

Newsletter

January 2026



As January draws to a close, it has been wonderful to welcome everyone back and settle into the new term. Our classrooms are once again full of energy, learning, and happy faces as routines have been re-established and new goals are taking shape. We're proud of how smoothly the children have returned to school life and look forward to all the exciting learning and activities the weeks ahead will bring.

A shining example

We thought you might like to know that Orla has been busy helping out in the community; volunteering with the Christmas tree collection for the Hospice of the Good Shepherd. She worked extremely hard throughout the day and helped collect over 150 trees, contributing to an incredible total of nearly 4,000 trees and raising an amazing £50,000 for the charity. We are incredibly proud of her efforts and generosity, and wanted to share this wonderful achievement with you – especially as she would never mention it herself!

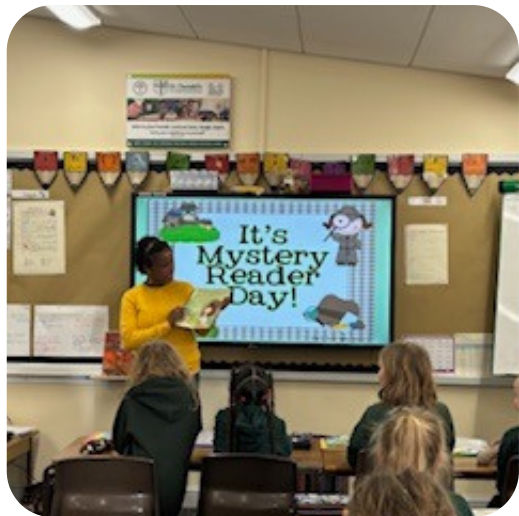


We have been delighted to welcome Milo to school for his first visits! He had a lovely time exploring the office, meeting some new friends, and getting a feel for school life. We look forward to welcoming him back soon and are excited to see him begin his learning journey with us.



The Year or Reading

We are excited to announce that 2026 is the National Year of Reading, a special celebration of books, stories, and a lifelong love of reading. Throughout the year, we will be enjoying lots of fun and engaging reading activities across the school, beginning with our Mystery Readers initiative. We warmly invite parents and carers to come into their child's class – or any class – to share a favourite story with the children. If you would like to take part, please get in touch with the class teachers, who will be delighted to hear from you. We can't wait to see where our reading adventures take us! This week we welcomed our first parent to the Goldfinches and Robins.



Watch your inbox for incoming news on our next exciting initiative for the National Year of Reading...



Sparrows Parent Breakfast

Thank you to all of the Sparrows' parents who joined us for the parent breakfast this month. It was lovely to welcome you into school and share a relaxed and enjoyable morning together. We really appreciate you taking the time to attend and support our school community, and we hope you enjoyed the opportunity to connect with staff and one another.





Rise & Shine

Our Rise & Shine Club have had a fantastic time this month, enjoying a wide range of fun and creative activities. The children loved decorating pizzas and biscuits, making colourful fruit skewers, and keeping active by using the gymnastics apparatus in the hall. They have also made great use of our fabulous outdoor space. A reminder that from January, the oldest sibling attends Rise Club FREE.

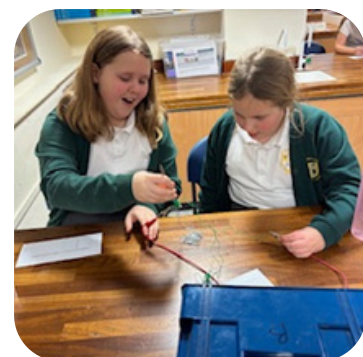
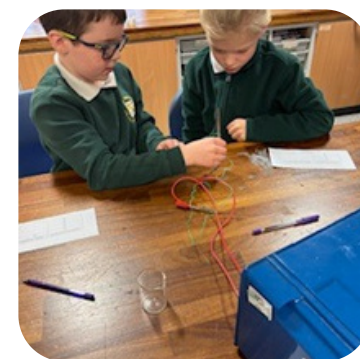
Budding Scientists

Science plays an important role at St Oswald's, helping our children to question, explore, and understand the world around them. We have been fortunate to welcome visitors into school and to visit another local school to take part in exciting science investigations.

Our Key Stage 2 children thoroughly enjoyed an Xplore Science Workshop, while Goldfinches, as part of "3: A Magic Number," explored constructing bridges and investigated states of matter. Meanwhile, the Hummingbirds, through their topic "All One Body," learned all about the different parts of the human body. These hands-on experiences have inspired curiosity and enthusiasm, making science learning both meaningful and memorable.



Year 5 had a fantastic opportunity this week when they were invited to Abbey Gate College to take part in an exciting science lesson. The children explored magnets and their properties before taking their learning a step further by making their own electromagnets. It was a hands-on and inspiring experience that sparked curiosity and enthusiasm for science, and we are very grateful to Abbey Gate College for hosting us.



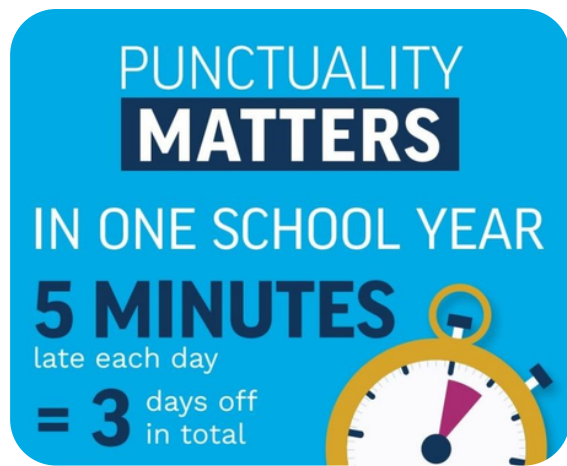
Sporting Achievements to CELEBRATE

Twenty of our Year 5/6 students recently represented the school at an exciting indoor athletics competition at EPSV. The children showed outstanding sportsmanship throughout the day, encouraging one another, cheering for other schools, and competing with positive attitudes and respect. It was wonderful to see such fantastic athletics skills on display, with students giving their best effort in every event and demonstrating confidence, teamwork, and resilience. They were excellent ambassadors for our school, and we are very proud of the way they conducted themselves both on and off the track.



Although we finished 6th out of 7 schools in the session we competed in, the event was run across three separate sessions. When the Sports Partnership compared results from all the schools involved, our overall performance was outstanding—we came first out of all the small schools! This fantastic achievement means we will once again be representing Chester in the Small School County Final, which is a huge accomplishment for our athletes. We are incredibly proud of their determination, effort, and team spirit, and we wish them the very best of luck in the county final!





Important Reminder:

Children who arrive after 9:15am receive an **unauthorised absence** code. Please be aware that an unauthorised absence given for late arrival contributes to the number of unauthorised sessions recorded for your child.

10 sessions marked as unauthorised (1 day = 2 sessions), may result in a fixed term penalty notice being issued. ***Please note, the 10 sessions do not need to be consecutive.***

Term time holidays will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.



Worship:

Dear God,

We thank you for the wonderful children of St OSwald's and all that they do and give to make our school so special.

At this time, we think especially of our Headteacher and her family.

Please surround her and her loved ones with love and comfort.

Give them strength when things feels hard,
and peace when they feel worried or tired.

Help them to feel supported and not alone.

Send caring people to help them,
and remind them that many hearts are thinking of them.

We ask for health, healing, and hope,
and for brighter days ahead.

Amen.