

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 25

24th March 2023



Prayer Theme Next Week: Friendship (John 11:1-45)

'I am the resurrection and the life'. (John 11: 25)

This Gospel, *The Raising of Lazarus*, helps us to reflect on how we feel when we lose someone. Lazarus is loved by many, including Jesus. When Jesus discovers that his friend has died, we hear the shortest verse in the Bible, '*Jesus wept*'. He is fully human and fully God. Jesus does not escape the same feelings as we feel when we experience loss.

Sometimes, our friends and family members become lost and sad for many reasons. They too are stuck in a dark place like Lazarus. We don't need to be dead to need raising up. As people of God, and especially during Lent, let us take responsibility for those around us who need a word of hope, an act of kindness, a show of compassion.



Almighty Father,

Help me to appreciate my friends and family every day and accept their help when I need it the most.

Help me to always show love and compassion.

Amen.

BOOO Virtues

Congratulations

Year 7:

Ajit Singh, Paige Lowe & Monica Nixon
Attentive, Discerning & Compassionate

Year 8:

Betsy Lee, Milosz Skrzdlak & Abigail
Maymon
Attentive, Discerning & Compassionate

Year 9:

Emily Boyle and Jack Brindle
Attentive, Discerning & Compassionate

Year 10:

Scarlett Willans
Helpful and Discerning

Year 11:

Asher Shahbaz
Learned and Wise



Pledge Badge Award

There are lots of extra curricular activities and trips happening in school. Every child earns Pledge Points for the extra curricular activities they join in with.



Prince's Trust Achieve Award

On Friday, 17th March, four pupils from Year 8 visited Brookfield Care Home as part of their Prince's Trust Achieve Award.

They made tea and coffee for the residents and enjoyed chatting with them. They will be visiting again very soon to play bingo with the residents.



Being One of Ours

Year 8 Futures Day



On Wednesday, 15th March, Year 8 were visited by the Young Enterprise team as part of the 'Learn to Earn' programme.

It was an opportunity for pupils to reflect on their talents and skills, to learn about a wide range of careers and the education pathways associated with them. To learn about starting salaries, tax, the cost of living and take part in financial planning and budgeting activities.

The pupils really enjoyed the day and many of them expressed how much they learnt about different careers, salary levels and the cost of different lifestyle choices.



Visitors from Kathe Kollwitz School, Germany



On Friday, 17th March, the pupils and staff enjoyed a visit from representatives of Kathe Kollwitz Schule from Germany.

Preston has enjoyed links with the town of Recklinghausen, Germany since 1956 through the Town Twinning Partnership.

Head teacher, Michael Neckenig along with teachers: Lisa Ten Eicken and Katharina Baumeister met different groups of children throughout the day following their meeting with Mayor Neil Derby, at Preston Town Hall.

Terry Mattinson, Our Lady's Youth Worker, introduced the staff to different groups of pupils from different year groups. They asked about life at Our Lady's High School and what the children enjoyed most. The pupils were really excited to share what they have been learning and the extra curricular activities they take part in. Pupils listened intently as they compared their school days, learning experiences and exams with those of pupils in Germany.



Coffee Morning Celebrations

On Tuesday, 21st March, three pupils from the Faith in Action Group visited the coffee morning at North Preston Evangelist Church to serve tea and coffee; talk to members of the local community; and tidy up after the event.

To celebrate a number of milestone birthdays in the community, a lovely cake had been arranged by the church. They asked the youngest member from Our Lady's, Monica, to cut the cake along with a lady celebrating her 80th birthday. The children and community really enjoyed their time together.



Animal Care

Every lunchtime, a group of Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils volunteer, on a rota basis, to take care of the animals with Mrs. Arden.

Pupils clean out the animal pens, restock the animal bedding, make sure they have enough clean drinking water and keep the area tidy. Pupils enjoy spending time handling and caring for their furry friends: Oreo, Gingernut, Teddy, Coco, Caramel and Pickles.



The Entrepreneur Enterprise Competition

All Year 8 pupils will be taking part in The Entrepreneur Enterprise Competition in their Design & Technology lessons, which started on Monday 20th March. Pupils will be working in groups of three and will be given a £10 loan by OLCHS. The loans are repayable on 10th May 2023 for forms O, U & R and 11th May 2023 for forms L, A & D.

They must run enterprising activities (the Easter holidays will be good for this!), which will allow them to make as much profit from their loan as possible. All profit is to be kept and equally distributed within the groups. Each group will make a short presentation (including photographic evidence) to their class about their activities and a winning team from each class will be selected and then go on to compete in a grand final on 17th May. Good luck!

RULES

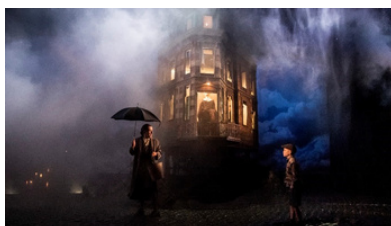
- Pupils are not allowed to do the lottery or play the lottery.
- Pupils must not sell goods within school time under any circumstances. This includes selling sweets on the quad or yard at break or lunch.
- Pupils should refrain from cake sales and car washes, trying to be more creative with their ideas.
- All groups will be expected to pay the £10 loan back in full.
- The work that pupils do in their groups must be divided up equally between all three members. Profit must be shared out equally at the end of the activity.
- Groups **MUST** provide photographic evidence of their activity.



An Inspector Calls

On Wednesday, 15th March, one hundred and forty three Year 10 and 11 pupils enjoyed an excellent evening performance of the play 'An Inspector Calls' directed by Stephen Daldry at the Liverpool Empire Theatre.

For the Year 10 pupils, this was a first encounter with the play that they will be studying as part of their GCSE English Literature course. For the Year 11 pupils, it was an excellent revision opportunity. Aside from the academic value of the visit, the opportunity to see an acclaimed performance of a play which remains topical today, was appreciated by all.



Preston Sea Cadets Visit Year 8

Yesterday, Colour Sergeant Dowd and Petty Officer Edgar visited school to talk to the Year 8 pupils about opportunities with the Sea Cadet branch in Preston.

Two of our own pupils were also on hand to talk about their experiences and enjoyment of the Sea Cadets. Leon and Mark have recently spent some time at the Royal Marines Commando Training Centre in Lympstone. Leon is also preparing to spend a week sailing around the south coast of the UK in May with the cadets.

Colour Sergeant Dowd made sure the Year 8s were active in assembly with one of the pupils trying on a fully packed Bergen and other groups working through rope and knot challenges.

The officers explained that the Sea Cadets was an opportunity to develop pupils' skills, make friends, develop confidence and enjoy the range of experiences on offer. For anyone wanting to learn more about the Sea Cadets, please visit: www.sea-cadets.org/preston



Big Walk for Cafod

This Lent, every pupil has taken part in a Reconciliation Service with our Chaplain, Sarah.



As part of this service, we went on a short walk in a combined effort to raise money for the CAFOD Big Lent Walk. Each pupil is being asked to bring in a small donation of £1 or 50p which is being collected in Form Time. Parents and Carers are also able to make a donation on SCOPAY. Many thanks for your continued support.

Dance and Drama News

UCLan Dance Your Heart Out Workshop

On Tuesday, final-year dance students, from the University of Central Lancashire, visited school to perform a piece of work they had choreographed as part of their studies. They talked about the inspiration for the piece, how long they had to prepare it and how they fit in rehearsals around their studies.

At the end of each session, the girls hosted a Question and Answer session. Pupils asked a variety of interesting questions about how far the students had travelled to study at UCLan, what they do alongside their studies and their plans after graduation. Pupils were interested to learn that a number of the dancers are starting further studies towards primary and secondary teaching qualifications at the end of their degree.

Later in the day, a group of approximately forty pupils took an active role in the dance workshop led by the UCLan students.



Shrek the Musical Auditions: Monday 27th March at 3:40pm

Auditions are at 3:40pm on Monday, 27th March. For a full Audition Pack, please use the link below:

www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk/olchs/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/OLCHS-Audition-Pack-Shrek-Jr.pdf



Sports News

Year 9 Football

The Year 9 team secured safe progress into the next round of the Preston Cup after a close 2-0 victory over Archbishop Temple on Tuesday 21st March.

The scorers were Josh Barritt and Lee Reed. The team will now face Broughton High School in the next round.



Badminton

On Monday, Our Lady's hosted a badminton tournament against Archbishop and Fulwood as part of the Preston Schools' League.

We had some good individual and doubles performances from Julia, Megan, Zuzanna, Jemma and Amelia.

We just missed out on winning overall. However, it was a great experience with lots of positives to take away, together with areas to work on to develop our game.



Preston Schools' Netball Tournament

On Wednesday, the Preston Schools' Netball Tournament, organised by Our Lady's, took place at St. Cecilia's and Longridge. There were twenty teams involved, which is more than we have ever had before.

Our Lady's were the only school to have B teams in both age groups, which is testament to the commitment to training from Year 9 and 10 students. Both Year 9 teams had some tough matches in their league. Our Lady's A narrowly missed out on a place in the semi-finals finishing a very close third, behind Broughton and Longridge.

Year 10 B were the only B team in the whole Year 10 tournament. They were also in a very tough league with Archbishop, Broughton and St. Cecilia's A teams. However, they showed great determination and resilience against all three schools and had some close matches. Year 10 A finished runners up in their league and so made it through to the semi-finals where they faced Archbishop. The match was end-to-end with neither team able to create any distance in the score. The game finished in a draw. Consequently, both schools faced a nail biting extra five minutes to decide a winner who would go through to the final. Our Lady's fought really hard until the final whistle, but narrowly missed out by just one goal and so finished third overall. However, it was a fantastic effort and each pupil played absolutely brilliantly under pressure.



Sports News

Under 16: 3v3 Basketball Tournament



The new and exciting 3v3 basketball competitions have started taking place as part of a pilot scheme organised through the Lancashire Schools' Basketball Association.

The first event formed part of the U16 category and was held at Garstang Academy on Monday 20th March. Our Lady's along with four other local schools took part in the new format and it was a tremendous success. The fast paced, non-stop style of competition tested the skill and fitness of those involved and the standard of basketball shown by all involved was a credit to the hard work of P.E. and sport staff in the area, developing a real depth of talent. The Our Lady's team included Will Murray, Harry Hargreaves, Liam McCaul, Finn Hurley and Joel Craig.

A tough first match against Hutton Grammar saw us lose 6-3, followed by another loss to eventual winners Longridge High 5-2. By now the players had managed to get into the rhythm of the game and beat Archbishop Temple 6-0 in a convincing victory. This left hosts Garstang Academy in the final game and it became a thoroughly well-matched fixture with the scores tied at 5-5 until the final buzzer, when Garstang squeezed in a final point to seal the victory.

Next week sees the turn of the Year 7s in the 3v3 competition followed by the U14 competition the following week.



Year 10 and Year 11 Mixed Netball : Preston Schools' Tournament

On Wednesday, 22nd March, the Preston Schools' Netball Tournament, organised by Our Lady's took place at St. Cecilia's and Longridge. There were twenty teams involved, which is more than we have ever had before. Our Lady's were the only school to have B teams in both age groups, which is testament to the commitment to training from year nine and ten students. Both year nine teams had some tough matches in their league, Our Lady's A narrowly missed out on a place in the semi-finals finishing a very close third behind Broughton and Longridge.

Year 10 B were the only B team in the whole year 10 tournament. They were also in a very tough league with Archbishop, Broughton and St. Cecilia's A teams. However, they showed great determination and resilience against all three schools and had some close matches. Year 10 A finished runners up in their league and so made it through to the semi-finals where they faced Archbishop. The match was end to end with neither team able to create any distance in the score. The game finished in a draw. Consequently, both schools faced a nail biting extra five minutes to decide a winner who would go through to the final. Our Lady's fought really hard until the final whistle, but narrowly missed out by just one goal and so finished third overall. However, it was a fantastic effort and each pupil played absolutely brilliantly under pressure.

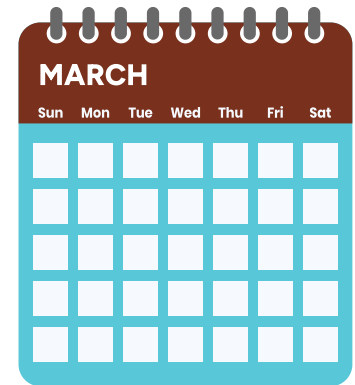


Information

Dates for your Diary

- Monday 27th March - Auditions for Shrek The Musical
- Wednesday 29th March - Year 10 Art Trip to Liverpool
- Thursday, 30th March - Music Concert in the Arts Theatre
- Friday, 31st March - Textiles School Trip
- Tuesday, 4th April - Year 10 Futures Day
- Thursday, 6th April - School closed for Easter at 12:45pm

Easter Break



- Monday, 24th April - School opens for Summer Term
- Wednesday, 26th April - Year 8 Normandy
- Wednesday, 26th April - Y10 Young Enterprise Competition
- Monday, 1st May - School closed
- Monday, 8th May - School closed for the Coronation of King Charles III
- Friday, 26th May - School closes for half term holidays

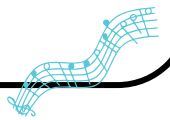
Half Term

- Friday, 9th June - Sunday, 11th June - Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Practice Expedition

Music Concert: 30th March 2023

You are invited to an evening of musical entertainment featuring our own pupils.

Tickets are available to purchase on SCOPAY at a cost of £3 per person on a first come first serve basis.



St. Catherine's Prom Dress Pop-up Event



The event will take place in The Garden Room at St. Catherine's Hospice, Lostock Lane, Lostock Hall on Saturday and Sunday, 25th and 26th March, from 10am until 4pm. For more information, call: 01772 313063.

Information

NSPCC: Listen Up Speak Up

The NSPCC have launched a ten minute training to give adults practical advice on what to do if they're concerned about a child. In January, this year, the Listen Up, Speak campaign was launched following a 14% increase in calls to their helpline about in-personal sexual abuse compared with the previous year.

If you would like to take part in the short online, training, please click the link:

www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/listen-up-speak-up



changetalks

Change Talks is a multi-award winning, health education service delivered by the Prevention and Engagement Team at Lancashire and South Cumbria Foundation Trust.

The team are running a series of workshops via Zoom for parents and carers, to support learning on different mental health topics, including a session on learning disabilities and autism.

For more information or to join a session visit lscft.nhs.uk/changetalks/workshops or scan the QR code



Lancashire
County Council



Let's
GROW
PRESTON

Easter Half Term Activities Grange Park

Join us at Grange Park for a family fun day, full of Easter activities for everyone to enjoy.

Activities Include:

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Arts and Crafts
- Nature Trail Walk
- Egg Decorating

Wednesday 5th April,
1:00 – 3:00pm at
Grange Park Milton
Drive, Ribbleson,
Preston, Lancs, PR2
6EN

Food Provided
on the day

Please call 01772 531948 or email
cfwprestongroups@lancashire.gov.uk
to book a place.

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Being One of Ours

Careers

Current Vacancies Our Ladys' Catholic High School



- Cleaner (12 hours/week: Term Time plus 5 Inset days and 3 cleaning weeks) - Closing date: 27th March
- Business Support Attendance Officer (20 hours/week: Term Time only) - Closing date: 31st March
- Teacher of Design Technology - Closing Date: Monday 24th April

For full the full details, please take a look at the school website and download an application form. The deadline for all applications is 12 noon on the dates shown above:

www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk/school/information/vacancies

HSBC Foundation Apprenticeships



HSBC's Foundation Apprenticeships are now open for application at various locations and areas across the bank, all with an expected an expected start date of July 2023!



Application deadline: 26 March 2023.

HSBC would encourage you to apply sooner rather than later. Good luck! If you have any questions, please email: apprenticeship.team@hsbc.com

Apprentice Highways Operative



Lancashire County Council is pleased to offer Apprentice Highways Operative opportunities. These 24-month training opportunities are based in various locations across Lancashire within the Highways Service, with 7 vacancies across Lancashire. As a Lancashire County Council apprentice, you will be fully supported with specialist training, internal work rotation and a full mentor support system to ensure you get the best out of the apprenticeship.

The course will start in August 2023 and you will be expected to show a commitment to learning during your apprenticeship training.

To find out more information about the role and how to apply use the following link to the website: www.lancashire.gov.uk/jobs

Being One of Ours