

# Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 6  
20th October 2023



## Prayer Theme Next Week: Love (Matthew 22:34-40)

Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. You must love your neighbour as yourself.'

Whenever we serve someone in need in any form, we are doing it to Jesus himself. Jesus taught us to see him in every face that we meet. When we serve and love others, we have a unique encounter with Jesus.

Mother Teresa is quoted as saying: "I see Jesus in every human being. I say to myself; this is hungry Jesus, I must feed him. This is sick Jesus. This one has leprosy; I must wash him and tend to him. I serve because I love Jesus".

Dear Lord,

I ask that you help me to love my neighbours with that same kind of love that you extend towards me.

Amen.

## BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Muhammad Patel - intentional and prophetic

Keira Kirkham - learned and wise

Year 8: Bobby Peace - compassionate and wise

Year 9: Zachary Craig - learned and wise

Year 10: Max Fryzowski - attentive

Year 11: Maja Skrzydlak - attentive and discerning



*Being One of Ours*

## Geography GCSE Fieldtrip to Liverpool

As part of their Geography GCSE course over 100 pupils visited Liverpool this week.

The aim of the fieldtrip was to investigate:

*'To what extent does Liverpool provide socio-economic and environmental opportunities?'*

The three key questions to explore:

1. What are the characteristics of Liverpool as a major UK city?
2. How has Liverpool changed over time?
3. What are the socio-economic and environmental opportunities and challenges in Liverpool?



The task was to collect primary data using a questionnaire, environmental quality survey, pedestrian count and service tally in two contrasting locations of Liverpool, the Albert Dock and Bold Street. The successful outcome of the visit will be reflected in developing and enriching knowledge and understanding for Geography GCSE in Paper 2 and Paper 3.

## Cardinal Newman College Visit

Vicky Bryant, Vice Principal of Cardinal Newman College attended Our Lady's on Monday as part of Year 11 exposure to different colleges that they may like to attend next year. Vicky discussed T levels, A levels and BTEC courses, along with the huge plethora of extra-curricular opportunities.

This completes the talks for Year 11 and it is now time to ensure that they visit the various open days and begin making their choices as early applications are very much welcomed by colleges. You can apply now via their websites.



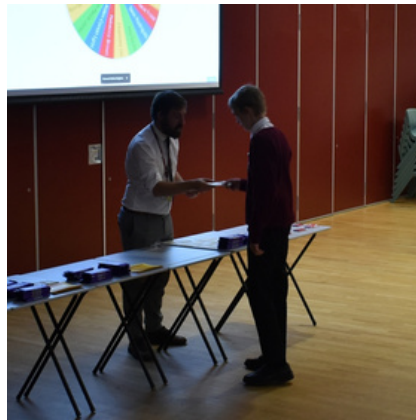
## Rewards Breakfast

Huge congratulations to 135 Y8 pupils who attended a rewards breakfast with their friends this morning during form. Pupils with outstanding behaviour and punctuality to lessons were invited to have some toast and juice. It was a wonderful atmosphere and a great way to end a busy half term.



## Rewards Assemblies

Rewards Assemblies, one for each year group, celebrating the achievements of our pupils over the last few weeks rounded off a very busy half-term on Friday morning.



## Girls Football

Congratulations to the U14 girls football team who beat Fulwood 5-2 on Tuesday. The team is currently being captained by Orla Chew in Year 9 who is doing a sterling job of organising and encouraging the team on the pitch. The player of the match goes to Karley Roscoe for her determination and grit throughout the game.

## Year 8 Football

The Year 8 B team beat Christ the King Catholic High School 5-1 on Wednesday 18th October. The standard of football was fantastic with great link up play through Harry Boardman and Lewis Shaw in the centre of midfield, supplying Jack Fletcher with excellent chances in front of goal. Awais Ali showed good composure on the ball in defence, working alongside William Fox to deny many scoring opportunities for the opponents. Goal scorers on the night included Max Coupe, Ben Martin and Luke Moyes.

## Cross Country

Fifty-six Our Lady's pupils from across all year groups represented the school in the annual district cross country event held at St Cecilia's and Longridge High Schools on Friday 13th October. The course had taken on quite a bit of rain over the previous two weeks which made it particularly heavy underfoot and those running in the later races felt the most impact of this. The conditions did not deter the team and all of those who took part represented the school with fantastic dedication and commitment. There were also some tremendous top 10 finishes by many Our Lady's pupils with some of those destined to represent the Preston district schools' team in the county competition in January 2024.



Those top 10 finishes included:

### U12 girls race:

Rose Bartlett - 5th  
Amelia Buchan - 6th  
Scarlett Allsop - 9th

### U12 boys race:

Sam Sutcliffe - 1st  
Rio Hawksworth-Faloon - 4th

### U14 girls race:

Charlotte Potts - 7th  
Charlotte Dudaniec - 9th

### U14 boys race:

George Hargreaves - 2nd  
Isaac Slack - 3rd

### U16 girls race:

Lucy Mulholland - 1st  
Lucy Beesley - 4th  
Freya Jones - 5th  
Heidi Clark - 8th  
Emily Barnes 9th

### U16 boys race:

Luke Kane 4th  
Jake Blackhurst 10th

## British Taekwondo Championships

Congratulations to Naomi Lam who competed in her first ever national Taekwondo competition at the University of Worcester last weekend. She did amazingly well in her under 14 category and only narrowly missed out on the semi-finals. However, Naomi did achieve a personal best score. An outstanding effort and we wish Naomi luck in any future British championships.



## Year 11 Football

Our Year 11 boys played Archbishop Temple away on Monday evening. The scores were opened early on in the game with a fantastic individual effort from Liam Taylor. Archbishop came back strongly and took a 2-1 lead before we equalised on the stroke of half time.

A few substitutions later, Our Lady's were in full control of the game but just couldn't find the back of the net. Archbishop would not back down however, and two quick fire goals had our defence wondering what had just happened. But after some calming words of encouragement from the sideline, Declan Abbott smoothly slotted one into the far corner and it was game on! Up stepped Bruce Leeming who puffed out his chest and worked solidly to complete a second half hat-trick to ensure Our Lady's claimed all three points. Final score ABT 5 - 6 Our Lady's.

## Netball

The Year 9 and 10 netball teams were in action this week in their first match of the season away to St. Cecilia's. The squad have been working hard and were eager to put the weeks of training into practice. The Year 9s started positively and managed to have a narrow two goal lead at half time. The new shooting combination of Emma Finnigan and Macy Wilson worked really well. This, together with Macey Shay now in defence, meant extra pressure on St. Cecilia's. We tried to play too fast at times and lost possession, but we addressed this at half time and the second half was much more fluent and controlled. Consequently, we won 13 goals to 9. Player of the match went to Emma Finnigan, who remained calm under pressure when shooting.



The Year 10 team had a tough game. We had a few new players, and we were trying out a few different combinations in the shooting circle. This, together with a strong St. Cecilia's side resulted in us trailing 7 -2 at half time. The second half brought more positives. Heidi Clark used her speed and agility to create shooting opportunities and got a fantastic goal from the edge of the circle. Isabelle Potts was strong in defence,

whilst Charlotte Finnigan worked tirelessly in centre court to attack and defend, resulting in her being awarded player of the match. Unfortunately, this was not quite enough and we lost 15-6, but she gave 100 per cent until the final whistle.

The B teams are making their season debut after half term and we wish them every success.

# Information

## Castlerigg Advent Retreat

Castlerigg Manor is running an Advent Retreat December 8-10th 2023.

Open to anyone in Year 7 and upwards - there will be separate streams for different age groups.

The Advent retreat is a chance to make some friends, deepen your faith and continue your Castlerigg journey.

There will be reflections, prayer times, social times, trips out, and more.

It costs £65, but please get in touch if you can't quite afford that – money shouldn't be an obstacle to coming

Anyone who is interested can find more information online - <https://castleriggmanor.com/advent-retreat/>

NB this is not a school trip, participants will have to arrange their own transport



## Dates for your Diary

Friday 20 October - School closes for half-term

Monday 30 October - Pupils return

Tuesday 31 October - Year 11 speed networking event

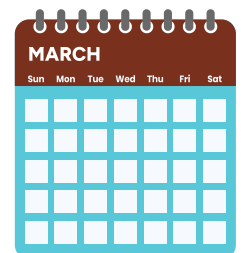
Thursday 2 November - Year 11 Parents Evening 1

Wednesday 15 November - PSHE Day 1

Thursday 16 November - Certificate Evening

Friday 17 November - Celebration Morning

Thursday 21 December - School closes for Christmas break



## Admissions 2024

The process of applying for high school places for September 2024 has now begun for year 6 pupils. Parents wishing to choose Our Lady's should apply online by following the link below or via the link on the school website.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-secondary-school/>

Parents should ensure that preferences are selected in the correct order as Lancashire County council always aim to offer places in order of preference. Please be aware that it is necessary to apply even if a brother or sister is already at our lady's and it is imperative that all applications are received before the deadline of **31 October 2023**.

In addition to the Lancashire application process, we ask that a supplementary information form is completed if you wish to be considered on faith grounds. The online form is available for completion on the school website [www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk) on the admissions page. To provide a baptismal certificate or faith reference please email [admissions@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@olchs.lancs.sch.uk). We no longer accept paper copies of the supplementary form.

# Careers

## Careers Cafe

Our new Careers Cafe will be launching after half-term. This will be held fortnightly with a guest representing a particular field of work. Small groups of pupils, with a genuine interest in a career in that field will be able to participate, allowing for bespoke questioning, feedback and information on the best ways to get into that field.



## OLCHS Alumni Group

It gives me great pleasure to announce the OLCHS Alumni Group is now up and running, our first member being former pupil Maria Morris who works for Lancashire Police.



Maria attended Our Lady's from 1990 to 1995 and highlights of her time at Our Lady's include lots of sporting events at town sports (which Our Lady's won every year while she was here), French and maths lessons. On her recent visit to school a brief tour brought back some lovely memories and Maria spent some time looking at all the old pictures in Reception, spotting herself and friends in them. Maria will feature on our new alumni display in school.

If you would be interested in joining the Alumni Group, please click the link below and fill in the very short Google form.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdXE0m9zjKi8Kj4GzxnEpXTHTlKt3nTbyclQ00K2-vqk3DFpg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdXE0m9zjKi8Kj4GzxnEpXTHTlKt3nTbyclQ00K2-vqk3DFpg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Thanks Mrs Lin

## Train to Teach in Local Schools

**Recruitment is open now for our teacher training courses starting September 2024.**

The Catholic Teaching Alliance is based at Our Lady's Catholic High School. The minimum requirements for our 1 year PGCE with QTS (qualified teacher status) teacher training courses are GCSEs in Maths and English (and Science for primary), plus an honours degree, class 2:2 or above.

Teacher training (PGCE with QTS) is available in all phases:

- Early Primary (3-7 years) and General Primary (5-11 years), in Preston
- Secondary (11-16 years, in Preston or Blackburn)
- Secondary with post 16 (14-19 years, in Preston)

Online information sessions are Mondays in term-time, 5.00pm -6.00pm,

To book, call 01772 326931 or email [CTAPGCE@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:CTAPGCE@olchs.lancs.sch.uk)

Website: <https://www.catholic-teaching-alliance.org/>





# Careers

## Hutton Sixth Form Open Evening



100% pass rate  
for A levels  
(2022)

Best school  
sixth form in  
Lancashire\*

88% of students  
achieved a grade B  
or higher (2022)

**Thursday 19th October  
6pm-8pm**

**Make our Hutton your Hutton**

\*The Times Parent Power Guide 2023

**NHS**

**Blackpool Teaching  
Hospitals**  
NHS Foundation Trust

### **BLACKPOOL TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST CAREERS OPEN DAY**

Are you interested in finding out about the many different careers that are available at Blackpool Teaching Hospitals?

If so, join us on our Careers Open Day where you can speak to a wide range of different healthcare professionals in our Education Centre.

**SATURDAY 4TH  
NOVEMBER**

**DROP IN ANYTIME  
BETWEEN  
10AM - 2PM**

**EDUCATION CENTRE,  
BLACKPOOL TEACHING  
HOSPITALS, FY3 8NR**

**ALL WELCOME!**



*Being One of Ours*