



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.

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The Friday Newsletter
Autumn term no.2 – 11 September 2020
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PLEASE READ THE NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Thank you once again for helping the routines run as smoothly as possible by sticking to the times you need to drop off and the times for collection.

The additional change from Monday is that Reception children will have their drop off time alongside the sibling time at 8.35am and Reception children will need to be collected at 3.20pm. Thank you.

COVID Reference Guide for Parents:

We have put together the latest information relating to COVID-19 in the school setting. We are hoping it will help to answer some of your recent queries. Guidance is changing almost on a daily basis so we will update you every Friday with any new information.

Primary Admissions 2021:

If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2021 then you MUST apply on-line at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools The CLOSING DATE FOR PRIMARY APPLICATIONS IS 15 JANUARY 2021. You must apply even if you already have siblings in school.

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', which is available from school and post this through the St Oswald's presbytery postbox.

Secondary Admissions 2021:

If your child is due to transfer to High School in September 2021, then please apply on-line at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools. The CLOSING DATE FOR SECONDARY APPLICATIONS IS 31 OCTOBER 2020.

School Photographs:

We normally have individual school photographs taken over the next few weeks but we have been in contact with the school photographer and re-arranged for the individual school photographs to take place on Monday 22nd March. Details will be given nearer the time.

Free School Meals/ Pupil Premium

Free school meals are 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 is listed below and also on the application forms which are available

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

from the trays by the school office. The criteria has changed slightly, therefore if you think that there may be a possibility, please call 01772 531809 to confirm if you are entitled, it's worth doing. Please ensure you have your NI number handy!

- 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

Please click on the link below for further information:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals>

It really is worth trying to see if you qualify!

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. If any parents wish to transfer money from the payment made for Y2's trip to Skipton Castle either to lunches, Early Bird's or to another sibling, please contact the school office. Unfortunately a charge will incur if we request a refund to ParentPay, therefore we are asking parents if possible to either keep the money in the account for future use or to arrange for a transfer via the office. Thank you for your co-operation.
- Should you need to send a message or a letter into school please send them in with your child as they will be collected in the 'Class Box' each morning and delivered to the school office, class teacher or Headteacher as appropriate. It is therefore not necessary to deliver envelopes yourself to the school office unless you feel it is absolutely necessary. This will encourage pupils to be responsible for letters to and from home. If you prefer, you can contact us by email or telephone.
- Check your child's bag on a regular basis to make sure you are not missing out on anything. Any letters issued will be e-mailed and also put on the school website.

Reminder - End of Day Safeguarding Forms:

Anyone who has not yet returned the End of Day Safeguarding form, please do so ASAP. It is essential that staff are very clear about where your child is going at the end of the school day and who with! Spare copies are available at the school office. Thank you.

Reminder - ParentPay Activation Letters for Reception Parents:

Letters to activate your ParentPay account have been sent home yesterday (10.09.2020). We are encouraging all parents to activate their ParentPay accounts as soon as possible. This service is used for payments such as Early Birds' Breakfast Club, school trips and also for school meals (for Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 pupils). If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

Message from Early Birds Breakfast Club:

Before your child attends Breakfast Club, if possible, please can they go to the toilet before leaving home. This will enable staff to stay in the hall as toilets are allocated to specific year group bubbles.

Reading Books:

Please can you check if you have any school reading books at home and if so, please return them to school. Thank you.

Welfare Job Vacancies at St Oswald's:

We are looking for additional staff to join our Lunchtime Team to supervise lunches and ensure that the children have a safe and happy playtime. These are additional temporary posts until 18th December 2020.

Post 1: 5 hours / week, Mon – Friday term-time

Post 2: 3 hours / week, Wed – Fri term- time

Please contact the school office if you are interested in any of the above posts. You do need to enjoy working with children, have bags of patience and be incredibly positive!

Guitars:

Attached is a letter from Miss Galea regarding guitar lessons for beginners in Years 3-6 in September. At this moment in time, we cannot say when guitar lessons will commence. If you wish to express your interest for your child to start guitar lessons, please complete the slip and return to Miss Galea.

Community News:

Mrs Greenlees has organised a treasure hunt around Longton Village has been arranged to raise money for Christian Aid's Emergency and Development work. The treasure hunt will take place on Saturday 26th September (10.00 am – 5.00 pm) and Sunday 27th (11.00am – 5.00 pm) starting and finishing at 16 Franklands, Longton. Approximate time 2 – 2.5 hours. Admission £5.00 per question sheet. 3 prizes to be won. Telephone 01772 613500 if you require more information.

And finally.....

We know it's difficult at the moment to have that face to face communication but if you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please email the office with brief details and we will organise for the class teacher to phone you as soon as they possibly can.

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

Have a lovely weekend, see you all on Monday!

Yours sincerely

B Wood
Headteacher