



Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 10 February 2017

Name Form

Our Prayer theme next week is **Forgiveness**

COMPLAINTS POLICY

Government regulations require all schools to ensure that parents are aware of how to local the school's Complaints Policy. For the Our Lady's Policy please go to the website www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk, click on the School tab, then School Polices and the Complaints Policy is the 7th on the list.

ENRICHMENT DAY 2

Year 7 spent the day learning about how they could take steps towards celebrating the diversity which exists in society and the world. They were encouraged to embrace differences, as that which makes us unique is special. They also considered how we are not all made on a production line and that we don't have to fit into a mould. They reflected maturely and responded to all tasks set with enthusiasm. Pupils in **Year 8** worked in groups to create a presentation about how they would tackle an issue within the community. Pupils spent the day researching community issues, developing an idea on how to address this and creating a presentation to showcase their ideas. These were presented to their class during p.4 and the winner of each class went on to present to a group of judges who decided on the winning idea at the end of the day. **Year 9** spent the day working on moral development and learning about how the choices they make may affect others. They were encouraged to reflect on the variety of choices available to us in different situations, and also the consequences of our choices on ourselves and on others. It was a very intensive day but pupils were exemplary, working hard with a positive attitude to the tasks they were asked to complete. **Year 10** took part in an enrichment day based around volunteering. We had visitors from Brockholes, Salvation Army, NCS and the Guide Dogs and their trainer. Thank you to all parents who contributed as we raised £160 which was given to the Guide Dog Association on the day. **Year 11** enrichment day was entitled Coping Strategies. It involved a number of activities which looked at ways of dealing with the stress and anxiety of examinations. Workshops included meditation techniques, Pilates, self-esteem and stress management, reflective writing and two craft sessions called Coasting to Success and Mindful Beading. The day was most enjoyable, rewarding and thought provoking offering pupils the opportunity to relax, reflect and socialise.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Our Attendance policy states that any absence attached to either side of a school holiday will be assumed to be a holiday taken in term time and such absences will be classified as 'unauthorized' unless evidence is provided which proves otherwise. We ask for this evidence to be fair and consistent with all families. In addition we will expect to meet with parents whose children have taken such absences and the child will be taught separately until the meeting takes place. We will always meet with parents at the earliest possible opportunity. Should your child be ill on a day attached to a school holiday we ask that you provide evidence of this; an appointment card from a doctor or a dated and named prescription would suffice. Please contact us on a landline or briefly call in to school for us to see you. The principle is that attendance at school is a legal requirement and duty and we must do all that we reasonably can to support this. Finally, may I remind all families that any unauthorised absence for holidays or otherwise in Year 11 will result in the invitation to attend the Year 11 Prefects' Ball being withdrawn.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

In the lead up to Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January, Years 8 and 9 participated in a week of activities and reflections designed to honour those who suffered during the Holocaust. Year 8 studied the tragedy during R.E. and English lessons, whilst Year 9 studied it through History lessons and during form time. Every pupil in Year 9 created a memorial candle in memory of a child victim and these have been added to a display alongside photographs that were taken by a pupil during our recent trip to Auschwitz.

DUCKLINGS

We have new additions to our animal menagerie!! We have acquired 10 duck eggs and this week the 'Animal Care' pupils have started incubating them. The eggs will be incubated and monitored for approximately 28 days and are due to hatch on Tuesday, 28 February. We will keep the ducklings in school until they are 6 months old, before releasing them onto a pond. We would like to thank Mr Ballard, Headteacher at Mawdesley St Peter's and Mrs Ballard, Headteacher at St Anthony's for their help and advice with this project. We would also like to thank St Mary's, Lea Town Primary School for the loan of their incubator. For updates on this project see Moodle or our new Twitter page @OLCHSAnimalCare

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers 2017

Active Kids Vouchers are available from Sainsbury's from now until 2 May. Please send your vouchers into school where we will have a collection box in Reception. Please get all your friends and family to collect vouchers for us too. With your help last year we collected enough vouchers to purchase juice squeezers, food storage boxes and digital weighing scales, this year we are hoping to purchase PE equipment. The closing date for receipt of vouchers is 30 June 2017. Thank you for your support.

CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESS

Congratulations to the following pupils who represented Preston on Saturday, 4 February at the annual Lancashire Cross Country Championships in Witton Park, Blackburn. Results for our pupils were: Bethany Lovatt 41st, Grace Wignall 28th, Emily Mayson 25th, Ella Newton 28th, Tom Durney who finished a fantastic 13th, Richard Craven 46th and Matias Grixti who finished 14th. There were a substantial number of runners from other schools on the day and the above students have done amazingly well.

Dates to remember

Monday, 20 February – INSET day pupils at home

Tuesday, 21 February – School opens for Spring Term 2

Wednesday, 22 February – Dance Diva – 7.00 pm at the Charter Theatre

Thursday, 23 February – Revision Programme meeting

Monday, 27 February – Year 11 Revision Programme begins

Thursday, 2 March – Year 7 Parents' Evening

Friday, 31 March – School closes for Easter at 12.45 pm