



St Oswald's Catholic Primary School
Headteacher - Mrs B Wood
Chapel Lane
Longton
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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 Newsletter
Summer term no.11 – 4th July 2024
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Keep up to date!

Dear Parents/Carers,

St Oswald's Summer Fair 2024:

Saturday 6th July 12-2.30pm

- Fair opens at 12 noon
- Choir singing 12.10pm
- Guitar Groups will be performing at 12.30pm
- Y6 Dance Team will be performing at 12.45pm
- Talent Show finals at 1.15pm
- Raffle Ticket Draw at 2.15pm. Raffle tickets are available to buy on the gate on the day.

We are so grateful for all the donations that have been sent in. Thank you!

If you have volunteered to help set up for the Fair, please be at school for 10am as chairs, tables etc need to be moved. If you have volunteered to help tidy up at the end of the Fair, you will be needed from 2.30pm. Thank you to everyone who has offered to volunteer, we really appreciate it. If you are available on the day to help out for half an hour or so, please just let us know when you arrive at the Fair. If any Y6's or ex-pupils wish to help out, this would be brilliant! Please let me know as soon as you can.

We are hoping the weather stays dry for the afternoon. If it is raining on the day, Plan B will be that as much as possible will move indoors so the Fair will go ahead whatever the weather.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Longton Live:

Longton Live 2024 Wristbands are now available to buy from school. The cost is £5.00 each (payable by cash or cheque). We are a venue for Longton Live again this year on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th July. As a school we can keep 100% of the wristband sales so make sure you buy yours from here! There are 15 different venues across Longton with so many brilliant music artists! Children under the age of 12 years are free.

The school have a slot on **Friday 12th July at 7pm** where the guitar groups will play, the choir will sing and the Y6 Dance Team will perform. This will be followed at 8pm with Mr Campbell and his band so come down and support the event; we will be running a bar and tuck shop.

Saturday 13th July we have an open house slot for Longton Live here at school starting at 7pm so if your child would like to have the experience of performing, let me know and we can reserve a slot. Any talented parents can also have a go! There will be a special performance from past pupils.

Coming up:

Tuesday 9th July

Y6 Production of 'Bugsy Malone'. Performances at 10am, 2pm and 6.30pm. Y5 will be part of the production, providing percussion and singing. Letters issued 20th June. Entry by ticket only. Let the office know if you require more tickets.

Wednesday 10th July

Little Owls final session. Parents invited for a 'Stay & Play' session. A short meeting will be included to share tips on how to prepare your child to be ready for school.

PTFA Sponsored Tough Kidder 2.15-3pm on the school field. Every child included; parents can come along to support. Sponsor forms have been sent home w/c 24th June.

Thursday 11th July

Y6 Bikeability delivered by South Ribble County Council will take place over 2 days - 11th July and 18th July. Please ensure that consent forms are returned to school. The cycling sessions will take place on the roads around the local area, therefore if the consent form is NOT returned, your child will not be able to take part. 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.

Reception Class will present their assembly 'Look at me Now' for parents at 1.45pm in the School Hall, followed by a final Stay and Play!

Thursday 11th July

School Meal Promotion 'Euro 2024'. If your child is already having school meals, they will automatically be included in this event. The meal served will be Pork Sausage Roll or Quorn Hot Dog with Potato Balls, Garden Peas, Sweetcorn or Baked Beans followed by Euro Champions Iced Cupcake. If you would like your child to have a school meal on this date, please complete the slip below and return to school by Tuesday 9th July. Come on England!

Friday 12th July

Rock, Steady Band Concert. Children who have been participating in the Rock, Steady Band sessions over the term will be performing in school. Parents of the children in the bands are invited to come along and watch at 1.30pm. The concert will last approx 1 hour.

Tuesday 16th July

Y6 Leavers Assembly 9.15 am in the school hall. Y6 parents invited.

Y6 Leavers Mass at 6.00pm in church followed by Y6 Leavers Party on the school field from 6.45pm – 8.30pm (letter issued 15th May). **Reminder to send your fish & chip supper order in with payment by Friday 5th July.**

Wednesday 17th July

Y6 Retreat Day to Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral and Crosby Beach (letter issued 4th June). Please ensure that permission Slips have been returned and payment of £11.50 has been made on ParentPay.

Thursday 18th July

Y6 Bikeability course all day.

Due to Longton playground being closed for refurbishment, Reception children will visit the pond area at school. Permission slips for visiting the pond and walks into the local vicinity were received from parents at the beginning of the academic year.

Friday 19th July

School will close at 1.30pm for the Summer Holidays and will re-open Wednesday 4th September.

IMPORTANT NATIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

Important National Changes to Absence Penalty Notices. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ THE UPDATED NATIONAL CHANGE TO PENALTY NOTICES AND PROCEDURES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE. THIS APPLIES FROM AUGUST 2024. You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes will come into effect on 19th August 2024. The changes to be aware of are: Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days. Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate. The threshold at which a penalty notice must be

considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years. A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions). Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds. A school week is any week in which a school meets at least once. Pupils who are late after 9.00am will receive a 'U' code which is classed as an unauthorised absence. Lates are classed as unauthorised absences and will count towards the fines.

The School Attendance Policy will be updated over the summer and will be displayed on our website when we return in September 2024.

School Meal Vouchers – Summer Term Holiday 2024:

The Department for Works and Pensions Household Support Fund (HSF) grant has been extended with further funding being made available to County Councils and Unitary Authorities in England to support those most in need this summer. The extended programme will run from 01 April 2024 to 30 September 2024 and will provide further support to households in the most need, particularly those including children and pensioners who would otherwise struggle with energy bills, food and water bills.

For families who are eligible for free school meals and in receipt of benefits, free school meal vouchers have been ordered for the next six weeks for the summer holidays. **This voucher is for £90.00 per child / £180.00 2 children etc.** If there is any possibility that you may think that you qualify for free school meals, it is really worth checking. The process is easy and all it takes is a phone call. Call the 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
- 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)

Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)– Summer 2024:

Lancashire County Council are issuing families who are in receipt of free school meals with E-vouchers to let them know they are eligible for a Holiday place for their child. This is a way of ensuring all families with eligible children know they can book a place and how to do it, but also that only eligible children or those identified as in need receive a funded place.

The vouchers have been sent to eligible families by e-mail or text on Wednesday 3rd July and will include a 16-digit unique code. This can then be used to book a place, using the existing booking systems in each district. The emails to look out for are:

support@holidayactivities.com or CFW-HAF@lancashire.gov.uk

Admin/Office Reminders:

- Parents of Y2 children, please return the slip asap stating your child's lunchtime arrangements from September 2024. If you do not return the slip, it will be assumed that your child will continue to have school meals and you will be charged accordingly (letter issued 5th June). Copies of the letter available from the school office.
- **ParentPay Accounts: As we approach towards the end of term, please ensure that there are no negative balances on accounts. Year 6 accounts should be cleared by Friday 12th July.** Thank you for your co-operation.
- If you do have an urgent message for your child regarding end of day arrangements, please can this be given to the office by 12 noon in order for it to be passed to your child without disturbing any lessons. Thank you.

Reminder - Beginners' Group Ukulele/ Guitar Lessons with Miss Galea:

There will be a beginners' ukulele/guitar lesson run by Miss Galea for pupils in current Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 classes on Monday mornings from 9.00 – 9.30 am commencing Monday 9th September 2024 (letter issued on 18th June. Copies are available from the school office). If your child is interested in learning to play the ukulele/guitar, please complete the permission slip and return to school by Friday 12th July. Fees are payable in advance on the first lesson of the autumn term. Miss Galea can be contacted on 07920 056721.

And finally...

See you at the Summer Fair!

Yours sincerely

B Wood
Headteacher

SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION –'EURO 2024' – THURSDAY 11TH JULY

I would like my child to have a school meal on Thursday 11th July. I will ensure payment of £2.50 is made in advance through ParentPay (children Y3-Y6).

Name of child: Year group:

Signature of parent/carer:
