

OLSM Newsletter

March 28 / 28 Mawrth 24.

We live, we love, we learn, we grow in Jesus.



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Class photographs- Monday 31st March

We are pleased to inform you that our school photographer, Tim Woodier will attend the school next Monday 31st March to take whole class photos. Information on how you can order the photos will be sent out later in the week.

Lenten Appeal

As we celebrate Lent in this Jubilee year, let us all embrace the theme Pilgrims of Hope, chosen to inspire peacebuilding in a world threatened by climate change and ongoing conflicts.

Over the next 2 weeks each class will take part in a daily mile activity in order to raise awareness of the difficulties some families have in obtaining basic necessities. We have set the children a target of 500 miles to complete, to allow them to have a normal clothes day on the last Friday of term.

If the children manage to gain their normal clothes day, we will ask; those families who are able, to make a small donation on behalf of Cafod.

Year 5 swimming

The year 5 class swimming lessons will continue next Tuesday 1st April 2025. The leisure centre recommend that children bring the following items to their swimming lesson.

- One-piece Swimming costume or Swimming shorts (must be above the knee). Towel. Hair band or swimming hat (long hair must be tied back). Goggles (if they choose). Children must remove all jewellery before they swim, i.e. watches, stud earrings.

Please can the children wear their PE kit/jogging bottoms to school, to allow them to get changed more easily.

Easter events 1

To celebrate Easter appropriately, each class will lead a Holy Week liturgy during the week beginning 7th April 2025. The children will lead us from Palm Sunday through to the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

Lower Phase pupils will tell us the events of Palm Sunday, Year 3 - The Last Supper, Year 5 – The Agony in the Garden, Year 6- The Crucifixion and Year 4- The Resurrection.

Regrettably, these sessions will only be for the school community.

Easter events 2

To celebrate the last day of term (Friday 11th April) before the Easter holidays we have identified some competitions the children may like to take part in.

The competitions are open to all age groups and staff will judge the best in each class, with all those that enter receiving a participation certificate and winners, an Easter egg.

The competitions are as follows- Easter hat/bonnet, Easter Garden in an egg/shoe box or seed tray, decorated egg (Hardboiled egg).

We would also like to complete a free Easter Egg raffle, where all children bring into school an Easter egg worth around £1.50 or above and children will have a chance to take part in a raffle to win an egg from the selection that has been brought in.

Easter competitions to be brought in on Thursday 10th April and eggs for the raffle the week beginning Monday 7th April 2025

Year 2 non-uniform day

A child in year 2 recently won a non-uniform day for the class via the PTA Golden Ticket competition. After consultation with Miss Dunlop, the class have decided that their non-uniform day will take place on Friday 4th April.

Friday Fast Day for Cafod

Next Friday 4th of April, school staff and children in Year 5 and Year 6, will be offered the chance to take part in a soup lunch to raise funds for our Cafod Lenten appeal. There will be a choice of 2 different soups and a bread roll. Obviously if individuals wish to take part in this activity it is entirely voluntarily. The cost to take part will be £1 paid via ParentPay.

PTA Spring term disco

Many thanks to those school parents/carers who were able to help yesterday and support our school disco. The children seemed to have a wonderful time, and this event could not have occurred without the adult support that was provided. Thank you one and all.

Class assembly dates

Class assemblies will take place on a Thursday at 10.20 am in the school hall.

Thursday 3rd April Reception class assembly.

Friday 4th April Year 1 assembly.

School clubs

Lower phase book club – Tuesdays 12.30-1.00 pm. Upper Phase book club – Fridays 1.00 – 1.30 pm.

Football club Mondays 3.30-4.30 Year 4, 5 and 6.

Netball club Tuesdays 3.30- 4.30 Year 4, 5 and 6.

Running club Wednesday 3.30-4.30 Year 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Healthy eating school

Our school is a healthy eating school. Therefore, please can you ensure that children only bring in water in their drink bottles. Likewise, only fruit or vegetables must be brought in for morning snacks or alternatively use the fruit tuck options available within the school. (see above)

Accompanying this week's newsletter we have also included an information sheet on examples of healthy packed lunches.

Breakfast club runs from 8.00am

Breakfast club runs from 8.00 am until 8.45 am.

The childcare element runs from 8.00 until 8.25 am and costs £2. The free breakfast runs from 8.25 until 8.35 am. Families dropping off their children for breakfast club can use the school car park until 8.35 am.

The club is free for those who have been informed by MCC that they would have been eligible for Free School Meals.

School Car Park

Just a reminder- **If you have not got a permit to park in the school car park between 8.35-9.10 am and 2.45-3.45 pm then please do not park in the car park.**

Spots checks will take place starting from Monday 24th March and fines of up to £100 can be issued via our car parking enforcement company 'Flash Park.'

We want to avoid school families being fined, but the safety of the car park is of paramount importance to all members of our school community.

Welsh phrase of the fortnight-24.03.2025 -4.04.25)

To support your pronunciation of the words below you may find this website useful-

[Welsh pronunciation dictionary \(forvo.com\)](http://forvo.com)

Lower Phase/Progression step 1/2

Upper Phase/Progression step 2/3

Beth wyt ti'n hoffi?

(What do you like?)

Dw i'n hoffi darllen - I like reading.

Ysgrifennu - writing.

Lliwio - colouring.

Peintio - painting.

Torri - cutting.

Beth wyt ti'n hoffi wneud?

(What do you like doing?)

Dw i'n hoffi darllen llyfrau- I like reading books.

Ysgrifennu straeon - writing stories.

Lliwio – colouring.

Peintio lluniau - painting pictures.

Torri a glynu - cutting and sticking.

Siarad Cymraeg! - talking Welsh!

Diod o ddŵrŵr - drink of water.

Contacting school/teachers

There will be times when you need to pass information on to teachers. Messages can be passed on via the school office but below you will also find a list of teacher email addresses. Please beware that teachers will only respond to emails during school-working hours 8.30-5.00pm Monday – Friday and then only when not teaching. If a message is urgent. please always contact the school office.

Reception class. Mrs Elias- EliasS5@Hwbcymru.net

Year 1 class. Mrs Flynn- flynnj41@hwbcymru.net

Year 2 class. Mrs Dunlop- dunlopa14@Hwbcymru.net

Year 3 class. Miss Farr- FarrR12@Hwbcymru.net

Year 4 class Mrs Rose- RoseM10@Hwbcymru.net

Year 5 class. Mr Fuchs- fuchss6@hwbcymru.net

Year 6 class Miss McCarthy- McCarthyM22@Hwbcymru.net

Mr Evans- evansv36@monmouthshireschools.wales **please note the new email address.**

Additional Needs Co-ordinator - Miss Everett- EverettJ11@Hwbcymru.net

School office - OLSM.Primary@monmouthshireschools.wales **please note the new email address.**

Term dates 2024/2025

Term	Start	Half term start	Half term end	Term End
Autumn	02/09/2024	28/10/2024	01/11/2024	20/12/2024
Spring	06/01/2025	24/02/2025	28/02/2025	11/04/2025
Summer	28/04/2025	26/05/2025	30/05/2025	21/07/2025

24/25 INSET **days.**

27th June 2025,
21st July 2025.

CAR PARK –

Please be aware that infringement of safe driving rules, repeated parking offences or aggression/abuse of school and church staff, will mean parking permits will be revoked/ logging of offences with the police and bans from attendance on the school/parish grounds.

Dates for your diary

PTA meeting in the school hall – 1st May 2025 3.45-4.45 pm.

Scholastic book fayre - 2nd June 2025

Sports Day option 1 - 17th June 2025, 10.00-12 (midday). Family picnic afterwards until 1.00pm

Sports Day option 2 - (if bad weather on first date) Thursday 19th June 2025.

Summer fayre - 4th July 2025 after school.

Parish information.

FUNERAL ON MONDAY 7th APRIL - A funeral is taking place on Monday 7th April at 11.30am, and therefore there will be no car parking available between 11am and 1pm. Please park off site during this time.

FUNERAL ON THURSDAY 10th APRIL - A funeral will be taking place on Thursday 10th April at 12noon, and there will be no car parking available from 11.30am – 1.30pm. Please park off site during this time.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES – Palm Sunday 13th April as usual, Holy Thursday 17th, Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm, Good Friday 18th April, Walk of Witness 10am (beginning outside Tesco), Stations 12noon, service 3pm, Holy Saturday confessions 10-11am, Vigil 8pm, Easter Sunday 11 am and 6 pm (Llanarth 9am.) Leaflets with these times on are being distributed from next Sunday.

LENT DEANERY STATION MASS – Tuesday 8th April, St. Patricks Newport, 7pm, celebrated by Archbishop Mark. Poster at back of Church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION COURSE – Thanks to the families who have enrolled their children on this year's First Holy Communion preparation course. The First Confessions take place on Friday 4th April at 4pm in Church. The next preparation session is Sunday 6th April at 9am in St. Michaels Centre, followed by 10am Mass.

HOLY BAPTISM – OLSM is a Faith school of the Roman Catholic tradition, with the parish and church at the heart of everything the school does, with Baptism being the rite of initiation for the Church. If your child has not received the grace of baptism for whatever reason, why not approach Fr. Matthew to ask if it possible. Some conditions do apply, but he is always ready to discuss it. (851051)

PASSIONTIDE CONCERT – Concert in preparation for Holy Easter, Monday 7th April 7pm in Church.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES – At 8am, 10am and 6pm in OLSM Church. Children's liturgy operates at the 10am Mass. All welcome.

St. Michaels Centre - is available for booking for family events and functions, such as children's parties etc. Info available at www.stmichaelcentre.org.uk or 01873 857570.
Or e-mail to saintmichaelscen@outlook.com

CWTCH ANGELS – COMMUNITY SHOP, at Hatherleigh, near Homemakers, off Union Rd West, with food items and household items for families in need. They have a lot of good food, baby equipment, clothes and other essentials all free. A small donation can be given but is not expected. No documents e.g. for benefits are required. Open weekdays 11.30 to 2.30 and on Sat and Sun between 10 and 12 tel 07982435560

LIVE-STREAMING - All services from Church continue to be live streamed on the parish website, in particular our Sunday masses at 8am, 10am and 6pm www.olsm-abergavenny.co.uk

ONLINE EVENING PRAYER— every day, apart from Saturday, at 5pm on both the parish Facebook page and the parish website - www.facebook.com/OurLadyandStMichaelChurch