



# Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 27 April 2018

Our Prayer theme next week is **Loyalty to God**

"I am the vine and you are the branches." (John 15:1-8). This rich passage from the Gospel this week uses yet another symbol - that of the vine. Unlike many other plants, the vine and its branches share a special unique relationship - you can never identify where the stem of the vine ends and the branch begins. It is as if *the stem is the branch*. This metaphor brings out a unique relationship between Jesus and us: for those who live with Jesus in their hearts, there is no distinction between where Christ ends and they begin. The Gospel is very explicit in what happens if we cut ourselves away from Him, we wither (in real terms we are not living as fully as we should or could). However, those who remain loyal, those who "remain" in God will receive the riches and nourishment of being a disciple.



**Lord Jesus, abide in me so that I become you. Amen.**

## **HEAD BOY AND GIRL APPLICATIONS**

The recruitment process for Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputies and the Prefect Leadership Team has now begun. Year 10 pupils interested in this role should email Mr Fitzpatrick, [mfi@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:mfi@olchs.lancs.sch.uk), for an application form. Completed forms should be returned to Mr Fitzpatrick by **3.30 pm on Wednesday, 9 May 2018**.

## **CASTLERIGG MANOR NEEDS OUR HELP!**

Many of our pupils, past and present and indeed their parents too have the most wonderful memories of time spent on retreat up at the Diocesan Youth Centre, Castlerigg Manor, in Keswick. This year there is a fundraising event where all of the secondary schools in the diocese have agreed to take part. Each school has the challenge of raising an amount which is related to the size of the school. In our case our target is £1020.

The money is needed to support the fabulous work of the centre so that their retreat programmes can continue to be experienced by generations of pupils to come. May I ask you to consider sponsoring me as I take part in the challenging 15 mile sponsored walk in half term which covers 12 fells including Helvellyn. The route is attached. Our newly appointed bishop, Paul Swarbrick will be taking part in the walk along with Father John Moriarty who is the Director of Castlerigg Manor. I too shall take part along with representatives from various other schools in the diocese and your support would be appreciated greatly.

There is an online site at <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/nigelranson1> where you can donate £5 or £10 or whatever you feel is appropriate. It would be wonderful if we could reach our target as we are one of the biggest users of Castlerigg and our pupils tell us when they leave that it was one of the really great memories of their time at our school.

With thanks for your support, (and prayers for good weather please!)

## **CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME 2018**

John Turner Construction Group Ltd located in Grimsargh is recruiting apprentices. They offer a four year apprenticeship scheme and are recruiting for the following trades:

- Electrical
- Bricklaying
- Site Joinery
- Bench Joinery

To apply please send a CV and covering letter, indicating which apprenticeship you are interested in and why, to - Emma Robinson, HR Manager, John Turner Construction Group Ltd, 2 Preston Road, Grimsargh, Preston, Preston PR2 5SD. The closing date for all applications is Friday, 18 May 2018.

## **FOOTBALL RESULTS**

**Year 7** - The team have had a busy return to school after the Easter break starting with a tournament organised by Everton Football Club. The team played a variety of schools from the North West in an 8 a side format and came out winners after a nervy final game. They return to Everton in June for the next round. They then took part in the annual Rotary Club 5 a side competition at UCLan Sports Arena and both teams that were entered made it to the quarter final stages before being knocked out. Finally, on Monday 23 April they took on Fulwood Academy in the semi-final of the Preston Cup competition and ran out worthy winners securing a 10-0 victory. Goals came from Dominic Richmond (5), Isaac Chew (2), Luke Smith, Tiernan Hayes and Oliver Kearney. Their next game will be on the finals day at Deepdale on Saturday, 12 May.

**Year 8**- This team played their Preston Cup quarter final match against Broughton High School who we knew would be difficult opponents. Broughton began strongly and were quickly 1-0 up and dominating the play. However an excellent strike from Jack Bashall pulled us back into the game at 1-1. Our Lady's were holding on for the draw until the final minute when Broughton pinched the winner after we failed to clear our box from an attack. Final score 2-1 to Broughton. Unfortunately, this was the end of the road for the Year 8's.

**Year 10** - This team keep going from strength to strength and produced another excellent performance in the semi final of the Preston cup against Fulwood Academy to run out 4-1 winners. Cian Hayes scored an excellent hat trick and David Alker added a fantastic strike after Ted Colclough curved an excellent cross into the box, deceiving the defenders. The team are excited for their third consecutive trip to Deepdale although they are keen to avenge their previous two efforts which have resulted in failure.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ONLINE PAYMENT SECURITY CHANGES**

As you may be aware changes are being made by credit card companies to improve the security of their systems. As a result, from 30 April 2018 any parents/carers using Windows XP or Windows Vista will no longer be able to use our Tucasi Online Payments System. This change is being enforced by the PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard). Payments may alternatively be made by cash or cheque.

## **GIFT AID**

Many of our parents/carers kindly make regular donations to school for the benefit of our pupils which we are able to increase by claiming tax relief through a system called Gift Aid (currently 25p for every £1 donated). Because of this continued generosity, which is greatly appreciated, our pupils have been involved in various STEM related activities including a Gifted & Talented event and the Crest Award Scheme.

The Gifted & Talented event was an external STEM event held at Preston's College allowing pupils to work on a variety of interactive tasks focusing on robotics and team work and the CREST Awards Scheme, which is the British Science Association's flagship programme for young people, provided science enrichment activities to inspire and engage 5 to 19 year olds: In April 2017 sixteen Year 7 and Year 8 pupils completed their Bronze CREST Award which required pupils to complete 10 hours of project work, investigate the nutritional content of their favourite foods (such as a McDonald's Happy Meal) and produce a detailed portfolio outlining their results.

Could we now ask that if you currently donate and your details have changed, i.e. name or address, if you are no longer a tax payer, or have paid insufficient tax during 2017/18 to cover the tax that will be reclaimed on all your donations, please contact Mrs Y Reeves in the Finance Office or email [yre@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:yre@olchs.lancs.sch.uk). Alternatively if you would like to make a new donation please let us know. Thank you.

### **Dates to remember**

Tuesday, 1 May – Year 7 Normandy Trip  
Monday, 7 May – School closed for May Day  
Monday, 14 May – GCSE exams begin  
Friday, 25 May – School closes for half-term at 3.30 pm  
Monday, 4 June – School opens  
Wednesday, 6 June – Year 7 Cadbury World  
Thursday, 14 June – Sports Day  
Friday, 20 July – School closes for the end of term