



Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 15 September 2017

Name Form

Our Prayer theme next week is **Community**

The recurring theme in the words and actions of Jesus is compassion (literally meaning to do things *with love*). The Gospel for this week and last week focuses on the idea that the community is all-important in bringing the love and Word of God alive in each other. The community is encouraged to act with God-like compassion towards all. To do things with the needs of others in mind first and to forgive those who get things wrong.

Lord, to live is to change. As we grow in love for one another may we listen to what You have to say to us today and pay attention to the way You want us to treat others: with unlimited compassion. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM MR RANSON

I should like to congratulate all of our Year 7 pupils who have made a wonderful start here at Our Lady's. It really is very easy to make a strong impression when one is new: good manners, please and thank you and a nice smile. These have been present in abundance and are incredibly important. I am also very grateful to all of the older pupils who have helped the Year 7 children to settle in, by showing them where to go and guiding them when unsure. Just as important is the example that the older pupils set in terms of outstanding behaviour and positive approaches. All of these things are picked up by our younger pupils and set an excellent example.

I should like to congratulate our outgoing Year 11 pupils, the class of 2017. They have been in the year where mathematics and English examinations and grading systems were changed and they have had to receive both letters and numbers for their results. This means that it is very difficult to compare to previous years but it is certainly safe to say that they have done very well indeed and there are numerous pupils who have earned fabulous grades which really were at the peak of their potential. To achieve one's potential is all that should be asked and many, many pupils have done just that from right across the ability spectrum.

I should like to pay tribute to all of the teachers and staff who worked so hard to support those pupils who now have left us. Do please pray for all of them as they embark on the next stage of their journey of life; they will always be 'One of Ours'.

We are very pleased to welcome new staff who started at Our Lady's last week and have come to us from a variety of places and bring with them a breadth of experience:

- Ms Fortunata Armellino - Highfield Leadership Academy - Temporary Teacher of Textiles
- Ms Jenny Carter – Part-time Business Support Officer – Broughton Primary School
- Ms Laura Goldsmith – Temporary Learning Support Assistant
- Miss Gabby Higgins – Smithills School – Temporary Teacher of History
- Mr Jonathon Pill - Catholic Teaching Alliance – Temporary Teacher of English
- Mrs Gill Smith – Step by Step Supply Agency – Temporary Learning Support Assistant
- Mr Alex Thompson – Catholic Teaching Alliance – Teacher of Mathematics

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

We currently have a vacancy for two parent governors to join our full governing body. Details of the election and nomination forms were emailed to parents yesterday. Any parent who would like to apply should complete the nomination form and return it to Pam Bilsborrow at school by 12 noon on Monday, 25 September. For enquiries or further information please email pbi@olchs.lancs.sch.uk

MISSION 2017

It is with pleasure that we can announce our second whole-school Mission for December 2017. Animate Youth Ministries will be leading us in a week to celebrate the life and faith of our school community. This will be an exciting time for all in our community, including families and parishes and schools and we ask for your prayers and support over the next few months and beyond.

VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies for two Temporary Learning Support Assistants – required as soon as possible until March 2018. The hours are 27.67 per week, term time only. Grade 4 £16,491 to £17,772 pro-rata. More details and an application pack are available on the website. Closing Date for all applications is Wednesday, 27 September at 12 noon with interviews taking place on Monday, 2 October.

DRAMA/MUSICAL THEATRE CLUB

The Drama/Musical Theatre club is starting on Thursday, 21 September from 3.30 pm until 4.45 pm. The club is open to all boys and girls, especially the new Year 7 pupils. The club teaches pupils skills in drama, musical theatre and performance. For the past years we have done a productions of Oliver, Annie, and extracts from Matilda and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. All are welcome to come along, just bring your drama kit.

OLCHS GUIDE DOG PUPPY

After successfully raising £1500 for the Guide Dog Association last year - through the Wellbeing Day and other charity events - we were rewarded with the opportunity to name a Guide Dog puppy. We submitted three names and this week received a photograph of our puppy! His name is Pepper (chosen by Kieran Carpenter, 8U) and he was born on 23 June 2017. When Pepper is old enough (from 17 weeks onwards) he will be brought into school and some of our pupils will have the opportunity to meet him!

COLLEGE OPEN DAYS

Please see the dates and times below for college Open Days:

Cardinal Newman College

Saturday, 7 October - 10 am until 2.00 pm

Monday, 23 October - 5.00 pm until 8.00 pm

Thursday 23 November - 5.00 pm until 8.00 pm

Thursday, 1 February - 5.00 pm until 8.00 pm

Runshaw College

Saturday, 23 September- 11.00 am until 3.00 pm

Thursday, 12 October - 4.00 pm until 8.00 pm

Monday, 20 November - 4.00 pm until 8.00 pm

Myserscough College

Wednesday, 18 October from 10.00 am until 2.30 pm

Preston's College

Wednesday, 25 October Tuesday, 6 February and Thursday, 26 April from 4.00 pm until 7.30 pm.

NETBALL NEWS

On Wednesday the year 11 Netball team played their first two league matches away at St. Cecilia's. The squad were missing three key players. However, the rest of the team pulled together, managing to beat Ashton 4-2. However, a last minute goal saw them lose narrowly 5-4 to Archbishop. Well done to Anna Smith, Hannah Brady, Mia Brown, Katie McDougall and Lauren Smith.

Dates to remember

Thursday, 28 September - Year 7 Welcome Mass

Friday, 29 September – Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thursday, 5 October – Open Evening – school closes at 12.45 pm

Friday, 6 October – INSET day, pupils at home

Thursday, 12 October – Year 7 Information Evening

Friday, 27 October – School closes for half-term at 3.30 pm

Monday, 6 November – school opens