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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 Spring Term Newsletter No.5– 5th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

This Sunday's Gospel shows how the message of Jesus can change everything in the world. Jesus reminds us that we are not here only for ourselves – we are here for others: to improve the lives of those around us with love, care and goodness.

Whenever we perform an act of goodness, even the smallest good deed, it pleases God and sets an example for others to see and to follow.

Update since the last newsletter:

- Congratulations to the Athletics Team who came 2nd in the South Ribble finals on Tuesday. A brilliant performance by the team. Well done!
- A big thank you to our visitors who have been in over the last few weeks to talk to the children in Reception about their nursing and police jobs and how they help us each day.

Coming up:

PTFA Annual General Meeting **Monday 9th February** 6pm in school. Everyone is invited to come along.

Y4 Mini Tennis Competition at South Ribble Tennis Centre **Tuesday 10th February** 12.15pm – 3pm.

School Meal Promotion **Wednesday 11th February** 'Pancake Day'. If your child is normally on packed lunches and would like to have a school meal on this date, please complete the slip overleaf and return to school no later than Tuesday 10th February. Pupils who normally have a school meal will be automatically included in the promotion. Payment of £2.90 should be made through ParentPay please. The menu is Roast Chicken/ Roast Quorn Dinner or Tomato & Mascarpone Pasta followed by American Style Pancake with a Choice of Cinnamon Sugar & Chocolate Sauce or Traditional Sugar & Lemon.

PTFA Cake Sale **Wednesday 11th February** 3.15pm on the playground.

PTFA Valentine's Disco, **Wednesday 11th February** Infants (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) from 6.15-7 pm and Juniors (Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6) from 7.15-8.15pm. The theme is 'red and white'. Tickets are £3.50 before the event or £4.00 on the door. Tickets now on sale from the school office. Tuck Shop will be available.

School closes for Half Term **Friday 13th February** and re-opens on Monday 23rd February.

Y1 visit to Longton Library **Tuesday 24th February** for a story session (letter to be issued shortly).

Parents Evening **Tuesday 24th February** or **Thursday 26th February** from 3.40pm – 6.00pm. **Don't forget to book your appointment on School Spider.**

4 Japanese students from Shujitsu University, Okayama and their Professor, Yuichi Tansei, will be joining us **Monday 2nd March** 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.

Y4 Sacramental Preparation meeting **Monday 2nd March** 6.30pm in church.

Reception visit to Bring Yer' Wellies **Tuesday 3rd March** as part of their Planting & Life Cycles studies.

World Book Day 2026 **Thursday 5th March**. To celebrate the love of reading, the children are invited to come to School dressed as a book character. All children will be given a book token that they can exchange at a participating retailer for one of 12 specially produced titles. Titles for 2026 include: *Unicorn Academy: My Secret Unicorn Diary*, *Funny FACTopia!*, *Pablo and Splash: The Castle Quest*, *Pia's Pet Club: Iguana Escape*, *Bear Rescue*, *Bunny vs Monkey: Total Chaos!*, *Skandar and the Secret Element*, *Chaos at the Chocolate Factory*, and *Unbelievable Football*. The participating retailers include Sainsburys, Asda, Tesco, The Works, Waterstones and local independent booksellers from Thursday 12th February until Sunday 15th March.

Let's celebrate the National Year of Reading at St Oswald's!

School Meal Promotion **Thursday 5th March** – '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 slip overleaf and return to school no later than Tuesday 3rd March. Pupils who normally have a school meal will be automatically included in the promotion. Payment of £2.90 should be made through ParentPay please. The menu is Treasure Island Mild Chilli Chicken or Quorn with Cheese Tortilla Wraps, Cannon Ball Potato Puffs & Ruby Pepper Medley or Hogwarts House Pasta Spirals & Tomato Sauce with Gryffindor Garlic Bread followed by Charlie's Chocolate Factory Cupcake or Matilda's Magical Strawberry Jelly with Cream & Sprinkles.

Whole school Wellbeing Festival Day in school on **Friday 6th March**. Each class will have wellbeing session throughout the day which includes yoga, learning breathing techniques and practicing calming movements. PE kits are needed for this event.

Y4 Sacramental Programme session 6.30pm in Church **Monday 9th March**.

PTFA Family Quiz Night **Tuesday 10th March** 6.30-8pm. Details to follow.

We welcome Freddy Fit back to school **Wednesday 11th March**. Each class will participate in high energy sessions which are aimed to boost children's physical fitness, strength, coordination and mental wellbeing through fun, music based exercise and healthy lifestyle advice. This is being funded from our Sports Premium funding. Every child must have their PE Kit in school for this event.

Y1 Mother Day Assembly **Friday 13th March** 2.40pm in the School Hall. Y1 Parents invited.

Y4 visit to Southport Eco Centre as part of their Geography Studies 'Rainforests' **Wednesday 18th March** (letter issued 20th January).

Rock, Steady Band Showcase **Friday 20th March** 2.15pm. Parents invited.

PTFA Family Easter Bingo on **Thursday 26th March** 6.30-8.00pm. Details to follow.

Y4 Sacramental Programme session 6.30pm in Church **Monday 23rd March**.

Y5 visit to Judges Lodgings, Lancaster Centre as part of their History Studies on 'Victorians' **Wednesday 25th March** (letter issued 30th January).

NHS Lancashire Vision Screening Service will carry out vision checks on **Monday 30th March** for children in Reception. This is an **OPT-OUT** system. All children will have vision screening in school unless a reply slip is returned.

Y1 visit to Martin Mere as part of their Geography studies on 'Animals & Plants' **Tuesday 31st March** (letter issued 20th January).

Children's Mental Health Week:

This year, Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 9th - 15th February 2026. The theme for this year's Children's Mental Health Week is '**This is my Place**'. That means feeling like you're part of something, such as your family, your school, your group of friends or a team. These happy moments help us feel connected, valued, and accepted.

When we feel like we belong, we feel happy, safe, and ready to learn and play. It helps us grow strong in our minds and bodies, and it makes it easier to make friends, do well in school and feel good about ourselves.

During Children's Mental Health Week, we'll be talking about how we can help everyone feel like they belong. We will share '**This is my Place**' so we can learn from each other what makes us feel happy. We'll learn how to be kind, include others, and make sure no one feels left out. Because everyone deserves to feel like they have a place where they are accepted, cared for, and loved.

WHY DOES BELONGING MATTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH?

Our mental health flourishes when we feel connected and valued. When children and young people have a strong sense of belonging, they:

- **Feel more confident** to be themselves and try new things.
- **Develop resilience** to cope with challenges and setbacks.
- **Build stronger relationships** and communication skills.
- **Experience less anxiety and loneliness.**
- **Have better self-esteem** and understand their own worth.
- **Feel motivated** to contribute positively to their communities.

Parent Governor Vacancy:

Mrs Emma Smith is currently one of our Parent Governors and her term of office is coming to an end. Emma has been an excellent governor and given many hours to the role. We now currently have **2** Parent Governor vacancies at our school. The post is for 4 years and involves working strategically with current Governors to continually ensure the long-term success of St Oswald's Catholic Primary School. It is a great privilege to be a Governor and with it comes great collective responsibility. If you are interested in the post, please make an appointment with myself next week to have a chat about the role and what it entails in more detail. If, after having a chat, you are keen and have the necessary skills to apply for the position, applications need to be returned to the school office by **12noon Monday 23rd February**.

Notice of Election Forms will be sent home with your child this week, one form per parent will be enclosed in a named sealed envelope.

Lancashire County Council SEND Survey:

LCC have asked if we can share this information with our parents and carers.

Are you the parent/carer of a child or young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)?

Hearing your views will help us to understand your lived experiences and improve how we work with you. The SEND survey is your chance to regularly share how you think we're doing. It's open all year, and each term we review your feedback to track our performance. Your feedback from these surveys is shared with the SEND Improvement Board. Even if you've completed it before, filling it in again really helps us understand how we're doing over time.

You can find the survey [here](#).

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/lancashire-send-partnership/send-survey/>

There is a survey for children and young people too. Thank you for helping us improve.

Community News:

Leyland Barracudas are looking to recruit several female swimmers born in 2017 along with both male and female swimmers born between 2018 - 2020. Young swimmers train at Tarleton Academy and Leyland Leisure Centre. We are encouraging families to bring their swimmers along for an upcoming trial supported by our welcoming poolside team. Please see flyer attached.

And finally....

A group of Y5 pupils are selling scoobies and bracelets on Thursday 12th February (Reception, Y1 and Y2) and Friday 13th February (Y3 to Y6) to raise money for NSPCC. If you wish for your child to join in, please send money in an envelope with your child's name on. The items are priced between £1 and £2 each.

Congratulations to Henry Young for completing Longton Library Reading Challenge. Henry has read over 50 books over the last few months. A member of staff from Longton Library will be visiting school shortly to present a certificate and book of his choice!

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

C.J. Hough
Headteacher

SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – ‘PANCAKE DAY’ – WEDNESDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2026

I would like my child to have a school meal on Wednesday 11th February. I will ensure payment of £2.90 is made in advance through ParentPay.

Name of child:Year Signed.....

SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – ‘WORLD BOOK DAY’ – THURSDAY 5th MARCH 2026

I would like my child to have a school meal on Thursday 5th March. I will ensure payment of £2.90 is made in advance through ParentPay.

Name of child:Year Signed.....
