

OSWALD ROAD'S CLASS OF 2019!



We'd like to dedicate this newsletter to our amazing Year 6 class of 2019. It's been a fantastic last half term full of trips and fun events, such as the Year 6 Wellbeing Day and litter-picking trip to Formby beach. Read on to see photos from these two events, plus much more!

The children celebrated the end of their Oswald Road journey in style with a fantastic party in the school hall on Thursday 11th July (thank you to the parents that organised such a great event!)

Head to the last page in this newsletter to see some of the highlights from the 'exit survey' the Year 6 children completed about their time at Oswald Road.



Headteacher's Page



To all the families of Oswald Road Primary School,

As another school year comes to a close, I'd like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to our children, staff and parents.

Our children work so hard, whilst having such fun. I see so many happy faces every day and I love the way they come and tell me the things they've learnt and show me the work they're proud of.

Our staff truly are amazing and show such dedication. Their sheer passion for making a difference is noted on a daily basis and I am so grateful for all they do.

We stand by the fact that we will never be a school who only care about results, however do understand they play an important part of how the school is judged. Our results this year have been excellent, with our EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 all doing really well. We trialled the new Multiplications Check in Year 4 and performed significantly better than the sample group. Our levels of Greater Depth (children working above the level of Expected Standard) were significantly higher than national in Year 6, with our combined Greater Depth (children gaining this measure in reading, writing and maths) nearly doubling national figures.

There is so much more to school life than figures and I'm proud that within times of budget constraints we have a Governing Body who remain committed to providing such a high quality provision for music, art and PE. I am proud we continue to keep a broad and interesting curriculum (further developments coming next year) even in times of pressure on results. I'm very proud to be Head of this lovely school and be in such a privileged position to be working with such brilliant staff and amazing children every day.

Can I wish you all the best for the summer and I look forward to seeing you in September.

Deborah Howard
Headteacher

THE BIG OSWALD ROAD EID PICNIC

On Friday 7th June we held our Eid celebrations in school, which included the first ever 'Big Oswald Road Eid Picnic'. Each class in school prepared a dish for the picnic, and we also had a fantastic amount of food brought in by parents and carers. Although the weather wasn't on our side, the celebrations still went ahead, albeit in a rather packed school hall!



OUR VERY OWN LIONESSE CUBS!

On Wednesday 3rd July our amazing girls' football team took part in the Manchester League Finals and finished third overall... which means we are the third best girls' football team in ALL of Manchester! Giving the England team a run for their money, we reckon! Coach Mr Salisbury is super proud of how well they've performed this year!



MANCHESTER DAY PARADE

For the sixth year running children and staff from Oswald Road took part in the Manchester Day Parade. As it was the tenth anniversary of the parade, the theme of this year's event was '10 out of 10'. The costumes and props for the Oswald Road group, which were designed by artist Austin Hewitt, were based on the theme of frustration and calm- when you get angry or frustrated 'just take 10 and try again!' Austin makes giant puppets, so the big build was a giant human who gets angry and frustrated. The children and adults were dressed as wise owl agitators and pacifiers, to fire him up then calm him down.



YEAR 6 TRIP TO FORMBY BEACH

Last term Year 6 learnt all about the dangers of plastic pollution and that one way in which we can take action is to clear up any plastic that washes up on our beaches. To put this into practice, the children visited Formby Beach on Thursday 27th June to collect as many bags of plastic rubbish as they could find.



XIAYAN'S ARENA SHOW!

During the May half term Xiayan from 4AW performed a Chinese Tai Chi fan dance at the closing ceremony of the 2019 International Taekwondo Championships at Manchester Arena. Xiayan performed with 14 children from the Manchester Chinese Centre, which she goes to every Sunday. She took part in a 9-week course to learn the whole set of dance movements with martial arts elements. Although it was difficult, she learnt it with enthusiasm and determination, spending a lot of time at home practising by following a YouTube video.

The dance group also performed at the Dragon Boat Festival race, which took place at Salford Quays on Sunday 2nd June.



YEAR 3 CHOCOLATE WORKSHOP

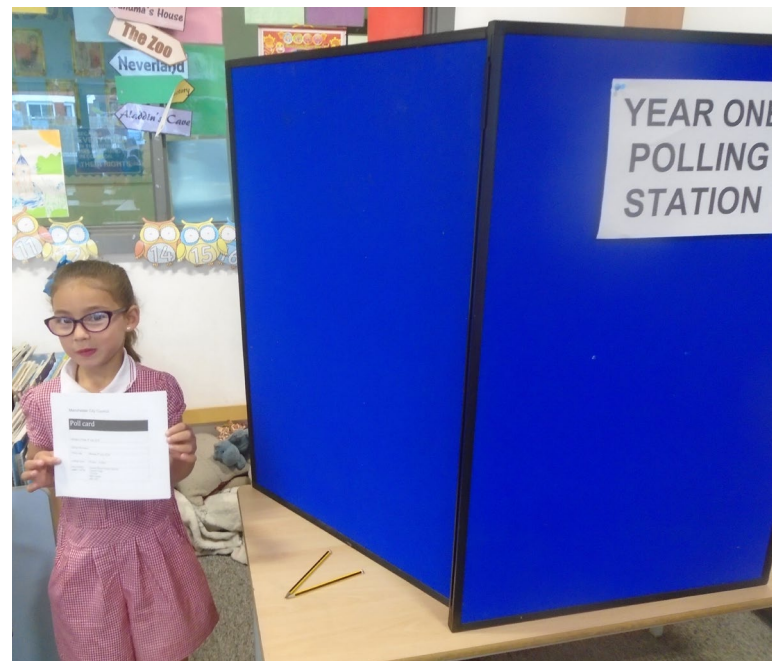
As part of their exciting Aztecs topic, Year 3 took part in a workshop with the 'Ministry of Chocolate'. The workshop covered various topics, such as the history and origins of chocolate from 1000 BC to date, the geography of cocoa trees, the cocoa harvesting process, Fairtrade aspects of chocolate and how chocolate is made in a factory. The workshop finished with a practical chocolate making session, where each child made their own individually moulded chocolate.



BRITISH VALUES DAY

Here at Oswald Road Primary School we aim to embrace and uphold all of our British Values and one way we do this is by holding an annual British Values Day. The four British Values which we talk to all of our children about are: democracy; the rule of law; individual liberty; and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

As part of the day's events a local PCSO came in to give an assembly on the rule of law and why it is so important. To teach them about democracy and how it works in our country, the Year 1 classrooms were turned into polling stations. Children were also encouraged to wear traditional dress relating to their culture to celebrate the diversity we have in school.



NETBALL SUPERSTARS!

A huge well done to our amazing netball team, who had a fabulous win against Brookburn Primary this half term. It was an especially impressive win considering that some of our Year 5 team mates had never played a match and were outstanding, despite the weather! Thanks to the parents who came to support us!



Rights Respecting Ambassadors' Page



Behaviour Policy Review



The Rights Respecting Ambassadors had a meeting to discuss our school's Behaviour Policy. We wanted to make sure we got the pupil voice and teacher voice from the whole school, so each class recorded their feedback in their own class pupil voice book.

We wrote down their opinions about certificates, reflections, behaviour in school and raffle tickets and prizes.

We also talked about how we are going to introduce a playground Rights Respecting Charter in September.

By Elliot 3WE & Herbie 3KB

YEAR 6 PRODUCTION

This year's Year 6 Production was called 'Goodbye My Friend' and was all about the journey children go through at primary school... needless to say, by the final song there was not a dry eye in the house!



YEAR 4 TRIP TO ORDSALL HALL

As part of their topic on the Tudors for this half term, Year 4 stepped back in time for an exciting trip to Ordsall Hall. During their visit to the Grade 1 listed hall, the children got into character to prepare for a Tudor wedding feast. The Radclyffe family and their servants, merchants, lords and ladies prepared for the celebration, giving the children an insight in to what Tudor homes were like.

The children were then split into two groups and spent half a day in the lord and lady's side of the house, and the other half of the day learning what life was like for the staff in the kitchen and workers' sleeping quarters! The facilitators, who played the lady of the house and her chief servant, helped the classes to learn about Tudor celebrations, food and homes as well as discovering how different life was for rich and poor people during this period in British history.



PTA INTERNATIONAL FAIR

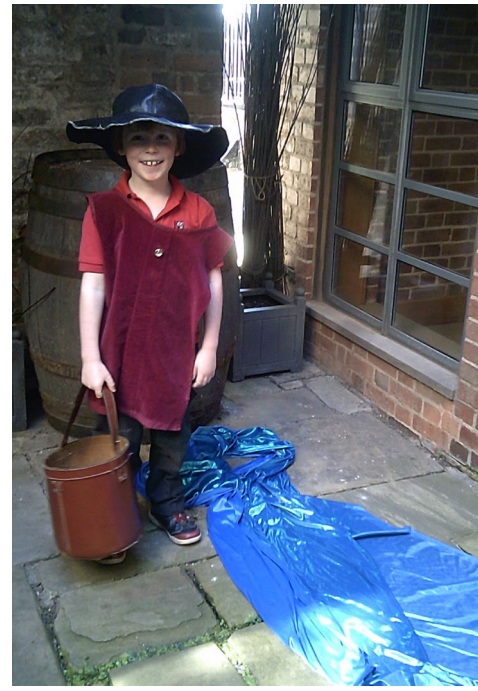
Congratulations to our amazing PTA Committee for another fantastic International Fair! This year's event was bigger and better than ever, raising a whopping £3,600. This will have a huge impact on the developments we make to our playground, which will benefit all of the children in school, so thank you to anyone that helped out or came along. A special thanks to Mr Salisbury and Miss Cawley who very obligingly agreed to be taped to a wall for an hour as part of the 'Tape a Teacher' stall!



YEAR 2 TRIP TO STAIRCASE HOUSE

As part of this half term's topic, called '17th Century Madness', Year 2 visited Staircase House in Stockport. On the trip the children dressed up and acted out the story of The Great Fire of London from the eyes of Samuel Pepys, using all the rooms of the house to tell the parts of the story.

They then learnt about the beak doctor and cures for the plague, and had a go at making their own herbal remedies using sage, cloves, rose petals, mint and bay leaves. Finally, the Year 2s looked at how the building was made and had a go at building their own mini wall using the wattle and daub technique.



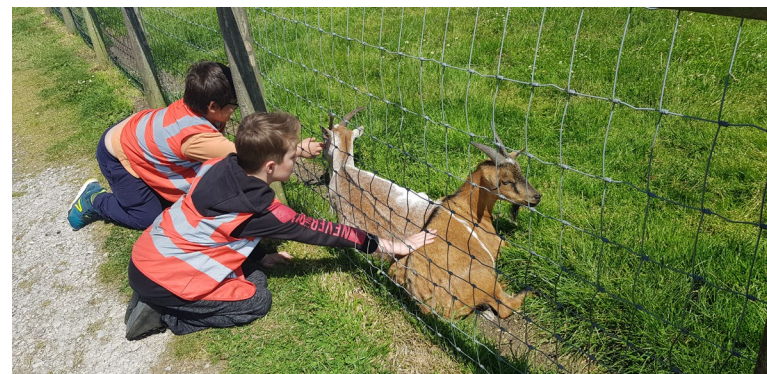
HUCKLOW RESIDENTIAL

A group of Year 5 & 6 children were lucky enough to go on a residential visit to Hucklow this half term. 'Send a Child to Hucklow' is a charity that provides free holidays to rural Derbyshire for groups of children. We are so appreciative that they enabled a group of our children to attend.

On the first day of their trip the children visited 'The Heights of Abraham', where they travelled up the mountain at Matlock in a cable car. They then had free access to all of the activities at the top, including cave tours, adventure playgrounds, Victoria's Tower, Tinker's Shaft and the Masson Centre, where there is a fossil from a dinosaur!

The second day was spent touring Speedwell and Peak Caverns. The children spent the morning visiting Peak Cavern (also known as 'The Devil's Arse'), where they learned about the rope makers who lived there during the last century. In the afternoon they went on a boat ride through the tunnels at Speedwell Cavern.

On their final day of the trip the children visited Matlock Farm Park, where they were able to feed a variety of animals including cows, llamas, wallabies and horses. After lunch the children were able to handle guinea pigs, a tortoise, rabbits, a duckling and a chick!



SPORTS DAY 2019

We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who came to the Nursery, Reception and KS1&2 Sports Days this year. What a fantastic atmosphere at all of the events! It was great to see so many parents and teachers getting involved and to see the children cheering each other on! Congratulations to Tawny, the overall winners for the KS1&2 Sports Day!

"Such a really good sports day this year. Really appreciated the pre planning effort which went into it to ensure there was an even number of competitors per house and they were competing against children of a similar ability. A competitive enough event for those that wanted it but still a lot of fun for everyone taking part. Many thanks Oswald Road Sports team!" Year 4 Parent



YEAR 6 WELLBEING DAY

Each year after SATs the Year 6's are treated to a 'wellbeing day', consisting of a carousel of different activities with various members of staff. This year's events included cupcake decorating with Mrs Linton and Miss Clifton, mindfulness exercises with Mrs Wealleans and an exciting escape room activity with Mr Taylor.



RECEPTION TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC

To celebrate the end of a wonderful year the Reception children and staff took their teddies and a packed lunch to Longford Park for an afternoon of games and fun at the annual Teddy Bear's Picnic!



Year 6 Exit Survey

At the end of every academic year we carry out an 'exit survey' with our Year 6 children to see what they thought of their time at Oswald Road. Here are some of this year's highlights...

What advice would you give someone starting Oswald Road?

"There is always someone to talk to who cares."

"Just do your best, no one will ask for more."

"Follow our Rights, we believe in them."

"Be brave, you can be who you are here."

What has been your favourite subject and why?

"Maths– it trains you for life, it's fun, there are many possibilities and challenges."

"English– it gives me inspiration and I can write stories."

"Art because expression is important."

How has Oswald Road supported you as a person?

"Teachers get to know you personally."

"No pressure, just support."

"The teachers know what is good for you and your next steps, not just in learning."

"Believing in me."

"Telling me to never give up."

"I have been left to develop my own character rather than you giving me a personality."

What do you think is the biggest strength of this school?

"Rights Respecting"

"The people and community."

"We work together."

What do you think is the biggest strength of this school?

"They teach us to work as a team and respect the rights of others."

"Everything is fun!"

"The opportunity we have to go on trips."

"Friends"

"We celebrate our differences"

"The trips"

"Great teachers"

"Support"

"Boosting our confidence"

"The outside classroom support"

"The right to relax and play"

"Raising money"

Year 6 You Said, We Did

You Said: "Can we have a trampoline?"

We Did: "As much as we would love to, this isn't something we'd be able to have in the playground."

You Said: "The hall floor is sticky!"

We Did: "We purchased a machine to clean the floor regularly with and employed a member of staff who has the responsibility of cleaning the hall floor with this machine after each dinner time. The floor is also cleaned with the machine each Friday evening."

You Said: "We need water in the playground."

We Did: "We have put a message on the Weekly Update about bringing in bottles and are encouraging you to take them out to lunch. Staff will continue to remind you to fill up your bottles and drink plenty of water!"