



St Oswald's Catholic Primary School
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St Oswald's Catholic Community:
With Christ at the centre of our
community, our mission is to live,
love and learn as Jesus taught us.

Tel: 01772 613402

The Newsletter **Autumn term no. 5– 2nd October 2025**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Up-date since the last newsletter:

- The school photographer was in school last week to take individual/sibling photographs. A proof has been sent home with your child today (Thursday 2nd October). If you wish to order a photograph, please place your order online at www.tempest-orders.co.uk by **Thursday 16th October** to receive free postage. Any photographs that are ordered will be sent to school and then distributed. Thank you.

Coming up:

Friday 3rd October - Harvest Festival in Church 2.15pm. Y6 will be leading the Harvest Celebration with the whole school attending. Parents are invited to come along. Donations of items for Penwortham Foodbank would be appreciated. Thank you!

Tuesday 7th October - Y5 Class Mass in Church at 9.30am. Parents/Grandparents invited.

Tuesday 7th October – Sport Inclusion event 3.45pm – 5pm at Priory Academy (letter issued to the team 29th September).

Tuesday 7th October -PTFA Meeting 6.30pm. Everyone invited to join us to discuss forthcoming events.

Wednesday 8th October or

Thursday 9th October - Phonics Workshop for Reception parents in the Reception Classroom 3.30-4.30pm.

Thursday 9th October - Girls Football Tournament at Priory Academy 1.50pm – 4.55pm (letter issued to the football team today).

Friday 10th October - Y6 Taster Day at All Hallows. **Please ensure that £3.50 lunch money is sent to school with their permission slip prior to the Taster Day.**

Monday 13th October -The Lancashire Evening Post photographer will be coming into school to take a photograph of the Reception pupils. This photograph will appear in the 'School Starters 2025' supplement of the newspaper. **IF YOU DO NOT WISH FOR YOUR CHILD TO BE IN THIS PHOTOGRAPH, PLEASE LET US KNOW IN WRITING BY EMAIL OR LETTER.** Thank you.

Tuesday 14th October -Y4 Class Mass in Church at 9.30am. Parents/Grandparents invited.

Tuesday 14th October or

Thursday 16th October - Parents Evening in the school classrooms from 3.40pm – 6.00pm. Bookings are via the School Spider app.

Thursday 16th October - Open Morning 9.15am – 10.15am for any prospective parents who have a child wishing to start school in September 2026. Come along and see our school in action!

Thursday 16th October - School Meal Promotion 'Black History Month'. If your child is already having school meals, they will automatically be included in this event. The meal served will be Chicken or Quorn Jollof Rice with Flatbread & Mixed Salad or Southern Soul Mac 'n' Cheese with Sweetcorn & Pepper Medley followed by Pineapple Upside Cake or Tropical Jelly Cup. If you would like your child to have a school meal on this date, please complete the slip

below and return to school no later than Tuesday 14th October.

Monday 20th October and

Wednesday 22nd October - Y6 Bikeability delivered by South Ribble County Council. Cycle checks to be carried out at home (letter and cycle check forms issued 22nd September). Your child is to bring their bike and cycle helmet to school. If your child wishes to leave their bicycle in school, please ensure they have a lock. If your child does not have a bicycle, please contact school and we can arrange for one to be used for the duration of the course.

Tuesday 21st October - Y3 Class Mass in Church at 9.30am. Parents/Grandparents invited.

Tuesday 21st October - Y1 visit to Longton Library (letter to be issued shortly).

Thursday 23rd October -PTFA Fancy Dress Hallowe'en Disco. Tickets are on sale from the school office or you can send £3.00 in a named envelope with your child and tickets will be sent home with your child. Tickets are £3.00/child in advance or £4.00 on the night. Tuck Shop will be open. Prizes for the best costume, games, dancing and lots of fun!

6.15pm-7pm for Reception, Y1 and Y2 (a parent needs to accompany their Reception child)

7.15pm-8.15pm for Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6

Journey of Faith:

Have you thought about becoming a Catholic?

As a family of parishes (Leyland, Longton, Penwortham and Tarleton) we will be organising a programme called Journey in Faith to start in November to be completed at Easter 2026.

Last year some 15 adults were received into the Catholic faith from across our family of parishes. You will not be journeying on your own! Each Journey of Faith session will be held at St. Mary's Social Centre, Broadfield Walk, Leyland PR25 1PD. The first session starts on Wednesday 12 November at 7pm with meetings through to Easter with breaks for the school holidays.

Information flyer is attached. They are also available in the porch of the Church or in school. You are more than welcome to Fr. Michael for a chat about the programme.

Primary Admissions 2026:

If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2026 then you MUST apply on-line at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools The CLOSING DATE FOR PRIMARY APPLICATIONS IS 15th JANUARY 2026.

Please ensure that you also complete the ST OSWALD'S SUPPLEMENTARY FAITH FORM which is available on the school website or from school. The Supplementary Faith Form must then be forwarded to SCHOOL together with a copy of your child's BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE! Please note: If your child was baptised at St Oswald's and you do not have a copy of your child's baptismal certificate, please complete a 'Baptismal Certificate request slip', available from school and post this through the St Oswald's presbytery post-box for Fr Michael.

Secondary Admissions 2026:

If your child is due to transfer to High School in September 2026, then please apply on-line at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools. The CLOSING DATE FOR SECONDARY APPLICATIONS IS 31st OCTOBER 2025.

School Meal Vouchers:

For families who are eligible for free school meals and in receipt of benefits, free school meal vouchers to the value of £15.00 per child have been ordered for the week of October half term.

If your own circumstances have changed and you think you are entitled, please contact Pupil Access Team at Lancashire County Council on 01772 531809 with your Name, Date of Birth and National Insurance Number. Qualifying benefits:

If you or your partner receive any of the following benefits you can apply for free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance Visit our web-site www.longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit

- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Dogs on the School Grounds:

We recognise that dogs are an important part of life for some of our families and, as such, are often included in day-to-day activities such as walking children to and from school. We also recognise that bringing dogs onto the school premises may pose a health and safety risk to our pupils and others on site and could be unsettling for many as they arrive and leave school. There are added risks of dogs fouling, dogs biting or showing aggressive unpredictable behaviour. Even well-behaved dogs can behave unpredictably when placed in a busy, noisy and crowded school environment and that this can lead to unexpected behaviour.

Therefore I must remind you that dogs are not to be brought on to the school grounds (including in arms or inside jackets!) unless they are guide dogs. We feel it is important that the school site is a safe place for all children and would welcome your cooperation with this matter. Thank you for your understanding.

Community News:

Please find attached a leaflet from South Ribble Borough Council regarding upcoming Active Camps for October Half Term which are a great place for children to stay active and been fed during the half term holidays. There are low cost and funded places available. The funded places are available for children who access benefit related free school meals. South Ribble Borough Council fund these places and as such there is no HAF Code required to book these places.

Bookings can be made via www.southribble.gov.uk/activecamps

We also have free Gymnastics and Tennis sessions available courtesy of South Ribble Leisure.

If there are any children who would you like to discuss accessing the support during the half term break, please contact South Ribble on 01772 625625.

and finally....

Miss Dineen will be finishing for her Maternity Leave on Friday 3rd October and we wish her all the very best as she looks forward to having her baby at the beginning of November. We'll keep you posted!

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with school if you have any queries. We will try to do our best to help.

Yours sincerely

C Hough
Headteacher

SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – 'BLACK HISTORY MONTH' – THURSDAY 16th OCTOBER

I would like my child to have a school meal on Thursday 16th October. I will ensure payment of £2.90 is made in advance through ParentPay (children Y3-Y6).

Name of child: Year group:

Signature of parent/carer:
