

**Welcome to  
St Oswald's  
Catholic Primary  
School**



**SAINT  
OSWALD'S**  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Reception 2021/2022**

St Oswald's Catholic Primary School  
Mission Statement

*At St Oswald's together we:  
Love, Learn, Respect and Appreciate*

Aim

That all children should leave St. Oswald's with a love of learning, a thirst for knowledge, an understanding and appreciation of their faith and religion, and the world they live in and, above all, many happy memories.

Objectives

St Oswald's will achieve this by...

- encouraging children to grow within the Catholic faith,
- promoting the highest possible achievement for our pupils, enabling them to reach full potential, and live life to the full,
- establishing the foundations for lifelong learning,
- welcoming input from parents to complement the skills and experience of our professional teaching staff,
- ensuring that our school is central to the parish, reaching out to embrace the wider community,
- uniting all staff, governors and parents in our aim to be a leading school in the borough of Warrington.

## Induction Arrangements



Every year we introduce the new children gently into full time school routines by bringing them into school in smaller groups part time. The children will stay for half days, either mornings or afternoons and will experience both. This induction period allows your child to settle into school gradually and ensure they have a smooth transition from Nursery and home experiences to school life.

The induction arrangements are below:

	Morning session 8:45 - 12:00	Afternoon session 1:00 - 3:15pm
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Group 1	Group 2
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> & Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Group 2	Group 1

***The children will begin school full time on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.***

All parents are to drop off and pick up at the green gates outside the front of the school. Please line up here and the children will be taken into school and dismissed one by one. This process enables a smooth, efficient and effective start to the day inside the classroom and also helps the Reception staff to get to know your faces so please bear with them if this process is a little slow at first.

## General information

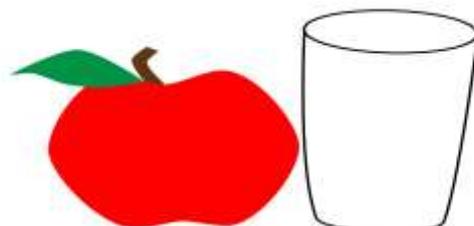
### Snacks and water

The children need to bring a snack into school each day for morning break times. These snacks will be stored in their own personal 'snack' pocket so please ensure that snacks are not stored in large tubs.

In line with Government and NHS advice, children are only to bring healthy snacks to school. As we are a **healthy school**, we ask the children to bring a healthy snack (e.g. fruit, vegetable sticks, cereal sticks) from Monday to Friday. Please avoid snacks such as chocolate based items, crisps and biscuits. We also ask that you don't provide nuts or nut based items as we have children in school with nut allergies.

*Please label your child's snack to help the staff and to avoid the children becoming confused and distressed if snacks get mixed up.*

The children do not need to bring a water bottle into school. We have individual beakers for the children that will be stored in their own personal 'pocket' in the classroom. When they want to have a drink or during set times when all children will be given the opportunity to have a drink, the children will be given their beaker with water in it. These beakers will be washed thoroughly at the end of each school day.



## Lunch

Your child will have the opportunity to have a free school lunch each day. Every child from Reception to Year 2 is entitled to a free school meal.

There are hot and cold options available for lunch and the hot option changes each day. The menu for school lunches will be available on the school app and website.

If you do not wish your child to have a school lunch, they can bring a packed lunch with them. The items in this lunch must be easily accessible for a child to deal with themselves as much as possible. Please clearly label the lunch box and include a drink for them.



## Labels

Please label everything clearly (snacks, uniform, shoes, PE kit, book bag) to prevent your child from becoming distressed if they are looking for their belongings.

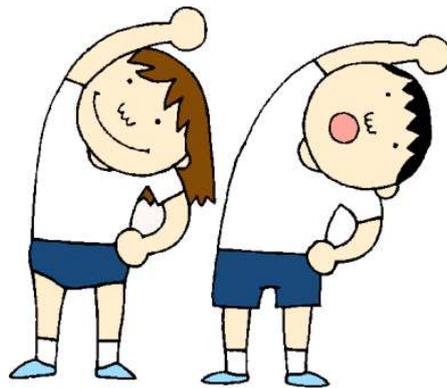
Remember that now your child is at school, they are wearing exactly the same clothes as other children. If their name is not in their belongings, we won't know which items of clothing are theirs and neither will they.

## PE

You will be informed of your child's PE day and on this day, they can come to school wearing their PE kit. This will consist of:

- Dark blue/navy joggers
- Dark blue/navy sweatshirt or tracksuit top (**with no hood**)
- Royal blue school shorts
- Plain white t-shirt
- Trainers (these must be velcro and not laces if your child cannot tie them).

**\*Please ensure that all clothing and shoes are clearly labelled.**



## Book Bags

Book bags must be brought into school every day. When your child receives a Reading Record and reading books, these will be kept in their book bag and need to be in school every day. We will put any correspondence (e.g. newsletters, school lunch menus, letters) into your child's book bags.

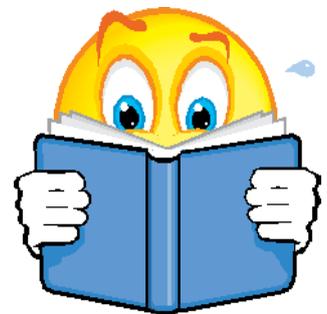
Please do not include any other items in your child's bag such as toys.

## Reading Records and reading books

We change reading books regularly for the children. The Reading Record is for you to keep a brief log of your child's reading so that we know how they have coped with the book at home. More information about reading and reading books will be available in September after the children have settled into school.

We ask that children read for 10 minutes each night. It is important that they take pleasure from reading as well as learning to read themselves. Sharing their school book and books from home with you is an essential part of reading. Book talk as well as decoding the words is important. If you read any books from home as well as school books, please also note these in your child's Reading Record.

Please note that your child will **not** receive a Reading Record and reading books straight away. The children will be given time to settle in and learn about their new school and routines before we introduce reading books.



## Outdoor learning

In the early years we do a lot of learning outside. Please provide your child with a pair of labelled wellies that can be kept in school for the year.



## Daily Routines

### The morning

Reception children will arrive at their allocated time (see Induction arrangements for times). Parents will line up outside of the green school gates. The children will be collected by the teacher and they will enter the school building one by one via the Infant entrance.

The children will be helped by the adults in school to organise their belongings. As the term progresses, we will encourage the children to do as much as possible by themselves to help them to become as independent as possible.

### End of the day

At the end of the day the children will exit the school via the Infant entrance. Parents must wait outside the green school gates. The children will be dismissed one by one by the class teacher as the collecting adult reaches the front of the line. Please then exit via the carpark.

If someone different is picking up your child, please let us know by emailing ([eyfs@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk](mailto:eyfs@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk)) before 12:15pm on that day or ring the school office to ensure the safety of your child at home time.



## How to keep up to date

It is important to know what is going on in school and how your child is doing. These are the best ways to keep up to date:

- The newsletter - Each Friday our school publishes a weekly newsletter to keep parents up to date with events in school that have happened and also future events. These newsletters are available to download from the school website and school app.
- The OurSchools App - Simply download the OurSchools App to your mobile phone and keep up date with events in school. A special icon is on the App for our new Reception starters.
- 'Evidence Me' by 2Simple - We regularly observe your child learning and will log these observations on our 2simple app. More information about this will be available when your child visits the school.



 ourschoolsapp

## Things you can do to help your child prepare for primary school

The transition from nursery/pre-school and home life experiences to primary school can be an anxious time for children. We aim to make this experience as smooth as possible for the children through our induction period. You can help your child to get ready for this important step in their lives in a variety of ways.

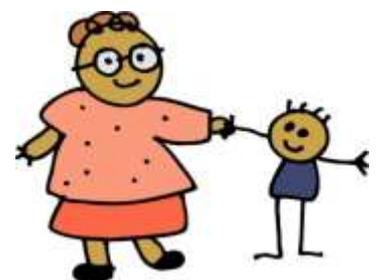
### Being independent

- Help them to learn how to dress and undress themselves (e.g. putting their own coat on).
- Encourage them to go to the toilet independently (being able to wipe after using the toilet) and manage their own personal hygiene e.g. hand washing.
- Support them to organise their activities e.g. tidying up after playing.



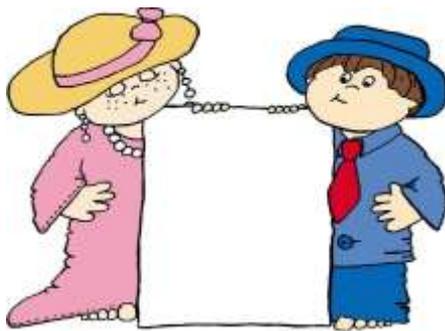
### Talk about school

- Talk about what will happen when they start school.
- Discuss any worries.
- Encourage them to talk and play with other children to build relationships.



## Learn together and make it fun

- Share books for the pleasure of reading.
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes, and include actions.
- Play sound games (e.g. I spy), encouraging them to listen for the sounds start words.
- Encourage them to make marks (e.g. shopping lists, a note for Mummy, a birthday card). Every mark they make counts!
- Play counting games in everyday routines, say one more/one less than a number.
- Plant seeds (e.g. cress) and watch them grow. Talk about what they see happening.
- Role play (e.g. doctors surgery).
- Encourage them to draw, use different materials (e.g. tissue paper), glue and use appropriate scissors.



*Finally, we are looking forward to you joining the St Oswald's family in September, and working alongside you to support your child as they embark on a new journey in their lives.*

*If you have any queries or questions, do not hesitate to contact us:*

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[eyfs@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk](mailto:eyfs@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk)



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