



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.

Tel: 01772 613402

The Newsletter **Autumn term no. 5– 1st October 2026**

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's easy to get caught up in the daily busyness of life and forget what life's really all about. However, to assist us on our path through life, God sends messengers to help us remember what is most important.

In this Sunday's Gospel, the servants represent God's messengers (the Prophets) and the tenants of the vineyard represent the leaders of Israel at that time. Jesus told this story because some of the leaders were not listening to God's messengers.

In many ways we are like 'tenants' in this world. The messengers that God sends today remind us that God has a plan for our lives. We are created for everlasting life and, for now, we are here to share, enjoy and develop what God gives to us in this life.

Update since the last newsletter:

- Well done to the Football Team who played their 2nd match at Priory on Thursday. The team played five matches in total, three wins and two draws.
- Thank you to Fr. Michael who came into school on Monday to give the Reception children a special 'Starting School' Blessing.

Coming up:

Harvest Festival in Church **Friday 2nd October** 2.15pm. Y6 will be leading the Harvest Celebration with the whole school attending. Parents & Grandparents are invited to come along. We desperately need donations for Churches Together Food Bank in Penwortham. If you can send any non-perishable items (i.e tinned meat or fish, tinned fruit or vegetables, dried goods, snacks or any other essential items), it would be greatly appreciated. Boxes are in the classrooms or drop them off at the office. Thank you.

Phonics Workshop for Reception parents **Monday 5th October or Friday 9th October** in the Reception Classroom 2-3pm. 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.

PTFA Meeting **Tuesday 6th October-** 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.

1st match of Y5/Y6 Girls football tournament **Thursday 8th October** at Penwortham Priory Academy, 2.15pm – 3.30pm (letter to be sent home to the team today).

Y6 Taster Day at All Hallows **Friday 9th October. Reminder to return the slip with £3.50 cash for lunch.** Full school uniform to be worn and NO MOBILE PHONES.

The Lancashire Evening Post photographer will be coming into school **Monday 12th October** 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.**

'Helping my Child to Thrive' Parent Workshop with Christina Mitchell **Tuesday 13th October** 6pm – 7pm in school.

Visit our web-site www.longton-st-oswalds.lancs.sch.uk

Throughout the year, Christina is working alongside our school community, delivering training and workshops with staff to develop their understanding of children's behaviour, emotional regulation and the nervous system, and equipping them with practical tools to better support the children in our school. In this practical and engaging session, Christina will help parents understand what can sit underneath children's behaviour and why children can sometimes struggle to manage big emotions, cope with demands, navigate friendships or access the skills we know they have. If you wish to attend this parent workshop, please complete the slip on the letter and return to school (we do need the slip back so know the numbers). Thank you.

2nd match of Y5/Y6 Girls football tournament **Thursday 15th October** at Penwortham Priory Academy, 2.15pm–3.30pm.

Last Netball session **Monday 19th October**.

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

PTFA Cake Sale on **Tuesday 20th October** 3.15pm on the school playground.

Last Football session **Wednesday 21st October**.

Open Morning **Thursday 22nd October** 9.15am – 10.15am for any prospective parents who have a child wishing to start school in September 2027. If you are unable to make this and wish to have a tour around the school with Mr. Hough, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

Final match of Y5/Y6 Girls football tournament **Thursday 22nd October** at Penwortham Priory Academy, 2.15pm – 3.30pm

PTFA 'Autumn Pumpkin Disco' **Thursday 22nd October:**

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 now on sale from the school office, £3.50 (cash please) or you can send the money in an envelope and we will send the ticket home with your child. 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.

INSET Day **Friday 23rd October** – school closed.

Looking ahead:

Monday 2nd November: Y6 visit to Museum of Lancashire, Preston (letter issued Friday 2nd October)

Tuesday 3rd or Wednesday 4th November: Parents Evening 3.40pm -6pm in the school classrooms from 3.40pm – 6.00pm. Bookings are via the School Spider app from Monday 12th October.

Friday 6th November - Y5 visit to Rock & River Centre, Mawdesley for a day of outdoor adventure. Please ensure that Personal Information Forms and medical 3B Forms are returned asap. Full balance to be paid by Friday 30th October. Thank you.

Wednesday 18th November - Flu Immunisation Vaccination Programme by Intrahealth on for children (Reception – Y6).

Primary Admissions 2027:

If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2027 then you MUST apply on-line at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools The CLOSING DATE FOR PRIMARY APPLICATIONS IS 15th JANUARY 2027.

Please ensure that you also complete the ST OSWALD'S SUPPLEMENTARY FAITH FORM which is available on the school website or from school. The Supplementary Faith Form must then be forwarded to SCHOOL together with a copy of your child's BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE BEFORE THE CLOSING DATE! Please note: If your child was baptised at St Oswald's and you do not have a copy of your child's baptismal certificate, please complete a 'Baptismal Certificate request slip', available from school and post this through the St Oswald's presbytery post-box for Fr Michael.

Secondary Admissions 2027:

If your child is due to transfer to High School in September 2027, then please apply on-line at

Y4 Sacramental Programme:

Fr Michael has written to all Y4 parents, inviting them to attend a meeting on **Monday 16th November** at 6.30pm to discuss the programme and the commitment that it will mean over the coming months until your child makes their First Holy Communion on Saturday 15th May 2027.

Toys and valuables:

We kindly remind families that children should not bring toys, personal or valuable items to school. These can get damaged or lost and cause unnecessary distractions during the school day. Even small accessories like bag charms and keyrings frequently snap off, fall out of pockets, or get misplaced and can cause upset to children.

If an item is brought to school as part of Show and Tell, we ask that your child hands it directly to the class teacher at the start of the day. This allows the item to be safely stored and returned to your child at home time. Thank you for your understanding.

School Health Drop-in Sessions:

The School Nursing Team are holding drop-in sessions throughout October. These are confidential, free drop-in spaces where children, young people (ages 5–19, or up to 25 for SEND), and parents/carers can speak directly with a school nurse or health professional without an appointment. If you have need any support regarding health issues including emotional health and wellbeing, healthy lifestyles, sleep concerns, toileting issues, behaviour support, growth and development, school-related health concerns or general health and wellbeing questions, please call in to one of the centres (see flyer attached).

The SEND Newsletter:

Lancashire County Council have asked us to share this newsletter to any parents and carers of, and professionals working with, children and young people with special educational needs and/or a disability (SEND). Parents and carers can sign up for a regular copy at: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/getting-help/send-newsletter/>

Reminders:

School Photographs: The closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Thursday 8th October 2026**. **Order through the Tempest website using your unique link that was emailed to you, or if you have received paper order forms visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk**

If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest at customerservice@htempest.co.uk

Little Church: 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.

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.

Community News:

TippyToes Baby Bank Winter Warmer: Tippy Toes is based in Preston and helps families in need in Preston and the surrounding areas. They run a Winter Warmer Event every year to supply coats, hats, scarves, gloves, blankets and other essential winter items to families in need with children aged 0-5.

If you are in need, you can visit the event at The Annexe at St Anthony's, St Anthony's Drive, Fulwood, PR2 3SQ or view their Facebook page for regular updates [TippyToes BabyBank | Preston | Facebook](#). (Please see flyer attached for drop off points etc).

South Ribble October Half Term Active Camps: Looking for a fun, active, and engaging way to keep your child entertained this October half-term? **South Ribble Borough Council's Active Camps** are packed with exciting activities designed to help children make friends, stay active, learn new skills, and most importantly, have lots of fun!

Funded Places Available. If your child receives **benefit-related Free School Meals**, they may be eligible for one of our Council funded places. If you received a HAF voucher code during the summer holidays, this is likely to apply to your child. **No HAF voucher code is required to make a booking for the October activities** (see flyer attached).

And finally...

Today is National Poetry Day and our school is joining over 1.5 million people across the UK to celebrate. This year's inspiring theme is **"Wonder"**—exploring awe, curiosity, and how words capture feelings that ordinary speech cannot. Across all year groups, pupils are diving into exciting poetry activities, exploring nature, science, and big questions through verse. Help your child at home by reading together, sharing a favourite poem or rhyme before bedtime or writing a mini-verse about something that makes them wonder (starry sky, a bug or curious questions).

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/carer:.....
