

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 24
22nd March 2024



The Theme Next Week: **HOLY WEEK** (Mark 11: 1-10 & Mark 15: 1-39)

The crowds throw palm branches and put blankets on the road before Jesus. They sing out in praise and celebration, *“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”*

Jesus is presented as a humble and peaceful king, riding on a donkey instead of a horse, which was a symbol of war. This image of a servant-king who comes to save his people is a powerful reminder of Jesus' mission to redeem humanity through his sacrifice on the cross. The second Gospel passage heard on Palm Sunday is the **Passion of Jesus Christ**. This tells the story of Jesus' betrayal, arrest, trial, and crucifixion. It highlights Jesus' humility and obedience, even in the face of intense suffering and humiliation. This reminder of Jesus' sacrifice and love for us invites us to consider our own relationship with God and to respond with gratitude and devotion.

Let us reflect

Consider your own commitment to following Jesus' example of love, humility, and selflessness. Let us prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter by considering our own response to Jesus' sacrifice and our own willingness to follow his teachings.

And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, *'Surely this man was the Son of God!'* (Mark 15:39)

BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Dane Lewis - active and curious

Year 8: Harry Dawson - attentive and discerning

Year 9: Bobby Walsh, Patrick McCaul - compassionate and loving

Year 10: Jacson Maguire - eloquent and truthful

Year 11: Lucia Wright - learned and wise



Being One of Ours



We are excited to share with you the wonderful activities and celebrations we had during Science Week last week!

The week started with a scientist flag hunt where students were tasked with finding the names of scientists from their class teachers and matching them to the flag of their home country.

We had lots of excellent submission entries with many students doing their own research to find out why these men and women were famous! Prizes will be announced soon.

Lots of students took part in the British Science Week poster competition last week and produced posters about the topic of 'time'. There were lots of imaginative entries from how the earth has changed over time, to the lifecycle of butterflies to the evolution of clocks. The best 5 will be submitted to the national competition and others will receive some certificates and prizes.

We also used the end of day prayer to thank God for the time given on this earth as well as for the beauty and wonders of the natural world.

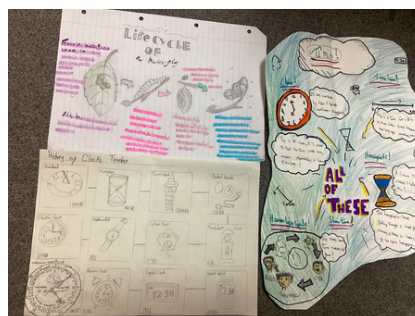
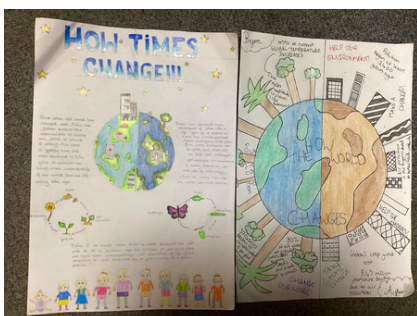
Students took part in a form quiz about the theme of time and the highest score submitted current is 12/20.

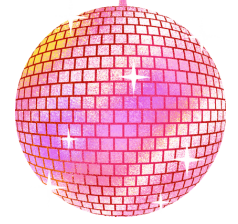
Finally, Science Week was ended with a visit to the Zoo with Year 8. We had a great time learning about the adaptations of animals and the habitats in which they live. Students enjoyed a workshop from the Zoo keepers and got to touch real life animal bones, teeth and a live cockroach!

Thank you to everyone who supported the celebrations last week.

Science Week: Lots of teachers and support staff have been given the name of a famous scientist and their country of birth. Can you find them all and match them to the flag of their country? Some countries have up to 6 scientists, some only 1 and lots in between. There are 27 in total.

Country: England	Country: Germany	Country: Scotland
Franco Cook	Georg Ohm	James Watt
Rosalind Franklin	Amalie Noether	Alexander Fleming
John Dalton	Alfred Wegener	
JJ Thompson		
James Chadwick		
Isaac Newton		
Country: France	Country: USA	Country: Ireland
Andre-Marie Ampere	James Watson	Maurice Wilkins
Henri Becquerel	Grace Hopper	
Louis Pasteur	Stephane Kulak	
Country: New Zealand	Country: Denmark	Country: Austria
Ernest Rutherford	Niels Bohr	Nikola Tesla
Country: China	Italy	Russia
Chen-Ning Yang	Florence Nightingale	Dmitri Mendeleev
Sweden	India	
Carl Linnaeus	Subrahmanyan Chandrasekha	
Lee Meltzer		





DRAMA



WELL DONE!

Lucia Wright, a Year 11 GCSE Drama pupil, has secured a place to study Musical Theatre at the prestigious Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (LIPA)! Lucia follows in the footsteps of former pupils Owen Dickinson and Louisa Henshaw.

We are all immensely proud of Lucia, and this is testament to her hard work and dedication to the arts.

Year 11

Recently, Year 11 have undertaken their practical drama examination. Pupils have worked on pieces of script taken from three plays. They performed their pieces to a high standard, which was commented on by the visiting examiner. He was impressed by the professionalism, maturity and kindness of the pupils.

These pupils now have their written exam to complete for their GCSE, and Mr Pill and everyone at Our Lady's wishes them the very best of luck!

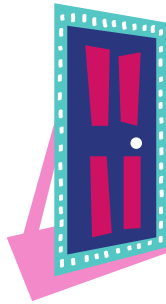
Key Stage 3

Throughout this term, Drama lessons at Key Stage 3 have become dance lessons. This is so all pupils experience all three elements of performance art: acting, singing and dancing.

It has been a delight to witness all pupils across Year 7, 8, and 9 participate in practical dance lessons.

Year 7 performed a routine from **Hercules**, Year 8 to **Footloose**, and Year 9 performing a contemporary lyrical piece to a song from the **Greatest Showman**.

To enhance their understanding, all pupils had the opportunity to watch a dance performance by final year students from the University of Central Lancashire. This was their degree piece based on the influence of social media on the wellbeing of young people. Our pupils had the opportunity to ask the students questions based on this dance performance and also life at university. Around 50 pupils took part in a separate dance workshop delivered by students from the university.



What is this year's Whole School Production?

It has become tradition now that we announce the year's whole school production after weeks of providing several clues to staff and students. This year's announcement was met with great anticipation, and over 200 pupils and staff came to the Arts Theatre to hear the announcement.

For more Drama photos, please check out our social media pages



This week, we held auditions for our upcoming whole school production of HAIRSPRAY. Over 80 pupils auditioned for speaking roles and it has been a very difficult selection process. Mr Pill is delighted to say that, including dancers, we have over 100 cast members in this year's show!

Tickets will be released after the Easter break.

THEATRE VISIT

82 pupils were taken on an educational trip to visit the Winter Gardens in Blackpool to see Legally Blonde: The Musical, which added to the excitement of the announcement of our whole school musical.



Before the show, pupils had the opportunity to have a sit down with the cast and director. This was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to ask frank questions to professional actors (one of which was a former pupil). Pupils were eloquent and active in their questioning. As a reward for their engagement and participation, pupils were then treated to a tour of the stage by the director. Once on the stage, the director told the pupils that they were standing on Europe's second-largest stage (Mr Pill saw this as the perfect photo opportunity, with an air punch!). Throughout the performance, pupils were fully entertained, and staff at the theatre commented on the good behaviour of all pupils.

BTEC Tech Award in Health and Social Care Examination Success

On Thursday, the Year 11 BTEC Tech Award in Health & Social Care received their external examination results for Component 3, which was the external examination they completed in January 2024. This will combine with component 1 & 2 to give their overall result.

Our pupils achieved high scores, and in some cases, achieving 100% on the Component 3 exam.

Well done everyone.



Year 9 French & Science Week

In Year 9 French, the current unit of work considers the work and life story of French surgical robotics inventor and entrepreneur Bertin Nahum. Bertin created the ROSA Brain robot, which is used to carry out surgery on the brain and spinal cord. Pupils watched an interview with Bertin, as well as a video about his invention, the ROSA Brain. They then wrote some French to describe his work. All of this links to the current module of work that looks at how life will be like in the future and how robots will be used.

Qu'est-ce que tu fais comme métier?

 Ex. 1 Pg. 40

Complète la traduction de chaque question en anglais.

- 1 Qui est Bertin Nahum?
is Bertin Nahum?
- 2 Quand est-ce qu'il est arrivé en France?
did he arrive in France?
- 3 Où est-ce qu'il a étudié?
did he study?
- 4 Qu'est-ce qu'il a inventé?
did he invent?
- 5 Pourquoi est-ce qu'il a créé ce robot?
did he create this robot?

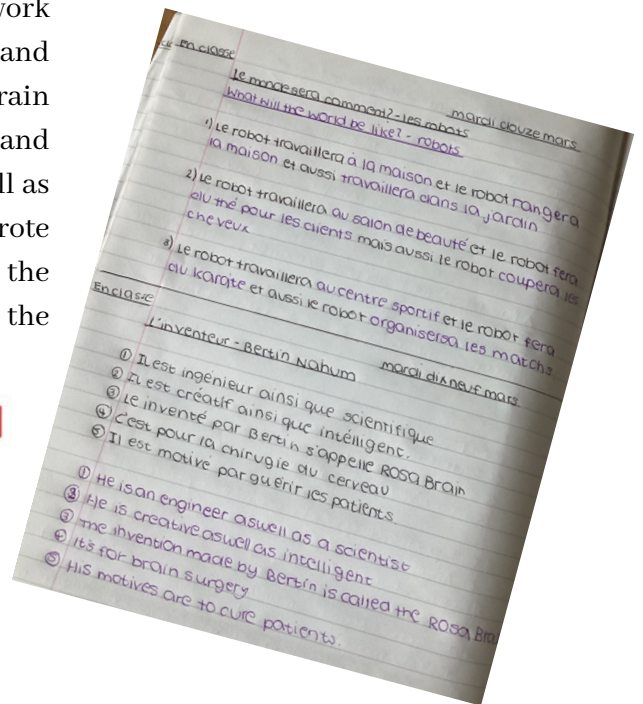


Est-ce que is used to form questions. When you translate perfect tense questions into English, you need to use 'did' in your translation: When **did** he arrive in France?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPzDq9Tb0uE>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bertin_Nahum

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=li35qz19njo>



Peak District Adventure Day



In an effort to foster confidence, resilience, teamwork, and leadership skills among students, this week 100 Year 7 to Year 10 students travelled to the Peak District on a 'Day of Adventure'. Grant Funded by UK Youth, the 'Day of Adventure' encapsulated various outdoor activities including team games, bushcraft, climbing, abseiling, and orienteering.

Under the guidance of experienced instructors, students engaged in a series of challenging activities designed to push their limits and encourage collaboration. Team games such as scavenger hunts, and problem-solving exercises such as building mini rafts, required students to communicate effectively, strategise, and work together towards common goals, fostering a sense of camaraderie and teamwork among the participants.



Throughout the trip, students were encouraged to step out of their comfort zones, support one another, and take on leadership roles. By the end of the experience, many students emerged with a newfound sense of confidence, resilience, and leadership potential.

This experience was about more than just outdoor activities; it was about building character and equipping our students with the skills they need to succeed in all aspects of life. We are incredibly proud of the teamwork, camaraderie between year groups and the ability of students to push themselves out of their comfort zones whether that be abseiling off a cliff, working with people they had not spoken to before or leading a team in orienteering.

Climbing and abseiling offered students the opportunity to conquer their fears and build confidence as they scaled rock faces and descended steep cliffs under the guidance of trained instructors. Many students found themselves pushing past their comfort zones and discovering newfound strength and determination within themselves.

Orienteering proved to be an exercise in both physical and mental agility as students navigated through unfamiliar terrain using maps and compasses. This activity encouraged students to think critically, make decisions under pressure, and demonstrate leadership as they guided their teams towards designated checkpoints.

Below is some feedback from the students on the trip:

"I never realised I was as strong as I was."

"The biggest thing that I learnt is to believe in myself no matter what."

"It is easy to make new friends and I do not always need to be on my phone."



Information

Lancashire County Council
HAF Easter Sessions
Age 6-11

we are offering free Easter sessions to children who are eligible for free school meals or who have SEND. A meal will be provided for each child

visit www.getstuckin.org.uk to book your place

Monday 8th April 10-2
Preston West

Tuesday 9th April 10-2
Preston East

Wednesday 10th April 10-2
Preston Central

Thursday 11th April 10-2
Ribbleton Family Hub

Preston East
Brookfield Primary School
Wattling St Rd PR2 6TU

PRESTON WEST
Ashton Primary school
Ainsdale Drive PR2 1TU

RFH
Ribbleton Hall Drive
PR2 6EE

Preston Central
Brieryfield Road
PR1 8SR



OLCHS Drop In Session

A 'drop in' session for Year 11 will be available in the school Chaplaincy where there will be an opportunity to offer peer support, discuss any worries / anxieties, learn mindfulness and breathing techniques that may help with preparing for their GCSE exams:

Wednesday 3-4PM

Thursday 8.45AM - 9.15AM

OLCHS SOCIAL MEDIA



Year 11 Revision Support



Lancaster University School of Mathematics have an upcoming Easter School Programme, which is offered to Year 11 GCSE students to support with their revision during half term.

The programme is free for students to sign up to and covers a variety of Mathematical and Physics content to support their GCSE revision. It will run over the following 2 days during the Easter break here at LUSoM.

Thursday 11th April and Friday 12th April

09:45 - 14:45

Students can book their place via the LUSOM website, which can be accessed via the following link:

[CLICK HERE](#)



2024 Dates for your Diary

Monday 25 March - Young Musician Competition

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



Being One of Ours

Sporting News

U15 ENGLAND SQUAD

We could not be more proud of Our Lady's Catholic High School pupil, Evie, who played in her first international with the English Schools' Football Association U15s. They played against the U16 Wales team.

England won 6-0.

Fantastic, well done Evie.

Please click below to see some of the highlights from the match.

[CLICK HERE](#)



National Indoor Athletics

A huge well done to our Year 9 pupil, Charlotte Potts, who was selected to represent Lancashire at an indoor athletics competition over the weekend. The squad were against Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Cheshire.

Charlotte took part in the 6 Lap Paarlauf, 4 Lap Individual Run, Vertical Jump and Speed Bounce. All the individual results were collated, and Lancashire were the overall champions. Charlotte and the rest of the team will now go through to represent the North West in the national competition.

Football Year 7



The Year 7 football team were successful in their first-round game of the Preston District Cup competition. The game was played at Corpus Christi Catholic High School on Monday 18 March and the team faced an enthusiastic Eden Boys' school. Both teams played with an excellent attitude and showed exemplary levels of sportsmanship. Our Lady's were victorious 7-0 and progress to the quarter-finals where they face Corpus Christi. Goal scorers included Callum (2), Zach, Jayden, Sam, Rio and Jonah.

Careers

OLCHS Careers Fair

On Wednesday we held our annual Careers Fair. A variety of 22 different employers came to school to share their knowledge and wisdom with Year 7, 8, 9 and 10.

A big thank you to Leyland Trucks who brought two amazing trucks to share with pupils.

Throughout the day, the buzz around school was fantastic.

Thank you to all the exhibitors and OLCHS staff and pupils for making this year's Careers Fair a huge success.

Photos



Being One of Ours

Careers

Photos



North West Careers Expo

On Wednesday, Mrs Lin took a group of pupils to UCLan for the North West Careers Expo. Pupils were given the opportunity to visit many different employers and gain advice about all aspects of careers. Well done to all those pupils that attended.



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