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.

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The Newsletter
Autumn term no.11 – 19th November 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

This Sunday's Gospel This Sunday is the last in the Church's year. It is the day we celebrate the feast of Christ the King.

In the Gospel, Jesus (using the language and imagery of his time) describes what will happen when he comes again at the end of time. Like a shepherd who calls his sheep to follow him, Jesus invites people to be with him forever. Jesus emphasises that we should love our neighbour: that is, we should look after our neighbour in need.

The Gospel reminds us that every act of kindness done to someone else is also done to Jesus, and it will be rewarded accordingly.

Update since the last newsletter:

- We raised over £220 for the Children in Need Appeal. Thank you for all your support.
- Y5 worked so hard for their assembly last Friday. Many thanks for coming along.
- Thank you to everyone who came along to the Book Fair. The school received over £100 in free books which is very much appreciated.
- Y2 had a lovely story session at Longton Library on Tuesday. Visiting your local library opens up countless opportunities to build your child's language and communication skills, and there are plenty of benefits for parents too.
- The Intrahealth Nursing Team came into school on Wednesday to deliver the flu vaccinations. If your child was absent from school or did not have the vaccination, they will be returning in a few weeks. We will let you know the date once we know. Thank you.
- Congratulations to our Kurling Team, Louie, Jenson, Brooke and Trudy in Y6. They came 1st in every game and won the final which took place at Wellfield Academy on Wednesday. Brilliant team work.

Don't forget:

Y3-Y6 children taking part in the Christmas Workshop over the next few weeks, please remember to send £1.00 in to help towards resources.

Monday 23rd November -Choir rehearsal for the Winter Wonderland event at 6.30pm – 7.30pm at Midge Hall Methodist Church. Winter Wonderland is an event organised by Longton Committee and takes place on Sunday 29th November 11am – 4pm. The choir are to arrive for 3.30pm ready for their performance at 4pm at St Andrews Church (see flyer attached).

Monday 23rd November – Dance Festival Day. All children will take part in a dance festival. Please make sure that they have their PE kit in school on this day.

Tuesday 24th November – Y3 will attend Mass in church at 9.30am. Everyone welcome.

Tuesday 24th November – Y4 Dodgeball Competition at Priory Academy 3.45pm – 4.55pm. No parents allowed to spectate (letter sent to Dodgeball Team on 10th November).

Wednesday 25th November - Y4 visit to Lancaster City Museum as part of their History studies. Please ensure that the permission slip is returned back to school and payment is made on ParentPay.

Thursday 26th November - Y5 PE Day at All Hallows. Please return the permission slip to school.

Thursday 26th November
and Friday 27th November - Y6 Bikeability. 2-day cycle-based training programme run by South Ribble Borough Council. If you would like your child to take part, please complete the form using the QR code on the letter sent home before half term (letters available at the office). If your child needs to loan a bicycle and helmet, please let the school office know.

Thursday 26th November - School Meal Promotion 'Lancashire Day' for anyone who doesn't normally have a School lunch. The meal served is Corned Beef Hash with Crusty Bread or Lancashire Cheese & Potato Pie with Garden Peas or Baked Beans followed by Sticky Parkin & Toffee Sauce. If your child is normally on packed lunches and would like a school meal on this date, please complete the attached slip and return to school by Tuesday 24th November and make the payment of £3.00 on ParentPay (Years 3-6).

Friday 27th November- Reception visit to British Commercial Vehicle Museum as part of their History studies. Please ensure that the permission slip is returned back to school and payment is made on ParentPay.

Friday 27th November - Y3 will be presenting their assembly for parents on the theme of Advent at 2.40pm in the school hall.

Monday 30th November - Y4 Reconciliation Day with Fr Michael. Y4 Parents invited to church at 2pm for the Service of Reconciliation**.**

Dates for December:

Tuesday 1st December

Y1 walk to Longton Library in the morning for a Christmas story session (letter to be sent home on Friday).

Annual PTFA Sponsored Santa Dash at 2.45pm; all the children and staff will be joining in.
The children can bring a Christmas hat, Santa beard or the full Santa outfit to wear for the event if they wish to. Sponsor forms have been sent home with your child this week. The event is always great fun, gets us fit and raises some money! Parents can come along to spectate or even join in. There will be carols and a cake sale too after the event.

PTFA Cake Stall 3.15pm on the playground.

Thursday 3rd December

Final brass/wind lesson for this term (extended due to the cancellation of lesson on Thursday 12th November). Brass lessons to start for the Spring Term on Thursday 14th January (details to be issued shortly).

Tuesday 8th December

Infant Nativity starring Reception, Y1 and Y2 in church at 2pm and 6.00pm. School will provide every child with a costume.

Wednesday 9th December

Y3 last swimming lesson.

Reception Christmas 'Stay & Play' 2-3pm. Wear your Christmas jumper if you are coming along! Please return the slip below to indicate if you are attending. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING IN ADVANCE (by Tuesday 8th December) as the staff need to plan. 1 adult only at this event. Thank you.**

Friday 11th December

'Rock Steady Band' Christmas Performance 2.00pm in the school hall. Parents of Children who take part in the sessions are invited to come along and watch the children perform in their bands! This will finish by 3pm.

Parish Christmas Bingo 6.30pm in the Parish Centre. Further details to follow.

Tuesday 15th December

Christmas Jumper Day! Children can replace their school jumper or cardigan for a Christmas jumper or make their school jumper look Christmassy! A donation of £1 will be collected at the gate on the day by the School Council. The proceeds will be sent to Alder Hey Children's Hospital.

Grand Christmas Post Day! Today is the day that children can bring their Christmas cards to school for their friends if they wish.

Christmas Lunch Day. The meal served will be Roast Turkey with Chipolata Sausage or Cranberry Root Roast, Vegetarian Sausage served with Sage & Onion Stuffing, Gravy, Roast & Creamed Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy followed by Festive Dessert.

If you would like your child to have a school meal on this day, please complete the slip below and return to school by **TUESDAY 1ST DECEMBER** as the kitchen needs to place their order 2 weeks before. **WE CANNOT ALLOW ANY LATE ORDERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS LUNCH.** If your child is already having school meals, they will automatically be included in this event. Payment of £3.00 should be made through ParentPay for children in Y3-Y6.

If your child is on a packed lunch, please make it a festive one. Every child in the school will be given a Christmas cracker!

Wednesday 16th December

All Hallows will be here with their Christmas Roadshow for the whole school. Details to follow.

Friday 18th December

Y6 will be leading the Christingle Service in church 2pm. Everyone invited to come along.

Friday 18th December

PTFA Cake Stall 3.15pm on the playground.

Tuesday 22nd December

School closes 1.30pm for Christmas.

The PTFA Grand Christmas Raffle:

Your child will be bringing home a book of Raffle Tickets today. Lots of fantastic prizes to win including luxury hampers Each ticket is £1. We are expecting to sell quite a few tickets so if you do not want any, please return the book to the office asap. The draw will be on the 17th December and winners informed by the end of the school day.

Plastic Free School:

The ECO/Science Team are working towards a Plastic Free School award. We are trying to reduce plastic waste in school packed lunches and Key Stage 2 (Y3-Y6) snacks.

Some ideas:

- **Use compartmentalised or reusable pots:** Pack food in bento boxes, stainless steel containers, or existing household tubs instead of single-use sandwich bags or cling film.
- **Try beeswax wraps or reusable snack bags:** Wrap sandwiches, halves, or cut produce in beeswax wraps or washable fabric/silicone snack pouches.
- **Send a refillable drink bottle:** Replace disposable cartons and plastic bottles with a reusable water bottle or insulated flask.
- **Pack reusable cutlery:** Include stainless steel or bamboo forks, spoons, or sporks rather than disposable plastic utensils.

Plastic-Free Snack & Lunch Ideas

- **Portion from larger packs:** Buy crisps, crackers, rice cakes, biscuits, or yoghurt in large tubs/bags and spoon daily portions into small pots.
- **Lean on naturally wrapped & whole foods:** Pack bananas, clementines, apples, grapes, cherry tomatoes, cucumber or carrot sticks, and cheese cubes.

Connect to Work for parents and carers:

Lancashire County Council have asked schools to share this message:

Do you need help to find and stay in work? Connect to Work can help. They offer free one-to-one support for up to 12 months for people who find working difficult. Everything is made to suit your needs.

Connect to Work helps people who are not working, or who are working but might lose their job. They'll help you feel more confident, find your strengths, and make sure your job suits you. They'll talk to health teams and employers to make sure you get the right support.

The programme is voluntary – you choose if you want to join. And if Connect to Work isn't right for you, they'll help you to find something that is. Ready to take the next step?
Visit **https://www.lancashireskillshub.co.uk/connect-to-work/** to find out more.

Community News:

Christmas Convoy: Attached is the Christmas convoy poster and 'The Route' Poster which is being organinsed by P & SL Haulage. This will take place on Sunday 13th December starting at Hoole St. Michaels Primary School at 5pm. They are raising money for the local primary schools in Longton.
More information is on their instagram page @pandslhaulage or facebook P&SL Christmas Convoy.

Mental Elf: Mental Elf is a fun, family-friendly festive event that raises awareness of mental wellbeing while bringing communities together through activity and connection. They are holding a Mental Elf festive fun run on Saturday 28th November 9.30am – 2.30pm at Worden Park. Leyland. See flyer attached.

Longton Winter Wonderland: (see flyer attached).

And finally…

As you all know I have been off work due to illness and am now back at school on a phased return. It is wonderful to be back at St Oswald's and seeing the children's smiling faces again. I am working closely with Mr Campbell during my phased return to ensure everything runs smoothly. Thank you as always for your ongoing support. I look forward to catching up with many of you on the school gate soon!

As always, get in touch if you have a concern or query. We will try to help as best we can.

Yours sincerely

C.J. Hough
Headteacher

RECEPTION MATHS WORKSHOP – FRIDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2026

I am able to come along to the Maths Workshop on Friday 20th November.

Name of child: ……. Signature of parent/carer: …….

SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – 'LANCASHIRE DAY' – THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2026

I would like my child to have a school meal on Thursday 26th November. I will ensure payment of £3.00 is made in advance through ParentPay (Year 3 – Year 6 children).

Name of child: ……Year……. Signed……

SCHOOL MEAL PROMOTION – 'CHRISTMAS LUNCH' – TUESDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2026

I would like my child to have a school meal on Tuesday 15th December. I will ensure payment of £3.00 is made in advance through ParentPay (Year 3 – Year 6 children).

Name of child: ……Year……. Signed……
