



17th July 2026



Over the last fortnight we have had many amazing opportunities. Our staff have been visiting our New nursery children in their homes prior to them starting with us. We are all very excited and can't wait to welcome them into the OLSB family in September. Here in school our children have had the opportunity to move up to their new class and meet the staff who will be working with them in September.

Year 4 visited Dudley Zoo and got to see 'Sprout' their adopted Orangutan. Thursday 2nd July saw our fabulous Golden Fest we were amazed by the talents our children shared. Golden Bingo followed which was lots of fun. We then enjoyed 'spuds' for lunch. Our 'Gonna be Gonna be Golden' visitors arrived and the children enjoyed dancing and singing along. The ice cream van was a great treat on the hot day to reward our children for their wonderful behaviour throughout the year. A truly Golden day.

Huge congratulations to our 27 pupils who received 100% attendance and visited Alton Towers this week as a celebration of their achievement.

Bee Active visited school and our Year 1 children who were the winners of the Best Class Attendance award enjoyed a fun filled day.

We have enjoyed sharing our class assemblies with you all and reflecting on the year we have all shared here at OLSB full of learning opportunities.

Today we say goodbye to our Year 6 children- an emotional day, we will miss them greatly but know that they have grown great roots here at OLSB which will enable them to continue to grow in their new schools.

Thanking you all for all of your support throughout this academic year and wishing you a wonderful Summer break. We looking forward to seeing you on your return to school on Monday 7th September.

Mrs Clowes

End of the Year Reflection 2025-2026

Thank you for coming along and supporting your children in our End of term assemblies. It has been wonderful to receive such positive feedback. We are glad that you agree that these are a wonderful opportunity for us to share the very special year that your children have had here at OLSB.

The last academic year has been filled with many amazing moments. At the start of the year we joined St Gabriel the Archangel CMAT. This has given both staff and children many opportunities to work together as messengers of hope.

Our curriculum here at OLSB is incredibly special developed by staff across the school. We know that all children learn in many different ways. We aim to utilise our outdoor space and the wider world wherever we can so that children learn from rich first hand experiences. The school mini bus has been in full action this year. This supports some parents in getting their children to school but also allows us to provide many unique opportunities. This has included trips both within the local area and further afield from History Tours of Stoke, Emma Bridgewater, Kinderscout in the Peak District, The Canal, The River Trent, Apedale Mine, The Fire Station, Hanley Library, Peak Wildlife and Jodrell Bank to name but a few.

More opportunities than ever have been provided for our children to build cultural capital and to see and experience life beyond the local area. These include Hoo Zoo Dinosaurs, The Black Country Museum, The Imperial War Museum Manchester, Llandudno, Dudley Zoo and our amazing Residential trip to Ilam Hall in the Peak District to name a few. This is only possible due to the dedication and support of our wonderful staff team. This along with your children is what makes OLSB the very special place that it is. From the peak district to mine tours, The Polar Express train, tarantulas, chickens and butterflies, Ukuleles, guitars, recorders, choir, cross country, athletics, football and basketball the children have so many opportunities to shine and live out their God given talents. We truly are a school full of stars – this includes our children who make us smile every day and all of our very special staff team who without question go the extra mile each and every day.

Our work for charities is admirable and I wish to thank you for supporting the most vulnerable in the local community and further afield. This year we have raised well over £700 for our chosen charities. The Douglas Macmillan, Father Hudson, The foodbank, The Macari centre for the homeless and the poppy appeal. A key moment to remember was our amazing cereal domino rally where 267 boxes of cereal toppled and were donated to our local foodbank. Your kindness and love to both ourselves in school and those further afield is often overwhelming.

This summer school is going to be filled with heating engineers and we are going to see extensive works across the school with the replacement heating projects. We hope that this will be the end to our heating problems that we have experienced over the past two years. Our thanks must go to Craig Scarlett (Caretaker) who works tirelessly with contractors to ensure the children have the best place to learn.

I want to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to our children, families, and staff for all the hard work and support you have given over the last academic year and in helping us to continue on our OUTSTANDING journey.

We look to next academic year excited for the new adventures that are to come and as a chance to build upon all of our successes. Thanking you for your continued support and wishing you all a wonderful summer break. I do hope that the sun continues to shine !

Mrs Clowes



STAFFING SEPTEMBER 2026- Please find below the staff who will be working in each class in September 2025. The children will move up to be with them for the day on 3rd July.

	Teacher	Support Staff
Nursery	Mrs Rebecca McCue	Miss Megan Brammer Mrs Jennifer Cotton Mrs Sharon Franklin
Reception	Miss Gabriella Medgyesy	Miss Molly Bird
Year 1	Miss Sarah Ryder	Mrs Kerry Bradshaw Miss Natalie Savage
Year 2	Mrs Steph Hepworth	Mrs Emma Oldham
Year 3	Miss Georgina Neill / Mrs Janine Exon	Mr Joshua Forrester
Year 4	Mrs Roisin Wilshaw	Mrs Kath Foxall
Year 5	Mr Robert Simms	Miss Emily Machin
Year 6	Mr Adam Lowell	Mrs Lisa Buxton

Mrs Ange Sykes will continue to cover lessons across the school.

Miss Bethany Pedlar is a student teacher who will be joining us from the Newman Teaching School. She will be completing her placement here at OLSB in Year 2 alongside Mrs Hepworth.

Mouse Club



Is your child starting school in September?

Come and join **Mouse Club** where your child can enjoy fun activities with their own cuddly mouse, helping to prepare them for school.

We will be playing, reading stories and preparing our mouse for school.

The sessions are **FREE** and each child will receive a Mouse Club gift.

5 week club, running from 20 July - 20 August.

Places are limited so book on using the QR code

Mondays: 1.30pm - 2.30pm, Bentilee Family Hub

Tuesdays: 10.30am - 11.30am, Abbey Hulton Family Hub

Thursdays: 1.30pm - 2.30pm, Bescura Family Hub



Tales in the Park



A free day out for all the family!

Go all in this summer at our storytelling festivals across Stoke. With activities including storytellers, crafts, bouncy castles, circus skills and a free book for every child!

Join us from **11am - 3pm** at:

- **Tuesday 28 July** in Tunstall Park
- **Friday 31 July** in Hanley Park
- **Tuesday 4 August** in Yeaman Street Rec
- **Friday 7 August** in Fenton Park
- **Tuesday 11 August** in Longton Park
- **Friday 14 August** in Burslem Park



In partnership with

HarperCollinsPublishers



Find out more: literacytrust.org.uk/stoke • fb.com/StokeLiteracyTrust

The National Literacy Trust is a registered charity no. 1116260 (England and Wales) and SC042944 (Scotland).

GET HANDS-ON WITH SCIENCE AT THE POTTERIES!

Have you ever wondered what sound looks like, what rocks are made of, or what's inside your body?

Cambridge Hands-On Science (CHaOS) is touring the UK this summer, with a team of friendly Cambridge students and hands-on experiments to answer these questions and many more!

Join us for a **FREE** day of family-friendly fun at
The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery
on **Wednesday July 29th**
from **12 - 4pm**



contact@chaossience.org.uk
chaossience.org.uk



the National Year of Reading, the theme is Read to the Beat, encouraging children to explore the connection between stories and songs. Children can read anything they like and will collect special stickers and rewards for their reading! To find out more, head to your local Stoke-on-Trent library or visit <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>



📍 Hanley Park
 📅 Monday 20th July
 ⌚ 11:00am – 1:00pm
 🌻 Free to attend – just turn up! We can't wait to see you there!

Friends of Hanley Park

👍 13 💬 6 ➡ 22



The Mitchell Arts Centre and Theatre in Broad Street Hanley has a range of free activities on over the summer holidays. These include cinema shows, build it workshops, make and bake and claynauts. Some have a small fee. Click the link below for more information or to book a space.



<https://mitchellartscentre.co.uk/category/mac-workshops>



The Summer Reading Challenge started at the weekend at a Stoke-on-Trent Libraries near you!

This free summer holiday activity, from our friends at The Reading Agency, is a great way to keep your child reading over the summer break. All you need to do is head to your local library to sign up!

For the National Year of Reading, the theme is Read to the Beat, encouraging children to explore the connection between stories and songs, whether that's through lyrics, K-Pop comics or their favourite artist's story. Children can read anything they like and will collect special stickers and rewards for their reading!

To find out more, head to your local Stoke-on-Trent library or visit <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

TERM DATES 2026 / 2027

Academic Year 2026/2027 - NOTE CHANGES to accommodate heating works

AUTUMN TERM – 2026

Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Tuesday 1st September

Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Wednesday 2nd September

EXTRA INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSURE:

Thursday 3rd September

EXTRA INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSURE:

Friday 4th September

School opens to ALL pupils

Monday 7th September

INSET Day Friday 23rd October

Half Term: Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October

~~INSET Day (School closed to pupils)~~

~~Monday 2nd November~~

School opens to pupils

Monday 2nd November

School closes

Friday 18th December

Holiday: Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January

SPRING TERM - 2027

INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)

Monday 4th January 2027*

~~INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)~~

~~Tuesday 5th January 2027~~

School opens to pupils

Tuesday 5th January 2027

Half Term: Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February

School opens to all

Monday 22nd February

School closes

Thursday 25th March

Holiday: Friday 26th March - Friday 9th April

SUMMER TERM – 2027

School opens to all

Monday 12th April

May Day – school closed

Monday 3rd May

Half Term: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

School opens to all

Monday 7th June

School closes

Wednesday 21st July

Holiday: Thursday 22nd July to Friday 3rd September

**Year 5 Parents Save the date for
St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy Transition Meetings**



We strongly advise that you consider St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy part of our family of schools within The Newman Catholic collegiate. We now have a bus in operation which takes children to and from St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy each day.