



# St. Oswald's Church of England Primary School

*Learning for all, caring for each other, preparing for the future*

*Let us encourage one another – Hebrews 10.25*

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you have had a lovely summer break and look forward to welcoming all our families back on **Wednesday 4th September**. I trust that you will find the information below helpful as you prepare for the new school year but please do not hesitate to contact the school office with any questions you may have. On a personal note, I may not be in school as usual during the first week or two of term as my son recovers from heart surgery. Mr Barker and the Senior Leadership Team will be looking after school in my absence and will be happy to support you. I look forward to seeing you all upon my return and to another fantastic year here at St Oswald's.

## Staffing

We are delighted to welcome two new teaching assistants to the school. Miss Elissa Quinn will be joining us in Early Years and Miss Millie Carr in Year 3/4. We wish them all the best in their new roles.

## School Vision and the year ahead

As we embark on a new school year, we will endeavour to give our children every opportunity to love learning, to encourage one another and to flourish. Our school vision is strongly embedded and our committed staff team will continue to move forward with '**Learning for all, caring for each other, preparing for the future**' at the core of all our work. We have three simple school rules, which we appreciate your support in encouraging at home:

Be respectful

Be safe

Be our best

We are proud of the excellent behaviour in our school and have updated our behaviour policy to reflect our current practice, which the children are very familiar with. This can be found on our school website:

<https://www.stoswalds.york.sch.uk/school-information/policies>

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September, we will be attending the York Press Community Pride Awards as finalists of the 'School of the Year Award'. We are very humbled to have been nominated for the award and proud to have such a fantastic school community behind us.

We look forward to welcoming you into school on **Tuesday 10th September (3.30pm - 5.15pm) for our start-of-year open evening**. This is a chance for your child to introduce you to their new class teacher and to show you their classrooms. Families are also welcome to visit the Reading Space to share a story, to explore the Wild Area, which you can enter from next to the zebra crossing, and to take an orienteering challenge using our outdoor orienteering trail (maps will be available in every classroom). We just ask that our shared areas are treated respectfully as they have taken much time and care to create.

As promised, we will celebrate the children who complete the Summer Reading Challenge with a treat. Anyone who brings in their finisher's certificate will be invited to a **hot chocolate 'relax and read' event** on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September as a reward and will be entered into a prize draw to win a book of their choice from our '100 books to read at St Oswald's' list!

## Price Increases

### Night Owls £8.25 per session

From September there will be an increase in price of 75p per Night Owls session, taking the total cost to £8.25 per evening. The price increase covers the cost of a savoury snack that will be additional to the unlimited fresh fruit children receive, and will contribute towards other price increases we are experiencing in the running of our provision.

### School Dinners £2.85 per meal

Due to increasing costs, ABM are having to increase the price of a school meal by 10p to £2.85.

The increase will not affect those pupils who are eligible for 'Free School Meals'. If you think that your child may be eligible for a free school meal and you currently do not claim, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> for further information and guidance. The form is very easy to fill in and our school office team would be happy to support you in applying.

## Uniform

Thank you for your ongoing support with maintaining a high standard of school uniform. Our uniform policy is set out on our school website: <https://www.stoswalds.york.sch.uk/school-uniform> for those who would like to check the requirements ready for a new school year. Please note that studs are the only safe/appropriate earrings for in school. Children wearing hoop earrings will be asked to remove them.

## Term-time holidays

We continue to implement City of York Council's guidance for term-time holidays. Any family taking a child out of school for 5 or more days for a holiday will be issued with a fine. This includes those absences where parents inform us that their child is ill but we know that they have been on holiday. The children learn so much in every school day, usually building upon the day/s before and unauthorised absences can have a huge impact on learning. Term dates and holidays can be found at the end of this letter and on our school website.

## Communication

This year we will continue to operate an open-door policy with teachers available for a quick chat at the start and end of each day. If you require a longer conversation or further support, please don't hesitate to arrange a telephone or face-to-face meeting with us. Teachers are happy to receive emails from parents and will reply to them at their earliest opportunity, which is usually after the school day has ended. At St Oswald's one of our core values is respect. All staff endeavour to live out this value every day and ask that in turn, parents and carers treat our staff in a respectful manner at all times.

Newsletters will be sent out half-termly and will include key information, events and dates for the diary. Our website has been developed to be a useful portal of information. We hope you will find the site simple to navigate and helpful. We encourage new parents and carers to follow our Twitter feed [@stoswaldsyork](https://twitter.com/stoswaldsyork), which is updated regularly by each of the phases in school, showing snippets of our school in action.

Parents and carers are warmly welcome at our weekly celebration assembly that takes place each Friday morning at 9am from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Please note that children in reception only join us for this once they have settled fully into primary school life and we will update reception parents when they do.

Please find attached to this letter autumn term dates for the diary and teacher contact information.

I wish you all an enjoyable end to the summer break and look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours sincerely



Jemma Dunne



Heslington Lane, Fulford, York, YO10 4LX

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[www.stoswalds.york.sch.uk](http://www.stoswalds.york.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Jemma Dunne





### Dates for the Diary Autumn Term 1

Wed 4th Sept:	School opens for Autumn Term
Tues 10th Sept:	Open Afternoon for all families 3.30-5.15pm
Fri 13th Sept:	First Celebration Assembly 9am (all parents/carers welcome)
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept:	Skip2Bfit Day in school
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept: ‘	Relax and Read’ treat for Summer Reading Challenge finishers
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> October:	Harvest Stay and Play Session 8.40-9.20am (Early Years parents/carers welcome)
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> October:	Harvest Festival Collective Worship 9.30am (all Y1-6 parents/carers welcome)
Weds 2nd Oct:	Little Wandle Phonics Information Evening for Reception/Y1 parents and carers
Thurs 3rd Oct:	National Poetry Day—Poetry slam for children in school
Wed 16th Oct:	Individual school photos
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct:	Flu vaccinations in school
Thurs 24th Oct:	Year 5/6 Collective Worship in church 2.15pm (all Y5/6 parents/carers welcome)
Fri 25th Oct:	School closes for Half Term

### Dates for the Diary Autumn Term 2

Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov:	School reopens
w/b 4th Nov:	Book Fair in school
Fri 15th Nov:	Children in Need (more info to follow)
19 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> Nov:	Parents Evenings (more info to follow)
Tues 3rd Dec:	Y1/2 Christmas Performance (am)
Thurs 5th Dec:	Y1/2 Christmas Performance (am)
Fri 6th Dec:	Christmas Jumper Day and Puppet Shows
Sat 7th Dec:	FOSOSF Christmas Fair 10am-12pm
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	Year 3/4 Collective Worship in church 2.15pm (all Y3/4 parents/carers welcome)
Tues 10th Dec:	Early Years’ Nativity (am)
Weds 11th Dec:	Early Years’ Nativity (pm)



Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	Christmas dinner day
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	Year 5/6 Carols in the Church Evening 5.30-6.30pm
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	School closes for Christmas holidays

#### Dates for the Diary – term times

Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan:	Inset day (school closed)
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan:	Spring term 1 begins
Wb 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb:	Half term week (school closed)
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb:	Spring term 2 begins
7 <sup>th</sup> Apr–21 <sup>st</sup> Apr:	Easter holidays (school closed)
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr:	Summer term 1 begins
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> May:	Bank holiday (school closed)
Wb 26 <sup>th</sup> May:	Half term (school closed)
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> June:	Summer term 2 begins
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> July:	Last day of term before the summer holidays

**Term dates for next academic year are now available on our school website.**

*As per all York Maintained Schools, days taken off from school, with no exceptional reason, will be unauthorised and any family holidays taken over 5 or more days, will incur a fixed penalty notice by the City of York Council.*



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[www.stoswalds.york.sch.uk](http://www.stoswalds.york.sch.uk)  
 Headteacher: Jemma Dunne



## Teacher Contact Information

### Reception

Miss Slater, **Hedgehogs**

[Charlotte.Slater@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Charlotte.Slater@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

Mrs Cooke, **Squirrels**

[Hannah.Cooke@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Hannah.Cooke@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

### Y1/2

Mrs Griffiths, **Butterflies**

[Sophie.Griffiths@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Sophie.Griffiths@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

Mrs Hopwood, **Honey Bees**

[Sam.Hopwood@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Sam.Hopwood@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

Mr Barker and Mrs Houston, **Ladybirds**

[James.Barker@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:James.Barker@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

[Rebecca.Houston@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Rebecca.Houston@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

### Y3/4

Mrs Haxby, **Dormice**

[Katy.Haxby@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Katy.Haxby@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

Mr Lloyd, **Rabbits**

[Tom.Lloyd@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Tom.Lloyd@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

Miss Hunt, **Foxes**

[Rachel.Hunt@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Rachel.Hunt@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

### Y5/6

Mr Waterfall-Smith, **Snowy Owls**

[Ryan.Smith@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Ryan.Smith@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

Mrs Walton, **Barn Owls**

[Emily.Walton@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Emily.Walton@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

Mr Airey, **Tawny Owls**

[Stephen.Airey@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net](mailto:Stephen.Airey@stoswalds.yorkschoools.net)

Follow us on Twitter: [@stoswaldsyork](https://twitter.com/stoswaldsyork)



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