

St Oswald's Newsletter 18.9.26



'Love Jesus, Love Learning, Love Each Other'

This week's Wednesday Word is: 'Generous'

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for your **generous** love. Please help us to grow in **generosity** and do your work in the world with a loving and **generous** heart. Amen.

"God is generous He shows us all his love and encourages us to be generous."

Pope Francis (2013-2025)

In this Sunday's Gospel, we reflect upon generosity and when we last gave something away without expecting anything else in return. Being generous brings us closer to God and just like the workers within the Gospel, it's never too late to start. We know that we can be generous with possessions but we too can be generous with our time and love- which has no financial cost to us.

A new member of St Oswald's

On Friday, Miss Partridge welcomed Baby Oscar Jones into the world weighing 8lb, 5oz. Both mum and baby Oscar are both doing well and we look forward to seeing them when they are able to come into school. Welcome to the world and to our St Oswald's family, Oscar.



AWARD WINNERS



	Ozzie's Champ	Top-Table Winner
Reception	Esme P	Bobby B
Sparrows	Stanley P	Hallie M
Robins	Charlie M	Holly F
Starlings	William S	Theo P
Magpies	Sophia H	Rory B
Seagulls	Lara M	Ivy D
Owls	Megan H	Emily H
Eagles	Eddie H	Lucas B

Mass Times

Saturday
St Wilfrid's 6pm

Sunday
Our Lady's
9:30am & 6:30pm

St Oswald's
11am



Attendance Matters

Every school day is an opportunity for children to learn, grow and make happy memories with their friends. Regular attendance helps children feel confident, settled and able to make the most of every learning opportunity. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school every day and arrives on time. Together, we can help every child thrive at St Oswald's.

Year 6 Parent Meeting

Parents and carers of Year 6 pupils are warmly invited to attend a Year 6 meeting Tuesday 22nd September at 2.45pm in the school hall. We look forward to welcoming you and sharing important information about the year ahead.

Nut Free School

As part of our commitment to safeguarding children with severe allergies, we are a **nut-free school**. Please help us maintain a safe environment by ensuring that no nut-containing products are brought onto the school premises. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Dr Wilkinson and Governors have previously sent out separate communication in letter form about our Parent Governor vacancy. Please do read the information carefully, particularly around the nature of the role and the expectations. If you have any questions about the role, please do contact Dr A Wilkinson, as Chair of Governors, through the Main Office. **Deadline for applications are Monday 28th September.**



FREE SCHOOL MEALS ARE EXPANDING

FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

Wigan Council has confirmed changes to Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility.



WHAT'S CHANGING?



CURRENT ELIGIBILITY

Most families receiving Universal Credit only qualify for income-based free school meals if their annual earned income is **£7,400 or less** (excluding benefits).



FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

All children in households receiving Universal Credit will become eligible for Free School Meals.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS CATEGORIES



TARGETED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Available to families who:

- Receive Universal Credit and earn **£7,400 or less per year** (excluding benefits), or
- Receive certain qualifying benefits, including:
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
 - Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999



EXPANDED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Available to:

- **All** other families receiving Universal Credit, **regardless of earnings.**

THIS MEANS **ALL CHILDREN IN UNIVERSAL CREDIT HOUSEHOLDS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS FROM SEPTEMBER 2026.**

HOW TO APPLY

APPLY ONLINE TODAY
It's quick, easy and confidential:



Scan the QR Code:
Or apply online at:

forms.wigan.gov.uk/xdp/form/750

WHO WILL BENEFIT?



More families receiving Universal Credit



More students accessing a healthy meal during the school day



Reduced pressure on household budgets



Uniforms

Please could you ensure that your child's name in their hoodies, jumpers/cardigans and coats.

Mrs Donlon

Congratulations to our very own Mrs Donlon who took part in the Great North Run last Sunday. She wore her medal with pride on Tuesday.

Garden Gang

Our Garden Gang came together this week. They were gifted vegetable plants to cared for. We have pumpkins, cabbage, sprouts, and onions. A big thank you to Emma from Dolce for growing these for us.



Building Levy

We are extremely mindful of the Cost of Living Crisis for our families at the moment therefore we thank our families for their support and contributions. Any contribution helps tremendously and means that we can continue to improve our school environment, as we have done so over the Summer Holidays, for our children. Please see the separate letter regarding the Archdiocesan Building Levy. Thank you again for any contribution.

ONLINE SAFETY

Six Tips to Improve Your Family's Online Wellbeing



Being online offers children many positive opportunities, from learning about the world to playing and keeping in touch with friends.

However, the online world can sometimes feel overwhelming, particularly when children feel pressure to keep up with others.

Noticing how being online affects your child's mood, sleep and behaviour is an important first step.

Regular conversations, clear family boundaries and checking the wellbeing settings available on apps and devices can all help children develop a healthier relationship with technology.

THE NSPCC RECOMMENDS SIX PRACTICAL TIPS

- TALK AND LISTEN**
Have regular, open conversations about their online life. Listen to their experiences and feelings without judgement.
- AGREE BOUNDARIES**
Set clear, realistic rules together as a family – about time online, content and device-free times (such as mealtimes and bedtime).
- USE WELLBEING SETTINGS**
Explore and use the wellbeing and privacy settings available on apps, games and devices to help keep them safer online.
- BE A POSITIVE ROLE MODEL**
Show healthy online habits by being mindful of your own screen time and how you use technology.
- ENCOURAGE BALANCE**
Support activities offline that help them feel good – like hobbies, exercise, spending time with friends and family, and time outdoors.
- KEEP CHECKING IN**
Their online world changes as they grow. Keep the conversation going and adapt your boundaries and support as needed.

TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP CHILDREN THRIVE ONLINE

For more advice and support, visit:
Supporting children's wellbeing online | NSPCC

NSPCC
EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR



OPEN DAY

FOR RECEPTION STARTERS 2027

Is your child starting school in September 2027?

Come and see what makes St Oswald's special

Love Jesus | Love Learning | Love Each Other



WHY CHOOSE ST OSWALD'S?

- Love Jesus**
Growing in faith every day
- Love Learning**
Inspiring curious minds to achieve their best
- Love Each Other**
A caring community where everyone belongs




COME TO OUR OPEN DAY

Thursday 24th September

Choose the session that suits you:

9:30am OR 5:00pm

No booking required | Contact the school office for more information

Love Jesus | Love Learning | Love Each Other



St Oswald's PTFA AGM

Robin Hood Pub Ashton | **6:30pm - 7:30pm**
28th September 2026

Come along and make a difference and join the PTFA!

Are you interested in becoming the Chair, Treasurer or Secretary?

Or can spare an hour at our fundraisers?

Come along with new ideas!

Email: saintoswaldspta@gmail.com

or follow us on Instagram: [Saintoswaldspta](https://www.instagram.com/Saintoswaldspta)

junior parkrun

Mesnes Park junior parkrun

supported by




Join us for a free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors aged 4-14.

Families are welcome to come along and enjoy the morning together!

Registration is FREE!

Whether you're running, jogging, or walking, everyone is welcome.

Sign up at parkrun.com/junior or scan the QR code to register.


