

OLSM Newsletter

February 2nd / 2 Chwefror 23.



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

E-mail: ourladystmichaels@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Website: www.olsm.co.uk

Tel: 01873 735080 Fax: 01873 858778

Twitter: @olsmtweeters

Reception class hearing screening

Next Thursday 8th February, the Reception class will take part in the NHS hearing screening process. Information came home recently around this topic. Families do not need to do anything and will only receive any follow up information if a child requires further appointments.

Year 5 trip to see the Addams family at Saint Alban's

The bus will leave at 9.00 am on Monday 5th to take the children to see the show. The cost of transport is £5 (payable via ParentPay) and Saint Alban's have informed us that children should bring £1 for a tuck shop opportunity. **Please ensure your child is in school by 8.45 am on this day.**

Year 6 Longtown Parent/carers meeting

A meeting for Year 6 parents and carers will take place in the Year 6 class at 3.30 on Wednesday 7th February. Children will be able to stay with their parent/carers to find out all about Longtown outdoor centre. All year 6 families are very welcome to attend.

Panni and Match Attax cards

Please ensure no Panni or Match Attax football cards or other similar collection cards are brought into school. This helps avoid concerns and upset, if cards become accidentally lost or damaged.

Healthy eating and drinking in school.

Accompanying this newsletter, is guidance information from the Welsh government on how parents/carers can support schools in ensuring we promote our pupils to think about eating and drinking in a healthy way.

Please remember that the school operates a fruit tuck scheme for both phases. Lower phase families are asked to pay a £1 a week via ParentPay while upper phase families can give their child 20p a day for fruit tuck. Families are also very welcome to provide their children with their own fruit for morning play. No other non-fruit items should be consumed.

Following on from this guidance, we kindly request that school families do not ask the school to hand out party bags of sweets or distribute cake when pupils celebrate birthdays.

Please be confident, that as a school, we will ensure that when a pupil has a birthday, we will celebrate their special day in a memorable way.

Book club information.

The book clubs run once a week for each phase. At the club, children are encouraged to read and talk about books and then they are able to select books to take home with them for the week.

Lower phase book club- Friday 12.30-1.00pm.

Upper phase book club- Tuesday 1.00-1.30pm

All books that have come home, need to be returned before the half term break. Thank you.

Year 4 swimming on Tuesday.

The year 4 class swimming lessons continue 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.

Please remember!

Our easy funding app can be used for any online purchases anytime of the year. Using this App allows you to be whatever you want online 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

Any questions, just ask a member of the PTA.

Welsh phrase of the fortnight.

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

Welsh pronunciation dictionary (forvo.com)

Lower Phase/Progression step1/2

Upper Phase/Progression step 2/3

Pa liw?

(What colour?)

melyn- yellow.

gwyrdd- green.

oren- orange.

coch- red.

glas-blue.

porrfor- purple.

Pa liw ydy hwn?

(What colour is this?)

Melyn- yellow.

Mae'n wyrdd- It is green.

Mae'r bwrdd yn goch- The table is red.

Mae'r siwmpwr yn las- The jumper is blue.

Every week on a Friday, our Criw Cymraeg team will revise our Phrase of the Fortnight with the children in our Good News assembly. Please have a go at practising the phrases with your child/children.

Class Masses for this term.

Year 4 Mass Thursday 8th February 2024 at 12.00 midday at OLSM church.

Please note the change of time.

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

School clubs.

Football club-Monday 3.30-4.30 pm.

Netball club-Tuesday 3.30-4.30 pm.

Running club- Friday 3.30-4.30 pm.

Lunchtime book club. Upper Phase Tuesday 1.00-1.30pm. Lower Phase Friday 12.30-1.00pm.

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

Alternatively, Monmouthshire County Council has useful information and links on the cost of living. The appropriate webpage may be accessed via-

<https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/money-matters/>

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.

Ordering your child's lunch.

Even though all pupils are now entitled to universal Free School Meals, we still need families to order their child's meal via Parent Pay so that enough food is prepared. Please ensure you select what meal your child requires to prevent children having to wait for more food to be cooked.

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-

February 8th Year 3.

March 7th Year 1.

February 22nd Year 2.

March 14th Reception.

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@Hwbrcymru.net

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

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

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

Year 4 class Mrs Rose- RoseM10@Hwbrcymru.net

Year 5 class Mrs Callicott- CallicottH6@Hwbrcymru.net

Year 6 class Miss McCarthy- McCarthyM22@Hwbrcymru.net

Mr Evans- vivianevas@monmouthshire.gov.uk

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

Spring term dates for your diary.

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/carer 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- 8/4/24, 28/6/24.

OLSM becomes a WOW school!

Our school has chosen to be part of an exciting behaviour-change initiative to encourage more children and their families to walk to school. **WOW – the walk to school challenge** is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible experience the benefits of walking to school. Thanks to funding from Welsh Government, our school is one of 170 across Wales to take part in this project.

The pupil-led challenge enables children to self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride) at least once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that simple!

PARISH NOTICES.

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.

ALTAR SERVERS CLUB – Shortly 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.

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

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

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.