



St Oswald's Catholic Primary School
Headteacher - Mrs B Wood
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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.

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The Friday Newsletter
Autumn term no. 1 – 4 September 2020
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PLEASE READ THE NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the new school year, lovely to see all the children looking smart and keen to learn. A very warm and special welcome to all our new Reception children and their families. 99.2% children attended school on the first day!!! There are new routines in place to keep the St Oswald's community as safe as possible but we are very much looking forward to ensuring that your child enjoys their learning and makes the most of every opportunity to discover their new talents and be amazed at what they can achieve if they try their very best.

I do have to say a huge thank you to you all for the herculean efforts made with Home Learning. Some of the projects and activities that we have heard about are just wonderful. We now have children who are experts in so many areas, just priceless!

We are not sending any work to be done at home or new reading books until w/c 14th September so please don't worry if your child says that they have no homework! Keep up with the reading every day.

Residents of Farmend Close have expressed disappointment that people are parking across their driveways so they have politely requested that parents do not use Farmend Close to park their cars. Thank you.

Newsletter:

You will receive the newsletter every Friday by email. If you do not already receive the newsletter electronically, please contact the school office to update your email address. It is essential that you read the newsletter every week in order to keep up to date with school information! The newsletter is also uploaded to the website every Friday. Keep following us on twitter for up-dates, latest news and reminders @StOswaldsCPS

Drop and Go:

Thank you so much for sticking to the timings in the morning routine. It has helped us to ensure a calm entry to school with time for handwashing! :

8.35am all siblings (Reception children from Thursday 10th September)
8.45am children in Key Stage 1 (Y1 and Y2)
8.55 children in Key Stage 2 (Y3 – Y6)

All I ask parents to do is please keep your distance and exit the car park as quickly as possible so that we can keep the drop and go system running as smoothly as possible. Thank you.

Collect and Go:

Thank you for being so patient with us as we deal with the logistic of making sure that the children leave the school site safely whilst minimising the time that adults are on the designated part of the playground. Only 1 adult per family is to collect and please continue to stick to the timings. You will be expected to distance yourselves and leave the school site as quickly as possible.

3.05 pm Key Stage 1 (Y1 and Y2)
3.10 pm Key Stage 2 (Y3 – Y6)
3.20 pm Siblings (Reception children from Thursday 10th September)

Visit our web-site www.longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk

Uniform:

The children have returned to school looking very smart, so thank you for ensuring your child is in full school uniform. Please ensure that your child does not come to school wearing any jewellery or nail varnish (page 7 School Prospectus). If your child has had their ears pierced over the holidays and have not yet fully healed, please ensure that plasters are worn over the earrings until the earrings can be removed for school. Trainers are not an acceptable form of footwear – black school shoes only. The children in the Infants are expected to bring their St Oswald's green school bag to school as they fit in the space provided. There is no need for children to bring pencil cases to school, school provides everything your child needs for their learning.

PE KITS will be need to come into school every Monday and children will bring them home every Friday for a wash. We will be doing as much PE as possible outside so all the children do need trainers for this. The Infant children still need pumps for when we do PE inside.

For the Infant children, please could we ask that a spare pair of knickers/underpants and socks are kept in their school bag just in case of any accidents. Many thanks.

Safeguarding – End of Day Arrangements:

Please find attached the 'End of School Day' arrangements form, a paper copy has also been sent home with your child. Could you please return this form by **MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER** so the staff are very clear about where your child is going at the end of the school day and who with! Please do not be offended if staff do not recognise the person picking up your child and ask for clarification. In Reception, until we get to know the 'faces' of who picks up, please be patient with us. Thank you.

Mobile Phones:

We understand that, in Year 6, as you let your child become more independent by cycling or walking home alone, you may allow them to carry a phone for emergencies. The policy is that they hand their phone in to their class teacher as soon as they arrive at school and this will then be kept safe in the office until home time when your child can collect their phone from the school office. There is no need for a mobile phone to be brought to school for any other reason. Thank you.

Attendance:

Thank you for your understanding about attendance and recognising that authorised absences will only be given in **EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES** and must be applied for on the official 'Application for Absence' form available on the school website or from the school office. If your child is in school on time every day they will make super progress. The 2020-2021 Holiday List is on the website.

School Fruit & Vegetable Scheme:

The School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme will recommence on Tuesday 8th September for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. There is no need for children in the Infants to bring a snack in for playtime. Children in Y3.Y4, Y5and Y6 may bring a piece of fruit for a snack at breaktime. Please note that the snack can only be fruit, no biscuits etc Every child needs their own water bottle in school every day as we do encourage regular drinking of water. Please do not fill the water bottle with any other drink! Water only.

Friday Favourites and Marvellous Mondays – Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 Pupils:

Please note that Friday Favourites and Marvellous Mondays are continuing as normal, if your child is already receiving Friday Favourites and/or Marvellous Mondays, they will continue to do so until we are informed otherwise! It is essential that you inform us by email if there are any changes. However, if your child is normally on packed lunches and you would like your child to have a school meal on a Friday or Monday, please contact the school office. Payment should be made through ParentPay or with a PayPoint card if you wish to pay by cash using the PayPoint facility.If you no longer wish your child to receive a meal on a Friday or Monday, please ensure that one week's notice is given to the school office. Failure to do so will mean that you will still be charged. Children already on school meals are automatically enrolled for Friday Favourites and Marvellous Mondays.

ParentPay Activation Letters for Reception Parents:

ParentPay is a web-based service for schools which enables parents to make secure on-line payments by credit and debit card or by cash at local stores through the PayPoint network. The service is used for payments such as Early Birds' Breakfast Club, school trips and also for school meals (for Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 pupils). Activation letters will be

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issued to new pupils on Monday to take home and we would be grateful if you could activate your account as soon as possible. If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

Pupil Premium:

Even though free school meals are now being provided for all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as part of the Government initiative, please may I remind you that for those pupils who have a **STATUTORY** entitlement to free school meals (those pupils whose parents are in receipt of benefits, such as Income Support, etc.) of the importance to still register for Pupil Premium. School can benefit from additional funding through the Pupil Premium, which is worth over £1000 per pupil for the school once registration has been completed, so please check if you are entitled as school benefits greatly! A comprehensive list of the benefit entitlements are available on the application form, which is available from the trays by the school office. Alternatively, one phone call can confirm if you are entitled, it's worth doing, so please call 01772 531809 and have your NI number handy!

Meet the Teacher Meetings:

We normally hold a meeting where your child's teacher outlines the curriculum and routines for the year. This will not be possible so each teacher will prepare a power point for you to read and this will be attached to the newsletter on Friday 18th September. The power points will also be on the website. If you have any queries after you have read the presentation, please get in touch by e-mail or call us.

Swimming:

Children in Year 3 would normally start swimming at Penwortham Leisure Centre this term. Although Penwortham Leisure Centre has now re-opened, we have made the decision to postpone swimming for Year 3 until the Spring Term.

Medical Needs:

Please ensure that school has been provided with up-to-date information on the 'Medical Condition/Allergy' form if you child has any medical needs or allergies which have been confirmed by a Health Professional. Any child with asthma should also have a 'School Asthma Card' completed and returned to school ASAP. These forms are both available from the website or the school office. Please also provided two named inhalers which will be kept securely in school. Please remember to contact us regularly to up-date or cancel your child's medical details. It is a parent's responsibility to make sure we have up-to-date medication in school for any child with long term medical needs.

Dates for the Term:

We are already working through all the events that we would normally do and seeing how we can manage them so that the children do not miss out. So watch this space!

Clubs:

Early Birds Breakfast Club and The Playstop After School Club are in operation. No other clubs will be operating this half term and this will be kept under review.

And finally.....

The children have been an absolute credit to you over the last 2 days. They have adapted to new routines, followed important instructions and have enjoyed seeing their friends again!

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch by email or phone and we will always do our best to help.

Have a lovely weekend, see you all on Monday!

Yours sincerely

B Wood
Headteacher