



**24<sup>th</sup> October 2025**





## Principal Message

Reception class enjoyed a trip out to the Mini Village they particularly enjoyed the role play in the Vets. Year 2 have also been on a tour of the city linked to their History work they have been finding out all about the famous people of the Potteries – even stopping at the one and only home of Mr Robbie Williams ! We have certainly made the most of our school mini bus. This has also included a trip down Apedale Mine by Year 6 and a visit to Packington Farm for Year 1. They enjoyed seeing the pigs ! . All are wonderful learning experiences. Year 4 had a fantastic letter from the Stoke On Trent council thanking them for their wonderful support and behaviour during the recent City Council Litter pick. In total the children collected 36.86 kilos of waste. They are extremely proud of our wonderful children. Sohan visited our school on Wednesday and the children were filled with awe, wonder and excitement as they learnt all about India and took part in Indian dance. Today we have ended the half term with our Cereal Domino effect which all of the children enjoyed.

Wishing you all a wonderful half term and we will see you back in school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

With thanks

Mrs Clowes

## Admission to High School September 2026 –(CURRENT YEAR 6 CLASS)

**The application process for a place at High School has opened and will close on 31 October 2026. If you have not yet completed your application please do so.**

The easiest way to apply is online

[https://admissions.stoke.gov.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en](https://admissions.stoke.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

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. **If you need any support with your application or If you wish to discuss your child's secondary school application with me please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.**



**In the Gospel on Sunday** Jesus tells us a story about a Pharisee and a Tax Collector which teaches us how to pray and have a good hear. The Pharisee judged the tax collector. He thought the tax collector wasn't as good as he was. But we are all equal and special in the eyes of God, who loves us all. No matter who we are, where we come from, the colour of our skin, whether we are rich or poor, tall or short, we are special to God. God loves us all very much. This week try not to judge others because they are different to you. Try to treat all people you meet with kindness and respect. Also think about the things that you could do better, say sorry to God for the times you get things wrong and ask God to help you to get them right.

Merciful God, you know us through and through, and you forgive us when we have done wrong. Help us to know when we have made a mistake and to come to you in prayer each day and to forgive us for our sins. Help us to know when we are being proud or when we have forgotten to be forgiving towards others. Help us to do what is pleasing to you. Amen.

## **Reception Class September 2026**

You need to apply for a school place for September 2026 for your child to join the Reception Class if your child's fifth birthday is between 1 September 2026 and 31 August 2027.

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. Admissions open on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. We invite you to our open day on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 9-11am to come and view our wonderful school.

**You're invited to our Open Day**

**Come and take a look around our inclusive and nurturing school.**

**12<sup>th</sup> November 2025 9am-11am**

- Before and after school care options
- 30 hours of free childcare per week
- Extracurricular activities
- Passionate teachers
- Exclusive Forest School

We have spaces available in our school for pupils of all faiths and none. We also welcome pupils to transition from other schools throughout the year.

ourladyandstbenedict.co.uk  
office@olsbprimary.org.uk  
01782 234 646

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

## **TOAST & MILK**

If you wish your child to have toast & milk next half term it is now available to purchase on Arbor. Deadline to buy these products is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025. After this date we will not be able to add anymore on.

This will then cover up until Christmas.

## **HARVEST**

Some of our children visited the Betty Rushton Garden where they met local volunteers. They picked vegetables and brought them back to school where our school cook Mrs Hughes made delicious Harvest Soup and rolls which were enjoyed by our Parish community after our Harvest Mass. It was wonderful to see so many of you at Mass and a delight for you to join us for harvest soup. Today we had our non-uniform day with our fantastic 'cereal box domino effect'. This was so much fun and enjoyed by everyone. We made up harvest parcels which the children took out to residents in the local community these were very gratefully received. We also sent a huge array of items including our boxes of cereal to the local food bank and the Alice Charity which will be distributed to those in need across the city.

A HUGE Thank you to all of you for your very generous donations and all of your support.. These are truly acts of love summed up by Pope Francis:

"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!"

Should you find yourself in need at any time please do not hesitate to contact the school office or Miss Franklin or Miss Ward who will of course support you in seeking support from the foodbank or Alice Charity. This will be dealt with in confidence.



## **A Harvest Prayer**

Generous God, we thank you for the gifts you have given for all people to share. We plant seeds of hope and nurture them as we seek a harvest of plenty for all.

Forgive us for the times these seeds fail to take root in our hearts. We grieve when homes and crops are washed away by floods, when lives are uprooted by disaster, or trampled by fear and greed.

Living God, you lead us to a new way of being. Move us to help one another in our times of need, to care for the earth and to love one another, sharing your harvest with all. Amen.



# Stars of the Week



Name	Class
<b>Week Beginning 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	
Zakaria Wlazlo	N
Ivy-Rose Price	R
India Jones	Y1
Juri Abass	Y2
Layla Price	Y3
Kenan Nicholls	Y4
Hannah Rola	Y5
On school trip	Y6
<b>Week Beginning 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	
Ava-Rae Kudlek	N
Noah Batkin	R
Tenaya Onasanya	Y1
Sonny Nixon	Y2
Connie Phillips	Y3
Jayden Wang'oo	Y4
Ollie Holdcroft	Y5
Kayne Davies	Y6
<b>Well done, All children have received a book from the school vending machine as a prize.</b>	

# Attendance awards

Name	Class
<b>Week Ending 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	
First Place	Year 1
Second Place	Year 2
Third Place	Nursery
Fourth Place	Year 4
Fifth Place	Year 6
Sixth Place	Reception
Seventh Place	Year 5
Eighth Place	Year 3
<b>Week Ending 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	
First Place	Year 1
Second Place	Reception
Third Place	Year 3
Fourth Place	Year 4
Fifth Place	Year 2
Sixth Place	Year 5
Seventh Place	Nursery
Eighth Place	Year 6
<b>The winning classes have been awarded the attendance trophy and stickers. Well done.</b>	



# OLSB Dates



<b>3/11/25</b>	School closed INSET DAY
<b>4/11/25</b>	School Opens for ALL children
<b>4/11/25</b>	DISCO
<b>5/11/25</b>	Bonfire Day Forest School all children in Forest Clothes
<b>5/11/25</b>	Alton Castle Meeting 3.30pm Y5
<b>6/11/25</b>	EYFS reading workshop 2.30pm
<b>11/11/25</b>	Y1 Cinema Trip
<b>12/11/25</b>	Times Table workshop Y4 Parents
<b>13/11/25</b>	Y1 reading workshop 2.30pm
<b>14/11/25</b>	SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
<b>14/11/25</b>	Y6 Trip
<b>14/11/25</b>	Y5 St Margaret Ward Visit
<b>19/11/25-21/11/25</b>	Y5 Alton Castle Visit
<b>20/11/25</b>	Mass at Church 9.15am ALL WELCOME
<b>22/11/25</b>	Family Mass at Church 5pm ALL WELCOME
<b>25/11/25</b>	Y2 Cinema Trip
<b>25/11/25</b>	Songbirds Concert
<b>28/11/25</b>	Y5 St Margaret Ward



## OLSB 2025 -2026 Calendar

### Academic Year 2025/2026

#### AUTUMN TERM – 2025

Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Monday 1st September

Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Tuesday 2nd September

School opens to pupils

Wednesday

3rd September

Half Term

Monday 27th October-

Friday 31st October

INSET Day (School closed to pupils)

Monday 3rd November

School opens to pupils

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

School closes

Friday 19th December

#### SPRING TERM - 2026

INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)

Monday 5th January 2026

School opens to pupils

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Half Term

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February -

Friday 20th February

School opens to all

Monday 23rd February

School closes

Friday 27th March

#### SUMMER TERM – 2026

School opens to all

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April

May Day – school closed

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Half Term

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to

Friday 29th May

School opens to all

Monday 1st June

School closes

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July