

OLSM Newsletter

June 21st /21 Mehefin 24.

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



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Estyn inspection

As you will be aware, our school will take part in an ESTYN inspection from Monday 1st July to Thursday 4th July 2024.

On the Monday 1st July, all parents and carers are invited to attend a parent/carers meeting with the ESTYN team from 3.45pm-4.45pm in the school hall. To support our families being able to attend this important meeting the school will provide 2 creche facilities for lower phase and upper phase pupils. This is of course free of charge and no booking will be required. ESTYN has requested that no children attend the meeting, so please avail yourself of the creche.

ESTYN parent / carer survey

The parent / carer ESTYN questionnaire closes at 11.00 pm tonight.

A letter outlining how to access the questionnaire accompanies this newsletter.

Mini Vinnies coffee morning

Tomorrow, Monday the 24th June between 10.00 am and 11.00 am, school and parish grand-families are invited to attend a coffee morning, in the school hall, organized by the school Mini-Vinnies group. Parents / carers of the Mini-Vinnies are also welcome to attend.

Event amendments due to the ESTYN visit

Sunday 30th June - Whole school Mass for Saint Peter and St Paul is cancelled.

Upper Phase play

Due to the ESTYN visit we have decided to push back the Upper Phase show to the last week of term. Therefore, we will now have a performance On Tuesday 16th July at 6.00pm and a performance that toddlers/younger preschool children and family members can attend on Thursday 18th July at 2.15pm

Reception class assembly

The reception class assembly will now take place on Thursday 12 July at 10.20.

Year 6 Leavers Mass

The Leavers Mass will now take place on Thursday 18th July at 10.00am.

Class teachers for September 2024.

On the morning of Wednesday 3rd July, we have our move up day where the children will meet their teacher for September. From September 2024 class teachers will be as follow-

Reception - Mrs Elias.

Year 1 – A newly appointed teacher. Miss Everett will cover the class on move up day.

Year 2 – Miss Dunlop.

Year 3 – Miss Farr.

Year 4 – Mrs Rose.

Year 5 – Mr Fuchs.

Year 6 – Miss McCarthy.

Miss Everett will continue in her role of the school ALNCO.

Sadly, Mrs Calicott will be leaving us at the end of this term. We would like to thank her for the wonderful support, commitment and care she has provided to the pupils in her class and to the pupils she has supported throughout the school. As a school, we wish her the very best for the future in all her new endeavors.

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 step 1/2

Cot pwy ydy hwn?

Who's coat is this?

Cot John ydy hwn.

This is John's coat.

Siwmpwr pwy ydy hwn?

Botel pwy ydy hwn?

Pensil pwy ydy hwn .

Llyfr darllen pwy ydy hwn?

Upper Phase/Progression step 2/3

Cot pwy ydy hwn?

Who's coat is this?

Cot John ydy hwn.

This is John's coat.

Siwmpwr glas pwy ydy hwn?

Botel dwr pwy ydy hwn?

Ysgrifbin pwy ydy hwn.

Llyfr darllen pwy ydy hwn?

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.

Year 6 leavers attending KHS.

Next Tuesday and Wednesday, those year 6 pupils who will be moving to KHS will take part in transition days. Information from KHS should have been sent home. The induction evening for KHS will take place on Wednesday 26th.

Monmouthshire Fairtrade conference.

3 members of our eco committee will attend the Monmouthshire Fairtrade conference on Tuesday. They will listen to various speakers, take part in some workshops, look around some stalls and hopefully bring back some ideas to help our school support this ethical initiative in the future.

Year 6 swimming gala

Many congratulations to those year 6 who represented the school at the cluster swimming gala yesterday. They all had a great time, had some excellent swims and apparently led the singing on the poolside!

OLSM becomes a WOW school!

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

Please support your child to become more active in the 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 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 1 – June 27th.

Year 2 – 11th July (A special lower phase graduation assembly)

Reception class – July 12th - **Please note change of date.**

Year 6 No assembly this term but a special Leavers Mass on July 18th at 10.00am.

Reports coming home and national personalised assessment information.

On Thursday, pupils will come home with their annual reports. Children from year 2 to year 6 will also have information related to their national personalised diagnostic assessments.

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

Friday 28th June INSET Day

The school will be closed to children on Friday 28th June. We will welcome the children back on Monday 1st July.

OLSM and the Wales in Bloom schools award

We are very pleased to announce that for the third year in a row, we have been selected as finalists for the Wales in Bloom schools award. The judge will visit our school on Monday 1st July.

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 you 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!

Summer term dates for your diary.

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

Thursday 27th June -School Reports come home.

Sunday 30th June - Whole school Mass for Saint Peter and St Paul and picnic - **cancelled**.

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

Friday 12th July - Presentation afternoon at 2.15 pm

Tuesday 16th July at 6.00pm Upper Phase Summer Show

Thursday 18th at 10.00 Leavers Mass for year 6.

Thursday 18th July at 2.15pm- Upper Phase Summer Show for preschool siblings and family.

Friday 19th July at 10.00am -Whole school End of year Mass.

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- vivianevans@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.

PARISH/SCHOOL PICNIC – Following the 10am Mass on Sunday 7th July in St. Michaels centre and the presbytery garden. Bring own packed lunch, drinks and cake supplied. Games for kids etc, cartoons on big screen etc.

ORGAN RECITAL – To celebrate the restoration of our fine Church organ, a series of organ recitals will be held. Beginning this Saturday 29th June, 12noon, Organist - Judith Pendhrous; followed by cream tea in the centre. Further recitals to follow on 21st September 19th October and 16th November.

CHURCHES TOGETHER – ELECTION HUSTINGS – This Wednesday 26th, at 7pm in St. Marys Priory. Questions for the candidates to be given in advance. This can be done by forwarding them to Fr. Matthew via email.

ABERGAVENNY “TOWN OF SANCTURARY” AGM, Wednesday 3rd July, Wellfield Hall, Wellfield Close, Old Hereford Rd – Parking in Education centre. Poster at back of Church.

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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-bergavenny.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