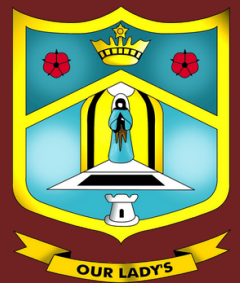


Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 19
9th February 2024



A Lenten Reflection.

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery" (Ex 20:2).

As we prepare ourselves for Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday during our half term holiday, let us reflect on the words of Pope Francis in his Lenten message for 2024.

"It is time to act, and in Lent, to act also means to pause. To pause in prayer, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan in the presence of a wounded brother or sister. Love of God and love of neighbour are one love.... For this reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the things that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us." Pope Francis 2024



Families to use at home Lenten Prayer Intentions



BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Jade Ross - curious and active

Year 8: Mollie O'Grady - compassionate and active
Annette Joseph - compassionate and attentive

Year 9: Charlotte Walker - active and curious

Year 10: Bartosz Kazmierczak - attentive and discerning

Year 11: Lucia Wright - intentional and prophetic



Being One of Ours

Parent Feedback

Thank you to parents and carers who recently attended parents' evening and kindly provided feedback on how well we are doing as a school.

We are proud to share with our school community such wonderful feedback and parent comments.



School Attendance Reward

Pupils who finished the term with two full weeks attendance were rewarded with an early break this Friday 9th February.



World Book Day 8th March 2024

As a school community, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday, 8th March. Please encourage your child to *Be One of Ours* and celebrate the day with us, by dressing as a character from a book. The day is always a wonderful occasion, and we encourage everyone to take part in the fancy dress competition. There are lots of prizes on offer. Good luck to all competitors!

To ensure a fantastic day for all, please adhere to the following:

- The costume must be easily distinguishable / distinctive to the character;
- Hair colouring, make-up, jewellery, etc. are all allowed and encouraged, if in keeping with the character. The bigger, the better!
- Onesies are acceptable, if distinctive to the character;
- A copy of the book, or photocopy of the front cover of the book, must be brought into school and be kept with the pupil for the duration of the day (order from local library or school library, or photocopy beforehand, if not owned);
- No revealing clothes i.e. midriff showing, strappy tops or short skirts to be worn;
- No inappropriate slogans, messages, or images on any item of clothing;
- Pupils are not to simply wear their own recreational clothes (joggers and a hoody etc.). The character must be easily identifiable. Balaclavas are not allowed.
- All adornments (hair colours, etc.) must return to adhere our school uniform policy by Monday, 11th March.



Ukulele Orchestra



Ukulele Orchestra meets on Thursdays from 3pm to 3.45pm in the Music Department. We are currently playing *Rip Tide*, *I'm a Believer* and *Pompeii*.

The Ukulele Orchestra is student-led and the group make their own choices about repertoire. Players work together to teach each other's the chords and strumming patterns for the different pieces of music.

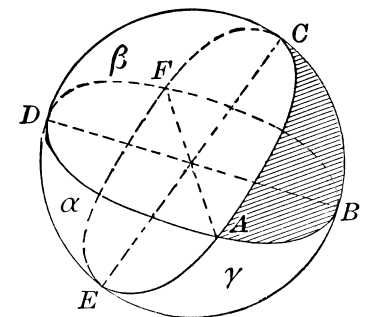
We have spare ukuleles and welcome new members - no prior experience necessary!

In Maths

On Friday 2nd February, Year 7B1 and 7B2 were involved in a taster session with Mr Bercial from the Lancaster University School of Mathematics (LUSOM). In the sessions pupils were introduced to the Axiom Circles sessions that are run at their campus in Preston.

Pupils were given the opportunity to test their mathematical thinking against a range of problems and discuss their different approaches. If pupils are interested to find out more they can enrol using the link below. Sessions take place every Wednesday (4.30pm – 5.30pm) at the LUSoM building on London Road in Preston (near the Range). In the circles, students are guided by a mentor to work through maths problems which challenge their thinking and require problem-solving skills.

www.lusom.ac.uk



$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Drama Class

Our extracurricular clubs have been exciting this term. In Drama & Musical Theatre Club, pupils have performed a new musical each week, including 'Six' which everyone got excited for. At Dance Club we have been learning Irish Dancing and created a full routine to one of Michael Flatley's classics. In our Stage and Screen Club, choir pupils have been belting out the songs from 'Six'.

Our groups will reconvene after the half term:

Monday (after school) - Drama and Musical theatre club

Wednesday (afterschool) - Dance club

Thursday (lunch) - Stage and Screen choir



Next half term we will be holding the BIG announcement of this year's whole school production... What will it be???



Local Theatre Group

Pupils from Our Lady's Catholic High School performed within a cast of 80 at the Lowther Pavilion last Saturday evening. This was part of Kidz4kidz theatre company, a not-for-profit group who give all the profit from their shows to a child in need or to a local children's charity.



Our pupils were highly praised for helping with front of house, being role models for the younger cast, and performing with immense energy.

Fantastic. Well done.

Children & Family Wellbeing Service

GROUPS FOR FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2024

Day	Group	Time	Venue
Monday 12 th February	Family Development Matters – Messy Play	9:30 – 11:30am	Ribbleton Family Hub, Ribbleton Hall Drive. PR2 6EE
	Family Stay and Play	9:30 – 11:30am	Preston West, Ashton Primary School Site, Ainsdale Drive, PR2 1TU
Tuesday 13 th February	Family Stay and Play	9:30 – 11:30am	Preston East, Brookfield Primary School, Watling Steet Road, PR2 6TU
	Family Inside Out	2:30 – 4:30pm	Moor Nook, Burholme Road, Ribbleton, PR2 6HN
Wednesday 14 th February	Teddy Bears Picnic	9:30 – 11:30am	Preston Central, Brieryfield Road, PR1 8SR
Thursday 15 th February	No Groups Running		
Friday 16 th February	Teddy Bears Picnic	9:30 – 11:30am	Preston East, Brookfield Primary School, Watling Steet Road, PR2 6TU
	Family Inside Out	1:00 – 3:00pm	Ribbleton Family Hub, Ribbleton Hall Drive, PR2 6EE
	Development Matters – Messy Play	1:00 – 3:00pm	Preston Central, Brieryfield Road, PR1 8SR

BOOKING NOT REQUIRED

Job Vacancies at Our Lady's Catholic High School



We have a number of job vacancies in school. Please visit Our Lady's Catholic High School website to view the current vacancies: -

- Temporary Business Support Officer
- Science Technician
- Teacher of Mathematics
- Pastoral Support Mentor
- Temporary Learning Support Assistant
- Cleaner (part-time)

[CLICK HERE](#)

Information

Safe Net Drop In Session



The poster features a central image of a person sitting on the floor with their head buried in their hands, surrounded by a cloud of black dots. To the right, there is a yellow speech bubble containing the text 'DROP IN: SAFENET Domestic Abuse Charity'. Below this, the text '10:00AM EVERY TUESDAY 14:00PM' is displayed. A large blue box contains the text 'You do not need an appointment WALK IN' and 'MOOR NOOK YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE Burholme Road, Preston PR2 6HN'. To the right of this box, it says 'FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DAOUTREACHPRESTON @SAFENET.ORG.UK 0300 303 3581'. At the bottom, there are logos for 'safenet a calico group service' and 'Lancashire County Council'.

Safe Net drop in session which will be held every Tuesday

Exam Invigilators Required

At Our Lady's we are always looking for new exam invigilators – we particularly need people to work with our pupils who have learning support needs.

If you know of any relatives or friends who would be interested, please would you ask them to make contact via email to: lga@olchs.lancs.sch.uk

Our exams run from 15 April until 19 June and full training is provided before then. Hourly rate is £13.45.

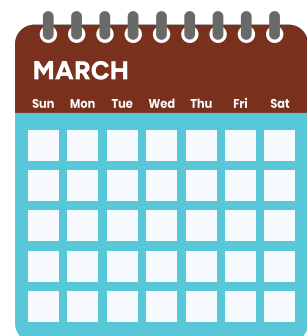
2024 Dates for your Diary

Friday 9 February - Half-term – school closes at 3.00 pm

Monday 19 February - INSET DAY – pupils at home

Tuesday 20 February - All pupils return to school

Friday 8th March - World Book Day !!



Sporting News



'Being One of Ours'

Jemma, an Our Lady's Catholic High School pupil, was recently presented with this amazing trophy by Preston Harriers for most promising female athlete.

A huge congratulations to Jemma. Over the course of the athletics season she has won eighteen medals. Furthermore, she has broken the club record in the Northern Athletics Championships, then proceeded to break that record again to win a silver medal in the final. She has gained numerous personal bests over the course of the season and is competing in the England Athletics Indoor Championships at Sheffield next weekend.

Lancashire County Swimming Success

Congratulations to Freya, Lucy M and Lucy B who competed in the first weekend of the Lancashire County Swimming 2024 Championships at Manchester Aquatics last weekend.

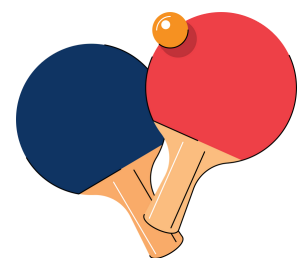
All girls qualified and competed in an array of different events across the weekend, competing hard against all the other Lancashire swimmers who had gained qualification into the 2024 championships.

A special mention to Lucy B who qualified for the 100m Butterfly final, gaining 7th place and the 50m Backstroke final, where she placed 3rd, winning a bronze medal in the event within her age group. This is a wonderful achievement.

Good luck to Lucy M who is competing in the second weekend of the championships this weekend. We wish her all the very best for a successful weekend.

Preston Schools League

Congratulations to the Year 10 and 11 table tennis team who finished third out of ten in the Preston schools league. There were some fantastic individual and team performances from Charlotte Walker, Emily Barnes, Scarlett Willans, Judy Ellbbany and Katy Brown.



British Schools Biathlon Success 2024

Thomas, Sophie, Finley, Lucy B, Lucy M, and Freya competed in the Northern Schools Modern Biathlon Qualifier at Edge Hill on Saturday 20th January 2024.

Congratulations to Lucy M, Lucy B and Freya who won the Year 11 girls Northern qualifier, placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Year 11 age group and to Finley who placed 3rd in the Year 10 age group.

Congratulations to Lucy M, Finley and Thomas who have qualified to compete in the British Schools Modern Biathlon Final to be held at Bath University on 23rd and 24th March 2024. We wish them all the very best success as they compete nationally against all other athletes.



U14 Girls Lancashire Cup

On Tuesday the U14 girls travelled to Morecambe in the 6th round of the cup. It was a particularly young team which consisted of predominately Year 8's. We knew it would be a tough game but also knew we had a strong backline and our usual outstanding keeper Evie Mitchell.



The first half passed very quickly with neither team showing any possibility of reaching the back of the net. At half time we switched things up a little. We knew our defensive line was strong so decided to give Charlotte Potts some space upfront to run and hopefully score. With Mathilda Hall on one wing and Charlotte Dudaniec on the other, the flow towards the oppositions goal finally started to happen and we began to challenge the keeper. After 10 mins we were 1 goal up from a very scrappy challenge in the goal mouth. We were then able to covert two corners from Zuzanna Rapa who found Charlotte Potts who scored a hatrick. A huge well done to all players, you were an absolute credit to watch.

The girls are now in the quarter final stages with opponents to be confirmed.

Careers

National Careers Week 2024



4th March 2024

National Careers Week (NCW) is a one-week celebration of careers guidance and free resources in education across the UK. Our aim is to provide a focus for careers guidance activity at an important stage in the academic calendar to help support young people develop awareness and excitement about their future pathways.

After half term we will have more information in school.

Careers Fair

Our Careers Fair will be held in school at Our Lady's on 20th March 2024.

Further details will be announced after the half term.



Cardinal Newman College Applications

Mrs Lin would like to remind all Year 11 pupils that the deadline for last applications is 10th February 2024.

[Cardinal Newman College website](#)