



30th January 2026



Principals Message

It has been an extremely busy fortnight with so many trips and learning activities taking place which enhance our curriculum. On Wednesday 21st January Year 1 visited Sudbury museum of Childhood here they look at toys from the past and enjoying visiting the old school room. Some of them even went up the chimney like the children in Victorian Times!

On Thursday 22nd January Key Stage Two gathered together and took part in the Wicked Sing-a long streamed from the O2 in London they sang with thousands of children from all over the world.

On Tuesday 27th January the Year 5 children went to Young Voices in Birmingham. They had a wonderful day and enjoyed singing with so many other schools during the evening concert. What a performance it was and our children made us very proud. They particularly enjoyed the Pop medley. Well done Year 5.

On Monday 28th Our Year 2 children enjoyed their visit to Jodrell Bank where they saw the huge Lovell telescope and learnt lots about space.

With thanks, Mrs Clowes

Admission to Nursery Class September 2026

Why Choose OLSB?

30 Hours FREE Childcare
Yes, you read that right! We're committed to supporting families by providing 30 hours of FREE childcare.

Creating a seamless transition
At our nursery, we're dedicated to ensuring a smooth transition through education for our children

Strong Community
Join our vibrant community of parents, teachers, and pupils, where everyone works together to create a positive and inspiring learning environment.

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>

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
Week Beginning 19th January 2026	
Ava-Rae Kudlek	N
Charlie Grannon	R
Thomas Mills	Y1
Teddy Buckler	Y2
Layla Price	Y3
Annabelle Meir	Y4
Zachary Rowley	Y5
Sophie Smith	Y6
Week Beginning 26th January 2026	
Mathias Solomon	N
Maisie-Lou Farrell	R
Gabriella Afeli-Kodjo	Y1
Skyler Stone	Y2
Rayan Al Ali	Y3
Pela Qasm	Y4
Sofia Brett	Y5
Jacob Howard	Y6
Well done, All children have received a book from the school vending machine as a prize.	

Attendance Awards

Name	Class
Week Ending 23rd January 2026	
First Place	Year 3
Second Place	Year 1
Third Place	Year 6
Fourth Place	Year 4
Fifth Place	Year 5
Sixth Place	Year 2
Seventh Place	Nursery
Eighth Place	Reception
Week Ending 30th January 2026	
First Place	Year 4
Second Place	Year 2
Third Place	Year 6
Fourth Place	Year 3
Fifth Place	Year 1
Sixth Place	Reception
Seventh Place	Nursery
Eighth Place	Year 5



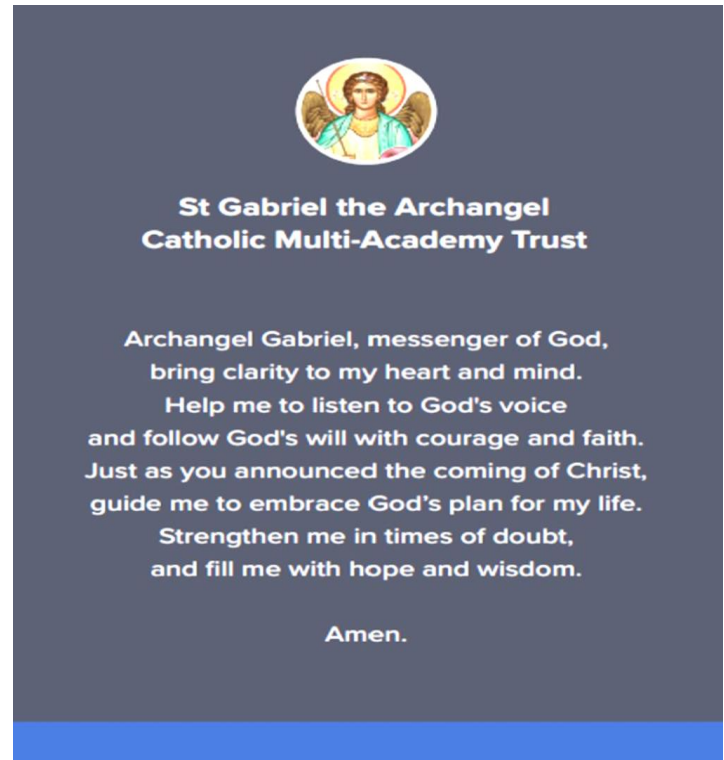
OLSB DATES



2/2/2026	National Storytelling week
3/1/26	Y1 Hanley Library Visit
5/1/26	BEE ACTIVE EVENT –PE KITS REQUIRED
6/2/2026	Y6 Black Country Museum
9/2/2026	Year 5 visit St Margaret Ward
9/2/2026	Non-Uniform Day £1 CAFOD MARATHON
9/2/2026	LOVE HEARTS DISCO SEE LETTER
11/2/2026	Nursery Visit Lower Drayton Farm
12/2/2026	Mass at Church 9.15am ALL WELCOME
13/2/2026	School closes for Half Term at 3.30pm
16/2/2026	HALF TERM BREAK
23/2/2026	SCHOOL OPENS FOR ALL CHILDREN
23/2/2026	Rent a beast bugs visit Nursery
25/2/2026	Y5 Star Gazing Evening
2/3/2026	Y5 and Y6 Halle Orchestra Trip
2/3/2026	Vocation / Careers Week
4/3/2026	Author Visit to School- Matt Buckingham
5/3/2026	World Book Day
5/3/2026	Mass at Church 9.15am ALL WELCOME

St Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Today we have seen the launch of the new trust Logo.



In Sunday's Gospel we hear about how Jesus went onto a mountain and taught his disciples. Jesus told them about the kind of person who makes him happy and who is blessed. We are all part of one global family and we are called by God to care for the other members of that family, wherever they are in the world. We can try to help Jesus' words to come alive. God of love, you bless those people who are poor, who are sad, who are hungry and thirsty and who are hurt because they stand up for what they believe in. Help us to follow in your way. 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



Mr Sigley - our PE specialist – has set himself an amazing challenge of running the London Marathon in April to raise money for CAFOD. He has already started training and he needs our help and support to motivate him to achieve this amazing goal.

Over the next few weeks we will be holding many activities to fundraise for Mr Sigley, and help him to achieve the challenge of raising at least £2,500 to support this amazing charity.

Fundraising will begin on Monday 9th February with a whole school non-uniform day. Please wear your own clothes and bring £1. **YEAR 5 PLEASE WEAR UNIFORM AND BRING A CHANGE OF CLOTHES as Y5 will be visiting ST MARGARET WARD.** Throughout the morning all classes will also be taking part in a fun run, running alongside Mr Sigley and encouraging him to keep on running and helping him with his training – extra donations would be much appreciated.

CAFOD is the official overseas aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. They believe (as we do) that God wants everyone to flourish. CAFOD serves communities across the world and stand together united as brothers and sisters of Christ.

If you would like to find out more about the crucial work that CAFOD does and how your fundraising will help, please follow this link: <https://cafod.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do>

So, let's get behind Mr Sigley and support us with our words and prayers of motivation and encouragement, raise as much money as we can to help him to achieve his fundraising target



Loving Creator,

Fill our hearts with compassion that sees beyond differences,
and hands that reach out without hesitation.

Bless every act of kindness, no matter how small,
and let it ripple outward to touch lives we may never meet.

Strengthen those who serve tirelessly,
and comfort those who receive with dignity and hope.

May our charity be more than a gift—
may it be a bridge of understanding,
a light in moments of darkness,

and a reminder that we are all part of one human family.

Amen