St Oswald's Newsletter 20.11.26

'Love Jesus, Love Learning, Love Each Other'

This week's Wednesday Word is: 'Kindness'

Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to see you in everyone I meet and to be **kind** to all, especially when this is sometimes difficult to do. Amen.

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak but their echoes are truly endless"

St Teresa of Calcutta

In school, by following the 'Ozzie's Way', we are kind. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us of the true value of kindness. To be kind is to be considerate of others and being helpful- to have concern for others. We are a school of kindness and so are our homes.

Mass Times

Saturday
St Wilfrid's 6pm

Sunday
Our Lady's
9:30am & 6:30pm
St Oswald's
11am

AWARD WINNERS

	Ozzie's Champ	Top-Table Winner
Reception	Ronnie R	Erin O
Sparrows	William O'C	Elizabeth W
Robins	Charlotte B	Lucas V
Starlings	Ruby T	Libby G
Magpies	Izabella O	Ada T
Seagulls	Grace K	Jacob Mc
Owls	Sophia Cle	Dottie N
Eagles	Libby B	Oliver T

	Attendance		
Reception	95.1%	**Starlings**	95.3%
Sparrows	95.6%	**Magpies**	95.1%
Robins	95.5%	**Seagulls**	96.1%
		Owls	96.9%
		Eagles	92.8%

Illness Related Absences

Illness is the biggest single reason for school absence.
The NHS advises that most mild illnesses such as:

- Runny nose
- Sore Throat
- Mild cough

Do not require children to stay off school unless they have a temperature or are otherwise too unwell to attend.

Council Avenue Concerns

Please see a separate email sent to parents/carers about my concerns regarding Council Avenue during certain times and the safety of our children and families. I am urging our families to not park or drop off on Council Avenue and to continue being extremely vigilant when walking with their child in order to keep our children and families safe.

OFSTED Success — Time to Celebrate!

We are incredibly proud of this report and what it says about our school community. Inspectors recognised that safeguarding is effective and that standards are met across six key areas of school life. They highlighted our positive culture, ambitious curriculum, inclusive ethos, strong leadership, extensive support for wellbeing and the caring relationships that sit at the heart of St Oswald's.

The report reflects the hard work and commitment of our pupils, staff, governors, parents and families. We are especially proud that inspectors described our pupils as "happy, confident and proud to be part of the St Oswald's community" and recognised that "everyone is welcome at this school."

While celebrating these strengths, we fully embrace the next steps identified by inspectors. We have already begun this work through curriculum improvements, strengthened teaching approaches and further developments in SEND provision. We remain ambitious for every child and are committed to building on this positive report so that all pupils continue to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

Parent Interviews

Today, you will have received communication, by email, and a link to book your time for your child's parent interview next week.
A reminder that parent interviews for:

EYFS/KS1 is on **Monday 23rd November**
KS2 are on **Tuesday 24th November.**

Rock Kidz

A reminder that on **Thursday 26th November,** Rock Kidz are back in school! As we continue to celebrate the message of **Anti-Bullying Week 2026 – BREAK THE SILENCE!** we'll be encouraging everyone to choose kindness, celebrate what makes us unique and stand together against bullying. Children are welcome to dress up as a **rock star** for the day!

Deacon Jim Visit

It was a joy to welcome Deacon Jim into school! We enjoyed talking together about exciting plans to strengthen the links between our school and the parish. Deacon Jim also took a tour of the school and was delighted to see our prayer spaces in all our classrooms.

Y4 Swimming Lesson

24.11.26

Please note that next week's swimming lesson is cancelled due to parent interviews. Thank you for your understanding.

Christmas Cards

Please check your email for information about how you can buy your child's Christmas card

Odd Socks

On Monday, to mark the beginning of Anti-Bullying Week, the children enjoyed coming into school in their odd socks Please see pictures below and on Bluesky.

Music Assembly

We were delighted to welcome a musician from Wigan Music Service into school to share the joy of music and the excitement of learning to play an instrument. Wigan Music Service offers a range of lessons, including brass, woodwind and singing, giving children wonderful opportunities to explore their musical talents. If you would like further information, please contact our school office. See Bluesky

Christmas Tree Decorations



Children are invited to make a Christmas tree decoration for our school Christmas tree based upon the theme of '**Peace**'.

The children will be able to hang their decoration on the Christmas tree on:
Tuesday 1st December.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2026

FREE PARENT & CARER PACK

Supporting conversations about bullying at home



Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of Anti-Bullying Week 2026, the Anti-Bullying Alliance has created a free Parent and Carer Pack to support families in continuing conversations about bullying at home.

Inside the pack:

- Ideas and activities to help you talk to your child about bullying, whatever their age.
- Suggestions to promote kindness, respect and positive relationships at home.



ACCESS THE FREE PACK

Parent and carer pack
https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2026/parent-and-carer-pack



We hope you find this resource useful in supporting the important messages of Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day.

Kind regards,
Mrs Latham
PSHE Lead and Mental Health and Wellbeing Ambassador

Small conversations make a big difference

KINDNESS • RESPECT • POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS





2026 Odd Socks day







Online Safety: Grand Theft Auto VI

Information for parents and carers

SAFER CHILDREN BRIGHTER FUTURES

Following yesterday's release of Grand Theft Auto VI (GTA 6), many children may be talking about the game or seeing videos of it online.

GTA 6 carries a PEGI 18 rating

Reflecting adult content including extreme violence, sexual content and drug use.

Age ratings describe the suitability of the content, rather than how difficult a game is to play.

Start a conversation

With so much interest around the release, this is a useful opportunity to chat with children about what they are playing and watching. Children may also encounter gameplay through videos, livestreams or watching other family members, even if they do not play themselves.

How you can help

Parents and carers can support children by checking account age restrictions, reviewing parental controls and taking an interest in the gaming content they enjoy. Reminding children that they can talk to you about anything surprising, confusing or upsetting helps keep these conversations open.

For practical support, visit
Internet Matters' parental controls guides
www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/

Christmas Hamper Appeal

This Christmas, we are asking the school community to help spread some festive cheer.

We are collecting **food items** and **toiletries** to create special Christmas hampers for the **senior citizens within our local community.** These hampers will be lovingly put together by our pupils and presented at our

★ Sing-a-long Bingo Event on 4th December ★

Any additional donations will be gifted to **Ashton Food Pantry,** helping local families who may be finding Christmas a difficult time.

Every donation, big or small, can make a difference.

Ideas for donations:

- Tinned foods
- Tea, coffee & biscuits
- Christmas treats
- Pasta, rice & cereals
- Soap, shower gel & toiletries
- Toothpaste & hygiene products

★ Please send donations into school as soon as possible. ★

Together, we can bring a little extra warmth, kindness and Christmas magic to those who need it most.



4th DECEMBER @ 1:30pm

SENIOR CITIZENS, GRANDPARENTS AND PARISHIONERS OF ST OSWALD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL YOU'RE INVITED TO:

Sing Along



Come and join us for a festive afternoon of music, fun and community spirit!

- Carols around the Christmas Tree
- Bingo
- Free Refreshments & Hamper Prizes

NOVEMBER

6th November	PTFA – wear bright colours for a £1 donation
6th November	Christmas Card designs to go home today
10th November	Christmas Card designs back to school today
11th November	Remembrance Garden Visit Children who belong to a uniformed organisation e.g. Brownies, cubs, can wear their uniform to school
13th November	Children in Need – more details to follow
16th November	Donations for food and toiletries hamper for senior citizens
23rd November	EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 – Parent Interviews – PM
24th November	Year 3-6 Parent Interviews – PM
26th November	Rock Kidz – Anti-Bullying
27th November	Bring a Christmas decoration in for the Christmas tree – Peace theme

DECEMBER

4th December	PTFA Own clothes day – bring in chocolate or tombola donation 1.30-3.30pm – Sing a long bingo
W/C 7th December	Christmas Performance Dress Rehearsals week – Costumes to be in school
8th December	Christmas Fair
10th December	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch – whole school
11th December	Eaglets Christmas Performance – Doors open 2.15pm
14th December	KS1 Christmas Performance – Doors open 1.45pm
15th December	Y3 and Y4 Christmas Performance – Doors open 1.45pm
16th December	Y5 Christmas Performance – Doors open 1.45pm
17th December	Y6 Christmas Performance – Doors open 1.45pm
17th December	Y5 and Y6 Choir performing at the St Edmund Arrowsmith High School Christmas Carol Concert – more details to follow
18th December	Christmas Party Day – Own clothes – more details to follow
18th December	Schools closes for Christmas