



St Oswald's Catholic Primary School
Headteacher – Mr. C.J. Hough
Chapel Lane
Longton
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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.11– 25th March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

When they were near Jerusalem, Jesus sent two disciples into a nearby village to collect a donkey. He said to them, "If anyone stops you, tell them that it is for the Lord, and that the donkey will be returned." So the disciples went out and did as Jesus had told them. They brought the donkey and Jesus sat on it. As he set off, great crowds of people spread their cloaks on the road, while others were spreading palm branches on the path in front of him. The crowds were all shouting, "Hosanna! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heavens!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, everyone was excited and some asked, "Who is this?" "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee," was the reply.

Catholic School Inspection:

The inspection report was released this morning and is attached for your attention. We are delighted to report that the school has been found to be **outstanding in all areas**. The governors and I would like to thank-you for your invaluable contribution as the first educators of our children, in making the St. Oswald family one that we can all be immensely proud of.

Update since last newsletter:

- St Oswald's Rock Steady bands performed to parents and children last Friday. It was great to see such astonishing musical talents of our young rock stars. Big thank you to Connor, our Rock Steady tutor.
- Well done to the Y5 girls who participated in 'This Girl Can' sporting event at Lostock Hall Academy on Tuesday.
- Y5 had a great day learning about Victorian times at Judges Lodgings, Lancaster.
- Thank you to all parents & grandparents who attended the 'Spring Stay & Play'. We hoped you had fun taking part in the Easter activities.

Reminders:

- PTFA Easter Egg Raffle tickets are on sale. Children are able to buy raffle tickets in class for the chance to win an Easter Egg in the final Golden Assembly of the term on Thursday 2nd April. Raffle tickets are 50p each. Please send in raffle ticket money in an envelope marked with your child's name.
- Netball Club (run by school staff) for Year 5 and Year 6 pupils will start Thursday 23rd April from 3.15-4.15 pm. Please complete and return the attached slip if you wish your child to join. Mrs Cookson and Miss Gravili will be coaching the teams.
- The last guitar lesson of the term was on Monday. Guitar lessons will start after Easter on Monday 20th April.
- The last brass lesson of the term is today. A letter will be sent home tomorrow regarding brass lessons after Easter. If you wish for your child (Y3-Y6) to start brass lessons, please complete the slip and return back to school.

Coming up:

Friday 27th March - Parents/Grandparents are invited to join us in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk at 2.45pm. The school gate will be opened at 2.40pm. Please return any sponsor forms and money to school next week. Money raised will be donated to CAFOD.

Friday 27th March - Year 3 and Year 4 will attend 'Stations of the Cross' Mass at 9.30am in church. Everyone welcome.

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

Tuesday 31st March - Y1 visit to Martin Mere as part of their Geography studies on 'Animals & Plants. Reminder to return your permission slip if you have not yet done so and the payment of £16.50 on ParentPay.

Tuesday 31st March - Y6 will be leading the whole school with an Easter Liturgy in church at 2.15pm. Parents welcome to attend.

Wednesday 1st April - Y2 visit to Longton Library. Please ensure your child has a waterproof coat.

Wednesday 1st April - School Meal Promotion 'Easter Lunch'. 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 Monday 30th 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 Roast Chicken or Vegetarian Sausage with Roast & Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy or Cheese & Onion Lattice Pie followed by Easter Treat Desserts.

Thursday 2nd April - The School Nurse will be available in school to talk about various health topics regarding your child including emotional health, diet, healthy lifestyles, sleep, bed-wetting & constipation, head lice and behaviour. Individual talks with the School Nurse will be held in the meeting room from 9am – 10am. No appointments needed.

Thursday 2nd April – Mrs Sheen is organising a Cake Bake Sale on the last day of term at 3.15pm on the school playground. All monies raised will be donated to Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Any donations of baked cakes would be greatly appreciated. Please can they be dropped off at the school office on Thursday. Thank you.

School closes Thursday 2nd April at 3.15pm (afterschool club running as normal). We return on Monday 20th April for the Summer Term in Summer Uniform.

St Oswald's Easter Services:



28th March Palm Sunday. The Passion of the Lord: Vigil Mass 5pm
29th March Sunday Mass The Passion of the Lord: 8.30am
Maundy Thursday 2nd April. Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7pm
Good Friday 3rd April The Lord's Passion: 3pm
Holy Saturday 4th April. The Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter: 7.00pm
Easter Sunday 5th April Mass of the Lord's Resurrection. 8.30am

Summer Term Uniform:

We return on the 20th April in the summer uniform.

Boys: School polo shirt with logo, school sweatshirt with logo, grey trousers or shorts, grey socks & black school shoes.

Girls: Green/white gingham dress, school sweatshirt or sweatshirt cardigan with logo, white socks, black school shoes, green scrunchies, green headbands or green bobbles are allowed.

Some girls have worn the yellow polo and grey shorts as their summer uniform which is absolutely fine.

Our uniform supplier is Justs in Penwortham who are very helpful for all uniform requirements.

We do also have good quality pre-loved uniform items including summer dresses. Please call in to the office if you wish to take anything.

Let's hope for a summer full of sunny days!

Message for parents re Meningitis:

Following the outbreak in Kent, some parents may have queries regarding Meningitis. Please refer to the government information below.

Meningococcal disease (meningitis and sepsis) is an uncommon but serious disease caused by meningococcal bacteria. Very occasionally, the meningococcal bacteria can cause serious illness, (inflammation of the lining of the brain) and sepsis (blood poisoning).

The onset of illness is often sudden and early diagnosis and treatment with antibiotics are vital. Early symptoms, which may not always be present, include:

- a rash that doesn't fade when pressed with a glass
- sudden onset of high fever
- severe and worsening headache
- stiff neck
- vomiting and diarrhoea
- joint and muscle pain
- dislike of bright lights
- very cold hands and feet
- seizures
- confusion/delirium
- extreme sleepiness/difficulty waking.

There are numerous strains of the meningococcal infection. The MenACWY vaccination gives good protection against MenA, MenC, MenW, and MenY and is routinely offered to teenagers in school Years 9 and 10. However, this vaccine does not protect against all forms of meningococcal infection. Other strains such as MenB can circulate in young adults, which is why it's important to know how to spot the symptoms of meningitis and sepsis as early detection and treatment can save lives.

Nut Allergies:

As we see an increase of children with nut allergies, we are reminding parents of the important information below:

St Oswald's is a Nut-Free School. 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 e.g., Nutella, can trigger an anaphylactic shock which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties. As a school we have a responsibility to keep all pupils, staff and visitors safe reducing any risk of harm so pupils, staff and visitors must not bring products containing nuts into school either in lunch boxes or as snacks. **To be clear, the following items must NOT be brought into school in packed lunches or for Breakfast Club:**

- Packets of nuts
- Peanut butter/Nutella sandwiches
- Cereals / Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Cakes made with nuts

This list is not exhaustive, so please check the packaging of products closely. No items containing nuts are prepared in the school kitchen.

SEND Newsletter:

The SEND Newsletter is for parents and carers of, and professionals working with, children and young people with special educational needs and/or a disability (SEND). Please see attached.

Parents and carers can also sign up for a regular copy at: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/getting-help/send-newsletter/>

Car Park and Parking reminders:

We have had several complaints over the last few weeks from local residents regarding people from school parking across their driveways. Parking across a driveway is dangerous and inconsiderate, blocking residents from leaving their homes, restricting emergency vehicle access, and causing significant traffic congestion. It creates safety hazards for children by blocking visibility, forces pedestrians into the road, and can lead to fines, parking tickets, or police intervention. Parents are encouraged to be mindful of local residents and to set a safe example for their children.

Suggestions for Safer Parking:

- **Park Away:** Park further up the road and walk to the school, ensuring no driveways are blocked.
- **Plan Ahead:** Allow extra time for parking, as finding a safe spot takes time.
- **Use Designated Areas:** Use appropriate parking areas rather than blocking residents.

Community News:

The Great Preston Fairtrade Egg Hunt: Please see flyer attached regarding an Easter Egg Hunt which take you round different businesses that support Fairtrade in the city centre. There is a chance to win prizes of chocolate (Fairtrade of course!).

And finally....

Mrs Robinson will be finishing for her Maternity Leave on Friday 27th March and Mrs Tiley on Thursday 2nd April. We wish them both the very best as they look forward to welcoming their babies at the beginning of May.

I will be away from school next week having surgery to remove my gallbladder. If you have any queries do not hesitate to contact Mr Campbell and Mrs Dean. I wish you all a happy and holy Easter and look forward to seeing you all on the 20th April when we return after the holidays.

C.J. Hough
Headteacher

SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – ‘EASTER LUNCH’ – WEDNESDAY 1ST APRIL 2026

I would like my child to have a school meal on Wednesday 1st April. I will ensure payment of £2.90 is made in advance through ParentPay.

Name of child:Year Signed.....

YEAR 5/YEAR 6 NETBALL CLUB – THURSDAY 23RD APRIL – THURSDAY 11TH JUNE 2026

I would like my child to join the Netball Club. I will collect my child from school at 4.15pm.

Other home time arrangements, i.e. After School Club:
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Name of child: Signed:
Emergency contact nos.: