

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 29

10th May 2024



The Theme Next Week: With You Always (John 17: 11-19)

I have watched over them and not one is lost.

In this Gospel, Jesus prays for his disciples' protection, to unite them as he and the Father are united. He acknowledges his care for them desiring them to experience great joy. Jesus asked not for their removal from the world but for their protection from evil, emphasizing their separation from worldly values. We hear about the profound love of God for us and our call to love each other deeply. Jesus' prayer focuses on protecting us from evil. He distinguishes between being in the world and being of the world, urging a life set apart by truth. He also expresses a desire for us to experience the fullness of joy, through fulfilling the plan that God has for each one of us.

Let us pray

May we experience the profound love of God in our lives and desire to serve him always. Let us call to mind all those who are suffering at this time, through conflict and war, homelessness, illness, and those who are bereaved.

Amen

BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Chloe Blundell - active and curious

Year 8: George Denton - attentive and discerning

Year 9: Jayden Beetham - intentional and prophetic

Year 10: Katie Davies - active and curious

Year 11: Ebony Cerqua - loving and compassionate



Being One of Ours

Year 11 CELEBRATION Assembly

On Friday 3 May, our Year 11 pupils had their Celebration Assembly, which will be their final assembly at Our Lady's Catholic High School.

Pupils from Year 11 came together to remember their time at Our Lady's over the past five years, and each form celebrated elements of school life.

During the celebration, there were also excellent performances by Charlie C on the drums and vocals from Ava C and Lizzy M, which brought an emotional tear to our eyes! This was followed by the traditional photo montage taking pupils back through their years, from the Year 6 Summer School to present day life at Our Lady's.

Year 11 now have their toughest task yet as the GCSE examinations have begun this week - we wish them every success in their examinations and in their future career pathways.



Choco-Tastic Challenge!

Congratulations to all Year 7 pupils who took part in the Design and Technology Chocotastic Challenge.

Each team was asked to develop and promote a healthy chocolate bar product and present their ideas.

Eight winning teams were selected from a very high standard of presentations in classes.

Design and Technology



Normandy 2024



News

Last week saw our Year 8 pupils travel to Normandy, accompanied by OLCHS staff and a number of Year 10 pupils. It was a very special school trip on the 80th anniversary of the Normandy, D-Day, Landings.

Normandy 2024

Written by Our Lady's pupils, Elodie and Owen -

Day 1

The start of our Normandy trip began by meeting in the school sports hall with our bags packed. We met our groups and chatted for a bit until the coaches arrived, then it was time to set off on our journey.

The coach ride from Preston to Normandy is long, but we stopped at a service station in England for a break, after which we all tried to grab the moments of sleep we could, as we grew ever closer to our border crossing at the Channel Tunnel. In the early hours we reached France where we made a stop at the French services, where people stocked up on French snacks and began putting into good use our French speaking skills. A special moment here was when some Our Lady's pupils played the café piano for everyone's entertainment.

We jumped back on the coach and made our way to Honfleur, a small classic French town, with beautiful architecture and a harbour bursting with activity. We ate our lunch in groups with our group leaders and explored all the town had to offer for a couple of hours, with many of us practicing the French we had been learning in school to order ice creams.



Back on the coach, we were eager to arrive at the chateau - our accommodation for the trip. On arrival at the chateau, we were shown to our rooms and unpacked before we went downstairs and listened to a talk from OLCHS staff about the days to follow, all of us excitedly looking forward to the busy days ahead. It was then time for our first home cooked French meal, a few evening games, and a good night's sleep, concluding the first day.

Day 2

After a classic continental breakfast with pastry, yogurts, and cereal, we were soon on the coach, going to the Merville Franceville German Batterie. This was an important location in World War II to destroy the anti-aircraft missiles which would have prevented D-Day from taking place. While I visit was educational, it was also very engaging. Everyone thought this was a wonderful place to start the history part of this trip. Next, we took a short drive to Pegasus Bridge, where the paratroopers landed on 6 June 1944 to secure the area and allow the allies to enter France after the landings. We stopped for lunch on a scenic coastline near the village of Ver-sur-Mer and visited the recently built British War Memorial. We took some great photos of the memorial and the French coastline. Our next stop was a trip to the Arromanches 360° cinema where we watched the full story of the D-Day landings.

Following the visit to the Arromanches 360° cinema, we took a short drive to Bayeux and saw the Bayeux Tapestry depicting the conquest of William I in 1066. To reflect on the day, we then drove to the British war graves. Some of the pupils laid crosses to pay respect. Finally, we headed home to the chateau and enjoyed fish and chips, followed by evening entertainment.

Day 3

It was time for the much-anticipated trip to Mont-Saint-Michel. We all got dressed into shorts or rollable trousers and headed to the bus which drove us to the site. We met our tour guides who took us across the salt marshes. We had an amazing time walking through the clay and jumping on the quicksand. It truly was a once in a lifetime experience that was quite obviously enjoyed by all. Once we had walked across to the bay, we all dried our feet and ate our lunch admiring the 1000-year-old architecture and the magnificent abbey of Mont-Saint-Michel. We then had about an hour to look around the town in our groups. This was a perfect opportunity to spend our euros on souvenirs and experience some true French culture as we explored the bustling ancient streets. We concluded the day by heading back to the chateau for our evening meal and afterwards we spent the evening playing football on the field, dancing in the disco, or just simply enjoying our last night with our friends and soaking up the last moments of Normandy 2024.



Day 4

Departure day. We stripped our beds, packed our last items, and headed for the coaches. After a short ride we had our breakfast at the scenic sight of the French services and spent our final euros. We finally reached border control and got through without any trouble, before taking the channel tunnel back to England and making the final journey back to Preston.

Overall, the school trip was an amazing experience. A chance to learn more about history, practice our French, delve into French culture, and spend time bonding with people we haven't had the chance to in the past. Normandy 2024 has been an incredible experience and one that we will cherish forever.

Thank you to all the pupils, families and Our Lady's team for making the Normandy trip such a memorable experience.



Lourdes Youth 2024

Seven of our Year 11 pupils will be travelling to Lourdes this Summer with the Lancaster Diocese Lourdes Pilgrimage. They will be accompanying and supporting pilgrims from the Diocese who need additional help. Some of these pilgrims are wheelchair users or have additional needs. The pupils who attended last year did an amazing job in supporting others. It's hard work but a unique and rewarding opportunity to serve others and to grow in faith.

The trip costs £795 each and the pupils are working really hard to raise funds whilst starting their GCSE's. A few weeks ago, Joe and Jacek did the 3 Peaks to raise money and Phoenix did a Bungee Jump in Tatton Park! It was absolutely pouring with rain! Other pupils are raising funds in their Parishes.

We have set up a Scopy Account for anyone who would like to make a donation: **Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund**.
Many thanks for your support.

mary's
meals
a simple solution
to world hunger

MARY'S MEALS BAKE SALE is taking place on Monday 13 May hosted by Year 7 and organised by our Charity Committee.

Please bake or bring in items to sell if you can. Pupils in all years will be able to buy cakes and cookies so please bring 50p with you!

Calling all gardeners

Do you have a couple of hours spare a week to support the running of our Marafiki garden. In the past it has been a wonderful resource for both students and staff gaining the Level 3 RHS School Gardening Award. We would like to improve it to its former glory involving our students and members of the local community. If you feel you have the skills and time to help run this club for our students and develop this valuable facility at our school please contact - cma@olchs.lancs.sch.uk.



Information

Celebrating 10 Years



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Website <https://www.catholic-teaching-alliance.org/pgce-courses.html>

FREE ENTRY

MONDAY 13TH MAY
12.30 - 4.30

**JOIN US FOR OUR
FAMILY
HUB/COMMUNITY
CELEBRATION**

**FUN FOR THE COMMUNITY &
WHOLE FAMILY
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS • FUN
ACTIVITIES • ADVICE AND
SUPPORT**

**WHERE?
OAKHAM COURT, PRESTON, PR1 3XP**

Pukar Disability Resource Centre
Lancashire County Council
Family Hub
tfc

2024 Dates for your Diary



Friday 24 May - Half Term. School closes at 3pm

Monday 3 June - All pupils return to school

OLCHS SOCIAL MEDIA



Being One of Ours

Sporting News

U14s Girls Preston Cup Final

This week our U14s girls football team played in the final of the Preston Schools' Knockout Cup at Deepdale. Unfortunately we were not victorious, losing 1-0 to Broughton. Well done to both teams for making the final.



Photo by John Shirras

Year 7 Cricket Tournament

The Year 7 cricket team took part in the Preston District Indoor Cricket Tournament held at Eden Boys' school on Thursday 9th May. The team played two games against Eden Boys' and Moor Park High School. Both games were excellent in standard, including the batting and bowling. Our Lady's were victorious in both fixtures, beating Eden by 4 wickets after reaching the target of 43 set by our opponents with 4 bowls left and then beating Moor Park through some excellent batting.

Mr Newsham was particularly impressed by the quality and consistency of the Our Lady's bowling attack, with all pupils showing their ability to bowl a good line and length sharing the wickets taken between them. In the second game against Moor Park it was the bowling and fielding again that limited our opponents to 17 runs while taking all of their wickets in the process. Our Lady's soon gained the target score with Thomas Beesley, Callum Tennant and Zac Baron playing some lovely shots and running well between the wickets.

ENGLAND WOMEN'S U15

Our Lady's pupil Evie, continues her footballing success with the announcement that she has been selected for the England Lionesses U15 fixture training camp in the Netherlands at the end of May. Fantastic news Evie.



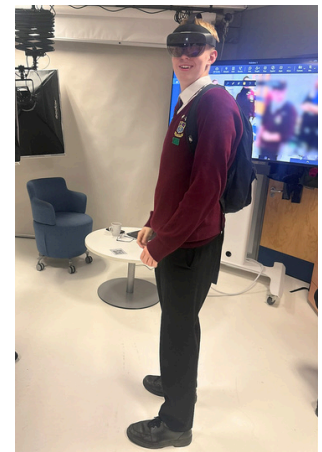
Being One of Ours



Careers

Royal Preston Hospital Visit

On Friday 3rd May, Year 10 pupils attended a Careers morning at Royal Preston Hospital. It was organised by Karen Gore and aimed at pupils who may have an interest in any aspect of medicine. The pupils explored many areas of the hospital and gained valuable insight into many different vocations. We would like to thank Karen for welcoming our pupils and giving them such a valuable experience.



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