

OLSM Newsletter

March 7 / 7 Mawrth 24.

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



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Year 5 swimming.

The year 5 class swimming lessons will continue next Tuesday 11th 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.

These sessions are part of the curriculum and are not optional.

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

Many thanks

We would like to say, 'Thank you,' to all our school families, for the support you have provided this week in ensuring the children were able to take part in the many different special days we have had. We appreciate the challenges that certain special days can cause, but as a school we will always consider how best to make these special days manageable, for all our families.

School Eisteddfod 2025

Many thanks to those families who supported their children to take part in the making element for the school Eisteddfod. All those that completed an entry will receive a participation certificate.

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.

PTA World Book Day Wonka event

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to our school PTA for organising their Wonka World Book Day event. From Willy Wonka making a surprise visit to our school, to the Oompa Loompa's depositing magical items around the school and the excitement of the Golden ticket prizes, we are so grateful for the support and organisation you have provided. Thank you one and all.

School clubs

The lunchtime book club has restarted.

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 Wednesdays 3.30-4.30 Upper phase pupils.

Class assembly dates

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

Thursday 13th March Year 3 assembly.

Thursday 3rd April Reception class assembly.

Thursday 27th March Year 5 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 11th March at 10.00 am Year 5 and year 6 Mass.

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

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.

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 \(forvo.com\)](http://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.

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.

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.

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION COURSE – Thanks to the 12 families who have enrolled their children on this year's First Holy Communion preparation course. The next preparation session is this **Sunday 9th March at 9am** in St. Michaels Centre, followed by 10am Mass.

BAPTISMS – If your child hasn't been baptised, why not consider approaching Fr. Matthew. Children of all ages, as well as infants, are welcome to receive the grace of Holy Baptism. Some conditions apply, but Fr. Matthew is more than willing to discuss the possibility. Contact him on 851051.

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