



SS Aidan and Oswald RC Primary School

Newsletter - 17th July 2020

Dear All

As we approach the end of the school year, we are sure you will agree that this has been the most bizarre time for the school and our families. We thank God that so many of our school community have remained well, although we do know that so many have faced a wide range of unexpected difficulties. It has been wonderful to keep in touch with you all, albeit in new and creative ways.

We are now planning for September, and very soon we will be providing you with a useful information sheet, which will help us to make school a great place to be when we return - with the highest level of confidence possible that things will be safe and that school will be as close as we can get to what the children know and love so much. There will be our new risk assessment on the website for you to look at too. As you know, all children will return in September. For the convenience of parents, we will not be staggering the beginning and end of the day. With this in mind, can we ask that parents are vigilant with regards social distancing. The children will return in full school uniform and school policies relating to jewellery are still in place. We have agreed that children may come to school in their PE kits on the day that they have PE and teachers will inform them when this is (so it is not necessary for children to bring in their PE bags). **Please find attached a plan of the school which shows the entrances for each year group.**

We feel very sorry for our Year 6 children who have missed out on so much this year. They have contributed so much to make our school the special place it is – and we are extremely thankful for this. We wish them the very best for the future in the knowledge that the high schools will be welcoming an amazing group of children. Their impact on the future will be immense, wherever they are.

They are not the only ones who are leaving the school. We wish Miss Hall the very best as she progresses her career at Holy Rosary, one of the Oldham Catholic schools – how we will miss her. They have a gem! Also, Miss Mathews will be joining the staff at St Mary's Failsworth, (another of our Oldham Catholic schools), after a brilliant start to her very promising teaching career. Mr Standing and Mrs Ryan are also leaving after blessing us with their skills and talents this year. We will really miss them too. Mr Clegg has secured a post at St. Edward's: the children and staff will miss him enormously – he has worked in our school community for many years.

Miss Halley is returning to school after her maternity leave with baby Harrison, and Miss Beeney is enjoying her time with her new baby, Louis. Many of you will have met Mrs Colette Plant, our new business manager, and Mrs Lisa Wynn, our new admin assistant. They have quickly settled into our office team and are fabulous additions to the staff team.

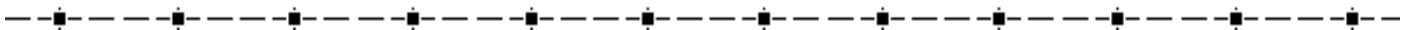
As you know, school will be closed over the holidays and there will not be a Holiday Club. We will be having some building work over the summer – the boys' toilets in the Key Stage 2 area will be refurbished.

On return in September, we are sure that the children will thrive as they get back to something nearing normality. We know how much they have missed the challenge of everyday school work and the full curriculum. It will be lovely to see all the happy smiling faces again. Please let us know how your child finds the return to school. We expect that the children, in their usual resilient way, will quickly adapt to the 'new normality', but we do need to know.

Please enjoy the summer holidays and keep safe and well.

Our kindest regards
The staff of SSAO

{Please see attached documents: "Parent Advice Leaflet September 2020" / "Doors and Classes Map"}



Oldham free school meals – are you eligible?

Oldham Council is urging families to check whether they are eligible for free school meals for the next academic year in September 2020.

The Coronavirus Pandemic has left many families with different financial situations than before. The worry is that more children will be left facing hunger and malnutrition because parents and guardians are struggling financially and aren't aware of what they are eligible to claim.

You don't need to make a separate claim for free school meals if you are already in receipt or have applied for Housing Benefit or help with your Council Tax. Oldham Council will use the information and evidence we have already provided to confirm your entitlement to free school meals.

If you live outside the borough (except Manchester) and your child goes to an Oldham school. Then you will need to apply through your local council in the area where you live.

If people are resident in Manchester but their child attends an Oldham school, please complete the Free School Meals application form. For more information, and to access the form, visit www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200231/education_grants_and_allowances/161/free_school_meals

For any queries about free school meals you can contact the Council on 0161-770-6688 or email benefits@oldham.gov.uk



SCHOOL LUNCHES – School meals for all **KS1/INFANTS** {Foundation Stage / Year 1 / Year 2} there is **NO CHARGE** for school meals due to a Government initiative. **Unless you call into the School Office to let us know otherwise, we presume that all pupils in the INFANTS will take a school meal.**

If you have children in **NURSERY/KS2 JUNIORS**, the cost of school dinners is **£12.00 per week**. **This is payable on the SCHOOL GATEWAY.**

Next week we will be on **WEEK 1** on the LUNCH MENU

(copies available at the school office and also on our School Website)

If your child wishes to change from sandwiches to school lunches and vice versa {whatever year group they are in}, please let the school office know. Thank you

SCHOOL DINNERS are £2.40 PER DAY / £12.00 a WEEK



HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES – don't forget that pupils are **not** allowed chocolate bars/packets of sweets/fizzy drinks in their lunch boxes, as we do get spot checks from the Healthy Schools Awards and the Platinum Tooth Award Departments to check that packed lunches are meeting the healthy standards required.

Pupils **can bring** crisps, yogurts and biscuits for after their sandwiches. Thank you.



MUSIC 2020-2021 If you have **Brass – Woodwind – Drums** tuition already in school and have pre-covid19 requested an audition for your child, the Oldham Music Service are hoping to commence tuition in the new academic year. If you wish to **CANCEL tuition** or an **audition** please let the school office know before Thursday 23 September 2020, otherwise we shall assume you wish to continue. Thank you.

SCHOOL REPORTS – Nursery to Year 5 will be available for collection from the School Office from Friday 10 July – Friday 17 July between the hours of 9:00am and 3:00pm. If it is not collected within these dates, your child's class teacher will email it to you via Dojo and a hard copy will be sent home with your child in September.

SCHOOL REPORTS – Year 6 if your child is in Year 6, their school report can be collected from the School Office on Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 July between the hours of 8:30am and 3:00pm. If it is not collected within these dates, your child's class teacher will email it to you via Dojo. The reason for the delay is we are giving the children a memory book, which will not be ready until the end of term.

If your child is in school, the report will be given to them to take home.

YEAR 5 APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2021 - Your child is due to start secondary school in September 2021. This is a very exciting and important time. I am writing to make you aware of how and when you need to apply and where to access information to guide you through this process.

You will need to complete an application using the online application system available on the Oldham Council website. It's quick and easy and ensures school offers can be made efficiently via e-mail. Applying on line is the only form of application as Oldham Council no longer provides paper application forms.

The online system will open on **1 August 2020** and close at **5pm on 31 October 2020**.

If you don't have access to the internet, there are computers in all Oldham's libraries. You will need an email address, these are very easy to set up and staff will be happy to help.

For faith schools you will need to fill in a supplementary form or provide documentation in addition to the application you make to us. Supplementary forms are available from and returned to the relevant school.

To enable you to have a look at what is on offer; all Oldham secondary schools will be holding open evenings during the autumn term. You will be able to access further information, a guide and links to school websites by logging onto www.oldham.gov.uk/admissions

The closing date for all applications is **5pm on 31 October 2020**. Any application received after this time will be classed as a late application and will not be processed until all the on-time applications have been allocated a school place.

Should you have any initial queries please do not hesitate to contact the Admissions Team on the above telephone number.

SCHOOL GATEWAY – All school related [communication](#), [newsletters](#), [trip consents](#), [dinner money](#) and [payments](#) will go through School Gateway. To stay up-to-date with what is going on at school make sure you download the app free. Just search **School Gateway** in your App store and download. Your login details will then be automatically generated using the contact information SS Aidan & Oswald already has, so please make sure the details we hold for you are up to date. If you have new telephone number{s} / email / address / contact updates you can check and change these details by sending an email to info@ssaidanoswald.oldham.sch.uk.

If you have any questions / would like some more information, please see the School Gateway site here: <https://schoolgateway.co.uk/>. You can also login to the online version of School Gateway via this site if you do not have a smart phone, although we do recommend using the app if possible as it makes it far easier to get hold of parents when we need to.

TOPFORM by Monkhouse Schoolwear, 27 Union Street, Oldham {0161 627 0417}

You will be able to purchase or order uniform from this shop.

The Rochdale shop will be open Mon- Fri 9.00am to 5.30pm and Sat 9.00am to 5.00pm
TopForm Rochdale, 51-53 Drake Street, Rochdale, OL16 1RX
01706 345257 Or www.topformschoolwear.com

SSAO SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Any baptised child in **Year 3** or above, is eligible to take part in this year's Sacramental Programme.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact:

Year 3 teachers in school / Mrs Angela Preen the Parish Co-ordinator on 07812 454787 {please leave a message} /
or Father Doyle on 0161 624 1322)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

Thursday 23 July

School closes today at 3:00pm for the Summer holidays

Thursday 3 September

School re-opens today at 8:35am

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2020 / 2021

Pupils return to school for the Autumn Term on Thursday 3 September 2020

Term	School Finishes On	First day of Holiday	Last day of Holiday	Return to School
Autumn Half Term	Friday 23 October 2020	Monday 26 October 2020	Monday 2 November 2020	Tuesday 3 November 2020
Christmas	Tuesday 22 December 2020	Wednesday 23 December 2020	Tuesday 5 January 2021	Wednesday 6 January 2021
Spring Half Term	Friday 12 February 2021	Monday 15 February 2021	Monday 22 February 2021	Tuesday 23 February 2021
Easter	Wednesday 31 March 2021	Thursday 1 April 2021	Monday 12 April 2021	Tuesday 13 April 2021
May Day	Friday 30 April 2021	Monday 3 May 2021	Monday 3 May 2021	Tuesday 4 May 2021
Summer Half Term	Thursday 20 May 2021	Friday 21 May 2021	Friday 4 June 2021	Monday 7 June 2021
Summer	Friday 23 July 2021	Monday 26 July 2021	Wednesday 1 September 2021	Thursday 2 September 2021

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2021 / 2022

Pupils return to school for the Autumn Term on Thursday 2 September 2021

Term	School Finishes On	First day of Holiday	Last day of Holiday	Return to School
Autumn Half Term	Thursday 21 October 2021	Friday 22 October 2021	Friday 29 October 2021	Monday 1 November 2021
Christmas	Wednesday 22 December 2021	Thursday 23 December 2021	Friday 7 January 2022	Monday 10 January 2022
Spring Half Term	Thursday 17 February 2022	Friday 18 February 2022	Friday 25 February 2022	Monday 28 February 2022
Easter	Thursday 14 April 2022	Friday 15 April 2022	Friday 22 April 2022	Monday 25 April 2022
May Day	Friday 29 April 2022	Monday 2 May 2022	Monday 2 May 2022	Tuesday 3 May 2022
Summer Half Term	Thursday 19 May 2022	Friday 20 May 2022	Friday 3 June 2022	Monday 6 June 2022
Summer	Friday 22 July 2022	Monday 25 July 2022	T.B.A.	T.B.A.