

OLSM Newsletter

July 23rd / 23 Gorffennaf 24.

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



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Goodbye and good luck to our colleagues.

Mrs Callicott and Mrs Phillips will be moving on this year to new opportunities. We would like to thank them both for their dedicated service to our school and wish them the very best of luck for the future.

Welcome

We are pleased to announce that from September, Mrs Jacqueline Flynn will join our Lower Phase Team teaching Year 1. Mrs Flynn may already be known to some families as she previously taught a year 2 class covering a period of maternity. Mrs Flynn has already been in to meet and work with her new class and has completed transition work with Mrs Elias.

Good luck year 6.

On Friday 21st the whole school came together to clap out our Year 6 pupils on their last day of primary education. We wish them well in their new schools. God bless you all.

ESTYN Report

After our recent ESTYN school inspection, we are pleased to inform you that the report will be published on the ESTYN website on September 3rd, 2024.

Summer Reading Challenge

Over the summer we would like to challenge our pupils to a summer reading competition. We ask children to read at least 3 books over the summer and write a book review for each book they read. The book reviews must then be brought into school in September. For each child that completes the task their name will go into a raffle to win one of 5 £5 National reading book tokens. The reviews may be produced in any format, either written or digital. Good luck to those who take part.

MCC School Transport Policy consultation

Last week we were made aware that MCC are reviewing their school transport policy. The review and consultation period runs over the summer holiday, so there is a reduced opportunity to respond. If your family already uses school transport or you think your child may require use of school transport in the future, the new policy could have huge implications to you and your child/children. We have attached a copy of the email that was sent which has the links to allow you to respond if you wish.

Autumn term dates for your diary.

Meet the teacher – 2 sessions to allow parents with siblings to attend more than one session. At these meetings, staff will share autumn term curriculum newsletters with families.

Wednesday 11th September 3.40-4.10 session 1 (in classes)

Wednesday 11th September 4.20-4.50 pm session 2 (in classes)

Parental consultations for the autumn term -

Tuesday 15th October and Thursday 17th October 2023 from 3.45 - 6.00 pm.

Lower phase Nativity-

Tuesday December 12th at 2.00 pm and Thursday December 14th at 2.00 pm.

OLSM Parish Michael's Mates

Member of the Parish have once again set up a Parent and Toddler group over the summer holidays. **The sessions run every Wednesday** throughout the summer holidays from 10.30am-12noon and is based in the St. Michaels Centre. **The sessions are free.**

We have attached a flyer, to this newsletter with more information. Everyone is very welcome, and you do not have to be a member of the Parish to attend.

Abergavenny Carnival information

We would like to invite families to enter the Abergavenny Carnival this year as a group of walking entries. For those that are interested, the theme will be OLSM Pollinators, and the idea is for the children to make and wear bee/butterfly wings and wear something bright to represent the importance of pollinators to our everyday life. A staff led workshop will take place after school on Wednesday 4th September 3.30 pm – 4.45 pm to help families construct their wings for family members to wear. This activity will also support our Wales in Bloom Schools Award bid for 24/25. All resources will be provided by the school, but small donations will be gratefully received, if you are able.

WOW Summer Challenge

Attached with this newsletter is information on the WOW Summer Challenge.

Over the summer holidays see how many of these walking activities you can tick off. Achieve 6 or more to receive a certificate from your teacher after the summer break. When we refer to walking, we also include wheeling. Good luck!

Summer Savings

As part of the ongoing Cost of Living campaign > [Cost of Living Support - Monmouthshire](#) the Community Development Team are promoting a "Summer Savings" page!

The idea behind **Summer Savings** is to signpost any FREE or discounted activities or offers that will help support families to have a great summer at a lower cost!

Check out the website link to see more >

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

September 24 restart

School restarts for children on Wednesday 4th September 2024.

Our new Reception class have a staggered start-

Wednesday 4th- Group A, 9.15-11.45 am, Group B 1.00pm – 3,15 pm.

Thursday 5th - Group B, 9.15-11.45 am, Group A 1.00pm – 3,15 pm.

Friday 6th – Reception in for a full day from 9.00 am – 3.30 pm.

We hope you all have a good summer and if you are able, a restful break. God bless you all.

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.

Parish information.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS – To all children and staff and families from Fr. Matthew and parishioners of OLSM Church.

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

MICHAEL'S MATES – Mums and Toddlers Group - every Wednesday of the school holiday, 10.30am-12noon in St. Michaels Centre, Free, all welcome.

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.

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 to saintmichaelscen@outlook.com

CWTCH ANGELS – COMMUNITY SHOP, at Hatherleigh, near Homemakers, place of Union Rd West, with food items and household items for families in need. They have a lot of good food, baby equipment, clothes and other essentials all free. 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 PERMITS. - Thankyou to all parents for cooperating with the car park permit scheme introduced earlier in the year.

Could those parents who will no longer need to use the car park from September - whose children will be leaving the school or whose circumstances have changed, please return the permits to Fr. Matthew or to the school office, or e-mail him at fr.matthew@live.co.uk

The scheme will continue to operate from September.