

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 6
18th October 2024



The Theme Next Week: Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Lord, help us to use this break wisely, not only for physical rest but for spiritual renewal as well. Let us draw closer to you in prayer and reflection, finding strength and clarity in your presence. Guide us as we embark on this time of rest and rejuvenation, knowing that you are our source of peace and restoration.

Amen.

BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Archie McCondichie - active and intentional

Year 8: Lennon Riley - discerning and wise

Year 9: Caitlin Lambley - attentive and discerning

Year 10: Charlotte Walker - faith-filled and hopeful

Year 11: Amelia Parkinson - attentive and discerning



Being One of Ours

YEAR 10

Silver Duke of Edinburgh

The English Department are delighted to have launched our new home learning platform, **Bedrock Learning**. The website uses interesting texts to not only develop pupil comprehension skills, but also explicitly teach them impressive new vocabulary.

We have been really impressed with the way that pupils have taken to the platform and have enjoyed seeing them make some good progress already - well done Year 7.

If you wish to track your child's progress on this platform, please refer to the letter sent home this week from Miss Slade. The parent access code that you will need can be found on the Bedrock sticker in the back of your child's planner and exercise book.

bedrocklearning.org



If your child is in Year 10 and would like to sign up to the Duke of Edinburgh Award please find further information here:

CLICK HERE

DÍA DE LA HISPANIDAD

12 OCTOBER

Pupils in Year 8 tried Spanish food and listened to Spanish music at lunch to celebrate Día de la Hispanidad, which is on 12th October each year.

Pupils enjoyed chorizo, lomo, queso manchego, tortilla Española and aceitunas (olives).



SCIENCE WEEKLY CHALLENGE

If you can tell your science teacher the answers to the questions you can earn a point.

Science in the News

The composition of the earth's atmosphere has evolved over time. In the early history of our planet the oxygen and ozone levels were much smaller.

Podcast

Listen to the discussion about oxygen and ozone levels in the atmosphere and then answer the following questions.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b08nps6>

Question 1: When the percentage of oxygen in the atmosphere reached 1 - 2%, geochemists say that this allowed the evolution of the first complex cell with a nucleus. What is the name of this cell?

Question 2: How else did the early low levels of oxygen support the evolution of life?

Question 3: What percentage of the atmosphere needs to be oxygen to sustain combustion?

Home Research

Do your own research on the formation and characteristics of ozone and then answer the following question:

Question 4: Does ozone have an odour?

In recognition of Black History Month and to celebrate the contributions of Black and Ethnic minority writers, the English Department presents a list of contemporary fiction and non-fiction book recommendations.

Sawbones

Author: Catherine Johnson

Interest level: 11+

Reading age: 11+



In 18th century London, 16-year-old Ezra is working as apprentice to a highly respected surgeon, William McAdam.

Black and British: A Short, Essential History

Author: David Olusoga

Interest level: 9-14

Reading age: 9+



David Olusoga's latest edition of Black and British has been revised and rewritten especially for secondary school children.

Coram Boy

Author: Jamila Gavin

Interest level: 12+

Reading age: 12+



Coram Boy is the story of Toby, saved from an African ship as a child, and Aaron, the illegitimate son of the heir to a great estate. The two boys' lives are linked by the Coram Man, a shady figure who collects abandoned and unwanted children from across the country, supposedly to deliver them to a safe new life at the Coram Hospital in London.

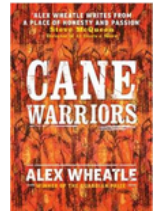
We hope you enjoy reading them. If you do read any over half-term, please share your thoughts with us, as we would love to know what you think!

Cane Warriors

Author: Alex Wheatle

Interest level: 13-16

Reading age: 12+



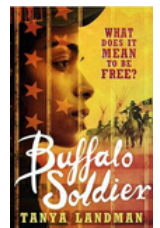
This story is inspired by a real-life rebellion in British-owned slave plantations in Jamaica in 1760.

Buffalo Soldier

Author: Tanya Landman

Interest level: 13+

Reading age: 11+



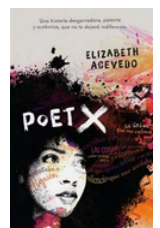
A moving, gritty and convincing teenage historical drama where love and loyalty take on prejudice and greed.

The Poet X

Author: Elizabeth Acevedo

Interest age: 13-18

Reading age: 13+



Xiomara finds her voice through slam poetry in this coming-of-age novel. Written in verse, it's a moving exploration of identity, self-expression, and the power of words.



Refugee Week

During Refugee Week 2024, students in Lancashire were invited to express their concepts of **"Our Home"** through various creative means.

Our Lady's pupil Kourtney in Year 7 won first prize in Lancashire for a poem she wrote on **'Home is where the heart is'**.

Congratulations Kourtney.



Being One of Ours



CHORLEY LIVE

During the recent Chorley Live! **One of Ours** performed at one of the live music events. However, this wasn't one of our very talented pupils but our very accomplished school chaplain Sarah. She performed as part of a duo called Rylee.

Sarah graced Chorley with two hours of her singing with various show tunes, hits from the 80s and songs from bands such as Deacon Blue. Sarah was fabulous and thoroughly deserved the applause of the large crowd who were watching.

Well done Sarah!

Being One of Ours

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



Amount raised £200

For this year's Macmillan Coffee morning on 27 September we had a fantastic array of delicious treats and home baked cakes in the OLCHS staffroom (*as you can see from the photos*).

It was a wonderful morning in which over £200 was raised for an amazing cause.

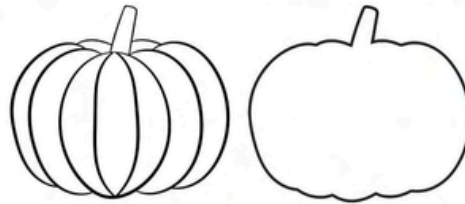




Design a Pumpkin Competition!



OLCHS Gardening Club would like to invite you to enter our Design a Pumpkin Competition. It can be done however you want! It could be drawn, carved, crocheted etc. The choice is yours!



All you need to do is send a picture to KWO@olchs.lancs.sch.uk for your chance to win a selection of goodies! Please include your name and year group. Deadline for entries is **Thursday 31st October!** We welcome entries from anyone in our school and the extended community.



Gardening Tools...Pots... **wanted**

School Garden

Our Lady's school garden is welcoming donations of gardening equipment you no longer need, including shears, gloves, bird feeders, pots, etc.....

Please contact Ms Worthington by email on KWO@olchs.lancs.sch.uk to arrange drop off.

Thank you.



Information

OUR LADY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL – TERM DATES 2025-2026

Friday 18 July, 2025 - School closes for summer at 12.35 pm

AUTUMN TERM

Monday 1 September, 2025	INSET DAY – pupils at home
Tuesday 2 September, 2025	Pupil Review Day
Wednesday 3 September, 2025	Year 7 to school
Thursday 4 September, 2025	All pupils return to school
Friday 3 October, 2025	INSET DAY – pupils at home
Friday 24 October, 2025	Half-term – school closes at 3.00 pm
Monday 3 November, 2025	All pupils return to school
Friday, 19 December 2025	End of term – school closes at 12.35 pm

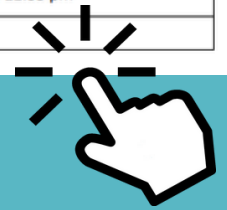
SPRING TERM

Monday 5 January, 2026	All pupils return to school
Friday 13 February, 2026	Half-term – school closes at 3.00 pm
Monday 23 February, 2026	INSET DAY – pupils at home
Tuesday 24 February, 2026	All pupils return to school
Thursday 2 April, 2026	End of term – school closes at 12.35 pm



SUMMER TERM

Monday 20 April, 2026	All pupils return to school
Monday 4 May, 2026	School closed for May Day
Friday 22 May, 2026	Half-term – school closes at 3.00 pm
Monday 1 June, 2026	All pupils return to school
Friday 17 July, 2026	End of term – school closes at 12.35 pm
Monday 20 July, 2026	INSET DAY – pupils at home



A message for Parents from Safer Preston



As members of the Preston Community Safety Partnership, we are reaching out to address a growing concern within Preston that requires your attention and cooperation.

Recently, it has come to our attention that several empty buildings in Preston have been attracting children and young people...

[\(click here to continue reading\)](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)



2024 Dates for your Diary

Friday 18 October
Rewards Assemblies

Friday 18 October
Pupils break for half-term at 3pm

Monday 28 October
Pupils return to school

OLCHS SOCIAL MEDIA



Being One of Ours

Firework Code



Lancashire Fire
and Rescue Service

Always supervise young children

Light sparklers one at a time

Keep pets indoors

Keep them in a closed box

Follow all instructions carefully

Stand well back

DO's

&

Don'ts

Never return to a lit firework

Don't give sparklers to under 5's

Don't set fireworks off after 11pm

Never put them in your pocket

Never throw them

For more information visit:

www.lancsfireandrescue.org.uk/bonfires-and-fireworks.aspx



Information

Fireworks, The Law and You



Lancashire Fire
and Rescue Service

Fireworks can only be purchased from registered sellers for private use between:

15th October - 10th November
26th December - 31st December
3 days before Diwali or Chinese New Year

It is illegal to sell fireworks or sparklers to anyone under 18

It is illegal for anyone under 18 to possess fireworks in public

If you are caught with fireworks in public you could be given an on the spot fine of £80

It is an offence to set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am

It is also an offence to obstruct emergency workers

If you are caught committing any of these offences you could be given an on the spot fine or be taken to court where you can be given a heavier fine or prison sentence.

THINK ABOUT IT.



20% OFF
EVERYTHING*
IN-STORE AT
MONKHOUSE

BE QUICK, OFFER LIVE
19/10/24 - 02/11/24

*Offer not available on the Monkhouse website.

the **HARRIS**
HOME from HOME

OCTOBER HALF-TERM PROGRAMME

AT PRESTON GUILD HALL

MONDAY 21
SPOOKY STORIES
1.30 - 3.30PM

WEDNESDAY 23
DIWALI DECORATIONS
1.30 - 3.30PM

TUESDAY 22
LANTERN MAKING
1.30 - 3.30PM

FRIDAY 25
FOOTBALL CRAFT
1.30 - 3.30PM



All events are free to attend, and drop-ins are welcome, no booking required!



Being One of Ours

Sporting News



CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

PRESTON SCHOOLS' CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP



Wednesday 9th October was the Preston Schools' Cross-Country Championship at Archbishop Temple School. The morning monsoon made the course a little more challenging, particularly the very steep downhill section and, of course, the equally steep uphill return!

51 runners from Our Lady's stepped up to the plate and braved the new course with some extremely impressive performances finishing within the top 10 of their respective races and it was fantastic to see representation across all year groups in the running elite!

PJ Dickinson (Yr 7) - 5th
Amelia Buchan (Yr 8) - 4th
David Baginski (Yr 9) - 1st
Isaac Slack (Yr 9) - 3rd
Ben Barnes (Yr 9) - 7th
Michael Dignan (Yr 10) - 3rd
Karley Roscoe (Yr 10) - 4th
Luke Kane (Yr 11) - 1st
Jake Blackhurst (Yr 11) - 4th
Lexie Eastham (Yr 11) - 7th

It was a wonderful event and very well supported by pupils, staff and family members. The overall results were calculated after the event and we are so proud to be able to publish the final results here.

YEAR 7

Girls

1st - Broughton
2nd - Temple
3rd - **Our Lady's**

Boys

1st - Ashton
2nd - **Our Lady's**
3rd - Corpus Christi

U14

Girls

1st - Broughton
2nd - Temple
3rd - Longridge

Boys

1st - **Our Lady's**
2nd - Ashton
3rd - Broughton

U16

Girls

1st - Broughton
2nd - Temple
3rd - Longridge

Boys

1st - **Our Lady's**
2nd - Broughton
3rd - Temple

FOOTBALL YEAR 7 LANCASHIRE CUP

The Year 7 boys had their first taste of competitive football on Monday evening as they travelled to Leyland St Mary's (LSM) for the first round of the Lancashire Cup. The evening was a round robin league in which the top team at the end of the evening progresses through to the next round of the county cup.

The first game was against the hosts LSM. Play was end-to-end but neither team being able to find the back of the net, it was looking like the points would be shared. That said however, a questionable decision saw the hosts awarded a penalty with just two minutes to go - no VAR to challenge the decision, 1-0 to Leyland St Mary's.

With defeat in the first game, game two was a must win against a strong Lostock Hall who were coming in with a win in their first match and high on confidence. Another very tight game with both teams sharing the opportunities without finding the goal. A bit of magic from PJ Dickinson opened up a gap in front of the goal and his cool, calm, winner slotted into the far post to set up a tense final game against local rivals, Broughton High.



Our Lady's needed a win in the final game if they stood any chance of progressing through to the next round as group winners. Nerves were calmed early into the game as Ethan Rufus fired home a stunning volley which gave the Broughton side no chance of saving. Our Lady's performance went from strength to strength and the game ended with a comfortable victory.

To see if our boys had topped the league, all that was left was to find out was if LSM had beaten Lostock Hall in their final fixture - as any other result would place Our Lady's top of the table. That match ended with a draw, so we look forward to seeing which school Our Lady's face in the next round of the Lancashire Cup.

Special mention for Cai Davis who missed out on being selected for the school team due to recovering from an operation but made the journey after school to be Mr Waring's assistant coach for the evening.

Sporting News



NETBALL YEAR 11

On Monday Year 11 were away to Archbishop Temple in the Preston School League. Both teams were evenly matched. However, we got off to quite a slow start and we found ourselves trailing by five goals after just a few minutes. Early nerves soon settled and we clawed our way back to within one goal by half time. The second half mirrored the first and we let Archbishop creep ahead again. Once again, we started to close the gap, but time wasn't on our side and the final score was 15-10. Player of the match went to ChiChi O thanks to her speed and agility centre court, which allowed her to make several key interceptions.



Being One of Ours

Congratulations to Our Lady's pupil Sam who has secured a 2 year contract at Fleetwood Town FC following a trial period. We look forward to following his journey.



Being One of Ours

WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

Our apprenticeship insight event introduces BAE Systems, engineering, and our early careers programmes.

Taking place over four days throughout January & February 2025, students will have the opportunity to learn more about us, gain hands on experience, and visit our sites. There will also be opportunities to meet our current engineering apprentices, who will provide insights into their role and share their experience.

Please see attached PDF document with more information or follow the link below.

[Find out more >>](#)

Following the experience, students could be offered a full-time position on one of our engineering apprenticeships, starting in Autumn 2025.

VIRTUAL OPEN EVENTS

Virtual Apprentice Open Events In addition to the Women in Engineering Insight Experience. BAE is also hosting virtual open events for those interested in apprentice opportunities who are not able to attend our in-person open events. Please follow the link to sign up to one of our virtual open events:



BAE SYSTEMS

Discover pathways to STEM success with our insight experiences.

We're one of the UK's leading STEM employers, bringing together 45,700 professionals nationwide across engineering, aeronautics, technology, procurement, project management and many more. Like you, we're passionate about helping young people embrace STEM subjects and discover careers in engineering and technology.

Together we can inspire bright minds from all backgrounds to access opportunities in our industry. At BAE Systems we serve, supply and protect those who serve and protect us – and provide opportunities for our 5,500 apprentices and graduates in learning to find a place to build meaningful careers.



Women in Engineering
Insight Experience
January & February 2025

Apply now for our 2025 Women in Engineering Insight Experience

Why engineering?
It might not be something you've considered, but a BAE Systems engineering apprenticeship gives you the opportunity to build valuable skills, gain new experiences, and work while you continue to learn – a solid foundation to help launch your future career.

Still not sure?
Then make sure you apply for our Women in Engineering Insight Experience. Being able to see for yourself what you're getting is a great first step towards an engineering apprenticeship, all about, and get yourself out there. And if you like what you see, you could be offered a full-time position on one of our engineering apprenticeships, starting in Autumn 2025. Gain new experiences, and work while you continue to learn – a solid foundation to help launch your future career.

The best thing about the experience was going on site, learning lots of new skills and meeting loads of people that knew a lot about apprenticeships and BAE Systems, it really helped to get a better understanding.

There are a limited number of slots, click on the link to apply Women in Engineering 2025

Applications close 31 October 2024

APPLY NOW!

We're one of the UK's leading STEM employers, bringing together professionals nationwide across engineering, aeronautics, technology, procurement, project management and many more. We're passionate about helping young people embrace STEM subjects and discover careers in engineering and technology. Together we can inspire bright minds from all backgrounds to access opportunities in our industry.

BAE SYSTEMS

To view the PDF
Click Here

<https://www.baesystems.com/en/event/apprenticeship-open-evenings>



2024-25

University of Central Lancashire
Training 2000

Aspiring Clubs for year 10, 11 and 12

Our Aspiring Clubs are aimed at giving you a taste of life as an apprentice. Whether you are an Aspiring Engineer or interested in becoming an Optician, we have lots of options available.



If you or someone you know are interested in an apprenticeship at the world's largest public broadcasting organisation, join the webinar with BBC's Early Careers team to gain insight into their range of apprenticeship opportunities, from journalism, project management, data science, engineering and much more.

You will also hear from current apprentices what the recruitment process is like, how to make your application stand out from the crowd and what life as an apprentice at the BBC is like.

Register now:

