



**16<sup>th</sup> January 2026**



## Principals Message

The children have returned to school this term and have settled back in to school beautifully. We were all surprised when we awoke to snow last week. It was lovely to see the children playing in the snow and enjoying themselves. Thank you also for battling the roads and pavements to get the children into school. A Huge thank you to all of our staff who made their way into school from various parts of the city in quite extreme weather conditions and to Mr Craig Scarlett who has been here very early every morning, gritting and clearing paths.

The children in Year 5 are busily practicing the songs for the Young Voices concert. It is lovely to hear the songs ringing out around school, I know they are very excited for the performance at the end of the month.

We have thought about the Three kings bowing down and worshipping Jesus and how we can worship Jesus and offer gifts to him of Love, Kindness, Peace and Joy. Something I see exchanged each and every day between the children here at OLSB.

With thanks, Mrs Clowes

## Admission to Nursery Class September 2026

The system is now open for admissions to our Nursery Class in September 2026. This is for children born between the dates of 01/09/2022 and 31/08/2023. Even if your child is attending Owlets or our Rising Three Programme you will still need to apply for a place in our Nursery Class. If you require any further information or wish to make a visit to the Nursery class please contact the school office.

The easiest way to apply is online at: [https://admissions.stoke.gov.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en](https://admissions.stoke.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

### After School Clubs

Please book via Arbor

### PE Days

Day	Class
Monday	Y1, Y2, Y3 & Y6
Tuesday	Y4, Y5 Swimming
Wednesday	Nursery & Reception, Y1 & Y5
Thursday	Y3 & Y4
Friday	Y2

### Forest School

#### Each Wednesday

AM – Year 2

PM – Year 4 (will change to Y3)

**Curriculum Newsletters** Class teachers have prepared Newsletters for their class showing what children will be taught, and what they will learn across all subjects within the curriculum during the spring term. Please do take the time to read these. These can be found on the school website.

<https://www.ourladyandstbenedict.co.uk/page/?title=Spring+Curriculum&pid=29>

**BEFORE / AFTER SCHOOL** We open our gates in a morning and welcome you onto the school playground. We would rather do this and allow the children to access the playground, which is a safe environment rather than you queuing outside on the footpath or near the busy road until the bell rings. A reminder that children are in your care until the school doors open in a morning at 8.40am. Children should be accompanied by an adult and must not be left unaccompanied on the yard before the start of the day when the children are then handed over into the care of the school. We invite the children to play on the playground or in the Muga with parental supervision. We ask that children do not use the fitness equipment. This is for use in PE lessons and during supervised play only. There are concerns around accidents when the children are not supervised and the equipment is also not designed for young children. We would also request that bikes and scooters are not ridden around the busy yard. Please bring them to the gate and walk them to the bike / scooter store. A parent was ridden into the other evening. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter to ensure that all children are safe before and after school.



# Stars of the Week



Name	Class
<b>Week Beginning 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>	
All of Nursery Class	N
Yasmina Dinca	R
Zachery Rowlands-Lee	Y1
Amber Nicholson	Y2
Harper Cooper	Y3
Francesca Seadon	Y4
Divine Kenneth	Y5
Daniel Szluz	Y6
<b>Week Beginning 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>	
All of Nursery Class	N
Noah Batkin	R
Madison Maddock	Y1
Harper Denic-Sheldon	Y2
Jonathan Hairwadzi	Y3
Kyla-May Poole	Y4
Leon Al Dhafery	Y5
Rebecca Mutate	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 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Year 3
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Nursery
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Year 4
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Year 5
5 <sup>th</sup> Place	Year 6
6 <sup>th</sup> Place	Year 2
7 <sup>th</sup> Place	Reception
8 <sup>th</sup> Place	Year 1
<b>Week Ending 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Year 5
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Year 3
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Year 4
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Year 2
5 <sup>th</sup> Place	Year 6
6 <sup>th</sup> Place	Year 1
7 <sup>th</sup> Place	Nursery
8 <sup>th</sup> Place	Reception



# OLSB DATES



<b>17/1/2026</b>	Family Mass at Church 5pm
<b>21/1/2026</b>	Y1 Sudbury Museum of Childhood
<b>22/1/2026</b>	Mass at Church 9.15am ALL WELCOME
<b>22/1/2026</b>	Y3,Y4,Y5,Y6 WICKED SING ALONG TILL 3.30PM
<b>26/1/2026</b>	Y5 Visit St Margaret Ward Drama Workshop
<b>27/1/2026</b>	Young Voices Concert Y5
<b>28/1/2026</b>	Y2 Jodrell Bank
<b>6/2/2026</b>	Y6 Black Country Museum
<b>9/2/2026</b>	Year 5 visit St Margaret Ward
<b>11/2/2026</b>	Nursery Visit Lower Drayton Farm
<b>12/2/2026</b>	Mass at Church 9.15am ALL WELCOME
<b>13/2/2026</b>	School closes for Half Term at 3.30pm
<b>16/2/2026</b>	HALF TERM BREAK
<b>23/2/2026</b>	SCHOOL OPENS FOR ALL CHILDREN
<b>23/2/2026</b>	Rent a beast bugs visit Nursery
<b>25/2/2026</b>	Y5 Star Gazing Evening
<b>2/3/2026</b>	Y5 and Y6 Halle Orchestra Trip
<b>4/3/2026</b>	Author Visit to School- Matt Buckingham
<b>5/3/2026</b>	World Book Day

In Sunday's Gospel we hear about something special that happened to Jesus after his baptism. The Holy Spirit came down and rested on him. Jesus asks us to love other people, to care for people who are sick and to be signs of hope in our world, especially to people who are poor. This is not always easy, especially when people are in different countries to us. But when we do these things, other people can see the Holy Spirit working through us, just as we can see the wind in the trees. "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love. With God's strength and guidance, you can achieve great things, beyond your wildest dreams."

God of light, you sent the Spirit down upon your Son so that others might know who he was. Send your Spirit upon us, so that we might spread your message of love and peace to others. God of power, fill us with your Spirit and inspire us to make changes to our lives so that we can support one another to build a better world. Amen.



# TERM DATES 2025/2026

## Academic Year 2025/2026

### SPRING TERM – 2026

Half Term Monday 16th February -Friday 20th February

School opens to pupils Monday 23rd February

School closes Friday 27th March

### SUMMER TERM – 2026

School opens to pupils Monday 13th April

May Day – school closed Monday 4th May

Half Term Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

School opens to pupils Monday 1st June

School closes Friday 17th July



## 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)



## NEW TIMETABLE

# FREE FUN AT FAMILY HUBS

No need to book, just come along!

Groups start  
Monday 12 January 2026



## ABBAY HULTON FAMILY HUB

ABBOTS ROAD, ABBAY HULTON, ST2 8DU



### STAY AND PLAY

Friday  
9:30am until 11:00am

### AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

Friday  
3:00pm until 4:30pm

Phone: 01782 237100  
Email: [supportingfamiliesCentral@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:supportingfamiliesCentral@stoke.gov.uk)