

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 21

1st March 2024



The Theme Next Week: LENT – GIVE (John 2: 13-25)

The Gospel is a reminder that the people selling their wares outside the Temple were talented moneylenders, farmers and tradespeople taking advantage of the busy footfall. Basically, using the Temple and all who entered it, to make money.

Our world revolves around money – but God is not interested in that. We are called to live in the world but not to become entangled in it. We are people of God and called to use our time and sometimes give our money to help others, to show our compassion.

Jesus gave his own life for us. What can we give back?

In this season of Lent, let us reflect on how we can give generously, expecting nothing in return.

Heavenly Father,

I come before you with a humble heart, asking for the grace to be generous.

Help me to give freely of my time, talents, and resources to those in need.

May my acts of kindness reflect your love for all of humanity.

In Jesus' name, I pray.

Amen.

BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Charlie Smith - learned and wise

Year 8: Josh Rothwell - compassionate and loving

Year 9: Liam Battle - curious and active

Year 10: Jacson Maguire - curious and active

Year 11: Natalia Gwiazdowska - learned and wise



Being One of Ours

ONLY A
FEW DAYS
TO GO

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.



Duke of Edinburgh Celebration Evening



On Thursday evening we celebrated the achievements of 64 of our Year 10 and 11 students who have gained their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Awards.

To complete the DofE Award you need time management, resilience, teamwork and leadership skills. It has been wonderful to see these qualities grow and develop in our students.

The Award is not just about the physical challenge of the expedition it also includes developing a skill and volunteering. We are proud with how generous our students have been with their time supporting our school and our local community through volunteering, collectively they have contributed more than 800 hours of community service. All of the Duke of Edinburgh students have been learning a new, or developing an existing skill and we have seen a huge range of skills which have been started or enhanced through the Award. Our students have been active, improving their physical fitness through taking part in both team and individual sports and they have shown themselves to be attentive and compassionate towards each other whilst on expedition.

During the presentation evening students shared their experiences of the Award and reflected on what they had learnt from completing it. Students and their parents and carers then were treated to a motivational talk from Darren Edwards with his message about creating a purpose in life of who you want to be and work towards that. Finally, students collected their hard-earned certificates and badges.



Photo. Darren Edwards

We are proud of all of the students that took part in the Award; we hope that they can reflect on their journey through the Award with happy memories and that it encourages them to take themselves out of their comfort zones more often, set themselves physical challenges, learn a new hobby or skill and give their time to helping others; all these things have been proven to support wellbeing.

Finally, we would like to thank all the staff who have volunteered their time to help students complete the Award. Without their support it would not be possible to run the programme.

Photos from the presentation evening will soon be available on the OLCBS Facebook page.

Motivational Talks

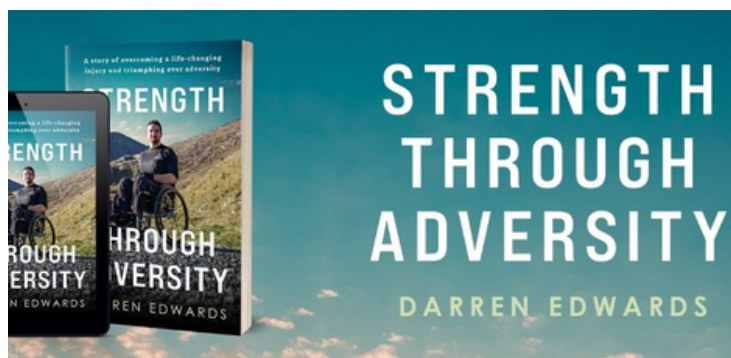
On Thursday, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 all received a motivational talk from Darren Edwards.

Darren is a former Mountaineer and Army Reservist who was paralysed in a near death climbing accident at the age of 26. Since then, Darren has become an active para-adventurer, expedition leader and author who has become a passionate champion of the phrase “strength through adversity”.

Adventure has been at the heart of Darren’s recovery. Since sustaining his life-changing injury and becoming paralysed from the chest down, Darren has taken on new and ambitious challenges – whether that be completing a marathon on every continent in 7 days or becoming the first person to kayak from Land’s End to John O’ Groats – a distance of over 1,400 kilometres across some of Europe’s most challenging coastal waters.

Darren spoke to the students about the fact that “we are not affected by events but the view that we take of them” and encouraged students to be accountable for their own lives by “facing it, owning it and changing it”. He also encouraged students to create a purpose or a mission statement for their lives, living by it and working towards it.

Feedback from the students was that the talk was incredibly inspirational and the questions that they asked during the Q and A session were wonderful.



Darren released his first book ‘Strength Through Adversity’ in February 2023 and it became an instant best-seller on Amazon in the UK. Darren spoke about the therapeutic impact writing down his thoughts had on aiding his recovery. Copies of Darren’s book can be found in the library as well as on Amazon.



Our Lady's Catholic High School Parent Feedback

" I am grateful for this brilliant learning environment at Our Lady's Catholic High School. The Head and all of the teachers are extremely hardworking and very knowledgeable."

Year 8 Parent

Reconciliation Services and Confession



Reconciliation Services have been taking place in school. This is a time of reflection and prayer.

Our visiting Priests are currently in school to hear confessions.

This beautiful Sacrament of Reconciliation has been offered to all pupils who wish to receive.

Rewards Breakfast

Year 9 enjoyed croissants in celebration of maintaining or improving their progress scores on their most recent reports.



Information

Targeted Youth Support - Upcoming Events

Tuesday, 2nd April (11:00 - 15:00):

Join us for an exciting BBQ party at Moor Nook Youth and Community Centre! From mouth-watering BBQ delights to lively music, there's something for everyone. This event, exclusively for ages 12-19 (up to 25 with SEND), welcomes you to a fun-filled atmosphere.

No need to book; just show up and enjoy the festivities!

Monday, 8th April (12:00 and 15:30):

Get ready for a cinematic treat on our Movie Day at Moor Nook Youth and Community Centre! The first showing at 12:00 features a PG film suitable for all ages. Lounge on bean bags, munch on popcorn, and sip on mocktails while enjoying the movie on the big screen. The second showing at 15:30 promises an action-packed film, ensuring an entertaining day out. Open to ages 12-19 (up to 25 with SEND).

No reservations required; simply turn up and relish the movie magic!

Tuesday, 9th April (13:00):

Elevate your day with our VIP experience at LEVEL! Bowling, pool, and delicious food await. Limited spots are available, so book your place now on a first-come, first-served basis. This exclusive event is for ages 12-19 (up to 25 with SEND), promising a day filled with fun and entertainment.

To secure your spot please email – PrestonTYS@Lancashire.gov.uk

Thursday, 11th April (10:00):

Calling all waterpark enthusiasts! Join us at Blackpool Sandcastles for a thrilling day of splashing and sliding. Spaces are limited, so secure your spot now for a day of aquatic fun and excitement. This fantastic waterpark adventure is open to ages 12-19 (up to 25 with SEND). Don't miss the chance to make a splash!

To secure your spot please email – PrestonTYS@Lancashire.gov.uk



Information

Targeted Youth Support - Upcoming Events



Targeted Youth Support
**Youth Zone
MOVIE DAY**

FIRST SHOWING AT 12:00
SECOND SHOWING AT 15:30

8TH APRIL 2024
Moor Nook Youth and Community Centre,
Burholme Road, Preston PR2 6HN

Ticket
FREE

CONTACT US
PRESTONTYS@LANCASHIRE.GOV.UK

Get stuck IN

Lancashire
County
Council



Targeted Youth Support
**BLACKPOOL
SANDCASTLES
TRIP**

11th April 2024

Setting off from -
Ribbleton
Children's Centre
at 10am.

Ribbleton Hall Drive,
Preston PR2 6EE.

BOOK NOW

PRESTONTYS@LANCASHIRE.GOV.UK

Lockers will be provided.

Get stuck IN

Lancashire
County
Council

2024 Dates for your Diary

- Thursday 7 March - Yr. 8 Futures Day
- Friday 8th March - World Book Day
- Tuesday 12 March - KS4 Information Evening 5pm to 7pm
- Thursday 14 March - PSHE Day 3
- Friday 15 March - Yr. 8 Blackpool Zoo Visit
- Thursday 21 March - Yr. 9 Parents' Evening
- Thursday 28 March - End of Term. School closes at 12.40pm



Sporting News

British Schools Biathlon Championships



Congratulations to our Year 11 pupil, Lucy, who has been selected to take part in the British Schools Biathlon Championships in Bath next month.

Lucy was chosen after her performance in the qualifying rounds, that took place at Edge Hill University in January.

Well done Lucy. A fantastic achievement.

New!

OLCHS Social Media



facebook.com/OurLadysCatholicHighSchool



instagram.com/olchs_fulwood

Being One of Ours

Careers

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

National Careers Week begins on 4th March 2024. All year groups will have an outside talk from local businesses with some year groups having two. In lesson time, pupils will engage in subject specific careers led links and there will also be a treasure hunt for pupils to engage with. We are very excited to celebrate and share the wonderful world of careers.

#NCW2024
VIRTUAL
Careers Fair

Additional resources to check out
for National Careers Week 2024

[Click Here](#)

OLCHS Careers Fair

On Wednesday 20th March 2024 Our Lady's will be hosting the annual Careers Fair. We are currently busy booking businesses to ensure pupils in Year 7 to Year 10 have the opportunity to attend the fair and start planting seeds for their futures.



If any parents would like to attend with their business, however big or small, please contact Mrs Lin at zli@olchs.lancs.sch.uk as we have 3 places left. We would be happy to welcome you.

Careers

R U N S H A W
C O L L E G E

Open Event!

Wednesday 6th March, 4pm-8pm

School Leavers – register now for our final Open Event of the year before the application deadline on April 1st.

PRESTON
COLLEGE

Open Day
7th March 2024

If your child is interested in attending the Preston College Open Event on Thursday 7 March from 3pm till 7pm please [click here](#).

Careers Cafe

Last week we had a visit from Our Lady's alumni and local beautician, Olivia Corless. Olivia runs her own business in all aspects of beauty.

We also invited Becky from Preston College to discuss the college course aspects of beauty.

There were 16 pupils in total, all with a genuine interest in beauty and make up, and were engaged throughout as they listened attentively to Olivia and Becky.



Being One of Ours