

OLSM Newsletter

1st November / 1 Rhagfyr 2023.



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

E-mail: ourladystmichaels@monmouthshire.gov.uk

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Tel: 01873 735080 Fax: 01873 858778

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School painting session

For those parents/carers who have offered their help we will meet in school tomorrow 2nd December at 9.30am. Paint, brushes, rollers, and other materials will be provided. However, if you do have additional equipment, you are welcome to bring it with you.

DVLA coding competition finalists.

Our finalists will travel to Swansea on Tuesday with Mr Evans to attend the final of the DVLA coding competition. We would like to wish the finalists the very best of luck and whatever the outcome, we are already very proud of you all.

Year 3 FUZZ BUZZ concert

Thursday 7th December at 3.00pm Year 3 Fuzz Buzz Concert-Only year 3 families please.

School Christmas Disco

The School Christmas Disco will take place next Friday 8th December.

Lower Phase (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) 3.45 – 5.00 pm.

Lower phase children to wear their party clothes to school on the day. Children will be collected from the main school entrance foyer.

Upper Phase 5.15 – 6.30 pm. Children to be dropped off and collected from the main school entrance foyer.

There will be a £3.50 charge which will allow children to receive a hot dog and a drink. Payment for this will be via Parent Pay.

Sweets will be sold separately - so please bring money for this.

Year 5 swimming

Swimming continues next Tuesday.

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.

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.

Head Lice in school

We regret to inform you that we have had several reported cases of head lice in both school phases this week. We urge all families to check their child's hair for possible infestation and treat as soon as possible. Your local pharmacy can provide you with effective advice, if you need guidance on the best way to treat your child's hair.

School clubs

Football club. Finished for this year but will restart after the New Year

Netball club, Tuesdays for children in Year 5 and Year 6. **Last one next week.**

Running club. **Finished for this year but will restart after the New Year**

Book club at lunch times. Upper Phase Tuesday 1.00-1.30pm. Lower Phase Friday 12.30-1.00pm.

MAKE OUR CHRISTMAS EXTRA SPECIAL

Raise money for our school just by doing your online Christmas shopping - it doesn't cost you anything!

Just sign up, download the easyfundraising app and use that to do your online shopping, and the school receives donations that cost you nothing.

This week's deals include:

5% donation on M&S

5% donation on Mountain Warehouse

4% donation on Boden plus 20% off and free shipping over £50

2% donation Dunelm

Search: easyfundraising in your app store and raise money for the school just by doing your Christmas shopping 🎄 ⭐

You can find our **easyfundraising** page at

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofolsm/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1

Any questions, just ask a member of the PTA.

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- dunlopa14@Hwb.cymru.net

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

Year 3 class. Mr Fuchs- fuchss6@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

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://www.forvo.com)

Lower Phase/Progression step 1/2

Oes gyda ti?

(Do you have a?)

Oes, mae gyda fi.

Nag oes, does dim gyda fi.ddiod/dwr

Upper Phase/Progression step 2/3

Oes gyda ti?

(Do you have a?)

Oes, mae gyda fi.

Nag oes, does dim gyda fi.

Now have a go at extending your sentence!

Oes pensil oren gyda ti?

Oes, mae pensil oren gyda fi. Dyma til

Nag oes, does dim pensil oren gyda fi. Sorri!

Book fair update.

This week we have found out that from your fantastic support, the book fair did amazingly well, and the school has £985 worth of books to choose from. Some of the reference books cost about £10 so that is about 90 new books for the school and the library.

Many thanks for all your support and valuable input with the Reading Challenge and the Book Fair.

A special thank you to Chiaretta and Crystal for all their help with arranging the fair and their help on the day of the fairs.

School attendance

If you are having difficulties with your child's attendance, please ask the school for support so we can work together to prevent your child's attendance becoming a concern.

Autumn term dates for your diary.

Thursday 7th December at 3.00pm Year 3 Fuzz Buzz Concert-Only year 3 families please.

School Christmas Disco-

Friday 8th December. Lower Phase 3.45 – 5.00 pm. Upper Phase 5.15 – 6.30 pm.

Christmas Fair-

Friday 15th December 3.00-4.30 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.

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day-

Wednesday 20th December.

Spring term dates for your diary.

Tuesday 16th January -Parents/carers engagement sessions in school.

Lower phase, focusing on supporting your child with phonics, reading and spelling at home 15.45 (20 mins) and 16.15 (20mins).

Upper phase, focusing on supporting your child with reading and maths at home 15.45 (20 mins) and 16.15 (20mins).

Class open afternoons- week beginning Monday 19th February 2024.

Year 5 & 6, from 2.00-3.30 Monday 19th February 2024.

Year 3 & 4, from 2.00-3.30 Tuesday 20th February 2024.

Reception class from 2.00-3.30 Wednesday 21st February 2024.

Year 1 & 2, from 2.00-3.30 Friday 23rd February 2024.

Whole school Saint David's Day Mass- Friday 1st March 2024 at 10.00 am at OLSM church.

Parent/carers consultations- Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th March 3.45- 6.00 pm.

OLSM World Book Day- Friday 8th March 2024.

Tuesday 12th March- Friday 15th March. Year 6 Outdoor learning experience at Longtown outdoor centre.

Summer term dates for your diary.

Monday 13th May- Friday 17th May- Welsh Government personalised diagnostic assessments. No requests for absence will be authorised this week.

Tuesday 21st May- Sports Day Option 1.

Thursday 23rd May- Sports Day Option 2.

Friday 14th June- Summer Fair and OLSM has talent.

Monday 17th June- Thursday 20th June Reporting to parents' week.

Friday 21st June- School Reports come home.

July 9th and 10th- Upper Phase Summer Show.

Friday 12th July - Presentation afternoon.

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 left for 23/24

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

School tours

It was lovely to see such a good turnout for our school tours today. If you or a friend was unable to attend, please just contact the school office to arrange an appointment with Mr Evans who can provide a tour on a suitable date and time.

School applications for September 2024 are now open. We welcome applications from Catholic, Christian, other faith or no-faith families who are open to the Catholic nature and ethos of the school. Application forms are available from the school office and the school website.

PARISH NOTICES.

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE – The next First Holy Communion course will begin soon, open to children in Year 3 and above. Letters have been distributed in school. Children who have not been baptised can be admitted to the course, (in that case, baptism will form part of the preparation course; conditions apply). Applications are welcome from children in Year 3, and also from Years 4, 5 and 6.

ALTAR SERVERS CLUB – Very soon an Altar Servers Club will begin running in school, for children to serve at school masses and the Sunday masses. More info will be distributed soon, or just contact Fr. Matthew if interested.

CONFIRMATION COURSE – A preparation course for the Sacrament of Confirmation begins in the New Year, open to young people in Years 8, 9 and above at school. Confirmation Mass on Sunday 14th July. Application forms available at back of Church, on the parish website and from Mr. Isaac Harrison, the Chaplain at St. Albans 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

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES – The PAC agreed at its recent meeting that the masses on Christmas Day, will be **Vigil Masses on Sunday 24th at 6pm and 10pm, and 11am on Monday 25th, with a 9am Mass in Llanarth.**

Attending one of the Vigil Masses does not also fulfil the Sunday obligation! Sorry!

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

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.