



15th November 2024





Principal's Message

Children have returned from half term and have settled back into the many learning opportunities here at Our Lady and Saint Benedict Catholic Academy. Photographs have been taken in school today and proofs have been sent home for you to view. If you wish to purchase these please do follow the link online. On Tuesday 5th November every class in the school got to experience a real life bonfire in our forest and enjoyed time sitting around the fire with friends, feeling the warmth and enjoying a hot chocolate and 's'mores'. It was a lovely but muddy day!

On Wednesday 6th November the children in Year 6 went underground at Apedale Mine to find out about the importance of Mining in the history of Stoke-on-Trent. They got to experience what life was like for those employed as miners.

On Thursday 7th November we had a visit from the new MP for Stoke-on-Trent central (which includes Abbey Hulton.) Mr Gareth Snell. The children delivered an assembly and asked him the most fascinating questions about his job as an MP. He was very impressed with our wonderful children and school.

On Monday 11th we gathered together and took part in 2 minutes of silence to remember all those who have lost their lives fighting for our country. During the month of November we remember those who have died: "They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them."

Sohan visited us in school on Wednesday 13th and the children in Year 5 learnt an Indian dance that they performed to the whole school. Everyone then joined in and the hall was filled with Indian Music and dance.

Over the last fortnight we have had many visitors into school all who have commented upon the children's excellent behaviour and their polite manners. Each day they make us proud and we know that this was reported to you at our recent parents evening. Thank you once again for your support. With thanks

Mrs Clowes

Reception Class September 2025

You need to apply for a school place for September 2025 for your child to join the Reception Class if your child's fifth birthday is between 1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026.

If your child is currently in our Nursery Class you do still need to apply for a place in our Reception Class for September 2025. The best place to apply is online at :

https://admissions.stoke.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

Please call into the school office if you require any support in completing your application.

Christmas Card Competitions

A BIG well done to the below children for winning our Christmas Card Competitions – they were all amazing!

Ivy Price – EYFS Winner

Eadie Howard - KS1 Winner

Christian Solomon – KS2 Winner

Livia Chen – Overall Religious Design



SCHOOL TIMES

Thank you for your efforts to arrive at school on time, improvements have been seen in this area but as the darker, colder mornings have set in we have noticed that we are receiving a number of late arrivals. We know that arriving late to school means that children miss out on learning time and can cause children to be unsettled in a morning. Please keep up your efforts to arrive at school on time every day.. The gates will be locked promptly and should you arrive late you will need to enter school via the gated pedestrian walkway and come into the school office to sign in your child. Please don't cross the carpark as this can be busy.

Please find a reminder of our start and end times:

Nursery 8.40-3.10

Reception 8.40-3.10

Key Stage One
Y1 and Y2 8.45-3.15

Key Stage Two
Y3 Y4 Y5 and Y6 8.45-3.20

November is the month when we remember the dead in special ways. We offer prayers in remembrance of them, trusting that the Lord of compassion and mercy will bring them close to Him in the new life promised by Jesus Christ. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.



Stars of the Week



Name	Class
Week Beginning 4th November 2024	
Ivy-Rose Price	N
Cheyanne Stanway-Richards	R
Ronnie Hurd	Y1
Shelly Lakatosova	Y2
Rosie Cash	Y3
Osman Shirzad	Y4
Lucas Woolley	Y5
Carley Hazelidine	Y6
Week Beginning 11th November 2024	
Harper Cartwright	N
Alessa Meir	R
Kobi Beardmore	Y1
Nancy McNairn	Y2
Layla Price	Y3
Darcie Davenport	Y4
Kaja Paice	Y5
Olivia-Rose Cartlidge	Y6
Well done, All children have received a book from the school vending machine as a prize. Please look out for our NEW star of the week photographs on Facebook.	

Attendance awards

Name	Class
Week Ending 8th November 2024	
First Place	Nursery
Second Place	Reception
Third Place	Year 3
Fourth Place	Year 5
Fifth Place	Year 2
Sixth Place	Year 1
Seventh Place	Year 4
Eighth Place	Year 6
Week Ending 15th November 2024	
First Place	Year 3
Second Place	Nursery
Third Place	Reception
Fourth Place	Year 5
Fifth Place	Year 2
Sixth Place	Year 1
Seventh Place	Year 4
Eighth Place	Year 6
The winning classes have been awarded the attendance trophy and stickers. Well done.	



OLSB Dates



18/11/24	Y4 Jewish Schul Synagogue Visit
20/11/24	EYFS- Road Safety
21/11/24	Y3 Six Town Tour
21/11/24	WHOLE SCHOOL MASS 9.15AM ALL WELCOME
22/11/24	Y3/Y4 Road Safety Workshop
23/11/24	Y5/Y6 Confirmation Pupils Commitment Mass
25/11/24	Songbirds Concert
26/11/24	EYFS Road Safety
29/11/24	Nursery Visit to Bentilee Library
2/12/24	Y1 Trip to Sudbury Museum of Childhood
3/12/24	9.10am Advent Liturgy Led by Y3 –Parents Welcome
4/12/24	Y3 Pizza Hut Trip
5/12/24	WHOLE SCHOOL MASS 9.15AM ALL WELCOME
5/12/24	AM Nurs/Rec Pantomime PM Y4/Y5 Pantomime
6/12/24	EYFS Nurs / Rec Christmas Nativity
10/12/24	9.10am Advent Liturgy Led by Y4 –Parents Welcome
10/12/24	Y1-Y6 Christmas Nativity Concert
13/12/24	Christmas Jumper Day



OLSB Dates




13/12/24	Nursery Visit New Vic Theatre Tail Trail
16/12/24	New Vic Theatre Vist Y1-Y6 The Three Musketeers
17/12/24	9.10am Advent Liturgy Led by Y5 –Parents Welcome
17/12/24	Christmas Dinner and Non Uniform
18/12/24	Christmas Treat Day – Plans to Follow
19/12/24	WHOLE SCHOOL MASS 9.15AM ALL WELCOME
19/12/24	2.30pm Advent Liturgy Led by Y4 –Parents Welcome
20/12/24	3.20pm School Closes for Christmas Holidays




OUTSTANDING

"Pupils are known, loved and feel safe"
– Ofsted 2024

Places for Nursery and Reception are open! Enquire now.
 ☎ 01782 234 646 ✉ office@olsbprimary.org.uk ourladyandstbenedict.co.uk







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 5th November

School closes

Friday 20th December

SPRING TERM - 2025

School opens to all

Monday 6th January 2025

Half Term

Monday 17th 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 28th April

May Day – school closed

Monday 5th May

Half Term

Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May

School opens to all

Monday 2nd June

School closes

Friday 18th July