

St Oswald's CE Primary Newsletter

January 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am so impressed with how well the children have returned to school and the enthusiasm they are showing for learning. January is certainly a long, cold month but there is something happening in school every day to put a smile on our faces.

We talk in collective worship about how snowdrops are a sign of hope and remind us to appreciate the beauty around us even when the days feel dark and long. The super 'snowdrop spotting' children are doing on the way to/from school and sharing with me definitely makes my January feel a bit brighter!

Jemma Dunne

Learning for all

Our new term has got off to a productive start with lots of exciting new topics and learning taking place across school. Key events are listed at the end of this newsletter so please take a few moments to see what dates may need to be added to your calendar.

Next week, our **Young Voices** Choir will once again join with thousands of other children and professional performers in Sheffield Arena for the Young Voices concert. I'd like to thank Miss Rowe for the hard work she has put in to rehearsing with the choir each week and the hours spent organising the day. And also the children, who have worked so hard learning a wide range of technical songs. I can't wait to spend the day with them as we always embrace the experience and enjoy every moment.

Adult Learning: I would like to draw your attention to the Family Learning sessions that are planned to run at Fulford Library over the spring term. Moving forward, it is planned for wellbeing-based and personal development courses to run here, with academic support sessions moving over to Low Moor. The sessions are run by a learning and skills tutor, Sally Sutton, and come highly recommended from families who have attended previous courses.

Wednesday 14th Jan for 5 weeks

Supporting Children with Mental Wellbeing course

Week 1 Understanding Mental Health - dealing with anxiety, stress

Week 2 Social Wellbeing

Week 3 Healthy Habits – Physical, Diet, Sleep, Social, Mental

Week 4 Be Positive

Week 5 Resilience

After half term February to May 12 week course

Supporting Children in Schools (Introduction to TA role – equivalent of Level 2 – leading to opportunity to do Level 3 Qualification)

Further information about the courses and how to sign up can be found at the school office.

Caring for each other

Friendship is our school value this half term. We will be celebrating the children who are displaying fantastic friendship skills in collective worship each Friday morning with a caring tree leaf and certificate.

Respectful relationships are the basis of everything we try to build on here in school. I want to recognise how hard so many of our children are trying to show lovely manners and kindness all the time. This behaviour cannot be encouraged enough and is something that visitors often comment on when they come to St Oswald's. I also want to thank you as parents and carers for modelling this with your respectful interactions with staff and for encouraging and praising this with your children – they make me very proud!

Preparing for the future

We are really pleased that our school building work is complete and are now starting to enjoy the new spaces that have opened up to us. Children in Y5/6 and Y6 are now in their new classrooms, which are beautiful, and all children have access to specialist music and art rooms. Once we have settled in to these spaces, we will invite you to come in and see them for yourselves. Thank you, once again, for your patience while the work was taking place. We are especially grateful to FOSOSF for raising the funds to equip our new art studio with art supplies for the children to enjoy moving forward.

Now that both gates into school are open, we would like to refresh our 8.45am start to the day by closing the gates and doors punctually. This really helps the children to have a settled, productive start to the day. We will continue to open the playground gates from 8.30am. If you arrive at school after 8.45am, please make your way through the main office. Any arrivals after 9am will be registered as late.

Dates for the diary

Thurs 29th Jan: Young Voices Concert in Sheffield

Mon 2nd Feb/9th Feb: No KS2 Choir Practice

Tues 10th Feb: Year 6 Parents Information Evening – Residential and SATS – 5.15pm School Hall

Weds 11th Feb: Y5/6 Visit to Magna

Wb 16th Feb: Half term week (school closed)

Mon 23rd Feb: Spring term 2 begins

Tues 3rd Mar: Y1 Visit to The Deep

Weds 4th Mar: Y2 Visit to The Deep

Thurs 5th Mar: World Book Day (more info to follow, book character fancy dress welcome)

Fri 6th Mar: Year 3/4 Dance group attending Dance Festival

Tues 17th Mar: Parent/Carer Evening (more info to follow)

Weds 18th Mar: Parent/Carer Evening (more info to follow)

Thurs 26th Mar: Y3/4 Visit to Yorkshire Arboretum (more info to follow)

Fri 27th Mar: 9am Easter Service (School Hall)

Term Times

Wb 16th Feb: Half term week (school closed)

Mon 23rd Feb: Spring term 2 begins

30th Mar – 10th Apr: Easter holidays (school closed)

Tues 14th 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