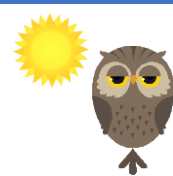




St Oswald's CE Primary Newsletter

July 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

As the school year once again draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support, kindness and commitment to working together. The children continue to make me proud every day and it has been a pleasure to see the progress they have made over the school year. I am also very grateful to our staff team, who work tirelessly to provide the best opportunities for the children day in, day out. I hope to see many of you over the next few days at our final end-of-term events and wish you all a very happy summer break.

Jemma Dunne

Learning for all

You should now have received your child's end of year report, which details and celebrates the progress that has been made over the school year. Year 6 SATs results have been included in the reports and I want to credit the way our pupils conducted themselves during the exams, showing a resilient, 'can-do' attitude. We are proud of each and every one of them. We are hosting an **open evening** tomorrow, Tuesday 15th July from 3.30-5.15pm, for parents and carers to visit classrooms. This is an opportunity to celebrate some of the learning that has taken place over the year and to discuss your child's report with the class teacher. An opportunity to visit new teachers and classrooms will be given early in September.

The **Summer Reading Challenge** is now open and is a great way to spend your quieter summer days and an even better way of keeping your child's reading skills, and love of reading, developing whilst they are away from school. The challenge invites children, to read six or more library books over the summer. There are stickers and other rewards for every book read, with a medal and certificate for every child who completes the challenge. Taking part is completely free and children have until the start of September to finish. We love the reading challenge at St Oswald's and came in second place amongst York schools last year!

Once again, we plan to celebrate the children who complete the Summer Reading Challenge with a treat. Anyone who brings in their finisher's certificate will be invited to a **hot chocolate 'relax and read' event** in school time as a reward and will be entered into a **prize draw** to win a book of their choice from our '100 books to read at St Oswald's' list! Your children can sign up now at Fulford Library!

Caring for each other

I hope you have had the chance to read the feedback from our recent **church school inspection** report (SIAMS). It is a report to be incredibly proud of and one that recognises the qualities of our wonderful school.

[SIAMS report](#)

We have made the decision to move away from using social media to share updates with you. Our current outlet, X, does not reflect our school values and we feel it is the right time to step away from the platform. Next year, we will continue to keep you updated via email and Seesaw and will inform you if there is to be any change to this.

We currently allow Y5/6 pupils to hand a phone in at school as part of their independent walking to/from school plan if parents or carers choose. As of September, we will be a **smartphone free school** and we ask that **no child is sent to school with a smartphone**. Basic 'brick' phones are encouraged for those who feel a phone is needed. If your child will be joining Year 6 and has already been provided with a smartphone, we will make an exception this year if you feel strongly that they need it with them for safety reasons.

Staffing Update: Mrs Lyon will be taking some time away from St Oswald's over the next year as she is expecting her second baby. We wish her every happiness for the year ahead. Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Walton will remain on maternity leave until January and February respectively. We are delighted that Dormice and Barn Owls classes will be in the care of Miss Rowe and Mrs Waind in the meantime. At the end of term, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Galloway and Miss Quinn who have been much-loved members of support staff here at St Oswald's. We wish them all the best for the future.

Collective worship this Friday morning will be a chance to say goodbye to our staff, pupil and governor leavers and will be partly led by the Year 6 pupils. Please feel free to join us at 9am as we reflect back on their school journey and celebrate the end of the school year. Year 6 will host their full final leavers assembly at 2pm for their own parents and carers.

Preparing for the future

As we near the end of this academic year, we would once again appreciate your feedback on how well you feel we are moving forward with our school vision and provision. [Our parent survey](#) will be open over the summer holidays. If you can spare a few minutes to share your feedback with us, we would appreciate it.

School uniform has been maintained to a good standard this year. Thank you for your support with this. Our uniform policy is set out on our school website: <https://www.stoswalds.york.sch.uk/school-uniform> for those who would like to check the requirements ready for a new school year. Please note that studs are the only safe/appropriate earrings for in school. Children wearing hoop earrings will be asked to remove them. The key change to our policy for September is the **addition of plain black trainers**, if preferred, to smart school shoes. We'd also encourage wellies and waterproofs as we plan to be outdoors in all weather.

There are currently places available for pupils of Year 4, 5 and 6 for **Art Club** next term. The club is run by local illustrator and art tutor Lucy Monkman and it is after school on Thursday afternoons. The club finishes at 4.15pm and all the materials are provided. If your child would like to join Art Club or for any further information please email Lucy: lucy.monkman@btinternet.com.

We have lots of summer holiday event offers from various providers to share with you – the office will send these separately.

City of York Council are looking for our **new crossing patrol person**. Please see the details below for more details and help us to find our patrol person for September:

Pay: around £11.94 an hour up to 8 hours per week

Visit the council's website to see how you can play your part in your community.

Or for a chat about the role, call 01904 555579

www.york.gov.uk/SchoolCrossingPatrols

Price rise

Due to increasing costs, ABM are having to increase the price of a school meal by 5p to **£2.90** from September.

The increase will not affect those pupils who are eligible for '**Free School Meals**'. If you think that your child may be eligible for a free school meal and you currently do not claim, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> for further information and guidance. The school office team would be happy to support you in applying.

Dates for the diary

Tues 15th July: Open classrooms 3.15-5.15pm

Fri 19th July: Collective worship 9am (Year 6 leading – all parents/carers welcome)

Fri 19th July: Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2pm (Year 6 parents/carers welcome)

Fri 19th July: Last day of term before the summer holidays

Term dates 2025-2026

Weds 3rd Sept: Autumn term 1 begins - School reopens
Wb 27th Oct: Half term week (school closed)

Mon 3rd Nov: Autumn term 2 begins
22nd Dec – 4th Jan: Christmas holidays (school closed)

Tues 6th Jan: Spring term 1 begins
Wb 16th Feb: Half term week (school closed)

Mon 23rd Feb: Spring term 2 begins
30th Mar – 10th Apr: Easter holidays (school closed)

Tues 14nd Apr: Summer term 1 begins
Wb 25th May: Half term (school closed)

Mon 1st June: Summer term 2 begins
Fri 17th July: Last day of term before the summer holidays