

Our Lady's Catholic High School

Friday, 25 November 2022

Newsletter No 11



The theme for next week is ADVENT (Matthew 24: 37 – 44)

The Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

In the Gospel today, we are reminded that when we do nothing, there are consequences. This is so relevant today. We see war and famine reported in the news. We see a world that literally needs rescuing from ecological disaster. The good thing is, we can do something about it. We can be the creators of good news. The only way to secure the future is to care about the present. We are all responsible for the world we live in. Let us work towards peace in our own friendships and in our families. Let us do our bit. Peace is not passive. Stay awake, be ready, and make a difference today and for our future.

Dear Father

As we enter the season of Advent, help each and every one of us to respond to your message. To be alert and ready to help those in need; to speak out for those who are unable to speak for themselves; to bring joy to all we meet.

Let us be a light in the darkness.

Amen.

BOOO VIRTUES PUPILS

Below are some of our pupils who have shown outstanding commitment to the BOOO Virtues this week and have been chosen by their Learning Manager for recognition.

Year	Name	Form	Reason
Year 7	Chloe Gildea	7R	for being compassionate and caring towards staff and pupils.
Year 8	Grace Robinson	8A	For being active and generous.
Year 9	Mia Gould	9D	For being compassionate towards other pupils in unfamiliar situations.
Year 10	Jaseveer Singh	10R	For phenomenal contribution to our Collective Worship assemblies, and excellent delivery over the course of the week.
Year 11	Alyssa Agnola	11O	For an act of kindness - grateful and generous

CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2022

Our Year 7's this year are collecting for the International Aid Shoebox Appeal. Any items for this appeal will be gratefully received. Pupils will recall that Julie from the charity came to talk to us about the appeal a few weeks ago. Many of the boxes this year will go to Ukraine. We are collecting for young people aged 10 - 13 years, items should be new and suggestions for donations are:

- Hats/Scarf/Gloves
- Sweets
- Stationery
- Soft toys
- Soap/Flannel
- Toothbrush/Toothpaste

Your child is very welcome to make up a box which should be wrapped but not sealed, and labelled boy/girl and the age. Alternatively, we would be very grateful for any new, single items.

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PARENTAL INFORMATION

We would like to draw your attention to an information document which is for parents only. We believe the advice in this guidance will assist parents in having an open conversation about mental health with their children. Some of the content may be upsetting for children so we would advise that parents use their own discretion when sharing the content.

<https://www.papyrus-uk.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Copy-of-Supporting-your-child-ENG-version-FINAL.pdf>

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The parishes of St. Anthony and Holy Family will be starting preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation after Christmas. If anyone in Years 8 or 9 (or above) wishes to receive the Sacrament, please complete an application form so that you can get details. There are application forms at the back of both churches and on the parishes' website.

RUGBY RESULTS

The Preston Schools' rugby fixtures have commenced with the first round of games taking place at Preston Grasshoppers RUFC on Wednesday, 16 November for Year 10 and 11 combined team. Those in the team had been looking forward to this first round of fixtures for quite some time and had prepared well. They played two 20 minute fixtures against Ashton Community Science College and Archbishop Temple School and gained comfortable victories in both. Beating Ashton 5-0 and Archbishop Temple 28-15. Finn Hurley of Year 11 showed his class by scoring 4 tries over the two games; using his experience of playing in the backs to control the defensive line and evading the opposition with excellent pace when gaining possession from turnovers. Henry Latham of Year 10 also had a fantastic game at scrum half, managing to find players with excellent passes out of the ruck whilst ensuring we kept possession after a tackle. His conversion kicks from the tee were also excellent, scoring 4 out of 4. These kicks were key to the success against Archbishop Temple, who could not match the accuracy of Henry with their own conversions. Will Russell of Year 10 also scored a try against Archbishop Temple, while Hector Draper, Liam Swarbrick and Dylan Jackson worked hard at the breakdown to ensure our defensive line was not often broken. All members of the team contributed to an outstanding set of results. Others not mentioned earlier included Liam McCaul, Joseph Thompson, Isaac Dickinson, Will Murray, Harry Hargreaves, Isaac Kelly, Osian McQuoid and Daniel Stewart. The boys that represented the team showed fantastic Our Lady's virtues and kept their calm when faced with some challenging situations. They were thrilled with their own performances and look forward to another round of fixtures in the next term.

On Wednesday, 24 November, the Year 7 rugby team made their debut at Preston Grasshoppers. In their first match against Archbishop Temple, the team showed an abundance of grit, determination and of course, a great deal of talent. Sam Walmsley was the star man for this match as his self-converted tries put us in front up until the very last play of the game as ABT snatched a 19-14 victory.

Their second game of the night was against a well drilled Ashton. Our boys held their own for a while but ultimately the two experienced rugby players in the Ashton ranks were the difference and a comfortable victory was played out for them - this said however, there were pockets of brilliance from our team with notable plays from Bobby Peace, Lewis Shaw and Jacob Maughan.

NETBALL NEWS

The Year 8 squad was in action on Monday, 21 November away to Archbishop. 8A played first. They were missing a couple of key players and had a tough first half, struggling to get the ball into the shooting circle. We were five goals down after the first 12 minutes. However, after a half time tactics talk, the girls came out much more positively. Emma Finnigan and Evie Mitchell shot well, and we brought the ball down court much quicker. We were also better at closing Archbishop down and got several key interceptions as a result. Our Lady's scored more goals than our opponents but the deficit from the first half was just too great. The final score was 9-7 to Archbishop. However, the

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girls showed great determination throughout. Player of the match went to Emma Finnigan who shot well under pressure in the closely contested game.

It was then the turn of 8B. Again, they were missing a couple of key players. Hannah Cleary-Condron played out of position at Goal Attack, followed by Zuzanna Dunaj. Both girls made positive contributions to the game. Our Lady's were always going to have a hard match as we were facing Archbishops A team. However, the girls did not let this deter them. We showed great determination and resilience and had some good spells of possession. Poppy Moss scored our only goal of the game. The final score was 13-1 to Archbishop. Player of the match went to Liana Kiraga who made some excellent interceptions in defence.

The Year 11 girls and 10/11 mixed team had an away fixture on Wednesday, 24 November away at Longridge. The girls played first in a very close, end to end match. It was 6-5 to Our Lady's at half time. In the second half Longridge pulled away by two goals. With less than five minutes remaining on the clock Our Lady's were determined to pull it back. A few mistakes from Longridge and some key interceptions by Our Lady's saw us trailing by one goal with less than two minutes to go. However, we maintained our composure and kept possession of the ball. Millie Lonergan and Sophie Johnson created space well in the circle and we managed to equalise. It was then our centre pass with just seconds remaining. Unfortunately, time got the better of us and the game ended 11 all. Player of the match went to Millie Lonergan. A huge thank you to Lillie Heath and Lucy Beesley, both in Year 10, who stepped in at the last minute and played really well.

The Year 10/11 mixed team were up next. With only a few training sessions under our belt our lack of match experience showed in the first half. Longridge fielded a team of seven boys who had been training quite a while. They dominated the first half, and we were trailing 8-1. However, after a few tactical changes at half time, Our Lady's had a much stronger second half. Hector Draper and Jay Pearson made several interceptions in defence. Will Russell got free well in the circle and scored some great long-range shots. The second half was a lot more equally matched with each team scoring four goals each, but this was not enough to catch Longridge and the final score was 12-5 to our opponents. However, both teams are very keen for a re-match. Player of the match went to Hector Draper due to his excellent defending in the shooting circle. Thanks also goes to Millie Lonergan, Jay Pearson, Joel Craig, Osian McQuoid, Will Russell, Liam Swarbrick, Erin Blackburn, Holly Helm, Beth Moir and Lucy Beesley.

Dates to remember

Wednesday, 7 December – Christmas lunch

Friday, 16 December – school closes for Christmas – school closes at 12.45 pm

Wednesday, 4 January – school opens

Thursday, 12 January – Year 11 Parents' Evening 2

Thursday, 26 January – Year 10 Parents' Evening

Thursday, 2 February – Year 8 Parents' Evening

Thursday, 9 February - Paris Trip

Thursday, 23 February – Year 9 Parents' Evening

Thursday, 23 March – Year 7 Parents' Evening

Friday, 10 February – school closes for half-term

Tuesday, 21 February – school opens