

OLSM Newsletter



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7th September / Medi 7.

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

Welcome back

It's been lovely to welcome the children back to school this week and to get to know our new Reception children. There has been a lovely buzz around the school, and we couldn't have wished for a better start.

Meet the teacher

All parents and carers are welcome to attend one of the Meet the Teacher sessions next Wednesday 13th September 2023. The sessions will take place in your child's class and will run as follows-

Session 1 Wednesday 13th September 2023 3.40-4.10 pm.

Session 2 Wednesday 13th September 2023 4.20-4.50 pm.

Please make every effort to attend, to enable you to start to become familiar with your child's teacher and to be aware of the things your child will do this term.

School Car Park one way system

From **8.00 am (for breakfast club) until 3.45 pm**, a one-way system operates. The entrance is via Pen-Y-Pound and the exit is via the bottom gate that leads onto Saint Michael's Road. Please ensure you follow this system to avoid congestion.

PE days

From next week, please can children wear their PE kit to school on the following days-

Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 on a Wednesday.

Year 6 on a Thursday.

Booking school lunches

Even though all the pupils are now entitled to universal free school meals, these meals must still be booked via our Parent Pay system. This allows the school kitchen to prepare the correct number of lunches for all the children. Please contact the school office if you need help. New Reception class families will be able to book their child's lunch on ParentPay from Sunday evening.

Packed lunch guidance- No nuts and no chocolate!

If you are preparing a packed lunch for your child, please can you ensure that **no chocolate products** or **nut products** are included.

If you include grapes in a lunch, please cut them in half to prevent your child choking.

School clubs

Information on school clubs and groups will come out next week. All clubs and groups will start from Monday 18th September 2023.

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 items are allowed for mid-morning break please.

Whole school Welcome Mass next Friday 15th

The whole school will celebrate a welcome Mass next Friday 15th September at 10.00 am in OLSM church. Parent/carers are welcome to attend with other Parishioners.

Class assemblies for the autumn term

Class assemblies will take place on Thursdays from 3.00 pm. Class parents/carers are able to attend.

Year 6 – Thursday 28th September. Year 5 – Thursday 5th October. Year 4 – Thursday 12th October.

Year 3 – Thursday 19th October. Year 2 – Thursday 26th October.

Year 1 – Thursday 16th November. Reception class – Thursday 23rd November 2.45 pm.

Term dates for the 23/24 academic year.

Term	Start	Half term start	Half term end	Term End
Autumn	01/09/2023	30/10/2023	03/11/2023	22/12/2023
Spring	08/01/2024	12/02/2024	16/02/2024	22/03/2024
Summer	08/04/2024	27/05/2024	31/05/2024	19/07/2024

INSET days for next year-

The remaining INSET dates are- 27/10/23, 8/1/24, 8/4/24, 28/6/24.

Autumn term dates for your diary.

Meet the teacher – 2 sessions to allow parents with siblings to attend more than one session. At these meetings, staff will share autumn term curriculum newsletters with families.

Wednesday 13th September 3.40-4.10 session 1 (in classes)

Wednesday 13th September 4.20-4.50 pm session 2 (in classes)

Parental consultations for the autumn term -

Tuesday 17th October and Thursday 19th October 2023 from 3.45 - 6.00 pm.

Lower phase Nativity-

Tuesday December 12th at 2.00 pm and Thursday December 14th at 2.00 pm.

Upper Phase Advent Carol service-

Tuesday 19th December at 6.00 pm.

PARISH NOTICES.

WELCOME BACK to all staff, children and their families.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES – At 8am, 10am and 6pm in OLSM Church. Childrens liturgy operates at the 10am Mass.

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

ALPHA COURSE @ OLSM, ABERGAVENNY.

Our Lady and St. Michaels Parish will be running an Alpha course beginning Friday 15th September, in St. Michaels Centre on Pen - Y- Pound, from 5.30pm till 7.15pm. The course will then continue each Friday through till 1st December. Each session begins with a simple meal, then a video and discussion. Alpha is a

chance to explore the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. All welcome, whatever their faith, Church background or none. Please spread the word and invite anyone you feel may be interested or curious in learning more about the Christian Faith. Invitation cards are available in the school reception.

For more info, contact Fr. Matthew- fr.matthew@live.co.uk 01873 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 saintmichaelscen@outlook.com

CWTCH ANGELS – COMMUNITY SHOP, at Hatherleigh, near Homemakers, Union Rd West. 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 Tel 07982435560

CAR PARK – Parents are reminded that the car park is Church property and permission to park is a courtesy offered by the parish. Therefore, parents are asked to park only in marked parking bays, and only to use the disabled bays if you have an appropriate permit. Warning notices are being placed on cars not parked correctly. If there are no car parking places available, please park off site.

The parish and school, reserves the right to issue warning notices/fines from the company "Flashpark" who we have an agreement with. Please co-operate in keeping the car park a safe place for your children.