

OLSM Newsletter

March 14 / 14 Mawrth 24.

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



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'App Guides for families'-Information from Ms Dunlop, Health and wellbeing lead.

This collection of guides provides parents and carers with key information about the most popular social media and gaming apps children and young people are using today.

The guides include a detailed overview of the app, outlining the age rating and key terminology. They also highlight the risks each app poses to young people and give detailed instructions on how to enable parental controls and safety settings. This guide, can also help parents and carers have a conversation with their child about a sensitive issue.

<https://hwb.gov.wales/keeping-safe-online/in-the-know/>

Year 6 Longtown trip

Members of our year 6 class leave for Longtown outdoor education centre on Tuesday. Parent/carers information has been sent today providing information on drop off and pick up times. Please contact the school office if you haven't had this information.

Year 4 request

Year 4 will sell hot chocolate to other pupils throughout the day on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday as part of their enterprise project. The hot chocolate will cost £1 with whipped cream and marshmallows costing an additional 50p. If your child would like to take part in this opportunity, please could they bring into school either £1.00 or £1.50 on Monday 17th March. This will then be used by the year 4 class to purchase the ingredients needed. Many thanks.

Year 5 swimming and dragon session

The year 5 class swimming lessons will continue next Tuesday 18th March 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.

Dragon session

The year 5 children will need to wear their PE kit next Thursday 20th to take part in their next Dragon session.

Year 3 PE change of day.

Starting from next week, the year 3 PE day will take place on a Tuesday.

Please could you ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit.

Thank you very much.

Parent/Carer Workshops.

Please find accompanying this newsletter links to some parent/carers workshops that may be of interest. This information has just been provided to school so unfortunately one of the events has already happened however you may be interested in some of the others. We will continue to keep you updated of further events. If you do attend one of the events schools would welcome your feedback.

Year 6 parent/carers consultations rearranged date.

Those year 6 families that were booked for the cancelled Thursday evening parent/carers consultations on February 20th, will now be able to attend the rearranged consultation evening on Tuesday 25th March. A new booking appointment link will be sent out next week. We do apologise for any inconvenience caused.

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 Cancelled for Wednesday 19th March 2025.

Class assembly dates

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

Thursday 27th March Year 5 assembly.

Thursday 3rd April Reception class assembly.

Friday 4th April Year 1 assembly.

Class Masses

Class family members are always very welcome to attend. Masses take place on a Tuesday at 10.00 am.

Tuesday March 25th at 10.00 am Year 3 and year 4 Mass.

PTA Spring term disco

Our school PTA have arranged for an Easter disco to take place on Thursday March 27th, 2025.

Lower phase will have their disco from 3.45 – 4.45 pm.

Lower phase children will be able to wear their disco clothes to school on that day.

The Upper phase disco will run from 5.00 – 6.00 pm.

Information around this event has been sent separately today via our T2P communications.

Afterschool childcare wraparound club

At present, we are having a very poor uptake of children attending the wraparound childcare sessions.

Last year, a number of families expressed an interest in utilising the sessions but the number of children attending hasn't materialised. Regrettably, if the numbers attending remain low, we may have to make the decision to stop the sessions due to them not being economically viable.

The afterschool wraparound childcare club runs from 3.30 pm to 5.15 pm. The session costs £10 pound and includes a snack (a wrap/sandwich, fruit and a drink). Throughout the week the staff will follow a timetable of daily activities ranging from arts and craft, board games, and other themes. Please contact the office for more details. Booking is via ParentPay.

Fruit tuck

As a healthy school we only allow fruit for the morning break. If you have a child in the lower phase (R, Yr1, Y2) the school provides milk and fruit. We ask for a small fee, payable via Parent Pay to cover the fruit cost. Upper phase children (Yr. 3, 4, 5, 6) may bring in 20p daily to purchase their own fruit tuck.

No non-fruit/vegetable items are allowed for mid-morning break please.

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 are able to 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.

Welsh phrase of the fortnight-10.03.2025 -21.03.25)

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

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

Lower Phase/Progression step1/2

Upper Phase/Progression step 2/3

Beth wyt ti eisiau?

(What do you want?)

Dw i eisiau pensil, os gwelwch yn dda.

I would like a pencil please.

Pensil lliwio - colouring pencil.

Rwber- rubber.

Glud - glue.

Diod - drink.

Beth wyt ti eisiau?

(What do you want?)

Dw i eisiau pensil, os gwelwch yn dda.

I would like a pencil please.

Pen ysgrifennu - writing pen.

Pren mesur - ruler.

Rwber - rubber.

Ffon glud - glue stick.

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 –

A reminder that in order to drive onto the car park between 8.35am - 9.10am and 2.45-3.45pm each school day, a car park permit is required. These are only given for the reasons of health, disability, special needs etc. Please do not use the car park during these times if you do not have a permit. If you have a permit, please display it clearly in your car. E-mail Fr. Matthew on fr.matthew@live.co.uk for info.

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.

Parish information.

CAR PARK – A reminder that in order to drive onto the car park between 8.35am - 9.10am and 2.45-3.45pm each school day, a car park permit is required.

These are only given for the reasons of health, disability, special needs etc. Please do not use the car park during these times if you do not have a permit. If you have a permit, please display it clearly in your car. E-mail Fr. Matthew on fr.matthew@live.co.uk for info.

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 hasn't 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 have a discussion about it. (851051)

ORGAN RECITAL – The next Organ recital is this Saturday at 1pm in the Church.

PASSIONTIDE CONCERT – Concert in preparation for Holy Easter, Monday 7th April 7pm in 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 next preparation session is this **Sunday 23rd March at 9am** in St. Michaels Centre, followed by 10am Mass.

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