

OLSM Newsletter

June 1 / 1 Mehefin 25.

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



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Welcome back

We look forward to welcoming the children back tomorrow, Monday 2nd June 2025.

Welsh Government- Healthy eating in schools' consultation

A healthy eating in schools' consultation has been launched seeking views to inform our approach to healthy school food in Wales.

In Wales, we understand the importance good food plays in supporting learning, reducing health inequalities and helping children thrive. Evidence tells us that these outcomes are maximised when the food offered is nutritious, aligned with dietary advice, and when learners are supported to understand healthy eating and drinking and develop lifelong healthy eating habits.

That's why we're updating the school food regulations and guidance and working with young people, parents, carers, caterers, schools, governors, suppliers, local producers, health professionals, Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and Public Health Wales to ensure that every child in Wales has access to a balanced diet at school.

This work will take place in stages, starting with gathering views on updating the regulations and guidance that sets out what food can and can't be provided in primary schools.

We're looking to update:

- what food and drinks can be provided in schools
- guidance for caterers on the regulations, including medically prescribed dietary requirements (special diets)
- guidance on responsibilities for promoting healthy eating and drinking

The consultation will run from 20 May to 29 July 2025 and is available on the ['Healthy eating in schools' consultation page on GOV.WALES](#).

All those with an interest in children's health, school food and education are encouraged to participate in this important consultation.

Year 5 Playmakers event at Bailey Park

The year 5 will take part in a Mon-life cluster year 5 Playmaker event, on Monday 2nd June at Bailey Park, Abergavenny.

- Please can pupils wear their P.E kit, trainers, bring a coat/hat and a drinks bottle filled with water. The children will also need to have suncream applied beforehand.
- A lunch break has been scheduled throughout the event, so please either ensure the children have their own packed lunch or order a school packed lunch by booking a main meal via ParentPay.
- Mon-life have informed us that parents are not permitted to attend this event.

Scholastic book fair

Our PTA will run our annual Scholastic Book Fair on Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th June.

The Lower Phase parents/carers will be able to look over the books from 3.15 pm on the Wednesday and Upper phase parents/carers from 3.15 pm on Thursday 5th June.

A percentage from any total book sales will be given to the school by the Scholastic company.

Year 4 swimming

The year 4 class swimming lessons continues Tuesday 3rd June 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.

Year 2 'Animal Day' Thursday 5th June

Year 2 are learning about different habitats this term as part of our topic 'What a Wonderful World!'. Year 2 are invited to dress up as an animal, or with an animal theme, on Thursday 5th June, for a day focussed on habitat activities.

New Reception parents/carers for September 25 meeting

New Reception parent/carer meeting on Thursday 6th June from 5.00 pm, will be in the school hall.

At the meeting parents/carers will have a brief introduction to the school day, our curriculum, and the ways we assess pupil progress. They will also meet our PTA and have a brief talk from our school nurse.

Getting Ready for school

We are pleased to announce that we have organised a Getting Ready for School session at our school for families that have children starting school from September 25.

Attached to this newsletter is further information on the event. All families are welcome to attend if they have a child starting Reception in September 2025.

School clubs

All school clubs have restarted.

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

Football club - Monday 3.30-4.30 Year 4, 5 and 6

Netball club Tuesday – 3.30-4.30 Year 4, 5 and 6

Running club Wednesday - 3.30-4.30 Year 3, 4, 5 and 6. **Cancelled this week only.**

Dates for your diary

Scholastic book fayre – week beginning 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.

Year 6 leavers play, Tuesday 8th July at 6.00pm and Wednesday 9th July.

Year 6 Growing up talk

Year 6 parents and carers are invited to chat with and discuss the 'Growing Up' resources that are used to support the year 6 children by the school nurse, on Tuesday 3rd June at 3.00 pm in the year 6 class.

The digital resource that is used with the class will be shared and family members will be able to ask questions prior to the resource being used with the class.

OLSM School Family Mass

The school will join the Parish on Sunday 8th June at 10.00am to celebrate Pentecost Sunday. After Mass families are invited to take part in a Parish family event using the ground of the presbytery (Father Mathew's Garden). **Everyone is welcome, those that attend church and those that may attend for the first time. It would be lovely to see new faces. Families are welcome to bring a picnic to the festivities after the Mass.**

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@Hwb.cymru.net

Year 1 class. Mrs Flynn- flynnj41@hwb.cymru.net

Year 2 class. Mrs Dunlop- dunlopa14@Hwb.cymru.net

Year 3 class. Miss Farr- FarrR12@Hwb.cymru.net

Year 4 class Mrs Rose- RoseM10@Hwb.cymru.net

Year 5 class. Mr Fuchs- fuchss6@hwb.cymru.net

Year 6 class Miss McCarthy- McCarthyM22@Hwb.cymru.net

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

Additional Needs Co-ordinator - Miss Everett- EverettJ11@Hwb.cymru.net

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

ST ALBAN'S RC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENING – WEDNESDAY 25th JUNE 2025

Information has been sent this week to the families of Year 5 regarding an open evening at Saint Albans. High School. If you didn't receive this information, please contact the school.

Understanding what digital resources your child views.

We are increasingly learning that children in our school, play online games or are accessing social media which is classified as too old for them.

Social media such as 'WhatsApp' should only be used by children 13 years and over. If your child uses this, please ensure you monitor their use.

Digital computer games or online games such as Call of Duty, Grand Theft Auto and other similar games are rated 18 for a reason and contain a variety of very adult content which includes, extreme sexual violence, vulgar language and other content that is certainly not suitable for primary or even younger high school aged children. It is vitally important that parents and carers are fully aware of the content that their child/children are engaging with and the potential negative impact this could have on your child's wellbeing and potential behaviour.

The following resource is designed to support parent/carers in appreciating the suitability of app/resources that children may access.

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

Class assembly and mass dates

Class assemblies will take place mostly on a Thursday at 10.20 except for the 2 dates on a Friday at the same time.

12th June Year 5 class assembly.

Friday 4th July Reception class assembly.

Friday 20th June Year 1 class assembly.

10th July Year 2 class assembly.

26th June Year 3 class assembly.

Tuesday 3rd June Year 5 and Year 6 class Mass has been cancelled due to the Mass time moving to 9.00am this week.

Friday 11th July Year 6 leavers Mass – 10.00 am.

Friday 6th June Non uniform for support for the Year 6 end of school celebrations

The Year 6 parents/carers have asked for a non-uniform day on Friday 6th June to provide financial support to the year 6 end of primary school celebrations. If you can please pay a £1 donation for the privilege of your child wearing non-uniform on this day.

Welsh phrase of the fortnight-2.06.2025 -13.06.25)

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/

Beth wyt ti'n wneud yn y gwyliau?

(What do you do in the holidays?)

Dw i'n darllen.

Mynd i'r sinema.

Chwarae pel droed.

Mynd i'r parc.

Dawnsio.

Ble est ti yn y gwyliau?

(Where did you go in the holidays?)

Es i i'r parc.

i'r sinema.

i'r siopau gyda ffrindiau.

i Gaerdydd gyda teulu.

i'r eglwys Gatholig.

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.

Term dates 2025/2026

Term	Start	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Mon 1st Sept 2025	Mon 27th Oct 2025	Fri 31st Oct 2025	Fri 19th Dec 2025
Spring	Mon 5th Jan 2026	Mon 16th Feb 2026	Fri 20th Feb 2026	Fri 27th Mar 2026
Summer	Mon 13th Apr 2026	Mon 25th May 2026	Fri 29th May 2026	Mon 20th Jul 2026

INSET days for 25/26-

Monday 1st September 2025, Friday 3rd October 2025, (Possibly Friday 10th October or Friday 19th December), Monday January 5th 2026, Monday April 13th 2026, Monday 20th July 2026.

We are sorry for the uncertainty around the October/December date, but this is due to possible cluster training needs. This should be resolved shortly.

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.

Parish information.

POPE LEO XIV – We give thanks for the election of Pope Leo XIV and ask God's blessings upon him and the whole Church.

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 discuss it. (851051)

JUBILEE DAY FOR FAMILIES - Takes place on Saturday 31st May, at Belmont Abbey in Hereford from 11am, poster at back of Church. Bring a picnic for an afternoon of fun family activities – games and a pilgrim's treasure hunt.

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 Sunday 1st June at 9am in St. Michaels Centre, followed by 10am Mass. First Holy Communion Mass-Sunday 22nd June at 10am.

PENTECOST SUNDAY – SUNDAY 8th JUNE, Parish Picnic and Party after the 10am Mass in the presbytery garden. Bring packed lunch, drinks and cake provided, games for the children etc. ALL WELCOME.

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

CAR PARK – A reminder that to drive into 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.