



St Oswald's C of E Aided Primary and Nursery School

Spring Term 2018 Newsletter

Happy New Year & Welcome

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and, on behalf of all the staff and governors, I would like to wish all of you a very Happy New Year. We warmly welcome some new starters to our Nursery and Sunshine Club this term. Welcome to the St Oswald's family!

Baby News

We are delighted to report that Mrs Hassall gave birth to a baby girl on Christmas Eve. Gweneth was born weighing 6lb 7oz.

Volunteers in Classes

Elvet, Dunelm, Neville and Kingsgate Classes all have some student volunteers for some sessions.

Mrs McGraw is a volunteer in Nursery on Tuesdays.

Mrs Henniker-Major is a governor who volunteers in Dunelm Class most Tuesdays.

Mrs Miller is a volunteer in Kingsgate class on Mondays.

Parent/Carer-Teacher Meetings

These will take place on 7th and 14th March 2018 between 3.30pm and 6pm. Further information will be sent to parents/carers regarding these and R-6 appointments can be booked via the Parentmail system. Nursery and Sunshine Club make other arrangements and will notify parents shortly.

Staffing Changes

Mrs Hassall is now on maternity leave and Mrs Wilson-Smith is the acting head teacher. Mrs Johnston from Esh CE School will be at St Oswald's approximately 1 day per week to provide support. We warmly welcome her to our school and look forward to working closely with another small Church school.

We are delighted to welcome Miss Hadley as the class teacher for Neville Class (Year 3/4) whilst Mrs Wilson-Smith is acting head teacher. She is a very experienced teacher and has much to offer our school.

	Teacher(s)	Support Staff
Nursery	Mrs Kirkup Mrs Stanley	Miss Jewell Miss Swanston Mrs Frame
Elvet	Miss Preece	Mrs Ryan
Dunelm	Mr Handy	Mrs Lang
Neville	Miss Hadley	Miss Rycroft
Kingsgate	Mrs Ribchester	Mrs Middleton Mrs Cantwell

Mr Davison, PE Apprentice, works across all classes. **Mr Rooney** is our new French teacher. He will work with Dunelm and Kingsgate classes this half term. Dunelm and Neville will have French after the half term holiday.

Teaching assistants frequently work with children across all classes but are based in the classes as per the table above.

Weekly Awards

The last newsletter of the Autumn term made mention of our new awards: Shining Bright and Shining Light. Details of recipients will be included in the weekly newsletters.

Clubs

Monday: Chess Club 3.15-4.10pm

Thurs: KS2 Basketball (3.15-4.15)

Fri: KS1&R Basketball (3.15-4.15)

Fri: KS2 Film Club (3.15-4.15)

Dunelm Class-Led Worship

This will take place on Thursday 22nd March at 9.05am. Parents/Carers with children in Dunelm are warmly welcomed to join with this class-led worship and can then spend some time in the classroom looking at their child's work.

Easter Competitions

A decorated Easter egg competition will be held on Wednesday 28th March and small prizes will be awarded by our experienced judge, Mrs Hughes. Easter egg entries should be collected from the school hall at the end of the day. The Easter Bonnet parade will also take place on this day and we look forward to seeing all of the wonderful designs. Both the egg competition and the bonnet parade are open to all year groups, including nursery.

PE Kits and Uniform

Please ensure that your child has a full and **named** PE kit in school each day. This should include a house t-shirt, black shorts, black jogging bottoms, socks and black plimsolls.

Parents are asked to keep our uniform policy in mind when purchasing new items. Our pupils are proud to wear the St Oswald's school uniform and our policy helps to ensure that children are smartly and appropriately dressed. This includes suitable school footwear. Our uniform policy is attached to this newsletter.

Please note that 'smart' watches are not suitable for school (but a small traditional analogue or simple digital watch is permitted).

e-Safety

Safer Internet Day is on the 6th February. We will be arranging in-school events appropriate for each year group during this week and will also share information with parents.

World Book Day & Book Fair

World Book day is on Thursday 1st March and we are already looking forward to it! Look out for theme details being sent home soon.

We are also looking forward to having the Scholastic Book Fair running in school during the week of World Book Day. This will begin on Monday 26th February through to Thursday 1st March after school. There will be a special book fair competition to take part in, too!

Church Services

We are working closely with Father Peter to hold a monthly worship at St Oswald's Church. Parents, Carers, Grandparents and others connected to St Oswald's School and/or Church are warmly encouraged to join us.

The dates are as follows:

Thursday 25th January: conversion of St Paul

Wednesday 21st February: Ash Wednesday

Thursday 29th March: Our Easter School Eucharist on Maundy Thursday

Sunshine Club

Sunshine Holiday Club will be open during the Easter Holiday period with the exception of bank holidays. Please email sunshine@stoswaldsdurham.net with enquiries and to book a place for your child(ren).

Communion Preparation

Father Peter and Sally Henniker-Major (both Foundation Governors) will be offering Communion Preparation classes to interested pupils in Years 3-6. The series of classes will take place on Thursdays 2.30-3pm from 22nd February to 29th March inclusive. Further information will be sent to all parents/carers with children in these year groups and a consent form will be required for your child(ren) to take part.

Calendar of Dates as at 12/1/18

Please check weekly newsletters and Parentmail Events for updates

17 th January afternoon	KS2 Swimming Gala (selected team)
19 th January morning	Year 5/6 Tag Rugby (selected team)
25 th January 9.05am	Church Service: Conversion of St Paul
1 st February All Day	Christingle at Newcastle Cathedral – Kingsgate Class
6 th February Morning	OAE Workshop
6 th February Afternoon	Faerie Queen project in school
7 th February Morning	Year 3 Gymnastics Carousel TBC
7 th February Afternoon/Evening	Faerie Queen at Durham Cathedral
9 th February Morning	KS1 Gymnastics Carousel
12 th – 18 th February	Half term holiday
21 st February 9.05am	Church Service: Ash Wednesday
22 nd February After-school	Year 5/6 Football Team League
26 th February – 1 st March After-school	Book Fair
1 st March All day	World Book Day
1 st March After-school	Year 5/6 Football Team League
8 th March After-school	Year 5/6 Football Team League
12 th March Afternoon	Y4 Football Team – Trophy Competition
13 th March Afternoon	Year 6 Maths Challenge (Choristers School)
15 th March After-school	Year 5/6 Football Team League
16 th March	Cross Country Finals for Ewan and Hector
19 th March Afternoon	Year 5/6 Football Team Tournament
20 th March Afternoon	Year 2-4 Science Afternoon led by Durham University students
22 nd March 9.05am	Dunelm Class-Led Worship
26 th March Morning	Reception pupils Infant Agility
26 th March Afternoon	Year 3 Football Team Festival
28 th March	Easter Egg Competition and Easter Bonnet Parade
29 th March	Church Service: Maundy Thursday Last Day of Term