

OLSM Newsletter

June 14th /14 Mehefin 24.

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



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First Holy Communion

Tomorrow, Saturday 15th June, 8 of our pupils will make their First Holy Communion in Church. The mass takes place at 10am and all are welcome. Please keep our candidates in your prayers as they prepare to take this important step on their journey in faith.

Breakfast club

The cost of attending the childcare session of school breakfast club (8.00am-8.24 am) is now £2 per child. The free breakfast only session will run from 8.25 - 8.40 am. **Gates close at 8.35.**

Saint Alban's Open Evening

Open Evening on Thursday 4th July at 4.00 for OLSM children. An ideal event for our year 5 families to take a look around the school in readiness for next year.

OLSM becomes a WOW school!

WOW – the walk to school challenge if children are able to actively travel to school for at least 3 day a week for a whole month, they will receive a WOW badge.

Please support your child to become more active in they way they come to school. Remember, even if you drive, park a little further away and if your child walks for 8/10 minutes to school they can class their journey as active travel.

Class Mass dates for the summer term

All class Masses will take place on Tuesday at the 10.00 am, OLSM church Mass.

Year 6/2 Mass Tuesday 18th June 2024 at 10.00 am at OLSM church.

Year 3/4 Mass new date to be identified.

Are you having financial difficulties?

Many of us are having to find additional money to pay for our basic needs currently. 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/>

We are hoping that staff from MCC will attend our school fair on 5th July to be available for a chat to any families that may find it useful.

Additionally, please remember our New2You area in the school reception where many items are available free of charge.

The school is also a referral agent for the Abergavenny Foodbank, so if you find yourself in an unexpected financial emergency, we are able to ensure families can gain a 3-day emergency food parcel from the foodbank.

Other support- **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 10.00am and 12 midday. Tel 07982435560

School attendance

If your child's attendance is below 90%, their attendance is being monitored.

If a child's attendance shows a gradual decrease below 90%, the school may make a referral to the education welfare service to provide support to a family.

Please contact the school if your child's attendance is a concern to you, as we can work together to provide effective support to improve individual children's attendance.

We appreciate that for many families, a child's absence only occurs when they are ill. However, at OLSM school we regard good attendance as essential to allow all children to progress effectively.

Attendance matters!

Class assembly dates for the summer term

We sincerely apologise but some dates needed to be adjusted - Please note amended dates and time.

All assemblies will take place on Thursday at 10.20 am.

Year 3 – June 20th. Year 1 – June 27th.

Reception class – July 4th **Year 2 – 11th July (A special lower phase graduation assembly)**

Year 6 No assembly this term but a special Leavers Mass on July 16th

Summer term dates for your diary.

Thursday 27th June-School Reports come home.

Sunday 30th June - Whole school Mass for Saint Peter and St Paul followed by a school/Parish picnic.

Monday 24th June - Mini Vinnie's group coffee morning for the school/parish grandfamilies.

Friday 5th July - Summer Fair and OLSM has talent.

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

Friday 12th July - Presentation afternoon.

Tuesday 16th July - Year 6 leavers Mass on at 2.00 pm.

Thursday 18th July - End of term Mass on at 10.00 am.

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- 28/6/24.

Term dates 2024/2025

Term	Start	Half term start	Half term end	Term End
Autumn	02/09/2024	28/10/2024	01/11/2024	20/12/2024
Spring	06/01/2025	24/02/2025	28/02/2025	11/04/2025
Summer	28/04/2025	26/05/2025	30/05/2025	21/07/2025

24/25 INSET days.

2nd & 3rd September 2024, 4th October 2024, 6th January 2025, 27th June 2025, 21st July 2025.

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.

As a school we try to operate an open-door policy to see families as soon as possible, however, please be aware that at the start and end of the school day, staff use the time to either prepare for, or evaluate, learning so staff may not be able to see people immediately.

Reception class. Mrs Elias- EliasS5@Hwbcymru.net

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

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

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

Year 4 class Mrs Rose- RoseM10@Hwbcymru.net

Year 5 class Mrs Callicott- CallicottH6@Hwbcymru.net

Year 6 class Miss McCarthy- McCarthyM22@Hwbcymru.net

Mr Evans- vivianevas@monmouthshire.gov.uk

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

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 01873 851051.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE - Monday 23rd - Saturday 28th September 2024. Flying from Stanstead, direct to Tarbes/Lourdes Airport. Organised by Tangney Tours, 5 nights Full Board in Hotel Alba, £708 Sharing, £858 single. Coach travel from Abergavenny, leaving approx. 5.30am on 23rd, returning approx 4pm on 28th. Cost of coach extra, depends on number of pilgrims, between £60-£100 per person. Booking forms at back of Church and on parish website

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

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

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