



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 Newsletter

Autumn term no. 12– 28th November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Up-date since the last newsletter:

- Thank you to everyone who came along to the Book Fair. The school received over £160 in free books which is very much appreciated.
- Congratulations to the Girls Football team as they completed all their matches last week. What a great team, noted for their teamwork and fair play attitude. Well done girls!
- We are asking for donation of bottles, chocolates, biscuits etc to make some luxury hampers as prizes for the Grand Christmas Raffle. If you can send any items in with your child, we would appreciate it. Thank you.

Coming up:

Friday 29th November - Y4 will be attending the 9.30am Parish Mass. Parents welcome.

Friday 29th November -Y3 will be presenting their assembly for parents on the theme of Advent at 2.40pm in the school hall.

Monday 2nd December - Y4 Reconciliation Day with Fr Michael. Y4 Parents invited to church at 2.15pm for the Service of Reconciliation.

Tuesday 3rd December - Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 will be taking part in a Handball Festival in school which is being led by the South Ribble Sports Coaches. The children will need their PE kits.

Tuesday 3rd December - We will be doing the annual PTFA Sponsored Santa Dash today at 2.45pm; all the children and staff will be joining in. The children can bring a Christmas hat, Santa beard or the full Santa outfit to wear for the event if they wish to. Sponsor forms were sent home last week. The event is always great fun, gets us fit and raises some money! Parents can come along to spectate or even join in. There will be a cake sale too starting after the event. Buckets at the gate for any sponsor money/donations!

Tuesday 3rd December -The School Choir will be at St Andrew's Church in Longton to sing at the Longton Christmas Lights Switch On! Miss Galea will be accompanying the Y5 & Y6 Guitar group who have also been invited to come along. Children will need to wear school uniform and a Christmas hat. We will meet in St Andrew's Church at 5.50pm; the celebration starts at 6pm.

Friday 6th December -Y5 will be attending the 9.30am Parish Mass. Parents Welcome.

Monday 9th December -Performance of 'Beauty & The Beast' in the school hall. West End Theatre Company will be delighting the whole school with their matinee production. The PTFA will be funding this event for all the children to enjoy.

Tuesday 10th December - 'The Sleepy Shepherd' Infant Nativity starring Reception, Y1 and Y2 in church at 2pm and 6.30pm. School will provide every child with a costume so no need to worry! For the evening performance, the children need to return to school for 6.10pm.

Wednesday 11th December - Final swimming session for Y3.

Thursday 12th December - PTFA Christmas Family Bingo 6.30pm – 8.00pm in school. Free tickets are available

from the office. Bingo Books available on the night for a suggested donation of £2. Prizes to be won, tuck shop open, tea and coffee available. Come along for a fun night with the family! You need a ticket for this event; last year we sold out!! No tickets will be available on the door for this event.

Friday 13th December - Y6 will be at the 9.30am Parish Mass. Parents welcome.

Friday 13th December - 'Rock Steady Band' Christmas Performance 1.30pm in the school hall. Parents of children who take part in the sessions are invited to come along and watch the children perform in their bands! This will last approx 90 minutes.

Monday 16th December -All Hallows will be here at 1.30pm with their Christmas Roadshow for the whole school. Fr Michael has kindly said we can use the church for the afternoon as the pupils from All Hallows will be inspiring us with singing, dancing, musical performances etc. It is always a joyful event for the children to join in with.

Tuesday 17th December - PTFA AGM Meeting at 6.30pm in school. Every year we have to formally meet to have a short AGM but there will be a glass of fizz and a mince pie for those that turn up!

Wednesday 18th December - Christmas Jumper Day! Children can replace their school jumper or cardigan for a Christmas jumper or make their school jumper look Christmassy! A donation of £1 will be collected at the gate on the day by the School Council. The proceeds will be sent to Alder Hey Children's Hospital.

Wednesday 18th December -Grand Christmas Post Day! Today is the day that children can bring their Christmas cards to school for their friends if they wish.

Wednesday 18th December -Christmas Lunch Day! For anyone who doesn't normally have a school lunch. The meal served will be Roast Turkey with Chipolata Sausage or Cranberry Root Roast, Vegetarian Sausage served with Sage & Onion Stuffing, Gravy, Roast & Creamed Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy followed by Festive Dessert.

If you would like your child to have a school meal on this day, please complete the slip below and return to school by **WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER** as the kitchen needs to place their order 2 weeks before. If your child is already having school meals, they will automatically be included in this event. Payment of £2.70 should be made through ParentPay for children in Y3-Y6.

If your child is on a packed lunch, please make it a festive one. Every child in the school will be given a Christmas cracker!

Wednesday 18th December - Christmas Stay and Play for Reception parents 2-3pm. Wear your Christmas jumper if you are coming along! Please return the slip below to indicate if you are attending.

Thursday 19th December - Y6 will be leading the Christingle Service in church 2pm. Everyone invited to come along.

Thursday 19th December – The Grand Christmas Raffle winners will be announced today. 1ST prize 2 x General Admission 5 day passes to Lytham Festival 2025 (worth £600) along with luxury hampers to be won! If you need more raffle tickets, call in at the office.

Thursday 19th December - PTFA Cake Stall 3.15pm on the playground.

Friday 20th December - School closes 1.30pm for Christmas.

FSM Recipient Vouchers – Christmas 2024:

The Department for Works and Pensions Household Support Fund (HSF) grant has been extended for a further 6 months with funding being made available to County Councils and Unitary Authorities in England. The funding will support those most in need, helping with global inflationary challenges and the significantly rising cost of living. This funding covers the period 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025 inclusive.

Please note – the Christmas allocation includes an additional £5 contribution. Any families who receive a free school meal and in receipt of benefits will be issued with £35 in vouchers, equivalent to £17.50 per week, to cover the two week holiday period.

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)

Reminders:

- **School Lunches:** A week's notice **must** be given if you wish your child to change from packed lunches to school meals, or vice-versa. This is school policy – thank you for your co-operation.
- **Letters:** Check your child's bag on a regular basis to make sure you are not missing out on anything! Any letters issued are also put on the school website. The older your child, the more responsibility they should take for making sure they remember to take letters home.
- **Absence (Illness):** If your child is absent for any reason during the term, please telephone the school **before** 9.30 am on the first morning of your child's absence. If we do not receive a message from, you will receive a telephone call from school to ascertain the reason for your child's absence. This is a "1st Day Contact" system and is part of our safeguarding procedure. On your child's return to school, please provide an email or letter explaining the absence.
- **Absence (Medical/Dental Appointments, etc.) with Appointment Card:** We ask that you make appointments out of school time. However, should you need to take your child out of school for an appointment, please provide school with a copy of the appointment card or letter at least two days in advance of the appointment. If an appointment card is not available, please write a note or email the school with the details of the appointment. Pupils should be collected from the Reception area near the school office. Please ensure that your child has been 'signed out.'" On your child's return to school, please sign your child back in. This is for health and safety and fire regulation purposes to ensure that all pupils are accounted for.
- Please make sure we have your most up to date details including contact numbers, address and e-mail. If you are unsure that we have the correct details for you, please get in touch.

And finally...

On Wednesday Mr Campbell spoke to Y5 and Y6 pupils with regards to the updated 'Acceptable Use Policy for Online Technology, Social Media and i-pads'. I have attached a copy so that you can see what has been shared and discussed with the pupils. I will stress again that if you do allow your child to access social media, you tube etc that you are vigilant about checking what your child is accessing and viewing and that you are reassured that they are safe online.

Yours sincerely

B Wood
Headteacher

RECEPTION CHRISTMAS 'STAY & PLAY' – WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2024

I am able to come along to the 'Stay and Play' session on Wednesday 18th December.

Name of child: **Signature of parent/carer:**

CHRISTMAS LUNCH– SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2024

I would like my child to have a school meal on Wednesday 18th December and will make the payment of £2.70 through ParentPay (children in Y3-Y6).

My child would like:

Roast Turkey

Cranberry Root Roast

Name of child: **Year group:**

Signature of parent/carer:
