

CHALKBOARD

THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE NEWSLETTER

Extra Parking at OSCP

Our carpark expansion is nearing completion. The first stage was finished in early September and has created 11 new spaces which were sorely needed.

We had hoped to squeeze in one more space; however, since the roots of a mature tree growing next door extend into our site, we chose to leave a small plot undisturbed so as not to cause it any damage. We'll hand this area over to the capable hands of our volunteer gardeners to weave their magic. We also need to plant a couple of trees ourselves to replace those we had to lose as a result of the development.

To begin with our contractors had to excavate the old grassed area, removing many tonnes of soil in order to strike a level that would meet up neatly with the existing car park. Several truckloads of hard-core arrived next to provide a deep, firm base before the area was finally surfaced with a special porous tarmac which enables rain water to soak through and so prevents drainage problems.

Painting fresh parking lines was the finishing touch and we're pleased with how smart everywhere is looking now and how well the new layout is working. Nevertheless, the project is not yet finished. One small job is the installation of a covered bike stand but we are also waiting for the necessary paperwork to be completed with the council that will allow us to make some small changes to the pavement outside. This is necessary as we intend to widen our entrance to create two lanes (in and out).

We're not sure exactly how long it will take to fulfil these legal requirements but hope that this final stage will be completed in October.

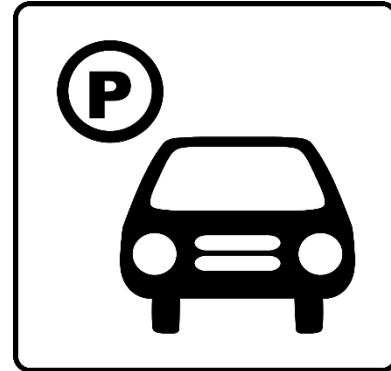


Image by OpenClipart-Vectors from Pixabay

This has been a big investment for The Old Schoolhouse but we're confident it will make a significant difference to our users and enable us to host more groups and events simultaneously. We are grateful to staff and visitors who were understanding during the inevitable times of disruption and would like to say a special thank you to St Agnes' Parish for allowing us to use their carpark whenever we needed.

Welcoming new students

SHARe Knowsley is a charity supporting asylum seekers and refugees in the borough.

Hello!

In order to meet rising demand they are significantly increasing their provision of English Language lessons which they deliver here at the Old Schoolhouse. With two teachers and a range of classes happening across 3 days, SHARe aim to help all students to further develop essential language skills whatever their starting level. It's great to see some familiar faces back after the summer break and we wish everyone well with their studies.

Community Choir

Choirs are popping up everywhere it would seem! Perhaps you've seen some featured on television or maybe you're a member of one already? People are catching on that choirs can be a wonderful way to spend time with others and have a positive effect on our mental and physical wellbeing. We're excited that the Parishes of St. Agnes and St. Aidan have chosen us as the base for their new community choir.

The group will be meeting on Tuesday evenings in our hall from 6:30 – 7:45 during term time. The choir is open to all regardless of their musical experience or expertise (although there is a lower age limit of 7 years old and all children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult). So why not come along to one of their rehearsals? It promises to be an open and welcoming group and they are looking to perform music in a range of styles so should offer something for everyone.

You can find more information on the parish website: stagnes-staidan.org.uk



THE PARISH OF ST. AGNES AND ST. AIDAN

COMMUNITY CHOIR

For ages 7 to 100+
(All children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

WHEN: TUESDAY EVENINGS 6:30PM - 7:45PM
WHERE: THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE, ST. JOHN'S ROAD
FIRST TERM DATES:
SEPTEMBER: 24
OCTOBER: 1, 8, 15, 22,
NOVEMBER: 5, 12, 19, 26
DECEMBER: 3

(A VOLUNTARY DONATION OF £1 PER PERSON/FAMILY PER SESSION)

Fancy improving your computer skills?

We have designed a short computer course aimed at anyone with little or no experience of using computers to help them develop their confidence and skills. We have a series of tasks that participants can work through at their own pace with help and support where needed. The course guides you through basic familiarity and proficiency in computers to word processing and using the internet. It is a four week course running on Thursday afternoons and is free to all (although places are limited). Please contact us to sign up.

WEA courses

The WEA have been running a number of courses here for some time now and have two exciting opportunities on offer at the moment.

First is a Level 2 Award in Support Work in Schools and Colleges. This is a course aimed at anyone who has ever thought about working as a support worker or assistant in a school in any sort of capacity. Monday 23rd and 30th of September and Monday 7th October (10-1pm) are enrolment and information days while the course officially starts on Monday 14th October and runs for 12 weeks.

Secondly, if you have you ever wanted to learn how to machine sew, to improve your existing skills or learn more advanced sewing techniques. A new sewing skills class begins on Tuesday 1st October from 10-1pm for 7 sessions.

For more information about either of these courses you can contact Helen Duerden at: hduerden@wea.org.uk