



# SS Aidan and Oswald RC Primary School

## Newsletter - w/c 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear All

### This week's 'statement to live by' is: "I can celebrate success."



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



We will report the ongoing attendance and weekly lates per year group. This year we are aiming to reach **96%** attendance for the whole school. This would give us an Ofsted grade of **HIGH**. OFSTED expectation for attendance is at least 95%. It is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure the regular, full-time attendance of their child/ren. Failing to do this could lead to legal proceedings from the Local Authority.

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE (ongoing)	OFSTED GRADE	NUMBER OF LATES ( weekly) including combined minutes of lost learning time	
Reception	92%	LOW	07	103 minutes
Year 1	99%	HIGH	03	11 minutes
Year 2	96.8%	HIGH	04	11 minutes
Year 3	98.7%	HIGH	07	118 minutes
Year 4	95%	ABOVE AVERAGE	04	56 minutes
Year 5	94.5%	AVERAGE	08	106 minutes
Year 6	97.5%	HIGH	07	65 minutes

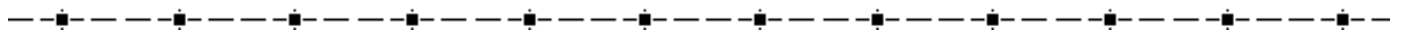
Current whole school (Year R and above) % attendance (ongoing)	OFSTED GRADE
96.3%	HIGH

	<b>KS1: Year 1/2 Miss Kelleher's class HAVE WON THE ATTENDANCE TROPHY THIS WEEK!</b>	
	<b>KS2: Year 3/4 Miss O'Connor's class HAVE WON THE ATTENDANCE TROPHY THIS WEEK!</b>	

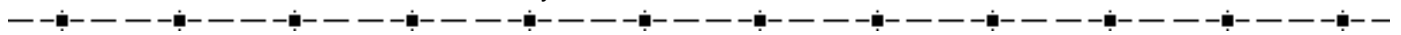
- **Lessons begin promptly at 8.45am.** Not only must children attend school regularly, but they must not be late. **Issues with punctuality lie with a small minority of children.** To reduce the congestion at the beginning of the school day and help all of our children arrive on time, we do open our doors at 8.35am. **Please always enter through the class door.** The main door should only be used if the class door is closed.
- We would also like to remind parents that school finishes at 3.00pm. If there are any unforeseen circumstances as to why you are running late, please contact the school as soon as possible. If children are collected late on a regular basis, parents will be asked to make alternative child care arrangements.
- We appreciate there may be times when your child is unwell or absent due to exceptional circumstances. It is very important that you let school know if your child is going to be absent.

Please contact school by telephoning the school office on **each day of your child's absence** unless you have informed us of the length of absence.

- If your child has a medical appointment at any time during the school day, a copy of the appointment card will be requested. However, where possible, please make appointments outside of the school day.
- If they have a sibling in school please make arrangements for the sibling who does not have an appointment to be in school at the start of the school day / collected from school at the usual finishing time of 3:00pm, as we are now unable to authorise the sibling's absence.
- Also, if your child is taken ill during the school day or is unable to come to school due to illness, it is important that any other siblings attend/remain in school otherwise their absence will be marked as unauthorised.
- If parent's have an appointment or are unwell, please also make arrangements for your child to be in school on time and picked up at the end of the school day as we cannot authorise your child's absence for this reason.
- The Headteacher, in line with Government legislation and the policy of the school's Governing Body, makes the decision about the authorisation of pupil absence. **Therefore, we are unable to authorise any term time absence** which relate to holidays taken in term time. A fine will be given for any holiday which lasts for 10 or more school sessions (morning or afternoon).
- We feel it is essential to reward as many pupils as possible for their excellent attendance and punctuality. Please check our website for more information on our attendance reward system or request a copy from the school office.

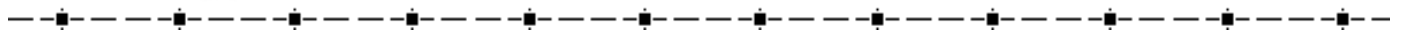


May I remind parents that all uniform and clothing in school must be marked with a permanent marker or name tag. Children are expected to wear school shoes in school (**trainers are not allowed**). Please ensure your child come to school in their PE kit on their allocated PE day.

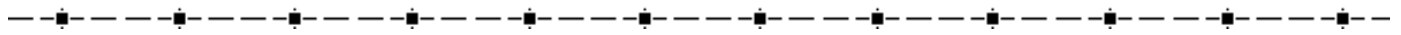


## PE DAYS...

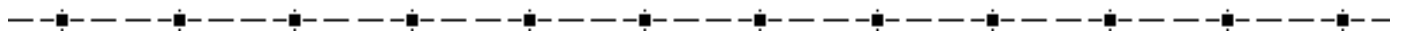
- Year 6 – Friday
- Year 5 – Tuesday
- Year 3/4 – Thursday
- Year 1/2 – Mon/Tue/Thurs



**SWIMMING** at Royton Sports Centre for pupils in **YEAR 5** will take place every Wednesday from 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021. {don't forget to bring your swimming kit and towel}

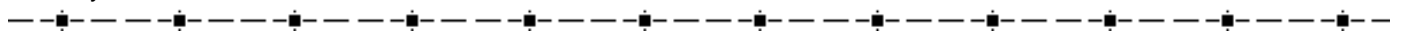


Could we please remind parents, to ensure the health and safety of our children and parents, **DOGS are NOT ALLOWED** anywhere on our school land/premises and we are a **NO SMOKING** site.



**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.

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**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 their class teacher.

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.

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**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.

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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](mailto: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.

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**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](http://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](mailto:benefits@oldham.gov.uk)

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**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 LESSONS** All lessons are back up and running now.

Every **Tuesday** - **WOODWIND** with Mrs Hartnell-Booth (Don't forget your instruments and music)

Every **Thursday** - **BRASS** with Mr Wilson (Don't forget your instruments and music)

Also every **Thursday** - **DRUMS** with Mr Smith (Don't forget your drum sticks and music)

**NURSERY APPLYING FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2022** – 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 2021** and close at **5pm on 15 January 2022**. 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 2022**. 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 2022** - Your child is due to start secondary school in September 2022. 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 2021** and close at **5pm on 1 November 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. 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://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201168/apply\\_for\\_a\\_secondary\\_school\\_place](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201168/apply_for_a_secondary_school_place)

The closing date for all applications is **5pm on 1 November 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 3 PARENTS:**

Boundary Park Juniors Under 8s team are looking to add to their existing squad of players for this coming season. Any boys or girls interested in joining classmates from St Aidan's who are already on the team need to contact Harry on 07933 374 767.

Training is on Wednesday evenings 6pm on Clayton Playing Fields and matches are on Saturdays.



**Anna's Dance** – Will be on Tuesdays from 21st September. 3-4pm for years 3, 4 and 5.  
(please collect a consent form off your class teacher).  
Contribution payment of £1 per session will be available on Parent pay.

**MICA** (Mark Innes Coaching Academy) – Football will be on Tuesdays from 21<sup>st</sup> September. 3-4pm for years 5 and 6.  
(please collect a consent form from your class teacher).  
Contribution payment of £1 per session will be available on Parent pay.

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**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](http://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)



Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September

**STAGECOACH OLDHAM** here in the New Hall at Ss Aidan & Oswald's.  
Tele :01204 301 320  
Web: [stagecoach.co.uk/oldham](http://stagecoach.co.uk/oldham)

<b>KS1</b>	=	9:30am – 11:00am 11:15am – 12:45pm 1:15pm - 2:45pm 2.45pm – 4.15pm
<b>KS2,3 &amp; 4</b>	=	10:00am – 1:00pm 2:00pm – 5:00pm
<b>Age 15+</b>	=	1.15pm – 4.15pm

Classes are limited.  
Please contact stagecoach direct to check availability and book your taster session.

- Tuesday 21 September - **International Peace Day** the Mayoress will be attending school today.  
**Virtual Meet the Teacher Event** Year 6
- Wednesday 22 September **National Fitness Day** All children are to wear sports clothes. Donation of £1 is to be paid via school gateway.  
**Virtual Meet the Teacher Event** Year 1/2
- Monday 27 September - **Virtual Meet the Teacher Event** Reception
- Tuesday 28 September - **Virtual Meet the Teacher Event** Year 5
- Wednesday 29 September **Virtual Meet the Teacher Event** Nursery
- Thursday 30 September- **Virtual Meet the Teacher Event** Year 3/4
- Friday 1 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**
- Monday 18 October - **Flu Vaccinations** vaccinations will be taking place in school today.
- Thursday 21 October - **Break up for half term**
- Monday 1 November - **DEADLINE is 5pm** for Year 6 to get their Secondary Application Forms in by.  
**Return from half term**
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