



St Oswald's Catholic Primary School
Headteacher – Mr. C.J. Hough
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
bursar@longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk

Tel: 01772 613402

The Newsletter **Autumn term no. 12– 27th November 2025**

Dear Parents/Carers,

The season of Advent begins this Sunday.

Advent is the time to start making preparations to celebrate Christ's birth – God's momentous arrival into our world in the person of Jesus.

Advent is also the season of hope; a time to think deeply about Jesus' return at the end of time.

So let's use this season of Advent to be open to welcome the Lord, to make a fresh start and to draw closer to God.

Up-date since the last newsletter:

- Thank you to everyone who came along to the Book Fair. The school received over £200 in free books which is very much appreciated.
- The Y4 Dodgeball team represented the school brilliantly on Tuesday, well done!

Coming up:

Monday 1st December

Y4 Reconciliation Day with Fr Michael. Y4 Parents invited to church at **2.15pm** for the Service of Reconciliation.

Tuesday 2nd December

'Elf Behaving Badly' School Meal Promotion for anyone who doesn't normally have a school lunch

If your child is normally on packed lunches and would like a school meal on this date, please complete the attached Slip (newsletter no.11) and return to school by Monday 1st December and make the payment of £2.90 on ParentPay (Years 3-6).

Tuesday 2nd December

PTFA Sponsored Santa Dash 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. We would be very grateful if Sponsor forms and money can be returned back to school by **Friday 12th December**. There will be a cake sale after the event.

KS1 Multi Skills Event at Priory Academy 3.45pm – 5pm (letter issued 26th November to 4 children selected to take part).

Wednesday 3rd December

The School Choir have been invited to St Andrew's Church in Longton to sing at the Longton Christmas Lights Switch On! 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.

Tuesday 9th December

Infant Nativity 'Born in a Barn' starring Reception, Y1 and Y2 in church at 2pm and 6.30pm. School will provide every child with a costume.

Wednesday 10th 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. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING IN ADVANCE (by Tuesday 9th December) as the staff need to plan for this event.**

Thursday 11th December

Y4 Visit to Lancaster City Museum as part of their 'Romans' topic. Please ensure that the permission slip is returned back to school and payment is made on ParentPay.

Final brass lesson for this term. Brass lessons to start for the Spring Term Thursday 15th January (details to be issued shortly).

Friday 12th December

'Rock Steady Band' Christmas Performance 2pm 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 finish by 3pm.

Sunday 14th December

Advent Christmas Carol Service in Church at 3pm. The School Choir have been invited to attend. If your child is in the choir, please arrange for your child to be at church at 2.45pm in full school uniform. Everyone is welcome to come along to share this meaningful journey towards Christmas.

Monday 15th December

Final swimming session for Y3.

Wednesday 17th 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.

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

The choir will be singing carols to the residents of Ashwood Court in Longton then moving on to sing Christmas carols at Booths at 11am. Parents are invited to pop along to watch them sing!

Christmas Lunch Day! For anyone who doesn't normally have a school lunch. The meal served will be Festive Roast with Chipolata Sausage or Cranberry & Cheese Swirl served with 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 3rd DECEMBER** as the kitchen needs to place their order 2 weeks before (no late orders will be taken). If your child is already having school meals, they will automatically be included in this event. Payment of £2.90 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!

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.

Thursday 18th December

Y6 will be leading the Christingle Service in church 2pm. Everyone invited to come along.

Friday 19th December

School closes 1.30pm for Christmas and re-opens on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

The PTFA Grand Christmas Raffle:

Your child will be bringing home a book of Raffle Tickets today (1 book per family). Prizes include luxury Christmas hampers, Photography Voucher (worth £250!), Ice Skating voucher along with lots of other super prizes. Each ticket is £1 (book is £5). If you can sell the tickets, please return the stubs and money back to school. Thank you! If you are unable to sell the tickets, please return the book back to school asap. The draw will be on the Thursday 18th December and winners informed by the end of the school day.

Food and Nutrition Policy:

We have introduced a Food and Nutrition Policy which outlines our commitment to providing healthy food, establishing guidelines for both school-provided meals and packed lunches. If your child brings a packed lunch to school, please can it be a healthy lunch and avoid sugary items like sweets, chocolate and fizzy drinks. Please find attached policy.

Tips for preparing a healthy lunchbox:

- **Vary the contents:** Try to include a mix of foods from the different food groups to ensure a balanced diet across the week.
- **Make it a habit:** Include fruit and vegetables in every packed lunch.
- **Include protein:** Protein helps children feel fuller for longer.
- **Choose wholegrains:** Wholegrain bread, pasta, and rice have more fibre to keep children satisfied.
- **Be mindful of snacks:** Snacks should be healthier options, with treats like crisps, cookies, and sweets saved for occasional treats.
- **Healthy snack alternatives:** Fruit, vegetable sticks with hummus, or a plain yoghurt.
- **Get creative with fruit and vegetables:** Make fruit salads or vegetable sticks with a dip like hummus to make them more appealing.

We are a nut-free school. NO nut products are to be brought in to school (including Breakfast Club). For example:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate spreads
- Cereal bars
- Some granola bars
- Cakes that contain nuts
- Biscuits / Cookies that contain nuts
- Peanut butter cakes
- Some Asian food, including satay
- Sauces that contain nuts



Children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction, just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties).

Reminder - Car Park safety:

Please **DO NOT** park on the yellow hatchings on the car park. These spaces need to be kept clear to allow vehicles to turn safely without obstruction. Parking in these hatched zones can obstruct the view of traffic and pedestrians and is dangerous.

Reminder- Primary School Admissions 2026:

The closing date for Primary School Admissions for September 2026 is Thursday 15th January 2026. Please remember to return the Supplementary Faith Form with a copy of your child's baptism certificate. Don't forget!

Players in Education:

The next Players in Education course runs from 9th January to 13th February 2026 here. Please see details attached. <https://www.playersdramaschool.co.uk/players-in-education/#schools>

Community News:

Youth on Stage Pantomime 2025: Please find attached information regarding their Christmas Pantomime.

South Ribble Winter Holiday Activities (HAF): Please find attached a flyer regarding free activities with food for children of families in receipt of benefit- related free school meals.

Lancashire County Council’s Winter Campaign: Lancashire County Council’s #LancsWinter campaign are here to support families from November through February. Their aim is to signpost people to help and advice, as well as fun activities, events and opportunities throughout the colder months. They will be highlighting everything from services at our Family Hubs and libraries, to support with childcare, education and skills, to low-cost public transport and winter travel advice. Whatever you need this winter, #LancsWinter has something for everyone. Find out more at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter



And finally....

We look forward to welcoming back Mrs Stone from her maternity leave on Monday 1st December. Mrs Stone will be working with Mrs Robinson in Reception. Mrs Dixon will be with us until Christmas and leaves for a new job in January!

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

C.J. Hough
Headteacher

RECEPTION CHRISTMAS 'STAY & PLAY' – WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2025

I am able to come along to the 'Stay and Play' session on Wednesday 10th December.

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

CHRISTMAS LUNCH– SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2025

I would like my child to have a school meal on Wednesday 17th December and will make the payment of £2.90 through ParentPay (children in Y3-Y6).

My child would like:

Festive Roast

☐

Cranberry Root Roast

☐

Name of child:

Year group:

Signature of parent/carers: