

OLSM Newsletter

January 12th / 12 Ionawr 23.



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

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Welcome back.

Happy New Year/Blwyddyn Newydd Dda! It was lovely to see the children return on Tuesday. We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas, and the start of the New Year has been what you had hoped for.

Parental engagement sessions.

Monday 15th January - Lower Phase 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).

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

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

Please note -no booking system is in operation for these sessions.

Year 4 swimming starts next Tuesday 16th.

The year 4 class swimming lessons start next week. 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.

Class Masses for this term.

Year 3 Mass Tuesday 16th January 2024 at 12.00 midday at OLSM church.

Year 4 Mass Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 10.00 am at OLSM church.

Year 5 Mass Tuesday 30th January 2024 at 10.00 am at OLSM church.

Year 6 Mass Tuesday 6th February 2025 at 10.00 am at OLSM church.

Please remember- class family members are very welcome to attend their child's class Mass.

Football engagement session 19th January 24.

Next Friday 19th January the children in Year 2 to Year 6 will need to wear their PE kit to school to take part in a football engagement session which has been organised by one of the teaching supply agencies we use. The sessions are free.

Please remember!

Even though Christmas is over you can still use our easy funding app for any online purchases and still support the school.

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

Search: easyfundraising in your app store and raise money for the school just by doing your online 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

Reception 24 class applications.

School applications for September 2024 have now closed. New applications will be placed on our reserve list. Applications are open to Catholic, Christian, other faith or no-faith families who are open to the Catholic nature and ethos of the school.

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)

Lower Phase/Progression step1/2

Beth wyt ti angen?
(What do you need?)

Dw i angen siswrn, os gwelwch yn dda.
pensil
rwber
glud
diod

Upper Phase/Progression step 2/3

Beth wyt ti angen?
(What do you need?)

Dw i angen siswrn, os gwelwch yn dda.
pen glas
rwber
ffon glud
diod o ddŵr
mynd i'r ty bach

School clubs.

Our football, netball and running clubs **will start back week beginning Monday 22nd January.**

Lunchtime book club **will start next week.**

Upper Phase Tuesday 1.00-1.30pm. Lower Phase Friday 12.30-1.00pm.

This week's class attendance.

Period: 09/01/2024 to 12/01/2024

Scope: Reg Group Rec+Year 1+Year 2+Y3+Year 4+Year 5+Year 6

Percentage of Sessions

Group	Presents	AEA	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Possible	% Attend
Rec	97.1	0.0	2.9	0.0	100.0	97.1
Year 1	85.6	0.0	12.5	1.9	100.0	85.6
Year 2	90.5	0.0	9.5	0.0	100.0	90.5
Year 3	88.8	0.0	11.2	0.0	100.0	88.8
Year 4	91.0	0.0	9.0	0.0	100.0	91.0
Year 5	95.8	0.0	4.2	0.0	100.0	95.8
Year 6	92.2	0.0	7.8	0.0	100.0	92.2
Totals	91.6	0.0	8.1	0.2	100.0	91.6

Our school attendance target is 95%. Individual pupil attendance information will be sent out next week. If your child's attendance is below 85% you will be invited to attend a meeting with school staff to assess how we can work together to increase your child's attendance.

Accompanying the newsletter this week is some additional information on school attendance.

Are you having financial difficulties?

Many of us are having to find additional money to pay for our basic needs at this time. If you are having difficulties financially, you may want to contact Mr Evans who could help you to identify what support may be available.

It is always better to ask for help than to feel alone and helpless.

Please remember potential help is always only an email or a phone call away.

Mr Evans can be contacted by phone weekdays from 9.00-3.30 on 01873735080 or via email-

vivianevas@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Class assemblies for the autumn term.

Class assemblies will take place on Thursdays from 10.30 pm in the school hall. Please note the change in time. Class parents/carers are very welcome to attend.

Dates as follows-

January 18th Year 6.

February 22nd Year 2.

January 25th Year 5.

March 7th Year 1.

February 1st Year 4.

March 14th Reception.

February 8th Year 3.

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@Hwbcyrmu.net

Year 1 class. Miss Dunlop- dunlopa14@Hwbcyrmu.net

Year 2 class. Miss Farr- FarrR12@Hwbcyrmu.net

Year 3 class. Mr Fuchs- fuchss6@hwbcyrmu.net

Year 4 class Mrs Rose- RoseM10@Hwbcyrmu.net

Year 5 class Mrs Callicott- CallicottH6@Hwbcyrmu.net

Year 6 class Miss McCarthy- McCarthyM22@Hwbcyrmu.net

Mr Evans- vivianevas@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Additional Needs Co-ordinator - Miss Everett- EverettJ11@Hwbcyrmu.net

Spring term dates for your diary.

Monday 15th January - Lower Phase 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).

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

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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.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES – At 8am, 10am and 6pm in OLSM Church. Childrens liturgy operates at the 10 am 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 01873 851051.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE – There is still time to enrol your child on the next First Holy Communion course, which begins this Sunday at 9.00 am at the Saint Michael's Centre. A parent or carer needs to attend the session with their child. This opportunity is open to children in Year 3 and above. Letters have been distributed to year 3 families and copies are also available in the school office. Forms are also available on the parish website. Children who have not been baptised can be admitted to the course. If this is the case, baptism, will form part of the preparation course. Conditions do apply. Applications are welcome from children in Year 3, and also from Years 4, 5 and 6.

CONFIRMATION COURSE – A preparation course for the Sacrament of Confirmation begins in the New Year. This course is open to young people in Years 8, 9 and above at school. The Confirmation Mass will occur on Sunday 14th July. Application forms are available at the back of Church, on the parish website and from Mr. Isaac Harrison the Chaplain at St. Albans 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 the Homemakers establishment, Union Rd West. Food items and household items for families in need. 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.