



**10<sup>th</sup> September 2024**



A huge welcome to the new members of the OLSB family as new children and families have joined us this week. A huge welcome back to our existing families. Thank you for all of the kind words we have received on our return to school.

A huge thank you to parents for your support with our school uniform policy. The children have returned to school looking very smart in their uniforms and have settled back into life here at OLSB beautifully. It has been wonderful to see so many smiles around school this week and to see children working in their new classes with their teachers and teaching assistants. The school has had new lights, doors and emergency exits installed throughout the summer and looks very nice and posh !

We can't wait to see what this year holds for us all here at OLSB. We are excited to go on new adventures together.

**Uniform** A reminder to all parents that jewellery and earrings are not permitted in school at any time. Make up, Nail Polish and false nails are also not allowed to be worn to school. Long hair must also be tied up. Further information can be found on the school website under the parents and uniform tab.

**School in the OLSB Forest** This half term Year 2 and Year 3 will take part in forest school in the OLSB Forest on a Wednesday in partnership with Peak District Survival School. Please ensure that your children have their forest school kit in school each week. Forest school kit should consist of old clothes and sensible shoes that are weather appropriate.

**PE** All children will require a Navy polo shirt (With logo or plain Navy), Black shorts/joggers and Plain black pumps/trainers - suitable for running & outdoor activities for their PE lessons. All children will now require to keep their PE kits within school and they will be returned home each term for washing, if they are dirty etc these will be sent home.

**The PE timetable is:**

Nursery - Wednesday

Reception - Wednesday

Year 1 - Monday & Friday

Year 2 - Monday & Thursday

Year 3 - Tuesday & Friday

Year 4 - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 5 - Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 6 – Tuesday

**Swimming**

Selective Y5 & Y6 children will have Swimming on Tuesdays (starting Tuesday 24th September)

**After School Clubs** – *Please book via School Cloud, message will be sent shortly regarding start date.*

Monday – Benedictines (Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6)

Cross Country Running Club (Y5 & Y6)

Tuesday – Creative Club (Y1 & Y2)

Wednesday – Sign Language Club (Y3, Y4 & Y5)

Creative Club (Y3 & Y4)

Thursday – Reading Club (Y1 & Y2)

Songbirds Choir Club (Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6)

Football – (Y5 & Y6)

**Medicine** School staff are only able to administer prescribed medicines to pupils. If your child needs to receive prescribed medicine during the school day a signed medical form (available from the school office) must be completed, medicine will not be administered if a signed form is not completed. Where possible, unless advised it would be detrimental to health, medicines should be prescribed in frequencies that allow the pupil to take them outside of school hours - this includes those prescribed three times a day – before school, after school and bedtime. Non-prescribed medications will not be administered at school and pupils should not bring them to school for self administration.

**Breaktime Snacks / Fruit** in School children in Reception and Key Stage 1 benefit from the National Fruit Scheme, which provides a piece of fruit each day for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The fruit is usually given out before the end of the school day. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer fruit to children in Key Stage 2. In line with many other schools locally and nationwide, and to promote healthy eating, we encourage all children in Key Stage 2 should bring either fruit, vegetables or a small quantity of raisins to eat at morning break. Children should not bring nuts, crisps, chocolate bars, etc, for morning break. Toast & milk is also available to buy for children in Year 1- Year 6. It is 25p per day for toast, 25p per day for milk. Please book and pay via Scopay.

**School Lunches** Lunch money for KS2 pupils (Year 3-Year 6) is £3.25 Nursery meals are £2.50. Payment can be made via the online payment system 'SCOPay'. Current menus are available on the school website. If you think that you qualify for Free School Meals please contact the school office. Parents are able to claim free school meals for their children if you receive any of the following: · Income Support · Income Based Job Seekers Allowance · Income Related Employment and Support Allowance · Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and the household income is not more than £16,190. Please note anyone receiving Working Tax Credit, regardless of Income, will not qualify · Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 · the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are automatically entitled to Universal infant Free School Meals but registering for Income Assessed Free School meals could give the school extra money called pupil premium.

**Water Bottles** - We encourage all children to bring a water bottle into school each day. Children can refill their bottles with water in class when required so that they can stay hydrated.

**Admission to High School September 2025** –(CURRENT YEAR 6 CLASS) The application process for a place at High School has opened and will close on 31 October 2025. The easiest way to apply is online

[https://www.stoke.gov.uk/info/20033/school\\_admissions/134/secondary\\_or\\_high\\_school\\_admissions](https://www.stoke.gov.uk/info/20033/school_admissions/134/secondary_or_high_school_admissions)

Admission to High School September 2024 –(CURRENT YEAR 6 CLASS) The application process for a place at High School has opened and will close on 31 October 2023.

We strongly advise that you consider St Margret Ward Catholic Academy part of our family of schools within The Newman Catholic collegiate. Over the next few weeks Year 6 pupils will be visiting St Margaret Ward and teachers will also be coming into OLSB to work with the children. We now have a mini bus in operation which takes children to and from St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy each day. Our Lady and St Benedict Catholic Academy - Transition Page Thursday 21st September St Margaret Ward Open Evening 6-8pm Tuesday 26th September St Margaret Ward Information Afternoon with tea and Cakes here at OLSB 2.30pm Saturday 30th September St Margaret Ward Open Morning 10am -12

**On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September** St Margaret Ward will be holding an Open evening from 5.30pm-8pm

**On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September**, Year 6 parents and carers, along with their Year 6 child, have the opportunity to visit St Margaret Ward during the school day(9.20-11.20am) for a tour of the school, a Q&A session with Mrs Rebecca Munden (Assistant Principal at St Margaret Ward), and a meet & greet with Mr McKenna. We will provide transport to and from OLSB for all families who wish to attend. Please call to the school office to complete a slip so that we can reserve you a space on the bus.

Please do consider making a visit to see the school.

With thanks for all of your continued support,

Mrs Clowes





## OLSB 2024 -2025 Calendar

### Academic Year 2024/2025

#### AUTUMN TERM – 2024

Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Monday 2nd September

Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Tuesday 3rd September

School opens to pupils

Wednesday 4th September

Half Term

Monday 28th October- Friday 1st November

INSET Day (School closed to pupils)

Monday 4th November

School opens to pupils

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November

School closes

Friday 20th December

#### SPRING TERM - 2025

School opens to all

Monday 6th January 2025

Half Term

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February -Friday 21st February

INSET Day (School closed to pupils)

Monday 24th February

School opens to all

Tuesday 25th February

School closes

Friday 11th April

#### SUMMER TERM – 2025

School opens to all

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April

May Day – school closed

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May

Half Term

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30th May

School opens to all

Monday 2nd June

School closes

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July