



# Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 19 January 2018

Our Prayer theme next week is **Change**

We are in a constant state of development, a never-ending process of change and transformation. Sometimes it is something obvious (growing taller, etc), sometimes it's not so obvious (our emotions, our motivations, our thoughts). The point is that we are not the finished article and we never will be without Christ. This week we will focus on the idea of changing our hearts and minds. The Gospel uses the word "repent" meaning to get rid of all that holds us back (sin, etc) and turn back towards the Gospel and all it contains. Therefore, be aware of Christ's invitation and encouragement to change through Him.



**Lord, we pray that we can begin the change that will make us into the people you created us to be. May we turn away from the things we don't need and turn towards you. Amen.**

## DIOCESAN INSPECTION OF THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

On Tuesday and Wednesday of next week Mrs H Seddon, Headteacher of Our Lady's Catholic College in Lancaster, will be carrying out an inspection of the Catholic life of the school on behalf of the Diocese of Lancaster. She is keen to hear the views of parents and to this end has sent us a questionnaire and asked that we send it out to all parents. This questionnaire was given to your child to bring home on Wednesday and we ask that it is returned by Monday, either to the address given by Mrs Seddon or posted through the post box in school. Many thanks.

## YEAR 9 HRSE/OPTIONS DAYS

On Wednesday and Thursday of next week Year 9 will be off timetable to have one day preparing for choosing their options and one day on Human Relationships and Sex Education. By law, parents can choose to educate their children on HRSE at home and so, withdraw their children from lessons in school. If you wish to do this please write directly to Mr Ranson to inform him of this and allow us to make alternative provision.

## GCSE ART EXAM 2018 (Year 11)

All pupils have been given their GCSE Art exam paper this week. Pupils will be working on preparatory work on their chosen exam theme over the following weeks. Pupils should produce as much of their best quality preparatory work (this consists of drawings, research and photography) as they can in class and at home. They can also download the Pixlr autodesk App (free on mobiles/tablets/PC!) to edit photos – this scores lots of marks! There are other Apps which may be pertinent to their exam theme – PhotoshopMix, Pic Collage, Color Effects and more besides.

The controlled 10 hour final piece will be completed during school time. The exam project contributes to 40% of the final GCSE mark and will be completed on the second session of the 10 hour exam. Please encourage your child to work hard at home and make use of the extra sessions offered in school: Mon-Fri lunch. Mon, Wed, Fri after school (week A and B) and Tues (week B) after school. For further information/exam planning/guide to annotating work/copies of the exam paper and the OLCHS help sheet are on Moodle (GCSE Art and Design).

Sketchbooks/preparation work must be handed in on the first session of the 10 hour exam – failure to comply with this exam regulation will result in withdrawal from the GCSE exam. Dates for the exam final piece are as follows:

**Wednesday 25/04/18 11C and 11D P1-5**

**Thursday 03/05/18 11C and 11D P1-5**

**Thursday 26/04/18 11A and 11B P1-5**

**Friday 04/05/18/ 11A and 11B P1-5**

### **GUIDE DOG PUPPY VISIT**

Last year we raised £1500 to sponsor a Guide Dog puppy. Our puppy was named Pepper, by Kieran Carpenter in 8U. Pepper is a black Labrador-Retriever and is now 7 months old. He has been training to be a Guide Dog for 5 months now and came into school last week to visit some of our Year 7 and Year 9 pupils. We learnt about how Guide Dog puppies are trained to provide support and care for people who are visually-impaired. The staff responsible for Pepper's training sent the following: "Just a short note to thank you for your hospitality today during Pepper's visit. You never really know what to expect taking a young pup into a new environment but Pepper took it all in his stride and was a credit to his puppy walkers. The children were attentive and asked sensible questions (which isn't always the case) and I think they learned a lot from Gordon's talk"

### **VACANCY**

We currently have a vacancy for a Senior ICT Technician, 37 hours per week, full-time. It is a Grade 6 post with a salary of £20138 to £23398 and the successful candidate would be required to start as soon as possible. For an informal discussion please contact Geoff Diggles, Director of ICT on 01772-326926. Further details and application forms are available in the vacancy section of our website [www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk)

### **NEW APPOINTMENT**

Governors have recently appointed Jan Crosbie as Pastoral Support Manager here at Our Lady's. Jan works specifically with young people who experience social, emotional or behavioural needs, working with family and appropriate outside agencies to help provide the best possible support for each individual. She is based in our Learning Support Department and is available Monday to Friday from 8.30 am until 4.30 pm and at Parents' Evenings. Parents can contact her on 01772-326938 should they wish to discuss any aspect of their child's life, in or out of school.

### **CAREERS DAY**

Our annual Careers' Fair will take place on Wednesday, 31 January from 10.30am until 1.30pm for our Year 10 & 11 pupils. If there are any parents/carers who would like to take part and represent the industry/company they work for, please do contact Miss Bown at [cbo@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:cbo@olchs.lancs.sch.uk) for further details.

### **DANCE DIVA**

Our annual Dance Diva takes place on Wednesday, 7 February 2018 at the Charter Theatre. As usual all Year 7 and 8 together with a selection of Year 9,10 and 11 pupils will be performing. Details will appear in the Guild Hall booklet. Tickets are priced at £7.50 for adults and £4.50 for children and are available from the Guild Hall Box Office or online at <https://prestonguildhall.co.uk>

### **CARDINAL NEWMAN COLLEGE**

The closing date for applications for 2018 entry is only a few weeks away – Saturday, 10 February 2018. Pupils wishing to attend Cardinal Newman College should complete their applications immediately. For information there is an Open Event on Thursday, 1 February 2018 from 5.00 to 8.00 pm.

#### **Dates to remember**

Thursday, 25 January - Year 8 Parent/Carers' evening from 4.00 pm – 6.30 pm

Thursday, 8 February – KS4 Barcelona Trip

Friday, 9 February – School closes for half-term

Monday, 19 February – INSET day

Tuesday, 20 February – School opens

Thursday, 1 March - Year 9 Parent/Carers' evening from 4.00 pm – 6.30 pm

Thursday, 15 March - Year 7 Parent/Carers' evening from 4.00 pm – 6.30 pm

Thursday, 29 March – School closes for Easter holidays – 12.45 pm

Monday, 16 April – School opens