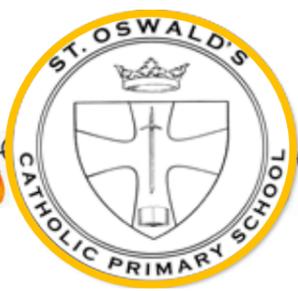


St Oswald's Catholic Primary School

Parents' / Carers' Newsletter

Autumn term 2021 - Christmas edition



<https://stoswaldsschool.com/>

@StOswaldsPriLiv

Weduc

Google Classroom



Thanks be unto
God, for his
unspeakable
gift

2 Corinthians
9:15

A Christmas message from Mrs Walsh

As we come to the end of the autumn term, I would like to thank everyone for the cooperation and support we have had through all the challenges we have faced. Your children, as always have been amazing and have adapted whenever we have needed to make changes to our routines. Looking back to all the lovely things that have taken place in school since September, it feels that we have completed a full year!!

Though our Nativity services have been virtual, I hope that you all get the opportunity to watch online; they were very special and perfect celebrations of the birth of our saviour Jesus. I would like to thank you all, parents, pupils and friends of St Oswald's, for your continued support and to wish you and your loved ones a restful Christmas and a New Year of health and happiness. Just a reminder School closes Wednesday 22nd December 1pm, please ensure your child is picked up promptly, we reopen on January 4th at the normal time.



Feliz
Navidad

Congratulations to our class attendance winners:

EYFS - **RJC** 94.2%

KS1 - **2LH** 95.6%

LKS2 - **3EM** 96.1%

UKS2 - **5JW** 94.9%

Winning infant house team is **Shepherd!** Well done!

Winning junior house team is **Lightbody!** Well done!

ptfa

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

**WORLD
GIFTS**

Well done to all of our classes for raising money for CAFOD.

With the money, which you have all kindly donated, the children from each class have selected gifts to send worldwide to help transform the lives of poor communities and families in developing countries!

Water for a family, teach someone to read and the net that protects, are just some of the amazing gifts we have sent this year!

If you would like to learn more about CAFOD and World Gifts, then please follow the link below:

<https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

Merry Christmas from the ptfa!

This year, like last, we would have loved to have put on our usual events this term but unfortunately this wasn't possible. The ptfa provided all children in school with treats and party food for their class Christmas parties, as well as providing children with baubles for mince pie and baubles day! We look forward to being able to provide a range of events for pupils and families in the New Year.

Baby News

We would like to congratulate all of our new mums from our school family on the safe and healthy arrival of their gorgeous new babies! This year we have had five new additions and still have more on the way in 2022!



Advent



An Advent message from Fr. Liam

Throughout our Advent season, we have been getting ready for Christmas in many different ways. We have been practicing and performing our Christmas Nativity plays. We have been learning about the Christmas message, and how 'Maranatha', which means 'Come Lord' is fulfilled in Jesus, who is Emmanuel, which means 'God with us'. We have tracked our progress by lighting the advent candles on the advent wreath, and we look forward to lighting the final candle on Christmas Eve, when we sing with the Christmas angels that Christ is born in Bethlehem. But we have also been preparing our hearts. Through advent, the readings at Mass that we have been listening to, have shown us how to be ready for the coming of Christ, not in a stable in Bethlehem, but in our very selves, in our hearts and lives. The real meaning of Christmas isn't that Santa brings us gifts, toys and presents, but that Jesus IS our present, the greatest gift we can expect. During our Christmas Masses, we will hear the following words from Saint John's Gospel:

"In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of all, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower ... The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth" This passage reminds us that Jesus is the word of God, who came to earth on Christmas day to show us that he is the light of life, and through him, we can have everlasting happiness with God in heaven. May the Christ Child of Bethlehem be born in your hearts this Christmas, and may God bless you and your families with peace, happiness, and joy.

Have a Happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.
Fr. Liam Collister

Nativity Performances

It has not been possible again this year to celebrate Advent and the lead up to Christmas how we would have liked, however that has not stopped us from spreading the true meaning of Christmas! We have had two wonderful Nativity performances from our Year 3 and Reception children, who have helped us to remember that Advent is a time when we wait and prepare for the coming of Jesus.

To watch and view photo's from the Nativity performances, plus see what other advent and Christmas celebrations we have been doing, then please follow the link below:

<https://stoswaldsschool.com/>



Christmas Party day / Jumper day 2021

The Christmas festivities were in full swing on both Christmas jumper day and Christmas Party day, with even a very special visit from **FATHER CHRISTMAS**! All of the children enjoyed Christmas parties and party food, while spreading Christmas cheer!



Christmas Dinner

Winner, winner, Christmas Dinner! All children and staff enjoyed a tasty Christmas dinner together, whilst singing Christmas carols and sharing Christmas crackers.



Church dates

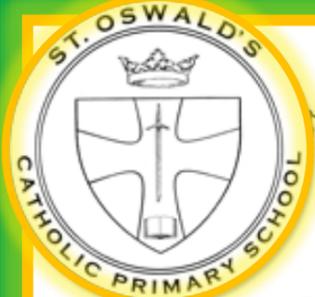
For Mass times, please see the parish website:

www.sebosw.org

Follow the link below for a Christmas blessing from Fr. Liam:

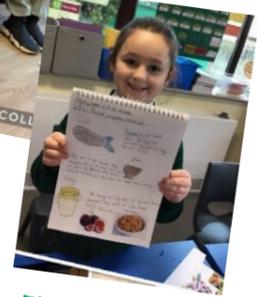
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWEDtbvQy4>





Care home visits

The choir have enjoyed visiting our local care homes, spreading Christmas joy and cheer by singing lovely carols! Residents, children and staff have had a wonderful time!



D.T Week



D.T week has been a success with all children across the school developing vital skills. Nursery enjoyed developing their cutting skills while year 2 made pizzas! Year 5 had fun making Moroccan couscous as Year 6 made a wartime classic...scouse! In year 1, the children designed and made their own fruit salad as year 4 made Greek ones! All children followed the same process of researching, designing, making and evaluating.

Advent

All children have been celebrating Advent and preparing for the coming of Jesus by learning about Advent in RE. Each class has had their own posada which was sent home each night with a child to celebrate with their families. Children have made advent acts of kindness calendars, we have made Christingles, had advents services from our Year 6 pupils and even special visits from the elves!



Remembrance Day

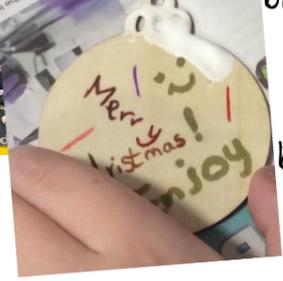
All of the children and staff paid their respects to the war veterans by making poppies, having a two-minute silence and raising money through buying poppy merchandise! We all joined together as a whole school for a Remembrance Day service with a very special performance of the last post by Miss Wilde. The choir also visited the care homes where they performed wartime songs and gave hampers for the residents to have a Remembrance Day tea party, which was kindly donated by our local Tesco, Old Swan.



Other faiths

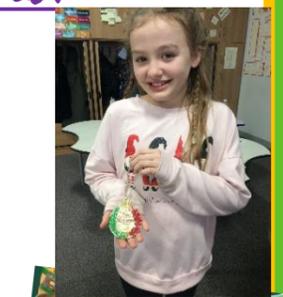
All children from nursery to Year 6 learned about Judaism during our other faith's week in school. The children explored Jewish artefacts, learned about different symbols and their meanings, places of worship and traditions. We also learned about Diwali and the festival of light!

Judaism



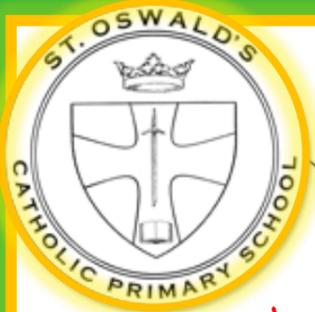
Mince pie and baubles

Children made Christmas baubles, which were kindly bought by the ptfa for all children to decorate. They then bought their baubles to raise money!



Diwali





Covid-19 update



REMINDER! face masks MUST be worn on school grounds. If you have an exemption letter then please bring this into the school office to receive an exemption card.

If your child develops COVID-19 symptoms, they should not come into school and they should follow public health advice.

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- + a high temperature
- + a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- + a loss or change to sense of smell or taste - this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Following these steps, you **must** also inform school immediately of the results of a test:

If a pupil tests **negative** - return to school the following day if they are well.

If a pupil tests **positive** - self-isolate for at least **10 days** from the onset of their symptoms.

Please email all positive results to positivecovid@stoswaldsschool.com

Emergency Advice

The CAMHS Crisis Care team provides support, advice and guidance to children, families and professionals in

crisis. **To speak to a member of the team call:**

CAMHS Crisis Line – 0151 293 3577

CRISIS CARE FREEPHONE: 0808 196 3550

Fresh CAMHS – 0151 293 3662

For more information about crisis care, please click here

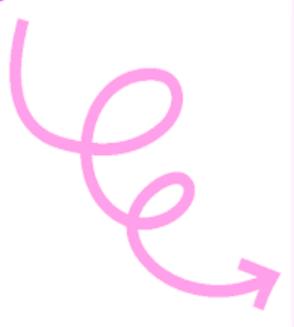
Shout 85258 is a free, confidential, 24/7 text message support service for anyone who is feeling overwhelmed or is struggling to cope.

We can help with issues such as stress, anxiety and depression and are here to talk at any time of day or night.

If you're under 18 text GREEN to 85258 and if you're 18 and above text HEAL for immediate support. Find out more here.



Term Dates



Normal start times

Spring 2022 Term 1

Wednesday 4th January - Friday 14th February

INSET DAY - Monday 28th February

We hope you all have a happy, healthy and holy Christmas break and look forward to welcoming you all back for our first term of 2022!

