



BRITISH VALUES DAY



On Monday 23rd April we celebrated British Values Day at Oswald Road. The four British Values that we promote as a school every day 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.

"In Year 1 the children turned their classrooms into a polling station for the day. They were set homework to speak to their parents about the following scenario: 'You will only come to school for 4 days a week but you need to stay until 5pm every day.' In class the children had a big debate, giving their arguments for and against the scenario, and made a big list of why people wanted to do this and why people didn't. During the afternoon they spoke about individual liberty and the fact that we all have rights to our own beliefs, faiths and religion." Miss Jones, Year 1

"We had a fantastic day for British Values Day! Firstly, we talked about why we need rules and looked further into rules within society and what would happen without them. We then looked at mutual tolerance and discussed why it was so important to be treated fairly. Lastly, we looked at the book 'The Day the Crayons Quit' and made billboards to portray how we felt. We talked about speaking out if we do not feel happy. All in all it was a superb day that everyone including the teaching and support staff in my class enjoyed!" Miss Millward, Year 4

"Year 5 really enjoyed writing their own party manifestos and electing a party leader. The party leaders gave speeches to the rest of the year group, who voted for their favourite policies. We had a fab time!" Miss Cawley, Year 5



OUR BRILLIANT BUDDIES

Buddies are a peer mediation program that has run in our school for the last five years. Being a Buddy is an important and rewarding job and the children who are chosen should be very proud of their responsibility and achievements. We'd like to say a big thank you to all our Buddies for the work they have done over lunchtimes this year!

It's been a bit of a learning curve for Mrs Nicholls, who took over as Buddy Lead from Mrs Carter at the start of the year, but she has loved the enthusiasm all the Buddies bring to their job.

The Buddies are full of great ideas and suggestions as to how lunchtimes can be improved. Recently there was discussion as to how the rota should be changed so that it supports the new lunchtime zones and activity areas, and we're hoping to have this in place for September.

This year we introduced Lead Buddies, who have supported the new Buddies who started from Year 5 and have helped make sure that everyone is carrying out their duties. They also carry out a recycling collection every Thursday to empty the classrooms bins.

Watch this space for application forms for the current Years 4 and 5 to apply for next year!



"I like to play football with the Buddies- they have good football skills." Evan FS2SR



"They are our friends and we like playing with them. They are good at playing mummies and daddies" Danya & Eleeza FS2NG



"I don't know what I'd do without the Buddies. They are enthusiastic and conscientious." Jacquie Campbell, Receptionist



"They accept guidance and use their own initiative. They have learnt a lot of skills." Bally Brennan, Senior Lunchtime Organiser



WELL DONE, MRS WALKER!

A huge well done to Mrs Walker, who took part in the Gung Ho 5k inflatable obstacle course in March to raise money for the Wigan & Leigh Hospice. Many thanks to the generous parents who sponsored Mrs Walker for her very muddy run, helping her to raise an amazing £654 for the charity.



INTERNATIONAL FAIR

Oswald Road's first ever International Fair will take place on Saturday 30th June from 11.00am-2.00pm and we want to get as many people involved in the festivities as possible! If you or your child have got a skill you'd like to showcase, please let us know! We're looking for people that can help us with things like:

- Performances (eg. dances, songs, musical instruments)
- Workshops (eg. international crafts, chapatti making)
- Stalls (eg. henna tattoos, name writing in another language/script)
- Donate a dish to our World Café (eg. sweet and savoury bakes, or dishes that can be eaten cold as the ovens in the school kitchen will already be in use)
- Enter a cake into the traditional Bake Off
- General volunteers to help on the day
- Donate a raffle prize for the Grand Raffle

If you'd like to get involved, please speak to Ellie in the school office, or Gaynor Armstrong (PTA Chair). Alternatively, email e.linton@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk or oswaldptachair@gmail.com.



TO INFINITY...AND BEYOND!

Year 1 went on an exciting trip to the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) this half term to visit the Tim Peake exhibition, just in time for their next topic on space. The children got to see the actual space shuttle that astronaut Tim Peake travelled back to Earth in from the ISS and even had the opportunity to try on an astronaut suit!

"Trying on the astronaut outfit was so much fun. I felt like I was in space!" Noah 1JJ

"This was a great opportunity for the children to get an experience of what space is like just before we start our topic. We were very lucky that this exhibition had come to Manchester!" Miss Jones



AS YOU LIKE IT...

At the end of last half term Year 5 took part in an outstanding performance of Shakespeare's 'As You Like It' at Chorlton High School's Blue Box Theatre. All of the children were outstanding and completely blew us away with their confidence and talent. Miss Davis, Miss Cawley and Mr Salisbury are all incredibly proud of everyone involved in the whole production, they have worked so hard! A big thank you to Ms Jordan at Chorlton High for giving the children this wonderful opportunity.



UNDER THE SEA

To help get their creative writing juices flowing the children in Year 2 were treated to an 'Under the Sea' themed party linked to their topic for this half term. The children came in wearing fancy dress and played lots of fun games linked to their topic on the deep blue sea. They also made lots of homemade props in class. After the party the children had to write an account of their party.



TRADITIONAL TALES

To celebrate the end of their 'Traditional Tales' topic for this half term the children in Reception had a dress-up day. The children were invited to come to school dressed as their favourite traditional tale or fairy tale character and bring their favourite traditional tale into school to share with their friends.



BIRD BOX COMPETITION

Thank you to everyone that entered our bird box design competition, we were blown away by the number and standard of entries! The overall winner was Hugh Rowlands from 4SM... well done, Hugh! Next time you're in the playground why not see how many bird boxes you can spot?



CREEPY CRAWLY ROADSHOW

As Nursery's topic for this half term is on minibeasts, Tracy and John from the Creepy Crawly Roadshow paid a visit to the children in both Nursery and Reception to give them a hands-on experience of some mini monsters! The children loved holding the insects and reptiles, including snakes and tarantulas, and some children even got to have a big blue butterfly sitting on their head!

"I liked Magic the butterfly because she does wishes!" Poppy (Nursery)

"I liked the one that laid lots of eggs [stick insect]." Seth (Nursery)

"I liked the snake. It felt really dry!" Leo (Nursery)



KEEP CALM & CARRY ON

Year 3 had a fantastic day when the team from Portals to the Past visited school to deliver an interactive workshop on World War II. During the workshop the children got to look at old army weapons and outfits and learnt all about rationing. To help them get into character many of the children came to school dressed as evacuees and brought ration style packed lunches.

"I liked when we got to look at all the weapons used in World War 2." Casey 3KG

"I liked the mini assault course because it was really fun!" Isaac 3KG

"I liked being able to hold the hand grenade." Luke 3KG



YEAR 5 TRIP TO MOSI

As part of their topic on Manchester's history, Year 5 went on an exciting trip to the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI). As well as exploring the galleries to learn about Manchester's rich industrial past, which included a steam engine demonstration, the children also recapped on their science from the spring term by watching a live show called 'Explosions: A Blast from the Past'.

"I really enjoyed the explosions!" Husnain 5PS

"I liked the way they showed us the trains and how the engines work. The space show was fun." Zain 5PS

"The MOSI is always a great trip. It was a great blend of our science and topic lessons from across the year. The 'Explosions' show was excellent – very entertaining!" Mr Salisbury



NURSERY VISIT TO PETS CORNER

This half term Nursery went on a trip to Longford Park to visit pets corner and explore the wildlife within the park itself to support their learning for their 'minibeasts' topic.



YEAR 5 POETRY RECITAL

Year 5's English focus this term has been on understanding, analyzing and performing poetry. To show off how much they have learnt the children put on an amazing poetry recital for their parents and carers.

"The children were absolutely awesome! Confident, loud and hilarious. Some of the children had even written their own poems based on traditional tales, which were equally as great as the originals." Year 5 Parent



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

Well done and a huge congratulations to the Year 6 boys football team on winning their group tournament at Manchester City this week! The boys came out as 1-0 winners in the final after progressing through the quarter finals and semi finals with clean sheets. With rules stating that we could only take 10 players for the day, it was a really tough decision to leave 6 of our 16 main squad behind, so a special mention has to go out to them as well.



BEE IN THE CITY

Thank you to everyone that entered our Bee in the City design competition. Mrs Appleby was so overwhelmed by the number of entries that she has picked not one but EIGHT winners, and will combine elements from all of the designs to decorate our bee. Well done to Thomas Hay (3KG), Mabel Hopkins-Howarth (6WG), Lauren Paddon (5CC), Ruby Myin (4SM), Taia Myin (4LM), Poppy Truman (FS2NG), Elvie Pagan-Campbell (4MQ) and Katie Pool (4LM). We can't wait to see the finished product. For now, here's a sneak peak of the work in progress!



LUNCHTIME FOCUS

We were very excited to relaunch lunchtimes at Oswald Road on Monday 23rd April! The Lunchtime Team have worked very hard to consider how to make lunchtimes more exciting and interesting for our children. As well of lots of exciting new resources, the playground has been rezoned so that there are specific areas for different types of play.

"I love all the activities because it's so fun and exciting and it's helping me make lots of friends!"

"We really like going in the Owl Garden to talk. It's good to have some quiet time. There used to be people running around when people were trying to have a quiet lunchtime, so it's good now that there are different zones where people are wanting to do the same thing as you."

"I like the different zones because you get to do different stuff. It's much more fun than it used to be. I like the traditional games zone because I like hula hooping and skipping."



LUNCHTIME FOCUS

"I like the activity zone. I like to play tennis. It's good because people aren't running around and getting hurt as much."

"Lunchtimes are really good, much better than before. I like playing in the running and chasing zone."

"We LOVE playing with the skipping ropes and hula hoops in the traditional games zone."

"I think lunchtimes are better now because of all the new equipment, especially in the activity zone and the traditional games zone."

"I like the traditional games zone because of the skipping ropes."

"I like that fact that you can hang out with your friends in the different zones. At lunchtime we used to just walk or run around but now there are lots of different types of activities to do."



A Day in the Life of a Pupil at Oswald Road



Seb Dorrian FS2FW

8:10am- I went to Early Birds before school and I played on the scooter.

8:45am- Someone from Early Birds took us to our classroom. I put my bag on my peg and sat down on the carpet so Mrs Walker could do the register.

9:00am- We read some stories while we were sitting on the carpet.

9:30am- I did my jobs for the day. One of them was to match sentences up with pictures and another one was to do a drawing of my favourite fairy tale, which is 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.

10:30am- We did phonics. Geraldine Giraffe helps us with our phonics. He is funny! We have been learning 'th' and 'igh' sounds.

10:50am- We went into the playground for break time and I played football with Nico.

11:30am- We came back into the classroom to go to the toilet and wash our hands ready for lunch. We also watched a little bit of Alphablocks.

11:45am- We went to the hall to have our lunch. I have school dinners and today I had a jacket potato with cheese and beans and then a raisin biscuit for pudding. After I had eaten my lunch I went to the playground and played football again until the end of lunch. I love football!

1:00pm- We came back into the classroom and had carpet time. We did maths and we were watching counting songs and practising our number formation.

1:30pm- I spent time working on my doodle book. I was making a card for my brother because it's nearly his birthday.

2:30pm- I went into the playground for play time and played football again with Nico. I always play with him because he loves football just as much as I do.

3:00pm- We got our bags and coats together ready for hometime and sat on the carpet while Mrs Walker read us a story.

3:30pm- I went to Owl Club and did some warm-up exercises outside with Marina. Then I had a snack and played with my friends.

A Day in the Life of a Pupil at Oswald Road



Pippa Lord 1HC

7:45am- I went to Early Birds before school this morning. I went outside and played 'Header and Catch', which is where someone throws the ball and either shouts 'header' or 'catch' and you have to do it before the ball gets to you.

8:45am- I went to my classroom and checked my maths and did some reading.

9:05am- After Mrs Doyle took the register we had our maths lesson. We were doing about turning objects and we had to draw a shape when it had been turned in different ways, like half turn or quarter turn.

10:10am- We did phonics. Today we were learning about different continents.

10:30am- I went to the playground for break time. I played a game called 'bathtub', which is a running and chasing game. Then we played 'donks on heads'- you run around and if someone touches you on the head then you have to go and stand under the wooden bit in the Owl Garden.

10:45am- We went back in to the classroom and did English. We did some writing about the continents that we were doing this morning. I was writing about South America.

11:45am- I went to the hall to eat my lunch. I have school dinners and today I had sausage and beans and sweet potato, then a biscuit for pudding. I did skipping for the rest of lunch time with lots of friends from my class.

1:00pm- We came back into our classroom to do the register, then went back out to the playground for our science lesson. We are learning about flowers so we had to see how many different flowers we could find around school. After we had been all around the playground looking for flowers we came back into the classroom and drew the flowers we had seen.

2:35pm- We had break time a bit later today because of the one minute silence for the Manchester bomb. When we went to the playground I played 'poorly babies' with some of my friends from my class.

2:50pm- We did topic work. We were labelling the Earth. There was a line going to each continent and it gave us the first letter and we had to write the rest of the word ourselves.

3:30pm- I got all of my stuff together and went to Owl Club. I am planning on doing lots of skipping in the playground until I go home!

A Day in the Life of a Pupil at Oswald Road

Hannah Price 3KB



7:30am- I go to Early Birds every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. This morning I played Connect 4 and chatted with my friends. I also had a scone and some toast for breakfast.

8:55am- I went upstairs to my classroom and got changed for PE whilst we did the register.

9:05am- We had our PE lesson with Kieran and this week we were doing cricket. My team got to bat first and I also got a chance to bowl. Batting is my favourite in cricket. We had a longer PE lesson than normal today because the Year 6s were doing their SATs.

10:45am- Morning break. I played a catching game with my friends and then we started playing a game where we took it in turns to hide a piece of Lego for the others to find. Medi hid it in such a difficult place that we didn't find it by the time break was over! We'll have to have another look at lunchtime.

11:10am- We did drama with Mrs Murray. We were put into pairs to work together on something about World War II, which we'll carry on with next week. Normally we would have PE, art and either music or drama all in one morning, but because of our longer PE lesson we did not have time for art today.

11:55am- We went back into our classroom and did a spelling test with Mrs Ben Halima. We do our spellings at the same time every Thursday. I've still got a few left to mark (sometimes we mark our own and sometimes we mark each other's) but so far I have got them all correct! Mrs Ben Halima tells us we have to keep our heads down when we do spellings so that we don't try and cheat by finding the word on the wall of our classroom!

12:15pm- Lunchtime. I ate my lunch in the hall. I have school dinners and today I ate jacket potato with tuna and some crackers. It was yummy! Then I ran outside to the Dance Zone because they were playing a song from 'The Greatest Showman', which is one of my favourite films (the other is 'The Sound of Music'). Me and my friend Sophie were singing along to the music. Then I went into the Activity Zone to play Connect 4.

1:15pm- I went back up to my classroom and we did the afternoon register. Then we did English. We had to write a non-chronological report about Brian Pricket, who was a boy that went to our school in World War II.

2:45pm- Every afternoon we have a 'Brain Break'. We do peer massage or read a class novel, or sometimes both. At the moment Mrs Ben Halima is reading a Jacqueline Wilson book to us called 'Wave Me Goodbye'.

3:00pm- We did maths questions about time. I got them all right even though I didn't think I was that good at time!

3:30pm- We got our coats and bags ready at home time and I went down to Owl Club. Today I am on the ICT suite list so I'll probably play on TT Rockstars. I'm 14th on the leader board for the whole school at the moment!

A Day in the Life of a Pupil at Oswald Road



Haroon Elkhomsi 6KR

8:45am- I got to school and put my bike away in the bike shelter. Mrs Wealleans came to collect us and take us to our classroom because Miss Rowe is off this morning. Mrs Wealleans was our class teacher last year so after she took the register we had a catch-up with her. She asked us to tell her any exciting news we had, like what our summer plans are or which high school we are going to next year.

9:15am- We started our English lesson. Today we were editing a story we've been writing based on an accident in an old log book from this school.

10:30am- Mrs Wealleans gave us all a post-it note and asked us to write on them what we have enjoyed the most in Year 6. This will be used on our end of term reports. I wrote that I had most enjoyed PE (because of the different sports we have done this year), art and music (especially learning about Chinese music and making hurricane music). I also said that one of my highlights was the SATs (because we got lots of sweets!)

10:45am- I went outside to the playground because it was break time. I played a game with my friends called 'Manhunt 1,2,3'. It's a running and chasing game, a bit like tag but each round there is one more person 'on'.

11:00am- We went back up to the classroom for our PSHE lesson. We have been learning all about e-safety. Today we were put into groups but with different people to the ones we normally sit with. This is to help us get used to working with new people, which we will have to do when we go to high school. In our groups we had to act out scenarios about online bullying. Seb played my son and our scenario was that I had found messages on his phone that showed he was being bullied. We planned how we were going to act it out.

12:20pm- At lunchtime I didn't feel like running around so I did some skipping in the Traditional Games Zone. Then I went to the Owl Garden to eat my packed lunch. I had a tuna sandwich, a biscuit, an apple, some juice, some crisps and some grapes. After that I played cricket and football with my friends.

1:20pm- We came back up to class and started practising the performance we had been planning this morning in our PSHE lesson. Once we had rehearsed we all performed to the rest of the class.

2:30pm- We did topic work. Our topic for this half term is on the Shang Dynasty and so today we were learning about Wu Shang and comparing the lives of rich and poor women during the Shang era. Wu Shang's husband has 69 wives but he picked her as the leader, which meant that she was the only female military leader in the world at the time.

3:30pm- Home time. I cycled home from school on my bike.

You said | We did

Not all the books were out for parents evening for my child's class, only the maths and English books (may be because of the Spring Showcase, which working parents were not necessarily able to attend?)

For the next parents evenings (in the autumn term) we will make sure that the same books are displayed consistently across school.

The website is not user friendly on a mobile phone so I use the app, but the calendar on there is not up to date.

Ellie (Communications Manager) is currently working with our web developer to make the website more mobile friendly and has looked into and resolved the issues with the calendar on the app.

I'm still unsure about my child's attendance at the ProSport lunch club.

We have consulted with the ProSport coaches and staff on reception and from now on they will be keeping a register for the lunchtime clubs, like we do with afterschool clubs. This way parents can call in to check if their child has been attending the clubs.

Is it possible to see lesson plans/overviews for the new PSHE curriculum?

Yes, we keep a folder at the front desk with all of the course information for the new Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, including the Sex & Relationships Education (SRE) modules. For copyright reasons we are not allowed to let parents take copies away with them, but parents can come to the office at any time to have a read of the information.

Some parents previously asked if it would be possible to 'overpay' for a trip, thus contribute to the school fund. However, it was pointed out that there was no facility to overpay for trips on SIMS Agora.

We have looked into this and our Finance Team have now added this as an option on the payment page for trips on SIMS Agora. The cost of the trip that is on the letter will be listed as the minimum payment, then a maximum payment will be listed for those that wish to overpay. You can choose any amount you'd like to pay between these two listed costs. Please be reminded that payment for trips remains optional and is treated as a contribution.

French/Spanish is quite daunting/confusing at the start of Year 7. Can we focus a little more on Spanish?

Spanish is taught as a subject in KS2 (Years 3-6) and is often linked to topic work (Year 6 start Spanish after SATs are finished). This half term we have started putting a Spanish 'Phrase/Word of the Week' on The Hoot for KS2 and in the Weekly Update.