

# Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 23

15th March 2024



## The Theme Next Week: LENT – SERVICE

### The 5th Week of Lent. (John 12: 20-33)

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

The Gospel gives us a simple message. Jesus is talking to farmers who understand about the grain. It must 'die' so that it may go back to the earth and start to develop into a new plant. Unless we make those small sacrifices - that perhaps we don't want to make at first - we don't grow in our faith. When we serve others, we focus on their needs instead of our own. In doing so, we grow into great men and women, both spiritually and emotionally. Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice, and as we ponder on this during Lent, we get ready for the resurrection!

Give me a servant's heart, O Lord;

A soul that longs for you,

A spirit that daily seeks your will,

And strength to see it through.

Amen

*"Always be humble when serving others, especially the least of these, remembering how much you yourself have received that you did not deserve."*

**Pope Francis**

## BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Dane Lewis - learned and wise

Year 8: Harry Dawson - learned and wise

Year 9: Evie Holland Bass - learned and wise

Year 10: Charlotte Hill - attentive and discerning

Year 11: Taylan Brown and Tommy Turner - intentional and prophetic



*Being One of Ours*

## Mathematics Success

Pupils in Year 9B1, 9B2, 10x1E and 10x1A recently took part in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge, a national problem solving competition promoting mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency of mathematical techniques.

15 of our students achieved a certificate based on their score, which was a fantastic achievement. Samuel G achieved “Best In Year” for Year 9 with a silver certificate and Isabelle P in Year 10 achieved “Best In School,” receiving a gold certificate for the challenge. Adam S has also qualified for the ‘Pink Kangaroo’ Challenge with invitations sent out to only a few thousand students, whilst Isabelle has qualified for the ‘Hamilton Maths Olympiads’ Challenge for which only 1800 pupils nationally qualify each year. An amazing achievement.

The full list of winners:



Isabelle receiving ‘Best In School’ award



**Bronze**  
**YEAR 9**  
Louie B  
Daniel M  
Oliver M  
Faye R

**YEAR 10**  
Maksymilian F  
Hamza H  
Eva K  
Jacson M  
James P W  
Zoha S



**Silver**  
**YEAR 9**  
Samuel G – Best In Year

**YEAR 10**  
Liam K



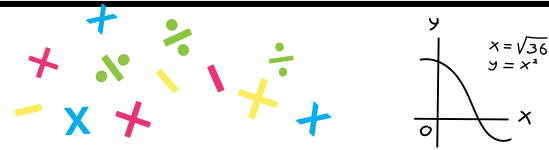
**Gold**  
**YEAR 10**  
Sebastian H  
Adam S  
Isabelle P – Best In School



## Mathematics Success - Year 7

In February, Year 7 pupils took part in the NSPCC Number Day, an engaging and educational initiative that encourages participants to embrace numbers and mathematics in creative and enjoyable ways.

This year's event gave pupils an opportunity to take part in the challenge on TT Rockstars, an online platform encouraging fluency in mathematics. Pupils were given the chance to complete as many questions as they could in 24 hours, some going above and beyond.



The top pupils from each class earned a certificate, which were presented in assembly this week:

Harshini S  
Lucy D  
Sam N  
Jade R  
Nathan L  
Dane L



John C  
Reona J  
William C  
Buena R  
Amanda M



## Young Musician Competition

Coming Soon - the 'Young Musician Competition' will be held on Monday 25 March in the larger music room. Entrants have to play or sing a piece of music in front of the rest of the people taking part, and a judge.

The judge chooses a winner and a runner up, based on how well they perform their piece and communicate with the audience, rather than who performed the most difficult piece.



## SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Following much anticipation, this year's school production was announced at lunchtime on Monday after a short presentation movie in the Arts Theatre.

This year's production is *Hairspray*.

Auditions start on Monday 18 March, 3-5pm

# Information

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

## YOUTH COUNCIL

**FREE ENTRY**

EVERY WEDNESDAY - 6.00 - 8.00PM

ELEVATE YOUR VOICE, SHAPE YOUR WORLD!  
JOIN OUR YOUTH COUNCIL, AGES 12-19 (UP TO 25 SEND), LOVE POLITICS?  
BURSTING WITH GAME-CHANGING IDEAS? WANT TO MAKE A REAL IMPACT?  
YOUR TIME IS NOW! BE THE SPARK FOR CHANGE. JOIN THE CREW!

STONEGATE NURSERY, STONEGATE WALK, PRESTON PR1 3XU

**BOOK NOW** WE HAVE MOVED

prestontys@lancashire.gov.uk

Lancashire County Council

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

## FRIDAY NIGHT SAFE SPACE

SAFE SPACES FOR EVERYONE

Every Friday 5:30-7:30pm

FRIDAY NIGHT VIBES! ✨  
CALLING ALL AMAZING YOUNG FOLKS AGED 12-19 (UP TO 25 WITH SEND)! JOIN US IN OUR FRIDAY NIGHT SAFE SPACE - A HAVEN FOR GAMES, ACTIVITIES, LIFE SKILLS, AND SIMPLY CHILLING OUT. IT'S YOUR ZONE FOR FUN AND CONNECTION. LET'S MAKE FRIDAYS UNFORGETTABLE! 🎉

**FREE ENTRY**

MOOR NOOK YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE  
BOOK NOW: PRESTONTYS@LANCASHIRE.GOV.UK

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## NEET Drop in!

Every Thursday - 13:00 - 15:00  
Moor Nook Youth and Community Centre

Attention young people aged 12-19 (up to 25 with SEND)! Step into our NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) Drop-in for expert support in crafting your CV, navigating job applications, free bus passes, and securing education and training assistance. Your pathway to success starts here - join us and let's kickstart your journey together! 📁

Book now:  
prestontys@lancashire.gov.uk

CV

Lancashire County Council

# Targeted Youth Support

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

## This is Us!

**FREE ENTRY**

🌟 Dive into Awesome! 🌟  
Hey, awesome young minds aged 12-25 with Special Educational Needs, this is YOUR call! 🌈 Join our vibrant SEND group, your exclusive fun zone. Activities, new pals, and tons of fun await! It's your time to shine! 🌟

Book now:  
prestontys@lancashire.gov.uk

Every Monday  
6:30 - 8:30  
Ribbleson Family Hub,  
Ribbleson Hall Drive,  
Preston PR2 6RE

Lancashire County Council

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S DROP IN

3-5pm

Where  
Moor Nook Youth and Community Centre

Join us at our Youth Drop-In every Thursday  
A welcoming spot for young people aged 12-19 (up to 25 with SEND) seeking support and social connections. Our dedicated Youth Support Team is here to provide info on services, answer your questions, and offer the support you need. Make Thursdays your time to thrive.

Join us:  
**PRESTONTYS@LANCASHIRE.GOV.UK**

Lancashire County Council

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

## BREAD.

BE REAL EQUAL AND DIVERSE!

BUT WHY BREAD?  
"BREAD COMES IN ALL DIFFERENT SHAPES, SIZES AND TYPES BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, IT'S STILL JUST BREAD".

Embrace Your True Colors! 🌈 Join our LGBTQIA+ group in Preston, designed for awesome individuals aged 12-19 (up to 25 with SEND). This is your safe haven, a space to be authentically YOU. Dive into activities, games, trips, and endless fun! Connect, celebrate, and thrive with us! 🍞

**FREE ENTRY**

Every Tuesday  
6.00 - 8.00pm

Book now:  
prestontys@lancashire.gov.uk

Lancashire County Council

# Information

## Jordan Grant Memorial Trophy

On Sunday 28th of April North West Community Stars begin our Fundraising matches at Bamber Bridge F.C. against a very strong Jordan Grant Select team for the Jordan Grant Memorial Trophy.

All monies raised from this match will be going to CRY which stands for Cardiac Risk in the Young.

Jordan, a former OLCHS pupil, was a very popular young man which is very clear to see to those who never knew him and the response we have had towards this match by Jordans family and friends proves this very much.

For more details please [click here.](#)



## SEND

For the Spring 2024 SEND Newsletter from LCC, please click below.

[CLICK HERE](#)

**OLCHS SOCIAL MEDIA**



## 2024 Dates for your Diary

Friday 15 March - Year 8 Blackpool Zoo Visit

Wednesday 20 March - OLCHS Careers Fair

Thursday 21 March - Year 9 Parents' Evening

Monday 25 March - Young Musician Competition

Thursday 28 March - End of Term. School closes at 12.40pm



*Being One of Ours*

# Sporting News



## Netball Tournaments

On Wednesday 6 March, the Year 8 Netball team travelled to Longridge for their Annual Netball Tournament. There were ten teams in total split into two leagues. Both teams started well, playing some lovely Netball and finding their rhythm. We were the only school to field two teams so it was very special when one of the semi-finals was OLCHS A v OLCHS B. It is never easy playing against your own school and the girls took a few minutes to settle.

OLCHS A finished ahead at full time. I think it is so important to note that our B played against other schools A team's and won. This really does demonstrate the depth and strength we have. Huge well done B team.

OLCHS A went on to play Longridge in the final. It was a tough match with one of own players getting injured (speedy recovery Francesca). Longridge had real strength in the shooting circle and simply managed to score more goals at the final whistle. Huge well done to all the girls involved.



On Wednesday, Our Lady's participated in the Year 9 and Year 10 Preston Schools' Annual Netball Tournament. Once again, we were the only school to have B teams in both year groups, showing the dedication of our pupils. Consequently, it was always going to be a challenge for the Year 9 B Team. However, they had some really positive results losing out to Archbishop by just two goals in an end-to-end match. They also drew 3-3 against Moor Park. They finished a respectable joint fourth in their group.

Year 9 A Team also had a successful tournament. They finished runners up in their group losing just one match St Cecilia's, 4-2. With some fantastic defending by Evie M and Liana K, both used their speed and athleticism to gain several key interceptions. Emma F and Macy W shot well in difficult conditions. OLCHS went through to the semi-finals where they faced Archbishop. We dominated the match to win 8-1 and found ourselves in the finals once again facing St Cecilia's. The team started well, and the game remained close. However, St Cecilia's got a couple of goals in succession. We fought hard in the second half, but unfortunately it wasn't quite enough. However, it was a fantastic effort to be runners up. Miss Lewis was extremely proud of the way 9A and 9B conducted themselves.



# Sporting News

## Netball Tournaments

On Tuesday Year 9 and Year 10 travelled to Longridge for their Netball Tournament. With the weather looking very wet earlier in the morning we kept our fingers crossed the sun would shine and shine it did!

Once again Year 10 entered two teams, an A and a B team. The competition was strong with all schools in the Preston District entering a team. The girls played wonderful Netball and the gamesmanship shown by all teams was fantastic.

The A team won all their games apart from St Cecilia's, who beat us 9-1 in the group stage. We then faced Ashton in the semi-final and won 6-5 in the closing seconds. Heading into the final we faced St Cecilia's again and knew it would be a tough game. It was end to end the entire first half and finished 2-2 at half time.

We had a quick team talk, decided to slow the play down, use short passes and get in front of our player. Year 10 gave it their all but were pipped at the post and lost 6-5.

The B team played some fab Netball. They passed the ball well and shot some fantastic goals. They showed great OLCHS spirit and cheered the A team on in the final too.



## Football Success



Being One of Ours

Huge congratulations to Holly and Evie who competed in the English Schools' competition.

The team won against the West Midlands in the semi-finals and have reached the final again. This will be held in May.

Well done girls, we are so proud of you.



### U14 Girls Football



Huge congratulations to the U14 girls who sailed through their first round of the Preston Cup beating Archbishop Temple 7-0. We have Ashton or Longridge in the next round.

# Sporting News



## Year 7 Basketball

The Year 7 basketball team have reached the Lancashire Cup Finals' night, after an outstanding 34-4 win against All Saints Catholic High School on Monday 11 March. The team travelled away to the school in Rawtenstall and played some of their best basketball of the year to claim the excellent victory, securing their highest points win at the same time.

Some excellent team play in attack saw them move the ball up the court quickly, while picking up lots of key rebounds. Dane L scored with 12 points, followed by Sam S with 8 points, Christian B, Alfie W and Huey S, each scored 4 points, and Joshua T added the final 2 points with an excellent shot from distance.

The team will now take part in the Lancashire Schools' Basketball Association final, which takes place on Friday 22 March at Myerscough College. The semi-finals will start at 2.30pm with the final happening straight afterwards.

Family and friends are welcome to come and support the team.



## Year 9 Basketball

The Year 9 basketball team completed their final two games of the year in the Preston Schools' basketball competition on Wednesday 13 March. The games were held at Ashton CSC and the team played against both Ashton and Broughton High School.

Both games were very competitive, and some excellent basketball was played by all. Finley M, Patrick M and Thomas W defended exceptionally well, making well timed blocks. Archie L, Daniel H and Adam H, carried the ball forward with good movement of the ball to outwit our opponents, while Bobby W added important points for the team with accurate lay ups. Neel C, Daniel M and George H, worked hard both in attack and defence but unfortunately Our Lady's were defeated in both games with the game against Broughton being particularly close.

The pupils are already looking like a promising squad when they become part of the U16 squad next year.





# Careers

## National Careers Week

Last Friday was the last day of our Careers Week celebration and we finished a wonderful week with some excellent careers led activities.

Firstly, Year 7 had a talk from Newman College, and it is never too early to start planting seeds for the future. Emma from Newman College spoke about the various careers available.

During the day, we welcomed alumni Natalie Charlesworth. Natalie, a former pupil of Our Lady's Catholic High School, was very passionate about all things English. Natalie is a published poet and shared with Year 7 the ups and downs of being a writer and the other professions you can become involved in when involved in this industry, such as publishing, editing and even teaching others how to write. Natalie spoke with enthusiasm and really captured the attention of our pupils. A huge thank you to Natalie for her visit.

Alumni

We also welcomed alumni Rebecca Clayton. Mrs Lin used to teach Rebecca, and it was an emotional moment when they first saw each other. Rebecca also played netball and studied GCSE PE so there were lots of wonderful moments to reminisce.

Rebecca is a doctor. She shared her journey with Year 8 and what a typical day is like in the hospital where she works. Year 8 were very engaged in Rebecca's presentation and asked questions throughout. Thank you so much Rebecca for coming in, we are so proud of you.



OLCHS  
Careers Fair

On Wednesday 20 March 2024, Our Lady's will be hosting the annual Careers Fair. Year 7 to Year 10 have the opportunity to attend the fair and start planting seeds for their future.

## The North West Apprenticeship & Careers Expo 2024 20th March

Exciting news! The #NWAPPEXPO2024 is just around the corner and we've got a fantastic new location. Get ready to connect with opportunities at the [Sir Tom Finney Sports Centre on 20th March 2024 from 12pm til 7pm.](#)

Mrs Lin is taking a full minibus to the event, and we have just 2 places left. Please see Mrs Lin if you are interested in coming.

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# Careers



## Runshaw College 27 March 2024 STEM & T Level Showcase Event

Hear from leaders in our STEM provision at 6pm, then meet a wide and varied range of employers, see our STEM assured campus and speak to our STEM and T Level Curriculum colleagues.

Events take place at our Leyland Campus, Langdale Road, PR25 3DQ.

**PRESTON**  
COLLEGE

**Supported Internship**

**OPEN EVENT**

Thursday 21 March 2024, 5-7PM

[CLICK HERE](#) 



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