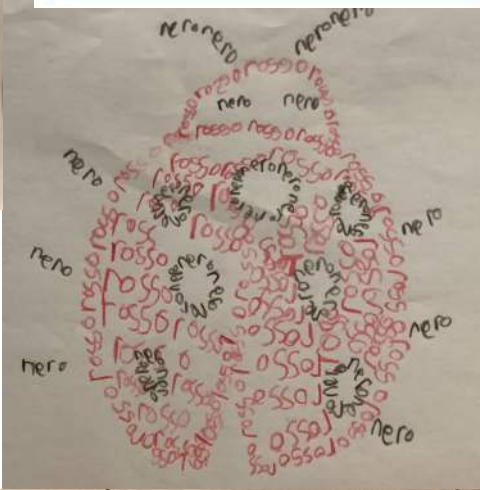
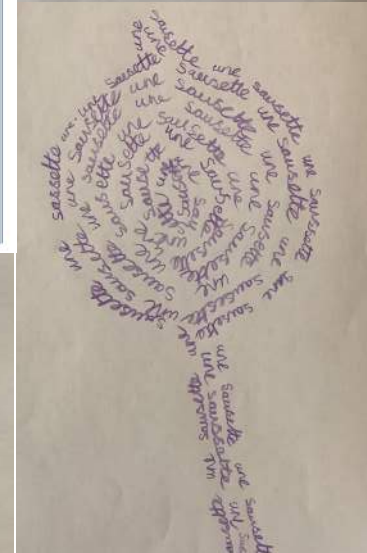
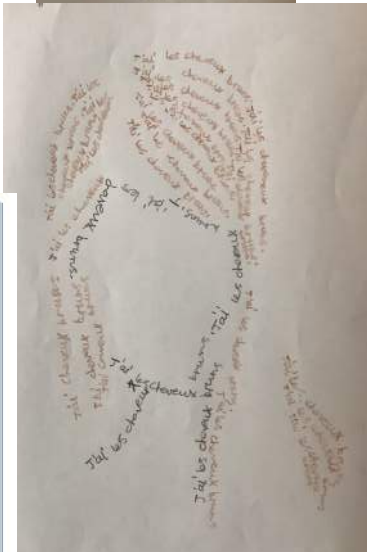
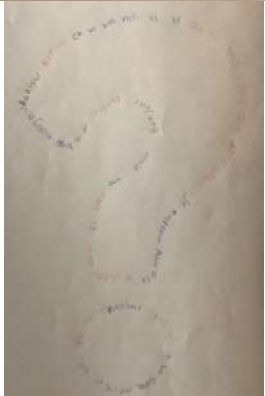
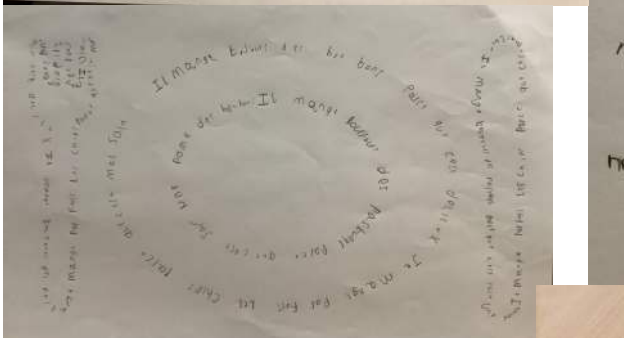
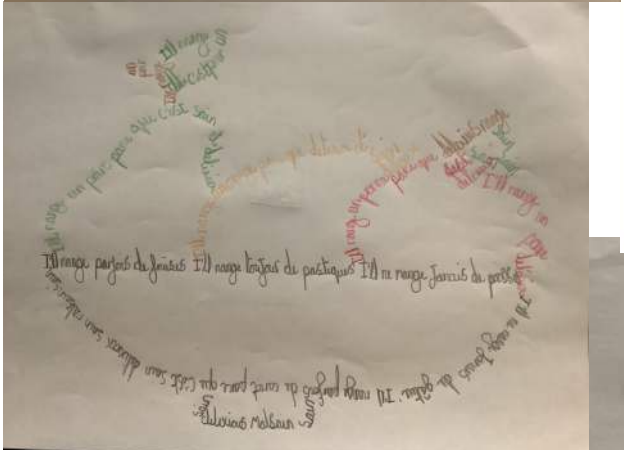
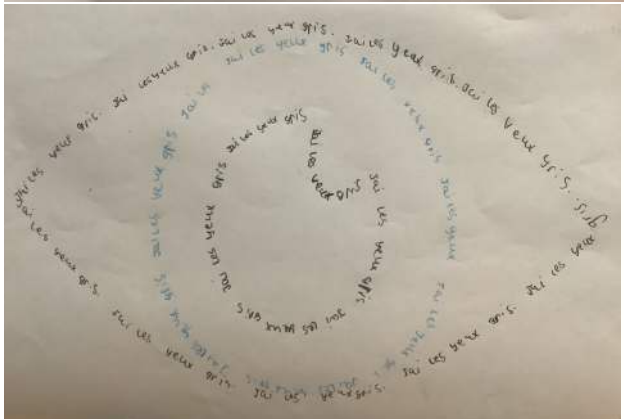
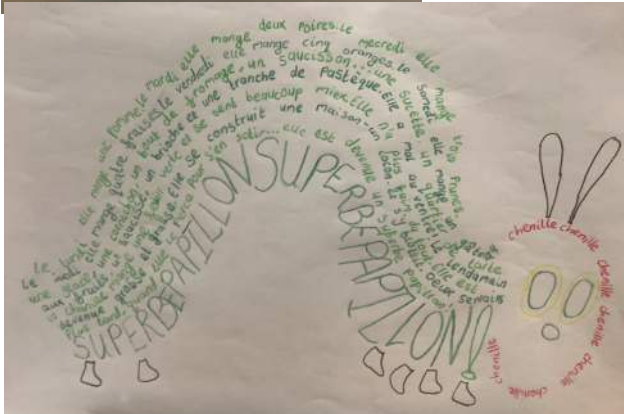
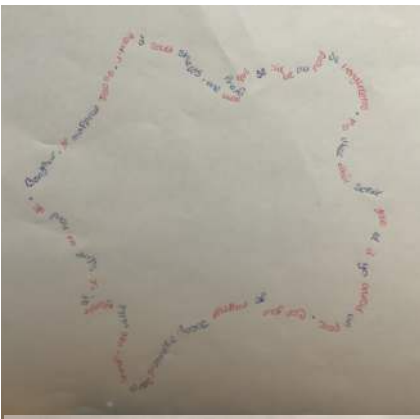




# Calligrams

Just over a hundred years ago, at the end of the First World War, the French poet Guillaume Appollinaire published a set of poems called *Calligrammes* in which he used ink and fonts to draw recognisable shapes with connected words.

These are our entries for this years Festival of Languages Calligram competition. All of our children had the chance to design their own calligrams in languages other than English—we had some great entries in both French and Italian! Please zoom in to discover the words that have been creatively formed into shapes to form poetry that is both written and visual.





## Easter Bonnets and Gardens of Gethsemane

