



St Oswald's Catholic Primary School
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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 **Autumn term no. 4– 24th September 2026**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Throughout the school years, the whole family will grow and change - learning more about life and about one another. Change can be an exciting part of family life. In this Sunday's Gospel, the father represents God and the sons represent ways that we can respond to God. Initially one son refused his father's request, but then he had a change of heart for the better. This Gospel sets us a challenge. Sometimes we may not always respond to God in the best way. However, God our Father is always there to welcome a change of heart. No matter how many times we need to start again – God will be there for us.

Update since the last newsletter:

- Well done to the Football Team who played their 1st match at Priory on Thursday. The team played 5 matches in total, 4 wins and 1 draw!
- The school photographer was in school last week to take individual/sibling photographs. A proof will be sent home with your child today, Thursday 24th September. If you wish to order a photograph, please place your order online at www.tempest-orders.co.uk by **Thursday 8th October** to receive free delivery. Any photographs that are ordered will be sent to school and then distributed. Thank you.

Coming up:

Thursday 1st October -Y5 author visit to Longton Library with Jen Carney.

Thursday 1st October -School Meal Promotion 'Space Day'. If your child is already having school meals, they will automatically be included in this event. The meal served will be Meteor Meatball Marinara or Solar Spaghetti with Galactic Garlic Bread or Cosmic Cheese & Onion Roll with Planet Potato Wedges and Lunar Peas or Jupiter Jacket Potato with Mixed Salad followed by Sonic Boom Rocket Ice Lolly or Super Moon Cookie with Frontier Fruit Wedges. If you would like your child to have a school meal on this date, please complete the slip below and return to school no later than Tuesday 29th September.

Thursday 1st October - Final match of Y5/Y6 football tournament at Penwortham Priory Academy, 3.40pm – 5pm.

Friday 2nd October - Harvest Festival in Church 2.15pm. Y6 will be leading the Harvest Celebration with the whole school attending. Parents are invited to come along. Each class will be collecting items for Churches Together Food Bank in Penwortham so if you can donate any non-perishable items i.e tins, packets etc, it would be greatly appreciated, just send in your donation in with your child asap. Thank you.

Monday 5th October or

Friday 9th October - Phonics Workshop for Reception parents in the Reception Classroom 2-3pm. Mrs Stone will be teaching a phonics lesson while you learn all about the importance of early reading and phonics. Let us know which session you can attend by returning the slip attached. Due to limited space, please can we ask that only 1 parent attends and no children. Thank you.

Tuesday 6th October- PTFA Meeting 6.30pm in school. Please come along to discuss this year's events. It would be lovely to see any of our new Reception parents.

Thursday 8th October - 1st match of Y5/Y6 Girls football tournament at Penwortham Priory Academy, 3.40pm – 5pm (letter to be sent home to the team shortly).

Friday 9th October -Y6 Taster Day at All Hallows (letter sent home Friday 18th September). Please return the slip with £3.50 (cash) in an envelope with your child's name on.

Monday 12th October - The Lancashire Evening Post photographer will be coming into school to take a photograph of the Reception pupils. This photograph will appear in the 'School Starters 2026' supplement of the newspaper. **IF YOU DO NOT WISH FOR YOUR CHILD TO BE IN THIS PHOTOGRAPH, PLEASE LET US KNOW IN WRITING BY EMAIL OR LETTER.**

Tuesday 13th October – 'Helping my Child to Thrive' Parent Workshop. A letter has been sent home today with your child giving details about this workshop run by Christina Mitchell. It will be held in school from 6pm-7pm. If you wish to attend, please complete the slip on the letter and return to school.

Thursday 15th October - 2nd match of Y5/Y6 Girls football tournament at Penwortham Priory Academy, 3.40pm–5pm.

Monday 19th October - Last Netball session.

Wednesday 21st October - Last Football session.

Tuesday 20th October - Reception visit to Longton Library (details to follow).

Thursday 22nd October- Open Morning 9.15am – 10.15am for any prospective parents who have a child wishing to start school in September 2027. Please see flyer attached.

Thursday 22nd October - The first PTFA event this year is our 'Autumn Pumpkin Disco':
6.15pm-7pm for Reception, Y1 and Y2 (a parent needs to accompany their Reception child)
7.15pm-8.15pm for Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6.

Tickets are on sale from the school office Monday 28th September £3.50 each. Tuck shop available on the night. Children can wear festive autumn colours, pumpkin motifs/tops etc or comfortable party wear. No scary (Halloween) costumes or props.

Thursday 22nd October -Final match of Y5/Y6 Girls football tournament at Penwortham Priory Academy, 3.40pm – 5pm

Friday 23rd October - INSET Day – school closed.

Punctuality:

Punctuality is considered the direct responsibility of the parents or carers. It is important that children learn the importance of punctuality and also observe it in their daily school life. Lateness causes delay in the start of lessons. The child who is late is often upset and embarrassed and the rest of the class is disrupted and delayed in starting the important part of the school day.

If your child is going to be unavoidably late for school, please telephone the school as soon as possible and make sure that you report to the school office on arrival. This enables us to adjust the dinner numbers and to ensure accountability in case of fire or any other emergency. It will also avoid an unauthorised absence being recorded.

School starts at 8.50 am promptly – pupils **must** be supervised by a parent/carer until school staff arrive at the gate! The school gate opens at 8.40am. Thank you.

Messages:

If possible, please can all routine messages, appointments, and changes to afternoon collection arrangements be communicated to the school office **in the morning**. Delivering messages later in the afternoon requires lessons being interrupted and disturbs children's learning. We understand that emergencies may happen or last-minute arrangements may change, but whenever possible, sharing information early helps our school day run much more smoothly. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

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. Please

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.

Reminder: PTFA School Calendar 2027:

Any businesses that would like to be included in the School Calendar for 2027, please contact the school office. The price of the adverts are £40.00 a month (1 month to 5 months) or £36 a month (6 months or more). The closing date for sponsors is Monday 12th October.

Lancashire County Council Parental Survey: Lancashire County Council have invited parents and carers to take part in a School Age Childcare Survey. See flyer attached for QR code.

Community News:

Little Church: Father Michael warmly invites all primary school children to attend Little Church starting this Saturday 26th September 2026. Little Church takes place during the 5.00pm Vigil service at St. Oswald's Church. The catechists will lead the children, in their own special space, to explore and understand the gospel through child friendly activities. They look forward to welcoming your children this Saturday and future Saturdays over the liturgical year.

Living with ADHD: Courses are being held by Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust regarding information and support for any parents, children or carers with ADHD. See flyer attached.

SEND Roadshow: Lancashire County Council are holding SEN Roadshows across Lancashire for families with SEND children. Please see flyer attached.

And finally...

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with school if you have any queries; please drop us an email or call the school office. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

C.J. Hough
Headteacher

RECEPTION PHONICS WORKSHOP

Please tick which day you can attend. Sessions are from 2pm – 3pm.

I would like to attend the 'Phonics Workshop' session on **Monday 5th October**

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I would like to attend the 'Phonics Workshop' session on **Friday 9th October**

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Name of child:

Signed by parent/carers:.....

SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION –SPACE DAY – THURSDAY 1st OCTOBER

I would like my child to have a school meal on Thursday 1st October. I will ensure payment of £3.00 is made in advance through ParentPay (children Y3-Y6).

Name of child: Year group:

Signature of parent/carers: