



SS Aidan and Oswald RC Primary School

Newsletter - 25th September 2020

Dear All

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new academic year!

Next week's 'statement to live by' is:

"I give my very best, with a delight for learning something new..."

It would be lovely if you could carry on spending some time at home examining the statement in the family.

To help us all have a smooth start to the school day, doors will open at **8:35am** and children can go straight into their classes, as learning starts promptly at **8:45am**.

Please can we remind you not to enter school via the pupils' entrance/exit doors. If at any time, you wish to see your child's class Teacher you should now make an appointment via telephoning or emailing the School Office or use class Dojo. Your child's class teacher will contact you as soon as they possible can. Thank you.

May I remind parents that all uniform and clothing in school must be marked with a permanent marker or name tag. Respectfully, we request that children strictly follow the Governors' policies by not bringing chewing gum into school. Children are expected to wear school shoes in school (**trainers are not allowed**). Please ensure your child come to school in their PE kit on their allocated PE day.

Could we remind parents, to ensure the health and safety of our children and parents, **DOGS are NOT ALLOWED** anywhere on our school land/premises and we are a **NO SMOKING** site.

SOCIAL MEDIA - We have been made aware that some online social media websites have been allowing the publication of extremely distressing posts. If you, or your child, require any support as a result of this, please contact school.

Please carefully monitor your child's internet usage, ensure that parental controls are applied – particularly with sites such as YouTube, Tik-Toc, Facebook, Instagram etc, some of which children of primary school age should not be using. Thank you

JEWELLERY - Please ensure that your child does not wear jewellery in school. This applies to earrings, other rings, necklaces and bracelets. This a Governors policy and part of our contract / partnership with parents.

CHILDREN WALKING HOME FROM SCHOOL - It is only the children in Year 6 who are allowed to walk home on their own, without being collected by an adult. If parents wish to allow this, they must put their request in writing to Mr Harrison.

As the children are still in the responsibility of the school at the end of the day, we must consider whether the child is safe to leave school unaccompanied. If we have concerns here, we will contact parents so that a conversation can take place. Concerns often relate to the individual child, such as the nature of their journey home, who they are meeting on that journey, and level of maturity of the child. In previous years we have been able to reach agreement with parents with regards to this matter.

When we approve that a child may walk home, this only applies to the child in Year 6 and not their younger siblings.

USE OF MOBILE PHONES - The Governors' policy is explicit here – mobile phones are not allowed in school for any purpose. This issue has been discussed in enormous depth and extensive advice taken. On safeguarding and security grounds we ask parents to ensure that phones are not brought into school. If this happens, the phone will be removed from the child and only returned to the parents at a later date. The office will not look after phones during the day. Children who carry phones are at considerably more risk than those that don't.

If you have not already done so please download the **School Gateway** app – a parent engagement app that will allow you to communicate with the school from anywhere, pay for dinner money, school trips, music tuition etc, it gives you:-

- Secure, convenient ways to pay via the website or the [ParentApp](#)
- Choice of payment options
- Ability to give permission online for trips – no more lost slips
- Pay and top up balances at any time
- View multiple children on one account
- Pay for multiple items at the same time

All school related [communication, newsletters, trip consents and payments](#) will go through School Gateway. To stay up to date with what's going on at school make sure you download the app for free. Just search **School Gateway** in your App store and download. Your login details will 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. You can check and change these details by sending an email to info@ssaidanoswald.oldham.sch.uk. If you have any questions or 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.

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 emailbenefits@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 2** 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.



SITE MANAGER at SSAO – The School Governors wish to appoint a dedicated and hardworking Site Manager at SS Aidan & Oswald’s RC Primary School. If you are interested in applying for this position, please visit the Oldham.gov.uk/jobs website to download the job description and application form, or click on the link: [To apply for the Site Manager vacancy please click here....](#)



DIGITAL LEARNING SURVEY – At the beginning of this week we emailed home a Parental Survey. Please could we ask you to respond to the survey by Wednesday 30 September 2020. If you have not received it please click on the link... [Click on link to complete survey](#)



READING BOOKS - Please could all children return any school reading books to school ASAP as our home reading book stock has quite a lot of missing titles and we believe that most of these are still out with the children at home. Many thanks to those who have already returned their books to school.



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 **FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER**, otherwise we shall assume you wish to continue. If you have requested an AUDITION, please bear with us while we await further instructions from Oldham Music Centre as to when these new pupils can start. We will inform everyone as soon as we know further details. Thank you.

NURSERY APPLYING FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2021 – If your child is due to start Primary 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 September 2020** and close at **5pm on 15 January 2021**. 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.

You will be able to access further information by clicking on the link... [To apply for a Primary School place click on the link here...](#)

The closing date for all applications is **5pm on 15 January 2021**. 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.

YEAR 6 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.

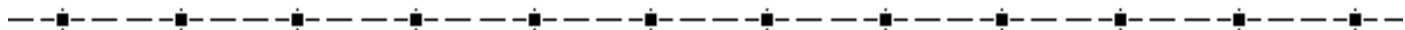
For faith schools you will need to fill in a supplementary form or provide documentation in addition to the application you make to us. Supplementary forms are available from and returned to the relevant school. Please note that the open days have been replaced by virtual tours, available on individual secondary school websites.

You will be able to access further information by clicking on the link...

https://mailchi.mp/oldham/secondary-school-application_2020

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.



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

You will be able to purchase or order uniform from this shop BUT must telephone first as you now have to make appointments to be able to go in the 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...

- Every Saturday - **STAGECOACH OLDHAM** here in the New Hall at Ss Aidan & Oswald's
- KS1** = 9:30am – 11:00am
11:15am – 12:45pm
1:15pm - 2:45pm
- KS2,3 & 4** = 10:00am – 1:00pm
2:00pm – 5:00pm
- Classes are limited.
Please ring/email to check availability and book your taster session.
- Monday 28 September - **WOODWIND** Lessons in school today with Mr Prince
{Don't forget your instrument and music}
- Monday 28 September - **YEAR 5** - Zoom 'Virtual Meet the Teacher Meeting'
today at 3:30pm
- Tuesday 29 September - **YEAR 6** - Zoom 'Virtual Meet the Teacher Meeting'
today at 3:30pm
- Wednesday 29 September- **SWIMMING** at Royton Sports Centre for pupils in **YEAR 5**
{don't forget to bring your swimming kit and towel!}
If you have not yet given consent and paid, please log onto the
SCHOOL GATEWAY system to do so before their next lesson
- Wednesday 30 September- **YEAR 4** - Zoom 'Virtual Meet the Teacher Meeting'
today at 3:30pm
- Thursday 1 October - **DRUM** Lessons in school today with Mr Smith {don't forget your drumsticks}
- Thursday 1 October - **BRASS** Lessons in school today with Mr Wilson
{Don't forget your instrument and music}
- Thursday 1 October - **NURSERY** - Zoom 'Virtual Meet the Teacher Meeting'
today at 3:30pm
- Friday 2 October - **CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – NON UNIFORM DAY TODAY**
Please bring **£1.00** for CAFOD and TINNED meat / beans / vegetables / fruit
for us to take to the Parish Welcome Centre for distribution. Thank you
NO FRESH FOOD
- Friday 2 October - **YEARS 1 & 2** - Zoom 'Virtual Meet the Teacher Meeting'
today at 3:30pm
- Monday 12 October to - **YEAR 5 at CASTLESHAW CENTRE** this week
Thursday 15 October {Don't forget to complete the paperwork that has been sent home
and return to class teacher urgently}
- Friday 23 October - School CLOSES today at 3:00pm for the Half Term Holiday
- Tuesday 3 November - School RE-OPENS today at 8:35am
- Saturday 31 October - **DEADLINE is 5pm** for Year 6 to get their Secondary Application Forms in by
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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

