

OLSM Newsletter

Ionawr 20 /20th January 2023



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

School industrial action

You may be aware from media reports of potential industrial action taking place in schools across the country in the near future. At present we are awaiting advice and clarification on how this may impact our school. We are hoping to have further information about this early next week.

School attendance

Last week, pupils came home with an attendance letter giving their attendance for the autumn term. Please be reassured, that as a school we are very aware of the impact of numerous illnesses that are presently circulating within the local community. However, we have a duty to ensure our pupils attend as frequently as possible when they are well and able.

Just to remind you that if your child's attendance currently places them in the red band below 85%, we would ask that you contact the school for either a telephone chat or a face to face meeting with Mr Evans, to allow us to identify a plan to improve your child's attendance. Some families have already chatted, and different forms of support have been offered to assist in improving individual children's attendance. Please be reassured, as a school we want to do all we can to work with, and support families.

If your child is ill.

Please ensure that you contact the school on the first day your child is ill. If you leave a message, please give as much information as possible. If your child's illness requires a visit to your GP, then please let the school know so that we can update our attendance records.

Afterschool clubs

Superstars club for year 1, 2 and 3 pupils has started. Half termly cost, £10 payable via ParentPay.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the following school run clubs will start the week beginning 30th January. If your child wishes to take part, please register them this week by contacting the school office.

Club	Day	Time	Eligible for	Number of places
FP/PS1/2 Art club	Mondays	3.30pm – 4.30pm	Year 1 and 2.	15.
KS2/PS2/3 art club	Mondays	3.30pm – 4.30pm	Year 3 and 4 initially.	20.
Football club	Mondays	3.30pm – 4.30pm	Year 4, 5 & 6.	20.
Netball club	Tuesday	3.30pm – 4.30pm	Year 5 & 6.	20.
French club	Tuesday	3.30pm – 4.30pm	Year 5 & 6.	15.
Gardening club	Thursdays	3.30pm – 4.30pm	Year 3 & 4.	15.

Please note-Art clubs £10 per term to cover the cost of resources. Payable via ParentPay.

Year 4 swimming

The Year 4 class are taking part in their swimming sessions on Tuesday. Please make sure the children bring their swimming costumes, a towel and goggles if needed on the day. Children should come to school in their PE kit. The leisure centre has informed us that children will be unable to swim if their ears are recently pierced and they must not wear earrings on the day.

Year 5 visit to Thales centre

The Year 5 class are visiting the Thales centre in Ebbw Vale on Tuesday 17th Jan, as part of their Digital Forensic project. A letter was sent home yesterday evening. To cover the cost of transport we ask for a voluntary contribution of £3 per child payable via ParentPay please.

Contacting 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@Hwbcmru.net

Year 1 class. Miss Forder - ForderG6@Hwbcmru.net

Year 2 class. Mrs Bowden / Mrs Griffiths BowdenK12@Hwbcmru.net GriffithsJ694@Hwbcmru.net

Year 3 class. Miss O'Reilly - OReillyS18@Hwbcmru.net

Year 4 class Mrs Redding - AlexanderE25@hwbcmru.net

Year 5 class Mrs Rose - RoseM10@Hwbcmru.net

Year 6 class Miss McCarthy - McCarthyM22@Hwbcmru.net

Mr Evans – vivianevas@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Welsh phrase of the fortnight

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

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

Foundation Phase/Progression step 1/2

Key Stage 2 /Progression step 2/3

Beth wyt ti'n wisgo?

What are you wearing?

Dw i'n gwisgo...

I'm wearing...

sgert - a skirt

crys -a shirt

crys-t- a t-shirt

siwmpwr - a jumper

esgidiau- shoes

trowsus- trousers

Beth wyt ti'n wisgo (heddiw)?

What are you wearing (today)?

Dw i'n gwisgo...

sgert coch- a red skirt

crys glas golau- a light blue shirt

crys-t gwyn- a white t-shirt

siwmpwr glas- a blue jumper

esgidiau du- black shoes

trowsus llwyd- grey trousers

Reading books

For those families that have filled in the home/school agreement, children should be bringing reading books home on a regular basis. If your child brings home a reading book, this book is to be read over the week and returned with their reading book & record book/card, weekly. If a book has not been read entirely, books still need to be returned to allow teachers to monitor home reading. Book bags can be purchased from the office if required.

PE days

Children will be required to wear their PE kit to schools on the days below-

Reception class – Wednesday.

Year 1 – Friday.

Year 2 – Wednesday.

Year 3 – Wednesday.

Year 4 – Tuesday and Wednesday.

Year 5 – Thursday.

Year 6 –Thursday.

Term dates for the 22/23 academic year.

Term	Start	Half term start	Half term end	Term End
Autumn	02/09/2022	31/10/22	04/11/2022	23/12/2022
Spring	09/01/2023	20/02/2023	24/02/2023	31/03/2023
Summer	17/04/2023	29/05/2023	02/06/2023	21/07/2023

INSET Days for 22/23-Monday 27th February 2023, Friday 30th June 2023.

Parish News

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE – Thanks to the 8 children and their parents who have been enrolled on this year's First Holy Communion course. The next session is on Sunday 29th January at 9am.

WALSINGHAM: ITS HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE AS A PLACE OF PILGRIMAGE –

Talk by Sam Baker, Director of Operations at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Wednesday February 1st: Our Lady & St Michael, Abergavenny NP7 5UD. 5.45 Tea and welcome in St. Michaels centre, 6.30pm Talk in the Church.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY through till this Wednesday, 25th January. SERVICES AT 12NOON EACH DAY, FOLLOWED BY SOUP LUNCHESES. The United Service on Saturday 21st January will be at St Mary's and will be at 11am. 23rd Abergavenny Baptist Church. 24th Methodist. 25th URC.

SUNDAY MASSES - at 8am, 10am and 6pm, Children's liturgy during the 10am mass in term time.

BAPTISMS – Fr. Matthew welcomes applications for Baptism of infants and children in OLSM Church. For further info contact Fr. Matthew – 851051.

CWTCH ANGELS – COMMUNITY SHOP, at Hatherleigh, near Homemakers, place of Union Rd West, with food items and household items for families in need. They have a lot of 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 tele 07982435560

WARM WELCOME CLUB – The Parish is running a “warm welcome club” through the winter months on Thursdays between 11am and 2pm every Thursday, in which anyone and everyone is welcome to come along, and find a warm venue, hospitality and basic refreshments. Other local churches are making similar arrangements.

PARENTING FOR FAITH COURSE – ARCHDIOCESE FAMILY LIFE COMMISSION.

Would you like help to share your faith with your baby or toddler? Join in an online CELEBRATE Parenting for Faith course for 5 weeks starting 8pm 23rd February on Thursday evenings, with bitesize sessions lasting around 45 minutes. The goal of the course is to help parents discover that they are perfectly positioned to show their children the reality of a life with God and to empower them to have their own vibrant two-way relationship with Him. Through the easily accessible and relaxed input you will receive help to introduce faith in simple steps. For more information and to register on the course see www.celebratetrust.org/parentingforfaith

CAR PARK – Please only park in marked bays. If there are no spaces available, please park off site.

The parish and school reserve the right to issue warning notices from the company “Flash park” who we have an agreement with. Parents/carers should only use the car park at the beginning and end of the school day, thus enabling parishioners and users of St. Michael Centre to park here.

Please co-operate in keeping the car park a safe place for your children.

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