



**14<sup>th</sup> November 2025**





## Principal 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 will be sent home for you to view. If you wish to purchase these please do follow the link online. On Wednesday 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 Tuesday 11th we gathered together in prayer and remembrance 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." The children in Year 1 also got to visit the cinema to watch Tabby Mc Tatt and Tiddler. On Wednesday 11th we held our Open Morning and it was wonderful for so many new families to be welcomed into our school.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to you all for your kind messages and cards of condolence that have been received during the loss of my mum. I have received great strength knowing that so many of you are praying for my family and I. We have been overwhelmed by everyone's support during this difficult time.

The staff team as ever have been amazing in my absence and have continued to providing an Outstanding education and environment for all of our wonderful children. Thanking them all once again for their dedication and support to all things here at OLSB.

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend, With thanks Mrs Clowes

## 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 2025 and close on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. The best way to apply is online via the Stoke Portal. If you missed our open day and wish to tour our Outstanding school please do contact the school office who will be happy to arrange this for you.

## 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.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



**In the Gospel on Sunday** Jesus warns us that life will be difficult. The world will face wars and disasters, but we mustn't lose hope. We must trust in God who will guide us and save us. Jesus was with his disciples in the temple. He told them that the temple would one day be destroyed and that there would be wars, earthquakes, and people hungry for food Jesus told the disciples not to be afraid. He promised that he would be with them always and that they wouldn't be harmed if they put their trust in him.

Jesus is with us always, even in the hardest times. Jesus is in all people. Perhaps we can see Jesus in the person who helps us when we are struggling, in the person who inspires us to keep going, in the person who shows us that things can be different.

Jesus, help us to put our faith and trust in you at all times. May we not be afraid but instead believe that you will always keep us safe. Amen.



# Stars of the Week



Name	Class
<b>Week Beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025</b>	
Brodie Shingler	N
Adam Dindar	R
Vinnie Carter	Y1
Avend Dindar	Y2
Nami Tewelde	Y3
Ethan Harding	Y4
Osman Shirzad	Y5
Crina Voinea	Y6
<b>Week Beginning 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b>	
Penelope Hulme	N
Isaac Perkins	R
Erin Antwi	Y1
Murray Edge	Y2
TJ Gosling	Y3
Jersey-Rae Redfern	Y4
Mosaab Alnour	Y5
Sophie Smith	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 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b>	
First Place	Year 2
Second Place	Year 1
Third Place	Year 4
Fourth Place	Year 6
Fifth Place	Year 3
Sixth Place	Reception
Seventh Place	Nursery
Eighth Place	Year 5
<b>Week Ending 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025</b>	
First Place	Year 1
Second Place	Year 3
Third Place	Nursery
Fourth Place	Year 2
Fifth Place	Year 6
Sixth Place	Year 5
Seventh Place	Year 4
Eighth Place	Reception
<b>The winning classes have been awarded the attendance trophy and stickers. Well done.</b>	



# OLSB Dates



<b>17/11/25</b>	Y6 Cinema Trip
<b>18/11/25</b>	Y4 Cinema Trip
<b>19/11/25-21/11/25</b>	Y5 Alton Castle Visit
<b>20/11/25</b>	Mass at Church 9.15 am 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>26/11/25</b>	Y3 Pizza Making
<b>28/11/25</b>	Y5 visit SMW PE kits needed
<b>1/12/25</b>	Y4 Advent Liturgy 9.30am Y4 parents welcome
<b>4/12/25</b>	Y3 Six Towns Tour
<b>4/12/25</b>	Mass at Church 9.15am ALL WELCOME Confessions after
<b>5/12/25</b>	One Life Music Event
<b>9/12/25</b>	Y1-Y6 Christmas Performance 2pm and 4pm
<b>10/12/25</b>	Y3 Advent Liturgy 9.30 am Little Mermaid Themed Lunch
<b>11/12/25</b>	New Vic Theatre Trip The Little Mermaid Y1-Y6
<b>12/12/25</b>	EYFS Christmas Play XMAS JUMPER DAY IN SCHOOL
<b>12/12/25</b>	Y3 Visit SMW to see The Grinch





## 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