



Together at St Oswald's, we love, learn, respect and appreciate

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Epiphany Assembly and Mass

On our return to school on Monday, the school gathered together for an assembly and learned about the Epiphany. The children heard the story of how some wise men from another part of the world were led by a star and travelled the long journey to Bethlehem, looking for Jesus and brought Him special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.



During assembly, we thought about what special gifts we could bring to Jesus. The children came up with some lovely ideas such as being loving, honest and kind, caring and praying for others.

On Tuesday 6th January the whole school joined the parish for Mass, to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany.



Thank you to Fr Dave & Deacon Tony for this beautiful Mass.

Celebrating the Year of Reading 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! Welcome back after the Christmas break. I sincerely hope you all had a happy Christmas and made many special memories, with your lovely families.

At St. Oswald's, we are thrilled to launch, 2026—the Year of Reading—a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy and power of books together! At St. Oswald's, we believe reading is one of the greatest gifts we can give our children. It sparks imagination, builds confidence, and opens doors to new worlds.



Reading isn't just about academic success—it helps children grow in empathy, creativity, and understanding. Through stories, they discover new ideas and values that shape who they are. As a faith community, we know that reading can inspire kindness, wisdom, and compassion in everyday life.

"Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body." — Joseph Addison

How You Can Make Reading Special at Home

Your involvement makes all the difference! Here are some simple ways to bring reading to life:

- **Read Together:** Make time each day to share a story and talk about it.
- **Celebrate Their Efforts:** Listen to your child read aloud and cheer them on.
- **Explore New Books:** Visit your local library and discover exciting authors.
- **Be a Role Model:** Let your child see you enjoying a book, magazine, or newspaper.



Share Stories: Talk about favourite characters and swap recommendations.

This year, let's work hand in hand to make reading a joyful part of family life. By nurturing a love of books, we're giving our children the tools to succeed—and the gift of imagination.

Thank you for your support. If you'd like more ideas for reading at home, please get in touch—we'd love to help.

Wishing you all every happiness and

blessing for 2026,

Mrs Orwin

"The more that you read, the more things you will know.

The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." — Dr. Seuss



Reflection

In this week's gospel we hear about how Jesus is baptised by John in the waters of the River Jordan. Water is a very important part of baptism. Water is also really important in our lives for other reasons. We all need water to live.



Living God, we give thanks for water which gives us life. We pray that all your children around the world may have safe water to drink. Amen

CAFOD

2026 ✨ Year of Reading

Set a Reading Routine

Create a daily or weekly reading schedule that becomes a part of your child's routine. Consistency helps build habits.

Make Reading Fun

Choose books that match your child's interests and age level. Engage with the story by discussing it or acting out parts.

Reward Progress

Celebrate small milestones, like finishing a book or reading a chapter, with praise or a small reward.

Lead by Example

Show your love for reading by reading regularly yourself. Children are more likely to read if they see you enjoying it.

How you can help your child to read regularly?

ST OSWALD'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

THE IMPORTANCE OF READING TOGETHER AT HOME

While we celebrate reading in school, the role of parents, carers, and family members cannot be overstated. Reading at home, even for a few minutes each day, helps consolidate what your child learns at school and builds precious family memories.

The support and encouragement you provide truly enhance your child's progress and confidence as a reader.

EYFS & Key Stage 1: We recommend sharing a book together for 10–15 minutes every evening.

Key Stage 2: Please encourage your child to read independently or with you for 15–20 minutes nightly.

Talk about characters, the plot, make predictions about what might happen and discuss what has happened to ensure understanding by asking questions about what has happened in the text.

Remember to sign your child's reading record after every session. These records not only keep teachers informed but also celebrate your child's reading journey and achievements.

St Oswald's Stars

Rec	George
Y1	Harry
Y3	Jacob
Y4	Lyla
Y5	Evie
Y6	Archie

Well done to all our stars!

Join us for our next Celebration Assembly next week on **Friday 16 January, at 9am.**

Everyone Welcome!

Spring 1 Class Overviews & RE Newsletter

Please note that Class Spring 1 overviews and the RE newsletter are now available on the school website and on your child's Google Classroom account.

If you have any difficulty logging into your Google Classroom account, please let your class teacher know.

Diary Dates

Thursday 15 January 2026
Year 5 Swimming Lessons start for 10 weeks

Thursday 15 January 2026
Application deadline for Reception Class September 2026
Parents/Carers of children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 should apply for a place in reception class for September 2026 by midnight Wednesday 15 January 2026

Friday 16 January 2026
Celebration Assembly—9am

Tuesday 20 January 2026
Judo Assembly -10.30am School Hall

Friday 23 January 2026
Year 6 Class Assembly

Thursday 29 January 2026
Tempest Photography—Individual and Sibling Photos

Whole School Attendance

5–9 January 2026

Class	Attendance Percentage
Rec	100% - Excellent
Y1	95%
Y2	98% - Excellent
Y3	95.5%
Y4	90%
Y5	99.3% - Excellent
Y6	96%



98%+ Excellent
96 - 97% Good
95% Satisfactory
91-94% Unsatisfactory
<90% Poor

Whole School attendance this week was 96%

CONGRATULATIONS TO RECEPTION CLASS WITH THE BEST ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK—100%!

School Dinner Menu 5–9 January 2026

Monday 12 January
Margarita Pizza Rounds (v)

Tuesday 13 January
Spaghetti Bolognese served with garden peas (v)

Wednesday 14 January
Ham & Cheese Panini
Cheese Panini (v)

Thursday 15 January
Brunch Lunch

Friday 16 January
Crumbed coated chicken served with chunky chipped potatoes, peas or baked beans
Oven baked fish stars
Quorn Nuggets (v)

Jacket potato option also available daily.
(All options are subject to change if needed).

[School meals now cost £3.05 per day](#)

