

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 8
10th November 2023



Prayer Theme Next Week: Be Ready (Matthew 25:1-13)

Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming.

One of the symbols used in baptism is a candle. When the candle is lit, the Priest or Deacon says to the Parents and Godparents, 'This light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. They are to walk always as a child of the light. May this child keep the flame of faith alive in their heart.' With the light of faith present at our baptism, the main work is just now beginning - to keep the light burning brightly. This is where the virgins are really revealed as wise or foolish. Both groups have the light but only one keep their light alive.

Dear Lord

May we keep the light of faith burning brightly, both in our own hearts, and in the hearts of those for whom we care.

Amen

BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Kiera Kirkman - learned and wise

Year 8: Oliver Lutan - attentive and discerning

Year 9: Betsy Lee - intentional and prophetic

Year 10: Rebecca Brown - prophetic

Year 11: Milly Breeze - attentive
and discerning



The Fallen

They went with songs to the battle, they were
young,

Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds
uncounted;

They fell with their faces to the foe.
They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow
old;

Age shall not weary them, nor the years
condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

Laurence Binyon

Being One of Ours

Critical thinking in Geography

This week in Geography, our 9B1 students delved into the fascinating topic of the UK's energy mix. For their homework assignment, they explored fracking, researching into its definition and the compelling arguments both for and against its implementation in the United Kingdom, all in an effort to address our nation's energy requirements.

In the classroom, our students engaged in a passionate and dynamic debate, where ideas and opinions flowed freely. Following these thought-provoking discussions, our esteemed chair and advisory panel thoughtfully deliberated and ultimately came to the decision that fracking should not be a part of the UK's energy mix.

We are proud of the critical thinking and dedication our students demonstrated throughout this valuable learning experience.



BAE Design and Technology Challenge

Congratulations to all year 9 pupils who recently took part in the British Aerospace Engineering Design and Technology Challenge.

Some very creative and innovative solutions were produced to solve the challenge set for how to clean and maintain Lancashire waterways by designing a product that could be quickly and cheaply manufactured by 3D printing. Well done everyone who took part and won their round in their Design and Technology classes!

Leo Goldsmith and Liana Kiraga were selected to represent the school and have now been given the opportunity to form a design team to go forward to the next stage of the competition with the possibility of pitching their idea to BAE at a later date.



U14 Basketball

The Our Lady's U14 Basketball teams competed in their first game of this year's Lancashire cup competition, by playing against themselves! This was the first time that we have entered an A and B team into this competition and this was due to the excellent participation culture that has been developed over previous years. As part of the group stage the A and B teams had to play each other and so the game was arranged for Thursday 9th November. The A team were victorious on this occasion but both teams played excellently, demonstrating many of the Our Lady's virtues in their performances. They now both need to play Tarleton Academy and Ormskirk School in their next fixtures.

U16 Rugby

The Year 10 and 11 combined rugby team claimed an excellent 28-10 victory over Archbishop Temple and Ashton Community Science College in the Preston Schools rugby competition. The fixture was held at Preston Grasshoppers RFC on Monday 6th November. It was an extremely competitive fixture with both teams demonstrating strong tackling and effective recycling of the ball, making some impressive runs through the defensive line and scoring some excellent tries. The slick conditions made for a few too many handling errors, resulting in the forwards having a lot of work to do in the scrum.

The exceptional cross field kicking from scrum half Henry Latham along with the high ball catching from Hector Draper stood out, both linking up to score tries on two occasions while the accuracy of Dylan Jackson's drop kicks and conversions were also outstanding. Liam Swarbrick controlled the scrum and turned over possession on numerous occasions both as a hooker and in the tackle. Other members of the squad included Connor McCluskey, Issac Cobb, William Russell, Osian McQuoid, Lucas Fallon Escobar, Lucas Simpson, Alex Coates, Matthew Lancaster-Brown, Seb Cookson, Jake Blackhurst, Harvey Jackson and Henry Monks.

Year 7 Girls Football

Huge well done to the Y7 girls football team who kicked off their Preston Schools Football competition on Thursday evening. The girls played Moor Park in their first game. They displayed some fantastic defending and created lots of shooting opportunities, but they just didn't convert. Within 5 or so minutes their play began to flow and the goals started to trickle in. OLCBS won 3-0

The girls then went on to play Corpus. The game was more physical due to the strength of the Corpus team and it took us a little longer to find our rhythm, but find it we did. With a lovely penalty scored from Amelia Buchan and fantastic defending from Katie Hanley and Olivia Assalone we were victorious. Final score 3-1 to OLCBS. Girl of the Game goes to our winger Scarlett Allsop.

Netball

On Monday Our Lady's travelled to Longridge to compete in the Under Sixteen Preston Schools netball league. Unfortunately, Longridge were unable to field a full team of girls and so they put out a mixed team. This meant they had to concede the points. However, we used it as an opportunity to participate in some extra match training. The game was very fast paced and at times, this resulted in us making some unforced errors.



In the second half, we were much more composed and produced some excellent attacking play. We also had the measure of our opponents in order to defend more successfully. However, the high goal tally that Longridge accumulated in the first half was too great to chase down and Longridge had the upper hand on the final whistle. However, the fast pace of the game was excellent preparation for the upcoming tournament and the team gained a lot of experience from the match.

We had four teams in action on Thursday against Archbishop Temple. Teams 9A and 10A played first. The Year 9s dominated from the off, had a five goal lead by half time and were yet to concede any goals. The team played very cohesively throughout and didn't really let Archbishop get into the game. The final score was 10-3 to us, with player of the match going to Charlotte Potts.

Year 10A were unfortunately missing a couple of key players and this, coupled with a slow first half saw us trailing by 7 goals to 3 at half time. However, the team came out fighting and matched Archbishop goal for goal in the second half, thanks to some excellent shooting from Heidi Clark. However, it wasn't quite enough and the final score was 11-7 in Archbishop's favour. Player of the match went to Isabelle Potts who was strong in defence and also a great play maker bringing the ball down court.

Archbishop didn't have B teams. However, we had these for both year groups demonstrating the commitment and dedication of pupils at Our Lady's. Consequently, we had to play their A teams, so it was always going to be tough. However, the girls rose to the occasion and despite losing both games, they showed great resilience and sportsmanship throughout. Players of the match for Year 9 and 10 went to Olivia Sawka and Nicola Zamorowska respectively. Olivia created lots of attacking opportunities, whilst Nicola worked tirelessly centre court.

Information

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) Day 1

On Wednesday pupils will come off timetable for the day in the first of three personal development days. These days give pupils the opportunity to develop their understanding of wider world issues and also enhance their personal skills. Each year group has a different theme tailored to their age.

Year 7 PSHE Topics: 1. Being Healthy

Diet, balanced diets, pregnancy, growing up, characteristics of mental health

Year 8 PSHE Topics: 1. Faith and Justice

Volunteering, Stewardship, Cafod (external speakers), Prayer, Equality

Year 9 PSHE Topics: 1. Mental Wellbeing

Wellbeing, mindfulness, coping strategies, social media, signs and where to find help

Year 10 PSHE Topics: 1. Healthy Relationships

Healthy relationships, consent, drugs/alcohol , RSE, family

Year 11 PSHE Topics: 1. Achieving Future Success:

Apprenticeships, Post 16 choices, Mock interview preparation, personal statements CV writing, finance, Compass bloom

Dates for your Diary

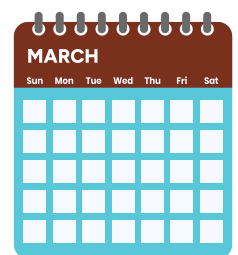
Wednesday 15 November - PSHE Day 1

Thursday 16 November - Certificate Evening - starts at 6.00pm

Friday 17 November - Celebration Morning - school closes at 12.40pm

Thursday 21 December - School closes for Christmas break at 12.40pm

Monday 8 January - All pupils return to school



Request from our Animal Care Group

We are looking for new runs for our animals. If you have a spare run that you are willing to let us have please contact Mrs Ardern jar@olchs.lancs.sch.uk

SCHOOL SYNERGY

Year 7 have now their pupil app available for them to use to see clubs, behaviour points and any class messages. The login works from their school Microsoft office 365 email.

To download the app pupils can click on the following links or search for School synergy student Select Our Lady's Catholic High School then login using Microsoft SSO

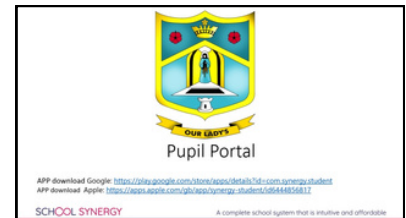
Google: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.synergy.student>

Apple: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/synergy-student/id6444856817>

Take a 2 minute tour of the Student Portal <https://vimeo.com/499996009/88f1948328> . *Please note. We are not currently using the homework feature on School synergy as homework is set and written in their school planner.

For information on how to login and navigate follow the linked image to the right to view a PowerPoint slideshow.

Should you have any problems logging in please email school.



Other Year groups - A message will go home when the next year groups are enabled. This is to allow the IT team to attend to any issues that arise with each year group.

Careers

Careers Cafe

Our new Careers Cafe will open on 16th November. For this first event we are delighted to welcome former pupil Emma Wilson, who is now a nurse. Pupils directly interested in nursing will be able to join Emma to hear more and to find out how to enter the profession.

College Open Days



Apprenticeships



BAE Apprenticeships applications are now open. Please check your school email for the link sent over half term. For any further help, please see Mrs Lin.



Apprenticeship applications for the March 2024 intake are now open. They have a range of apprenticeships on offer, from Technicians to Aftersales Customer Service Advisors.