



St Oswald's Catholic Primary School  
Headteacher - Mrs B Wood  
Chapel Lane  
Longton  
Preston PR4 5EB

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.

Email [head@longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk)  
[bursar@longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk)

Tel: 01772 613402

## The Newsletter Spring term no. 6 – 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Coming up:

Hope you all had a super half term.

### Monday 3<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March

Over the years we have developed a great partnership with Shujitsu University in Okayama, Japan and this year four Japanese students and their Professor, Yuichi Tansei, will be joining us as part of their teacher training studies into methods of teaching reading and writing. The students will also be delivering cultural lessons to every class so the children can learn about life in Japan.

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Netball Club re-opens for Y5/Y6 on 3.15pm – 4.15pm.

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

South Ribble Sports Hall Athletics Finals at Lostock Hall Academy 3.45pm – 5.30pm. Good Luck to the Athletics Team!

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

PTFA Meeting 6.30pm in school. Everyone welcome to come along.

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Football Club re-opens for Y5/Y6 on 3.15pm – 4.15pm.

### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March

World Book Day 2025. We love reading at St Oswald's and that's why World Book Day means so much to us. The children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character for the day. All the children will be given a special World Book Day token to take home.

### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March

School Meal Promotion– 'We love Reading'. If your child is normally on packed lunches and would like to have a school meal on this date, please complete the attached slip and return to school no later than Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Pupils who normally have a school meal will be automatically included in the promotion. Payment of £2.70 should be made through ParentPay please. The menu is Charlotte's Chicken or Quorn Goujons or Sherlock Holmes Sausage Roll with Mr Fox Fantastic Fries, Bertie Bott's Beans followed by Hungry Caterpillar Cupcake or Willy Wonka's Chocolate Mousse. The school meal promotions really help to keep our School Meals budget afloat so it's great that so many children join in! Thank you.

### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Multi Activity Club starts for Y2 starts on and runs for 3 weeks (last session is Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March).

### Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March

St Catherine's World Book Day Pop Up shop will be here on Friday afternoon at 1.15pm for the children to come along with no more than £2 to buy a book. (All books £1 each) The proceeds will go towards St Catherine's Hospice. If you wish for your child to join in, please send money in an envelope marked with your child's name.

### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Vision Screening for children in Reception carried out by the NHS Lancashire Vision Screening Service. This is an **OPT-OUT** system. All children will have vision screening in school unless a reply slip is returned (letter sent home today, 13<sup>th</sup> February).

### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Y4 visit to Chester Zoo as part of their Geography Studies (letter issued 15<sup>th</sup> January).

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Freddy Fit in school to promote healthy lifestyles with every class. This is being funded from our Sports Premium funding. Every child must have their PE Kit in school for this

Visit our web-site [www.longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk)

event.

- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** Reception visit to 'Bring Yer Wellies' Study Trip on Planting & Life Cycles (letter issued 30<sup>th</sup> January).
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March** School Meal Promotion– 'Be Happy Day'. If your child is normally on packed lunches and would like to have a school meal on this date, please complete the attached slip and return to school no later than Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Pupils who normally have a school meal will be automatically included in the promotion. Payment of £2.70 should be made through ParentPay please. The menu is Hotdog with Smiley Face Potatoes & Vegetables or Vegetable Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread and Salad followed by Jelly & Ice Cream or Marble Shortbread.
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March** Whole school Yoga & Mindfulness Festival. Each class will have a yoga session throughout the day which includes learning breathing techniques and practicing calming movements. PE kits are needed for this event.
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March** Y5 visit to Judges Lodgings as part of their History Studies (letter issued 26<sup>th</sup> February).

#### **Admin Reminders:**

- A week's notice **must** be given in writing (preferably by email) if you wish your child to change from packed lunches to school meals, or vice-versa. This is normal school policy – thank you for your co-operation.
- **It is essential that your child's Parent Pay account is in credit for school meals and Early Bird's. Please may I remind you to check your child's Parent Pay account on a regular basis and top-up as necessary. The account MUST stay in credit at all times.** Thank you for your co-operation.
- 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.

#### **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 query the reason for your child's absence. This is a "1<sup>st</sup> Day Contact" system and is part of our safeguarding procedure. On your child's return to school, please provide a letter or email the school office explaining the absence. If no explanation is received in writing, the absence will be deemed as unauthorised.

#### **Absence (Medical/Dental Appointments, etc.) with Appointment Card:**

Where possible, please try to 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 school office. Please ensure that your child has been 'signed out' on collection. On your child's return to school, pupils must be brought to the school office and, again be 'signed in' by a parent, carer or family member. This is for health and safety and fire regulation purposes to ensure that all pupils are accounted for.

#### **Free School Meals & Pupil Premium:**

Free school meals are provided for all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 as part of a Government Universal Grant initiative. However, for those pupils who have a statutory entitlement to free school meals, i.e. those pupils whose parents/carers are in receipt of the benefits mentioned below, the school can benefit from additional funding called Pupil Premium. The benefit entitlements are:

- Universal Credit with a household income of less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income-Based Jobseekers' Allowance
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, **not** entitled to Working Tax Credit and household income less than £16,190
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit 'run on' – the payment you receive for a further four weeks after you finish work

If you think you meet any of these criteria, we do urge you to register. All you need to do is complete a simple form which is available from the school office or, alternatively, contact LCC on 01772 531809 and provide them with the claimant's (parent's) name, date of birth and National Insurance number and they will be able to confirm over the phone whether or not you are entitled

**PTFA News:**

The PTFA Valentine’s Disco raised £700.00 profit. Thank you for all your support. We are very close to being able to replace the Forest School Lodge!

Thank you to the PTFA and Mrs Nowak for raising an amazing £130 from the PTFA Cake Sale before half term.

PTFA Family Quiz Night **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March** 6.30-8pm. Come along and join us for a fun night of quizzing. Tickets are £2 per person. Maximum of 5 in a team including at least 1 adult. Tuck Shop open at half time. Only 80 tickets are available and will sell fast so make sure you secure your ticket asap. Tickets available from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

PTFA Family Easter Bingo on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** 6.30-8.00pm. Tickets on sale w/c 17<sup>th</sup> March

**Community News:**

Please find attached details of **Parents/Carer Peer Support groups launching across Central Lancashire**. Groups are focused on supporting Parents/Carers to support their CYP on issues affecting their mental health and wellbeing. Groups are parent-led and professionally supported. No referral or formal diagnosis required.

And finally...

After 38 years in education and 20 years as the Headteacher of St Oswald’s, I have decided that it is time for me to retire. I will be leaving St Oswald’s at the end of the Summer Term to enjoy more time with my family and friends, travel the world and not have to think about the car park!

The thousands of memories I have from over the years are priceless; I feel so blessed to have had a career that I have truly felt passionate about; it is a real privilege to work with children.

Governors have already started the process to appoint the next Headteacher with the position being advertised next Friday which is why I wanted to let you all know today. Rest assured that it is business as usual until my final day!

Yours sincerely

B Wood  
Headteacher

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**SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – ‘WORLD BOOK DAY’ – THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025**

I would like my child to have a school meal on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March. I will ensure payment of £2.70 is made in advance through ParentPay.

Name of child: .....Year ..... Signed.....

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**SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – ‘BE HAPPY DAY’ – THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025**

I would like my child to have a school meal on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March. I will ensure payment of £2.70 is made in advance through ParentPay.

Name of child: .....Year ..... Signed.....