# ST OSWALD'S

- CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL -

*Living, Learning and Loving together with Christ*

Friday 6th March 2026

Dear Families,

I hope that you are all well.

**School Meal Price increase**

From the 20th April 2026, Newcastle City Council will be increasing the cost of school meals to £3.10 per day (£15.50 per week).

In light of this increase, we strongly encourage any families who believe they may be eligible for Free School Meals to apply via the Newcastle City Council website or by clicking the link **HERE**.

Although all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to automatically receive free school meals through the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) scheme, regardless of household income, it is still important to apply if you are eligible. Doing so allows the school to receive additional funding, known as Pupil Premium, which helps support your child's education throughout their time at St Oswald's, not just during the period you qualify. The application process is simple, confidential and can make a real difference to both your child and the wider school community.

**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat**

After months of planning, preparation and rehearsing, our Drama Club's production of *Joseph* took place this week. The show was fantastic – the children sang and danced their hearts out and blew audiences away over the two nights. Performing on stage in front of a large audience takes real courage, and the children showed tremendous bravery as well as incredible talent.

We are so proud of the children in our school. Whether it is during Celebrations of the Word, Nativities or Easter reflections, the way they perform publicly with such confidence and, most importantly, such enthusiasm and enjoyment is a privilege to see.

I would like to thank Mrs Hall-Murray and Mrs Morris for giving up so much of their time rehearsing and putting together costumes – their efforts helped create a show fit for the West End!

Thanks also to the families who played their part in helping the children rehearse their songs since October, and to our PTA who served food and drinks at the performances. It was a real triumph all round!







To see more photographs from the performance and discover the other lovely things your children are doing in school, follow us on **Facebook** at *St Oswald's Primary School* and on **Instagram** at *@stoswaldsnewcastle*

**PTO**

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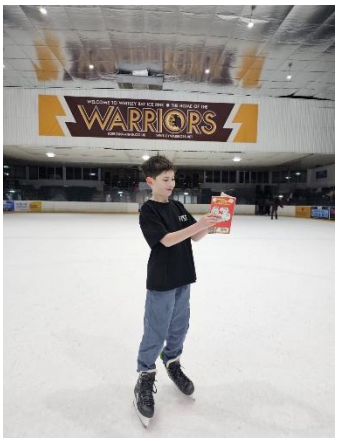
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## World Book Day

As well as our annual Book Week in October, we love to celebrate reading on World Book Day too! This year, we invited children to take part in a special competition inspired by *The Places You'll Go*. The challenge was to take a photograph of themselves reading in the most unusual place they could imagine. We received some fantastic entries which you can see in the Class Blogs section on the school website or by following the link **HERE**.

We were also thrilled to welcome back local author Naomi Barley, following the success of her visit last year. Naomi visited classes, sharing insights into her writing process and inspiring our young authors as they celebrated the release of her second book, *The Zorkk Games*. During the day, she led exciting workshops in every class and stayed after school to sign copies of her new book.










## Children's Cancer Run

We would love for you and your family to join our school team once again for the Children's Cancer Run at Newcastle Racecourse on Sunday 17th May 2026. If you would like to join us, there is an early bird discount on the entry fee up until the 31st March.

To join us for what is always a fun day out, please complete an online entry form to join our team:

Go to https://childrenscancernorth.org.uk/event/childrens-cancer-run-2026/

Select 'Sign up today!' then select your registration preference (as an Adult, Child, or Family)

Under 'Create or Join a team' select 'Find' and type in **'St Oswald's Catholic Primary School'**.

You will then become part of our school team once you've completed the remainder of the registration form.

Organisers advise that once children are registered, you should go to 'edit display name' on their fundraising page and change their display name so that it does not include their full name (initials or just their first name is recommended).











**PTO for Dates for Diaries**

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**Dates for Diaries**

Please find below some key dates for the Spring term **(recently added dates in red):**

**Friday 13th March** – Year 3 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9am

**Friday 20th March** – Red Nose Day 2026

**Friday 20th March** – Year 5 Celebration of the Word for parents in school 9am

**Monday 23rd March** - Year 4 Bikeability (Details to follow)

**Tuesday 24th March** – Year 3 & Year 4 taking part in a rugby festival at Northern Ruby club

**Tuesday 24th March** - Parents' Evening in school (all classes)

**Wednesday 25th March** – Year 4 Stations of the Cross at St Mary's Cathedral

**Thursday 26th March** - Parents' Evening in school (all classes)

**Friday 27th March** – PTA Golden Ticket Draw

**Monday 30th March** - Easter Egg competition in school

**Tuesday 31st March –** Year 4 & Year 5 Easter Production at Sacred Heart Church 7pm (New date)

**April**

**Wednesday 1st April –** Year 4 Dance Festival at the Whitley Bay Playhouse (Details to follow)

**Thursday 2nd April** – Reception class Easter Story for parents in school 9am

**Thursday 2nd April** – Break up for the Easter holidays

**Monday 20th April** – School re-opens for the Summer term

With my very best wishes,

P Marley



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