

OLSM Newsletter



22nd September / Medi 22.

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

Saint Alban's senior leader visit for Year 6 families

On Monday 25th September at 3.30 pm, Year 6 families will have the opportunity to attend a meeting with Mr Steve Lord (Head Teacher of Saint Alban's High School) and Mr Kevin Jones (Assistant Headteacher). After a short presentation to discuss the application process for the school, families will have an opportunity to ask any questions they may have. The meeting will take place in the year 6 classroom.

Year 6 swimming

The year 6 class will start their swimming lessons next Tuesday 26th September. 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.

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

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.

PE is a part of our school curriculum so please ensure your child wears their PE kit on these days.

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!

We are a no nut and a no chocolate school. Please do not include these items in your child's lunch box.

If your child has a packed lunch, please ensure that there is a balance between different items. We have attached a healthy lunch box information sheet for your attention today to help you with some ideas. If you include grapes in a lunch, please cut them in half to prevent your child choking.

School clubs

Our football club is now full - Football club Mondays from 3.30-4.40.

Netball club, Tuesdays for children in Year 5 and Year 6.

A new book club will start next week at lunch times. Upper Phase Tuesday 1.00-1.30pm. Lower Phase Friday 12.30-1.00pm. The children will be able to express their interest to their teachers next week if they wish to join.

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.

Year 6 class assembly

Year 6 will be the first class to have their assembly this term. Year 6 families are welcome to attend next Thursday at 3.00pm. Please come to the school reception Foyer where we can then welcome you to the school.

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.

Can you help?

With increasingly tight school budgets, schools are always extremely grateful for any help you can offer. Do you have carpentry, painting, building, plumbing skills that could help our school? We are currently looking for support to help complete some projects and any assistance would be gratefully received and would allow us to spread our budget further. Please contact Mr Evans if you think you could help.

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@Hwb.cymru.net

Year 1 class. Miss Dunlop- DunlopA12@Hwb.cymru.net

Year 2 class. Miss Farr- FarrR12@Hwb.cymru.net

Year 3 class. Mr Fuchs- fuchss5@hwb.cymru.net

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

Year 5 class Mrs Callicott- CallicottH6@Hwb.cymru.net

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

Mr Evans- vivianevas@monmouthshire.gov.uk

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

Autumn term dates for your diary.

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.

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. The Alpha course continues this Friday 22nd September, in St. Michaels Centre on Pen - Y- Pound, from 5.30pm till 7.15pm. Then 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. ALBANS 60th SCHOOL OPEN DAY. St. Albans school in Pontypool is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. The school is holding an open day tomorrow Saturday 23rd September, especially for old students to visits, tours and refreshments will be available. Please visit the website below to book tickets.
<http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-albans-rc-high-school>

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

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 – 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.