



# Our Lady's Catholic High School

A National Teaching School



Friday, 19 July 2019

Our prayer theme for the first week of term is Acceptance.

## **MESSAGE FROM MR RANSON**

We ended the school year with our first ever Marafiki Garden Open Day; a rewards trip to Blackpool which was a great success; three nights of our school show, We Will Rock you, which was simply stunning and a great credit to all of the pupils and staff who worked so hard to make it all come together; our Whole School Mass of thanksgiving where we were honoured and delighted that Bishop Paul Swarbrick was able to attend as the Principal Celebrant. It really was a wonderful occasion and we were joined by so many of our local clergy and guests. There are occasions when we are tempted to grumble about our level of fortune in life. It is at such times when we gather as a school community to celebrate Mass and to thank God for the blessings that have been bestowed on us, that we get a glimpse of just how fortunate we really are. One of the many blessings that we have at our school is our wonderful staff who work with such dedication to help our school community grow and flourish. On your behalf, I thank them very much for another year of great work and dedication. I wish for all of you a very happy and safe summer break and look forward to seeing our new Year 7 pupils on Tuesday 3 September and all of our school community back the following day, Wednesday 4 September 2019.

## **IMPORTANT MESSAGE**

Attached with this Newsletter is the amended Holiday Pattern for 2020-2021. Sorry for any inconvenience but changes needed to be made to the start date in September and the date of the Easter Holiday as follows:

### **Start of term**

Wednesday 2 September 2020	<b>Year 7 pupils only</b> start school – day ends at 12.45 pm
Thursday, 3 September 2020	<b>All pupils</b> return to school, for a full day

### **Easter holidays**

Friday 26 March 2021	End of term – school closes at 12.45 pm
Monday 12 April 2021	All pupils return to school

## **WE WILL ROCK YOU – AND WE DID!**

Our pupils have yet again delivered an outstanding performance that had the audience on their feet every night! We Will Rock You was a huge success and involved over one hundred pupils, including backstage crew. The band had the challenge of performing twenty-three iconic songs by the legendary Queen. A mixture of Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 pupils brought the music to life each night; an incredible achievement. Everyone involved worked exceptionally hard in the lead up to the show and many pupils assisted with choreography, costume making and digital imagery. From the clones of the pink wiggled Gaga Girls to the excitement of the dreamers seeking the forbidden music of the past, We Will Rock You is ambitious, bold and full of killer guitar solos that makes you feel the thrill of live performance from beginning to end. As a reward to the cast, we enjoyed a brilliant party night to celebrate! All staff and pupils involved had a superb time singing and dancing away to the show's musical numbers – as is tradition! Thank you to everyone who helped make the show a huge success. It's safe to say that the pupils definitely rocked!

## **HAIR STYLES**

Please would all parents and carers be reminded of our Code of Conduct regarding severe hair styles as detailed below:

- Hair must be one natural colour: no patterns or artificial colour. There must be no extremes of style or fashion and the hair must not cover the eyes. Hair should be a blended cut with no ridges, lines or undercut.

Parents/Carers will have received a detailed Uniform Code of Conduct from Mrs McArdle and thank you to all those who have returned the reply slip. Any pupil returning to school in September with an unacceptable hair style will be isolated from lessons.

## **CRICKET NEWS**

The Year 10 cricket team potentially played their last ever game on Thursday July 18th. They faced Archbishop Temple School in the Preston District Final, played at Fulwood and Broughton Cricket Club. Our Lady's batted first and scored 44 runs in 12 overs. The team were disappointed that they couldn't put more runs on the board. Archbishop started the second innings well, but Our Lady's bowled accurately and kept the game within reach. Unfortunately, it wasn't meant to be. Archbishop hit a boundary to win with eight balls to spare.

## **YEAR 7 WELL-GOOD MATHS PROJECT**

In the last six months Year 7 have been taking part in a new Mathematics initiative in school on the well-good website. Well Good Water Aid aims to raise funds for wells to supply water to the developing world. The money for the water comes from the sponsors of this website. The pupils answer questions and every 10 correct answers provides enough water for one person for one day in the developing world. Over 150 000 questions have been answered by pupils in Year 7 which is truly amazing. The sponsors will be building wells to provide water for people in the developing world because of their hard work. June winners were 7A and the top three pupils in June were Anthony Laytham, Maia Bickford Yates and Preston Smithson. Well done everyone who contributed to this very worthwhile cause.

## **CHARITY DAY**

Our Charity Day on Thursday, 18 July was a great success and the Arts Theatre was packed full of stalls including nail painting, hair braiding, a competition to see who could stand on one leg the longest and guessing how many sweets in a jar. We had visitors from St Anthony's Catholic Primary School and staff and pupils had the opportunity to win lots of prizes and be covered in glitter! All money raised is being donated to charities chosen by each year group:

Year 7 – British Heart Foundation

Year 8 – Little Princess Trust

Year 9 – A local refugee appeal

Year 10 – A local refugee appeal

## **YEAR 7 GRADUATION DISCO**

Year 7 thoroughly enjoyed their Graduation Disco on Wednesday, 17 July and it was a fantastic way to end a wonderfully successful first year for them. We wish them a happy and safe summer and look forward to seeing them in Year 8.

### Dates to remember

Tuesday, 3 September – School opens for Year 7 pupils

Wednesday, 4 September – School opens for all pupils

Thursday, 3 October – Open Evening

Friday, 4 October – INSET day school closed for all pupil

Friday, 18 October – School closes for half-term

Monday, 28 October – School opens

Thursday, 7 November – GCSE Certificate Presentation Evening

Friday, 8 November – Presentation Assemblies – school closes at 12.45 pm

Thursday, 19 December – School closes for Christmas at 12.45 pm

Monday, 6 January – School opens for the Spring Term