

Oswald Road Primary School Newsletter

October 2014

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Families

Welcome to our new look Newsletter. We will be doing a monthly newsletter to share with you lots of news about what is going on in school.

We've had a super start to the new academic year. Our new build has been a really exciting time for all and it has been so lovely to see how happy the children, staff and parents are with our new facilities.

We've had new staff join our team and it has been great to see the warm welcome they have received from children, staff and parents.

We're really lucky at Oswald Road... we've always had amazing children, highly skilled and committed staff and engaged parents/carers... and now we've got a fantastic new build too!

Deborah Howard

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Hello everyone

It's been a busy start to the Autumn term for me in my SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) role in school. As you may know, I was approached by the Local Authority in Summer term to deliver some outreach work and provide SENCo support to a school in the south Manchester area. I spend approximately one day a week providing this outreach support and it is a fantastic opportunity to make links with other schools and communities and to develop my inclusive practice. I am supporting this school to establish identification processes and procedures in line with new SEN (Special Educational Needs) legislation. I will continue working with this school after half term when I will be offering support around provision mapping, TA (Teaching Assistant) deployment and other SEND (Special Educational Needs/Disability) issues.

In addition to this outreach work, I have also returned to school, so to speak, as a very mature student indeed! I began my National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination at Manchester Metropolitan University last week. This is a Masters level qualification and I will be undertaking a large degree of research over the next couple of years in order to develop SEND practice here at Oswald Road. The main objective of this qualification is to increase the participation of pupils with SEND and raise their achievements through developing professional attributes and improving knowledge, understanding and skills. The programme of study is delivered through taught sessions and by specialist and highly experienced Inclusive Practice and SEND tutors. This highly regarded qualification impacts upon SEND provision in schools and on the progress of children. It is a mandatory requirement for Special Needs Co-ordinators in mainstream schools across the country.

I hope you have all had a great start to this academic year and look forward to meeting with parents again at our upcoming SEND Parent Forum in Autumn 2. Dates and times will be available shortly.

All future newsletters will be emailed out to parents/carers and uploaded onto the school website: www.oswaldroad.co.uk. Some copies will also be left in the Reception area for parents/carers to take. If we haven't got your email address, please let the school office have it so we can ensure you get sent a copy. Thank you.

What's going on at Oswald Road

Oswald Road's Mr Hough.... Your New Cover Supervisor

Since starting my new role as Cover Supervisor at Oswald Road I have been exposed to new challenges and exciting new beginnings.

I would like to give you, our parents, a small insight into what this role entails, giving you a small snap shot about the fantastic children I work with and the tools that I use to assist in my cover to entertain, entice and bring out the fantastic work which the children of Oswald Road produce.

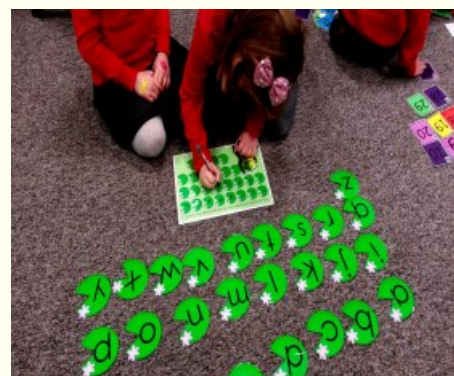
After supporting Year 6 over the last academic year and over the last 7 and half years of working and being part of Oswald Road, I have had the privilege of working in the Nursery, Reception, and Years 3, 4, 5 all of which have taught me to be the TA I am today and to progress into this new role.

Being a Cover Supervisor I am now able to work in all year groups over the whole of the school week, delivering lessons provided by our great teachers and also bringing my own tools and aids to the classroom.... ask your children about my Muppets (all years) and my new Frog Challenge (Years 1-3). I teach the lessons when a teacher is out of class on a course, at a meeting or on a short term absence.

I get the opportunity to teach a variety of lessons from maths, literacy, hand writing, social skills and many more.

Working around the school in all year groups allows me to work with all of our wonderful teachers and learn more about each of your children, alongside meeting more of our Parents.

From attending Oswald Road as a child to being a member of staff working my way to the role of TA4 Cover Supervisor is a real privilege.



My first half term as a Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT)

I cannot quite believe that we are nearly at the end of the first half term in our new school. It seems remarkable that so many weeks have passed already but then it is surprising how quickly a week passes once you have been swept up in all the various demands of being a class teacher. As a NQT in a new school the experience has at times been fairly overwhelming but the support from the rest of the Oswald Road team has massively helped to ease the load and make things manageable. I don't think that training on the PGCE course could have really prepared me for the reality of being a classroom teacher but I am delighted that I have made it this far relatively intact! There's still a lot to take on board but having such a welcoming, approachable and experienced group of colleagues has helped immensely.

I am really pleased with how well I have got to know my class these past few weeks. In these early days I have found it imperative to make those strong, positive relationships with the children and to develop trust and expectations. I have been very lucky to inherit such a keen group of learners and for my very first class I could not have asked for more. They know that I am learning alongside them which has helped to make that bond all the stronger.

Now I am very much looking forward to finishing up our 1980s topic with a bang by hosting a rocking, 1980s themed party! **Luke McDonagh (Newly Qualified Teacher—Year 4)**

Welcome back

.....to Leila after her operation. She has done brilliantly after her surgery and physiotherapy sessions.

It is nice to see her smiley face again. Jo (Leila's mum) wanted to say a huge huge thank you to everyone at Oswald Road who has helped to make this possible.



Which High School did our Year 6 children go to?

Burnage Media Arts College—1

Chorlton High—42

Manchester Academy—1

Parrs Wood High—1

Stretford Grammar—9

Whalley Range High School—7

Well done to Nazmin Dagada-Khan who works in the school office in the Finance Section. She has gained the Certificate of School Business Management. We would like to congratulate her on her success.

Many thanks to Motor-Tech garage in Chorlton for their kind donation of 10 used car tyres which our children have been using for creative play in the Owl Garden.

The work the children have been doing since they have come back has been really impressive. We're thrilled to be able to share this piece of writing by one of our Year 5 children:

My Journey

"It was the crack of dawn and the eagle was already out hunting. I took the right hand turning towards the woods. The sombre, humid breeze loomed over me. Promptly I came to a stop for there was a swamp in front of me. Duck weed swarmed every corner and the murky waters threatened to swallow any unfortunate duck or pond scatter as a victim. As I swiftly ran round it, old, gnarled trees hung over me, like witches fingers. Suddenly, black ink bled into the night sky as a cloud covered the sun, making the wood eerie and sunless. Just then, I realised that the wood around me, flew up like walls. To my left, there was a row of wilted geraniums. To my right, there was a handful of blooming, black roses, thorns sticking out of the wall. Suddenly, I realised this was the entrance to a haunted labyrinth. I took a step and slipped. I went flying. I landed on the row of black roses: they pricked me and I scabbled away."

Eve Johnson

As part of their topic 'Wild Thing!' Year 2 have enjoyed a trip to Chorlton Ees. (Yes, I said enjoyed 2KW despite the rain!!)

The children have loved learning all about wolves but unfortunately we didn't find any at Chorlton Ees!! We did get a chance to practise our adjectives though

"Squidgy, squashy mud."

"Damp, soggy, pouring, rain."

"Slippery, colourful leaves."



The weather was all part of the plan Year 2 to support you in writing amazing recounts.

Kathryn Whalley (Year 2 Teacher)

Have you seen?

A black and silver iScott Scooter which went missing from the Bike Rack on Nicolas Road on the 15 October.

Scooter Accessories 'Scoobits' - Coloured rubber bands with rubber disk. One is Blue with a Bunny on the disk and the other has a green badge with a red and black Dragon design on the disk (missing since 3 October).

Year 4 have been jumping back a few decades to the 1980's....

As part of their Design Technology work, they have looked at 80s fashions and patterns that were popular at that time. They have then come up with a design for their very own 80s T-shirt. Work is still on going to perfect them! The children have loved this topic and can't wait to show off their cool creations at our 80s party!



Pupil Voice

We asked the children at Oswald Road what they thought about the new school building:

"My favourite part of the new build is the lovely big classrooms with big new whiteboards." Ruby

"I like the interactive whiteboard because it doesn't malfunction and it is always good to see it do its work." Zak

"The studio is good and classrooms are better." Enas

"I really like the hall for lots of children and PE because it's a big area to do PE in." Rio

"The designs." Cosmo

"I like the studio because it's very joyful. Also the hall can fit the whole school." Haseeb

"I love the dance studio, the hall, classroom, ICT. I love these parts of the building because there are more computers, a big hall, a nice ICT suite and it is just so nice." Arooj

"I like the dance studio/hall and the lift because it is massive and beautiful." Hosna

"I love the big hall especially because we get to sit next to our friends who are on packed lunch. I also like the smart board.!!" Zoe

"The classrooms are bigger, they are not hot and stuffy. Smart technology. Big new hall. Incredible Teachers." Ellie

"I like the way the new build really just brings out what a creative school we really are." Edwin

"I like the fact that we now have more space in the school because it is good to move in. Also I like the brand new dance studio because it has a big mirror." Ethan

"I love the dance studio, the ICT suite, the lift and the reception" Fatima

"I love everything about the new build, but I was ecstatic about seeing the new dance studio. It is better than I thought because it is sooooo big and the floor is sooooo smooth." Eve

"The homemade food is really nice. The food is really tasty. The music studio is very cool." Olly

"I love the new dance hall, it's very professional, it reminds me of a programme on TV. I also like how the windows are low down so you can see through them. I love all the space and the toilets aren't smelly unlike last year." Alex



Oswald Road PTA (FOR\$) - Get ready for Christmas!

This year's Christmas Fair will be Saturday 29th November 11 - 2pm. Anybody wishing to help organise this year's event please email Nina at oswaldptachair@gmail.com or call 07899 671 682. Also as always we'll be looking for volunteers.

We will be participating in the Christmas Card project again this year. Look out for your child's artwork after half term and orders will need to be back for Wednesday 12th November. More details to follow.

Also we will be offering everybody the chance to buy some festive gift wrap and cards from Northbrook Fundraising scheme with every purchase we will receive 22% cashback!. Many thanks for everyone's support.

Nina Jones

Cross Country

This year children from Oswald Road Primary School took part in Manchester Schools cross country competition at Chorlton Park. This was an exciting event, for all participants. This fully inclusive competition reflected the importance of enjoyment from an exciting event irrespective of experience, talent or ability. All children challenged themselves and completed the distance of 1000m. In the second leg of the competition children ran a longer distance of 1500m but showed stamina by completing the distance in a shorter time. As a result of this, we have managed to reach the Manchester finals which will take place in November. We are proud of all the children who took part. **Well done Oswald's Ossies we are proud of you!**



RUN FOR FUN EVERY SUNDAY MORNING!

South Manchester Junior Parkrun is a 2km run for 4-14 year olds held at 9:30am every Sunday in Platt Fields Park. It is free to take part but please register before attending so that your time can be recorded. All you need to do is register a child's details and print out a barcode, this is then taken to the run each week to ensure an official time can be given to each runner. Further details can be found on the website: <http://www.parkrun.org.uk/southmanchester-juniors/>

Some pupils are already running each week and doing really well! It would be great to see more children there on Sunday.

Feel free to contact us at southmanchester-juniorsoffice@parkrun.com if you would like to ask any questions.

'My favourite thing about junior parkrun is coming around on the second lap and everyone cheering my name! Each week we can check our times on the website to see if we have run a PB (Personal Best)' Owen Reekie (3SG).

'I love running with my friends, Rosie, Hannah & Sophie!' Agnes Reekie (FS2LT).

