



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](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

### Summer Term Newsletter No.10 – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

*A good companion is priceless and helps us to make the best of ourselves. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus offers his companionship to us and to our children.*

*In this much-loved and encouraging gospel passage, Jesus invites us to go to him to rest and to be refreshed. Jesus came to take away fear and loneliness – to help people feel loved and accepted. We can experience Jesus' companionship through other people and through spending time with God in prayer.*

We do not need to be clever, rich or popular for God to care for us. Regardless of our faults or weaknesses, Jesus always loves us and offers us his comfort and everlasting companionship.

#### **Update since last newsletter:**

- A huge thank you to the guitar groups and choir for making Longton Live such a great success. The school made just under £1000 profit in wristband and bar sales! Thank you for supporting the event.
- Thank you to everyone who joined us on Open Morning.

#### **Coming up:**

##### **Monday 6th July**

Y5 Cricket Tournament at Vernon Carus Cricket Ground, Penwortham 9.30am – 2.30pm. Parents invited.

##### **Tuesday 7th July**

Y5 will be attending Mass at 9.30am. Everyone welcome.

##### **Wednesday 8th July**

Little Owls final session 9.15am-10.30am. Parents invited for a 'Stay & Play' session. A short meeting will be included to share tips on how to prepare your child to be ready for school.

Reception Class will present their assembly 'Look at me Now' for parents at 1.45pm followed by a final Stay and Play! Please complete the slip attached if you can attend.

##### **Thursday 9th July**

Y6 Production of 'Grease'. Performances at 10am, 2pm and 6.30pm. Y5 will be part of the production. Entry by ticket only.

##### **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July**

School Reports for the end of the Academic year will be sent electronically via School Spider/email.

## **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July**

Y6 Retreat Day to Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral and Crosby Beach.

Reception 'Picnic in the Park'. Reception will walk to Longton Park for a play and picnic lunch (letter sent home today)

## **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

Y6 Leavers' Assembly 9.15 am in the school hall. Y6 parents invited.

Y6 Leavers' Mass at 6.00pm in church followed by Y6 Leavers Party on the school field from 6.45pm – 8.30pm. Fish & Chip order will be going in on Friday. Payment for family members MUST be sent in to school by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

## **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July**

Super Learning Day. A fun day for everyone!

## **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

PTFA Cake Sale 3.15pm on the playground.

## **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

School will close at 1.30pm for the Summer Holidays and will re-open for pupils on Tuesday 2nd September.

### **Wind/Brass Lessons with Mrs. Campbell:**

Wind Club for Y3-Y6 children will begin in September on a Thursday after school for 10 weeks. A letter will be sent home at the beginning of term to children who have registered their interest.

### **Guitar/Ukulele lessons with Miss Galea:**

There will be a beginners ukulele/guitar group starting in September on Mondays at 9.00am. The lessons will be provided by Carmel Galea who teaches at many local Primary and High Schools.

A letter has been sent home with children in Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5 regarding beginners' guitar/ukulele lessons. Any further information, please email [carmel@cmg-guitars.co.uk](mailto:carmel@cmg-guitars.co.uk).

### **Free School Meals – Important changes from September 2026.**

Firstly, if your child is already receiving Free School Meals and is in Years 3–6, there is nothing you need to do. The Local Authority already holds your information and will automatically check your child's eligibility ahead of their return to school in September 2026.

If your child is in Key Stage 1 (Reception to Year 2), they will already have been receiving a free school meal through the universal infant scheme. If you have previously completed a Free School Meal application, so that your child's school can access additional funding, your eligibility will also be automatically checked—so again, you do not need to take any action.

If your child has not been receiving a free school meal and you believe you may be eligible, please read the information below.

**From September 2026, the Government is extending eligibility for Free School Meals.** This means that more families may now qualify for support, even if they have not previously been eligible.

What this means for you

- If your household income is lower, your child may now be entitled to free school meals at school
- Schools receive additional funding (known as Pupil Premium) for every eligible child, which is used to support learning, resources and enrichment opportunities
- Even if your child prefers a packed lunch, applying can still bring valuable benefits to both your child and the school

What you need to do

- If you think you may now be eligible, we strongly encourage you to submit an application before the start of the academic year.
- Applications are quick, confidential and securely processed
- If your child is already receiving Free School Meals, you do not need to reapply

Why it's important to apply

- Ensures your child receives all the support they are entitled to
- Helps the school access additional funding to support pupils
- May provide access to further support, such as help with trips or activities

If you would like further information or support with your application, please contact the school office.

***We encourage all families to take a few minutes to check their eligibility — this support can make a real difference.***

### **South Ribble Holiday, Activities and Food Programme:**

Funded provision is available through HAF, and low-cost places available for children not in receipt of free school meals. Each child receives access to breakfast and a healthy lunch whilst they are with regardless of FSM entitlement. As families no longer receive the EdenRed vouchers, these activities will be the best places for families to ensure they have additional food provision during the summer.

Their activities encourage children to try new activities, make new friends and make lifelong memories. There is a fantastic summer planned, with new additions such as board games, lego, golf, pickleball, along with old favourites like dodgeball, tennis, football and cricket.

Please visit [www.southribble.gov.uk/activecamps](http://www.southribble.gov.uk/activecamps) for the full activity timetable and booking links (flyer attached).

And finally....

We are thrilled to announce that St Oswald's has officially achieved the CAFOD Live Simply Award after we successfully planned and implemented faith inspired actions that highlighted the importance of caring for people and the planet. The school has received recognition for living simply, living sustainably and living in solidarity with the world's poorest countries.

Staff and children implemented a number of exceptional projects that highlighted the importance of caring for creation and community including making strong links with the local neighbourhood, providing food donations and fundraising from Fairtrade stalls to buy world gifts which help families and communities facing poverty and injustice around the world. Thank you to Mrs Dean who led the LiveSimply journey and all the staff and children involved.

Please contact us if you have any concerns or queries.

C.J. Hough  
Headteacher