

Loving Learning and Looking Forward in Christ

NEWSLETTER

15.12.2023

Dear Parents,

It has been lovely to see so many of you in and around school this week supporting our Christmas concert 'The angel who nearly missed it all' the children really enjoyed telling the Christmas story and the singing filled the school hall with Christmas cheer. We are excited to share our Early years concert with you on Monday and I look forward to welcoming you into school to see this. I know the children are very excited. The children have also enjoyed the Nutcracker story which has been shared in school this week prior to the children visiting the theatre next week. I have even seen some children taking on the roles this week with dancing sugar plum fairies and soldiers on the playground! Our fundraising this term for the Dougie Mac has been a fantastic success which ended with the children wearing Christmas jumpers on the 8th December. The school has raised a staggering £538 which will go to help the hospice and support the wonderful work that they do to support those in need. A huge thanks to each and everyone of you who have supported this fundraiser- true acts of kindness and love can be truly seen by our school community. As Pope Francis said *"Love and charity, are service, helping others, serving others. There are many people who spend their lives in this way, in the service of others. ... When you forget yourself and think of others, this is love!"*

Facebook Page

As many of you are aware we now have a school [facebook](#) page. Please do like and follow us. We are using this page as a way of communicating with you and sharing all of the wonderful things that happen here at OLSB.



The page can also be accessed from our school website. <https://www.ourladyandstbenedict.co.uk/> from the website press the facebook button.

School Video

If you haven't already please do take the time to watch and enjoy everything that is wonderful about OLSB. The video is now on our website for you all to view, please visit:

<https://www.ourladyandstbenedict.co.uk/page/title=virtual+tour&pid=19>

It is also available on the school Facebook page.

Admission to Primary School September 2024

The application process for a place at Primary School (Reception class) has opened and will close on the 15th January 2024. If your child's fifth birthday is between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025 then you need to apply for a place. The easiest way to apply is online at

https://www.stoke.gov.uk/info/20033/school_admissions/132/reception_class_admissions

If your child currently attends our Nursery Class or your children have brothers or sisters wanting to join in September 2024 you will still need to apply for a place online.

St Margaret Ward Policy

St Margaret Ward need to consult on their 25/26 policy due to a small change they have made.

Below is the link to their policy on which they are consulting:

<https://stmargaretward.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/SMWCA-Admissions-Policy-2025-26.pdf>

Monday 18 th December	Y1-y6 visit The Nutcracker @The New Vic Theatre The production finishes at 4.30pm. Children will need to be collected from school at 5.15pm (Text messages will be sent) Nursery and Reception Nativity @ 9.30am Tickets to follow for parents
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Dinner Day (Non Uniform / Christmas Jumpers) <i>If your child usually has a packed lunch and would like this instead, please make sure that you order a Tea Party lunch for your child by Friday 1st December</i>
Wednesday 20 th December	Santa and the animals in the Forest at OLSB (Forest School Clothes / Christmas Jumpers) Nursery (am) and Reception (pm) New Vic Visit Nutcracker Tale Trail
Thursday 21 st December	Whole School Mass 9.15am followed by Christmas Carols in Church ALL Parents welcome
Friday 22 nd December	School Closes for Christmas at 3.15 /3.20pm
Monday 8th January	SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL CHILDREN –INSET DAY
Tuesday 9th January 2024	SCHOOL REOPENS FOR ALL CHILDREN

*God of hope, we cling to you, for your renew the face of the earth.
Through the gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus, we follow you on the path of dawn.
Enlightened by your love and wisdom, help us to lead each other back to your open arms.
Amen.*

With thanks Mrs Sarah Clowes - Principal