

# Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 11

29th November 2024



## The Theme Next Week - Season of Advent

As we enter the season of Advent, the first candle of the Advent wreath is lit, marking the beginning of a time of preparation, reflection, and hope. This Sunday's Gospel, from Luke 21:25-28,34-36, reminds us to stay vigilant and prayerful as we await the coming of Christ. Jesus speaks of signs in the heavens and on earth, encouraging us to stand firm and lift our heads with hope, for our redemption is near. In the busyness of our daily lives, Advent calls us to pause and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Christmas: the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Advent is a season of waiting and anticipation, but it is also a time of active preparation. In the Gospel, Jesus invites us to remain alert and ready, avoiding distractions that might draw us away from God. This message challenges us to reflect on how we are preparing ourselves spiritually amidst the festive season's hustle and bustle. Are we finding moments of quiet to pray and reflect? Are we reaching out to those in need with generosity and love? This Advent, let us take small but meaningful steps to open our hearts to Christ, making room for His peace and joy to dwell within us.

### Loving God,

As we begin this season of Advent, we light the first candle and remember the hope you bring to our lives.

Help us to stay watchful and prayerful, preparing our hearts for the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ.

May we find time to reflect on your love, share it with others, and walk in your light.

Guide us to be people of hope, sharing your joy with the world as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen

May the light of Advent guide you and your families this week.

## BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Aadvika Mathai, Kourtney Fell - faith-filled and hopeful

Year 8: Zach Clark - learned and wise

Year 9: Vinnie Millington - loving and compassionate

Year 10: Macy Wilson - curious and active

Year 11: Nicola Zamorowska, Antonina Pustelnik - faith-filled and hopeful



*Being One of Ours*



# Christmas Appeal

Our Lady's gift collection this Christmas will be for the Salvation Army, Preston Branch.

**PLEASE DONATE ITEMS BY  
MONDAY 2ND DECEMBER**

The Salvation Army has requested NEW, UNWRAPPED gifts for children and young people aged 7 to 18 years as well as Selection Boxes and sweet treats.

These will be taken to the Salvation Army on Monday 2nd December.

All items can be left in the Chaplaincy Room in the Ikea Bags. The following is a list of suggested items to donate:

Footballs / Rugby balls / Basketballs

Barbie Dolls

Dress Up Clothes

Lego

Art Sets

Remote Control Toys

Make Up Sets

Nail Varnish Sets

Family Board Games

Jewellery

Handbags

Aftershaves / Perfumes

Mini Speakers

Socks

Books

Selection Boxes / Chocolates

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## Presentation Awards

On Thursday 21st November, we welcomed back the 'Class of 2024' Year 11s to present their GCSE and BTEC Certificates. The school community came together to celebrate their wonderful academic achievements and to present special awards and trophies to pupils for their outstanding contributions to life at Our Lady's Catholic High School.

A special thank you to our guest speaker and former pupil, Greg Lindley, Headteacher of Holy Cross Catholic High School in Chorley.

Awards

Evening

PHOTOS



## Celebration Morning

On Friday 22nd November, our school community came together to celebrate the academic achievements of our children in a spirit of joy and gratitude. This special occasion allowed us to reflect on the gifts and talents God has blessed our children with and to acknowledge their dedication, effort, and success in their studies. As a Catholic school, we are deeply proud of how our children strive not only for academic excellence but also for personal growth rooted in the schools' **Being One of Ours** virtues. We thank all parents and families for their ongoing support, which plays a vital role in their children's journey of learning and faith.





## ENGINEERING COMPETITION

Last Wednesday, eight talented pupils from Our Lady's represented the school at an exciting engineering competition hosted by the National Grid at Broughton High School. Competing alongside teams from Corpus Christi, St Cecilia's, Broughton High, Ashton Community Science College, and Fulwood High, our pupils showcased remarkable ingenuity, teamwork, and perseverance across three challenging tasks.

### Challenge 1: The Catapult Test

The first challenge required pupils to design and construct a catapult capable of launching a ball as high and as far as possible. Our team impressed the judges with a creative hybrid design, combining elements of a catapult and a slingshot. Their innovative approach demonstrated both technical skill and out-of-the-box thinking.

### Challenge 2: Building a Transmission Tower

The second task involved constructing an electrical transmission tower using K'nex, guided by a precise design brief. Teams were evaluated on their ability to follow the instructions, the leadership and management skills of their chosen leader, and overall teamwork. Our pupils excelled, building a sturdy tower over one metre tall and showcasing their solid understanding of geometry and collaborative problem-solving.

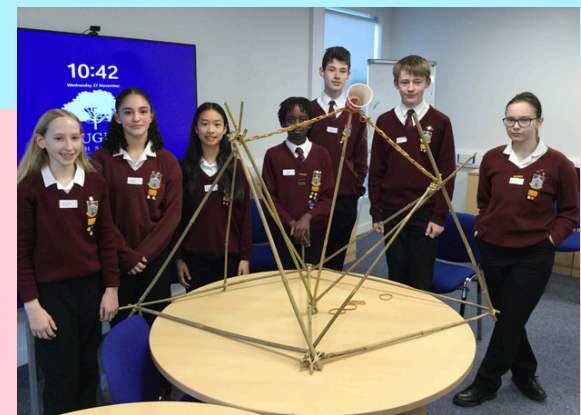
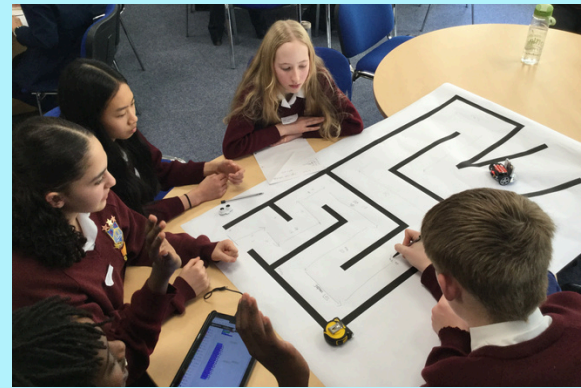
### Challenge 3: Robot Navigation

The final challenge tested coding and problem-solving skills. Pupils were given a map and a robot, tasked with writing a program to guide it through a complex route. Despite initial setbacks, our team persevered and successfully navigated their robot across the course—a testament to their determination and adaptability.

At the end of the competition, Broughton High emerged as the overall winners, with Corpus Christi securing second place. Our Lady's proudly finished in third, a fantastic achievement in such a competitive field!

A huge well done to the pupils who represented Our Lady's with such enthusiasm and skill. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and can't wait to see what they'll accomplish next.

Zack K	Naomi L	Oliver L	Hanna B
Thomas M	Kayah J	Caitlyn L	Alex L





# SCIENCE WEEKLY CHALLENGE

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

## Science In The News

This week's *Science In The News* looks at how new materials developed by scientists enable us to push the boundaries of capability in two quite different fields.

There were several Olympic and World Records broken at the Paris 2024 Games - maybe you were watching. Read the article about the advanced technology used to make the running track and then answer the following questions:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/crg4d5vn0n0o>

**Question 1:** What structure does the lower layer of the Paris athletics track have?

**Question 2:** How does this aid the athlete?

Now read the article about advanced mirror technology being used in the Extremely Large Telescope and also in Quantum mirrors.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cd1646ewzleo>

**Question 3:** Why is the telescope's M4 mirror designed to change shape a thousand times per second?

**Question 4:** How many atoms were there in the quantum mirror produced by the Max Planck Institute?

## Home Research

What material was discovered in 2004 at the University of Manchester that is 200 times stronger than steel?

## Think of Her THIS CHRISTMAS

LANCASHIRE  
WOMEN

### Donation appeal:

- Fluffy Socks
- Eye/Face masks
- Bath bombs
- Body butter/lotion/hand cream
- Candles (small)
- Chocolates/sweets
- Hot drink sachets
- Individually wrapped teabags
- Face rollers/beauty tools
- Lip balm
- Hair accessories

Have you got anything on our winter appeal list that you could donate? If so, please drop it off at one of our centres.

Please help spread the word so that we can make as many pamper parcels as possible for our women!

LANCASHIRE  
WOMEN



### 2024 Dates for your Diary

**27 November to 3 December**  
Book Fair in the LRC

**Friday 6 December**  
Young Enterprise at St Anthony's  
Christmas Fair

**Wednesday 18 December**  
Christmas Variety Show

OLCHS  
SOCIAL  
MEDIA



## CHRISTMAS FAIR

Organised by Ashton Central Scout Group

Photos with  
Santa

Crafts



**30 NOVEMBER 2024**

**11 AM-3PM**

Tea and  
Cof fee

Golden Carrot

Tombola

Mince Pies

CAKES

BBQ

Raffle

many other games and activities

**SACRED HEART  
COMMUNITY CENTRE  
BEECH GROVE  
PR2 1DU**







**LANCASTER UNIVERSITY**  
**SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS**

# Information

## High attaining mathematics students

The LUSoM early application deadline is 09:00 am on Monday 13 January 2025. Students must apply by this date to be invited to attend our aptitude test on Saturday 18 January.

The application form can be found the LUSoM website, or through the following link

**SIGN UP**



**LANCASTER UNIVERSITY**  
**SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS**

## LUSoM Science Revise

Date	Time	Location
8th January 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
15th January 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
22nd January 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
29th January 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
5th February 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
12th February 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
26th February 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
5th March 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
12th March 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
19th March 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
26th March 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online
2nd April 2025	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Online

Year 11 students who are aiming for a grade 7, 8 or 9 in Science are invited to sign up to the free online revision sessions run by Lancaster University.

These sessions focus on Chemistry and Physics and they run on alternate weeks starting Wednesday 8th January.

You need to sign up using this link Outreach for Students - Lancaster University School of Mathematics

If you need more information, please speak to Ms Cookson or your science teacher.

The sessions will run online each Wednesday (in term time) between 16:00 and 17:00 from Wednesday 8th January until Wednesday 2nd April.

To register for this programme, please [click here](#).

*Being One of Ours*



## NETBALL

### YEAR 7 & 8

Last Wednesday the OLCHS Year 7 and Year 8 netball squads were at home to Ashton. Both teams were feeling confident after their wins against Corpus Christi the previous week, and consequently, they got off to flying starts against their new opponents. We were quick at passing the ball down court and defensively very tight, marking our players closely to make it hard for them to get the ball and create attacking opportunities. We remained consistent throughout the duration of the games, with Year 7 securing an 8-1 victory and Year 8 winning 11-0.

Player of the match for Year 7 went to Isabel W, as she showed great versatility playing in attack and defence. In Year 8, Chiamaka E was awarded the title as, yet again, she used her height and athleticism brilliantly to make several key interceptions from the Ashton attack.



## YEAR 7

The Year 7 netball squad continued their unbeaten streak against Broughton on Wednesday this week. The team got off to a flying start, establishing a convincing six goal lead by half time. In the second half, both teams struggled to score goals, despite the game being very close in terms of possession. The final score was 8-3 to Our Lady's. Player of the match was awarded to Coco. She used her speed and power to make numerous interceptions in defence.



## YEAR 8

Next on court were the Year 8 squad. We were missing Chiamaka E in defence. However, Umika P and Melody B stepped in to play out of position at Goal Keeper for part of the match. As expected, the score was very close against these two equally matched teams and Broughton were just one goal ahead at halftime. In the second half, it was our opponents that managed to keep their cool. We began to make a few unforced errors and Broughton capitalised on this. By the final whistle, they had a five goal lead, beating us 12-7. Player of the match went to Amelia B, who worked tirelessly at Centre, to both attack and defend for her team.



## U13 FOOTBALL



Huge congratulations to the U13 girls who beat Great Ashton Academy 3-0 on Monday evening at South Drive pitch. The girls played some fantastic football with goals on target frequently but just not hitting the back of the net. With a few mins left of the first half Amelia B scored a great goal for Our Lady's. The second half brought its own challenges with some fantastic goal keeping from our opponents. We persevered and finally our commitment paid off with a further goal from Coco. Our final goal came from Charlotte B. Final score 3-0 to OLCHS.

Mrs Lin would like to say a huge thank you to Cadley FC who allowed us to play on their beautifully groomed pitch on Monday and to Mr Gregson who opened the gates to the park, helped us set up, stayed throughout the fixture and then helped us put everything away and locked up again. We are truly grateful of your support.





## PRESTON COLLEGE

An update on our vocational pupils by our very own Mr Pill

**Year 10 - Motor Vehicle** students had the opportunity recently to try out on the Formula one Simulator. They were racing each other, and it was wonderful to see pupils bonding with one another and cheering each other on. There are boys from multiple schools on the course and they have all settled as a group of friends. They welcomed a new pupil of Our Lady's to the group; it was a delight to see our pupils showing him the ropes and explain what and where things are. Even down to helping him find some new boots.



**Year 10 - Hair and Beauty.** The girls are currently doing manicures and nail art, however they wouldn't allow Mr Pill to take any photos just at the moment as they said "We've not perfected it yet". Cathy their tutor praised the girls once again and said they are a delight to teach. She said the pupils are extremely conscientious and eager to learn more.

**Year 10 – Construction.** Students are currently working on timber and woodwork. They are carving, scarping, sanding, sawing and cutting. Dorell S is excelling at his work, so much so he is assisting all other pupils. Mary H has her own flair when sawing her material and looks highly professional.



The BAE SYSTEMS logo is displayed in white, bold, uppercase letters within a red rectangular box.

Year 10  
&  
Year 11

Is your child interested in a career at BAE and in Year 10 or Year 11. Mrs Lin has organised a visit to their Salmesbury site in mid-January 2025.

If your child is interested, please ask your child to please email Mrs Lin.