



12th September 2025



A huge welcome to the new members of the OLSB family as new children and families have joined 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 boys toilets fitted over the summer and some classrooms have been painted. 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 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:

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.

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 Arbor. 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


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.

On Thursday 11th September St Margaret Ward will be holding an Open evening from 5.30pm-8.30pm

On Saturday 27th September St Margaret Ward will be holding an Open morning from 10 am-12pm

Please do consider making a visit to see the school.








Dear _____


**St Margaret Ward
Catholic Academy
Open Evening**


 **Thursday 11th September
from 5.30pm - 8.30pm**
Scan the QR code to book your place


 **SMWCAopenevening2025**

 **www.stmargaretward.co.uk**

 **St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy
Little Chell Lane, Tunstall ST6 6LZ**

 **01782 883000**



 **If you can't attend our
Opening Evening, join our
Open Morning:**
**Saturday 27th September
from 10am - 12pm**
Scan the QR code to book your place

PE Timetable

Day	Year
Monday	Y1 & Y2
Tuesday	Y3, Y4 Selected Y5 and Y6 for Swimming
Wednesday	Nursery and Reception Y2 and Y6
Thursday	Y4 & Y5
Friday	Y3 & Y1

Forest School Timetable

Wednesday's	
AM	PM
Year 2	Year 3

Toast & Milk

Thank you for all supporting and joining us on our new system with Arbor.

It has worked really well so far and if you haven't already seen on previous letters we are now booking this termly rather than daily.

The booking system has now closed for this term but please don't forget to book again for October half term, a message will be sent once this booking slot has opened.



OWLETS

Parent, Baby and Toddler group at Our Lady & St Benedict Catholic Academy

Come along and enjoy a safe, fun and educational environment with your child, aged 0-5 years. Meet other families and enjoy different activities each week for FREE.

Every Thursday 9:15am-10:45am



Free to attend



Meet other local families



Every Thursday (term time)





OLSB Dates



8/9/2025	Y3 and Y4 Road Safety
11/9/25	OWLETS RE-STARTS
18/9/25	Y6 Visit St Margaret Ward
18/9/25	WHOLE SCHOOL MASS AT CHURCH – ALL WELCOME
19/9/25	Y5 Penkhull Music Festival
22/9/25	Y3 and y4 Road Safety
23/9/25	Swimming Starts
24/9/25	Y5 Jubilee Pilgrimage to St Mary's
26/9/25	Dougie Mac Coffee Morning
29/9/25	Feast of the Archangels Event
30/9/25	Stoke City Assembly
2/10/25	WHOLE SCHOOL MASS AT CHURCH – ALL WELCOME
2/10/25	Little Library Van Visits Nursery
10/10/25	One Life Music
13/10/25	Y6 Visit St Margaret Ward
17/10/25	Y6 Visit Apedale Mine
17/10/25	Y1 Visit Packington Farm
21/10 and 23/10	Parents Evening
24/10/25	School closes at 3.20pm for half term



OLSB 2025 -2026 Calendar

Academic Year 2025/2026

AUTUMN TERM – 2025

Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

School opens to pupils

3rd September

Half Term

Friday 31st October

INSET Day (School closed to pupils)

School opens to pupils

School closes

SPRING TERM - 2026

INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)

School opens to pupils

Half Term

Friday 20th February

School opens to all

School closes

SUMMER TERM – 2026

School opens to all

May Day – school closed

Half Term

Friday 29th May

School opens to all

School closes

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Wednesday

Monday 27th October-

Monday 3rd November

Tuesday 4th November

Friday 19th December

Monday 5th January 2026

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Monday 16th February -

Monday 23rd February

Friday 27th March

Monday 13th April

Monday 4th May

Monday 25th May to

Monday 1st June

Friday 17th July