



Our Lady's Catholic High School

A National Teaching School



Friday, 14 December 2018

Our prayer theme next week: **Prepare the way**

This is now the third week of Advent and we now focus on joy. This week our prayer theme is Prepare the Way. What does it mean to be prepared? How can we be prepared this Christmas?

Prayer:

Lord, help us to live with joy in our lives. Give us all we need to prepare our hearts each day to be closer to you. Amen.

UNIFORM REMINDER

In the hope of avoiding any difficulties at the start of the new term in January, I should like to remind all families of what it says in our Uniform Code of Conduct regarding haircuts. The following is a direct quote:

- Hair must be one natural colour: no patterns or artificial colour. There must be no extremes of style or fashion and the hair must not cover the eyes. If hair clippers are used no lower than a number 2 is allowed on any part of the head and hair should be a blended cut with no ridges, lines or undercut.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We have received a report from St Anthony's Catholic Primary School of a stranger hanging around St Anthony's Drive on Tuesday, 11 December, this has been reported to the Police. If your child walks to/from school, please remind them not to engage with strangers. If you do see anyone suspicious around school, please phone 999.

FESTIVE CLOTHES DAY – FRIDAY, 21 DECEMBER

Pupils and staff are invited to dig out their Christmas jumpers and festive accessories for this year's festive clothes day for just a **£1 donation**.

Ideas – Christmas earrings, Christmas hats, Christmas socks, festive jumpers or a funny tie! School blouses/shirts, trousers/skirts and normal school shoes must be worn but everything else can be changed. Please note the following guidelines:

- Boys – a tie must be worn
- Girls – make up ALLOWED (including nails)
- Tinsel is NOT allowed (too much mess for the cleaners)
- Earrings – one pair only in the ears (nowhere else)
- Nothing that could in ANY WAY be considered rude or cause offence. If in doubt do not wear.

All proceeds will go towards supporting our chosen Christmas charity, CAFOD.

CLIMBING SUCCESS

On Thursday, 6 December, six Our Lady's Catholic High School students took part in a U16 indoor climbing competition, held at Westview Leisure Centre. There were three boys competing as individuals as well as a team and three girls following the same format. Each pupil had to perform three climbs and three boulders. Out of a total of 11 teams that entered, the girls team finished in a very respectable 5th place. The boys clinched 2nd place from Broughton in an exciting three-way speed climb. Both schools finished on equal points, narrowly losing out to Fulwood Academy in 1st place. A huge congratulations goes to John Dickinson who, out of all the male climbers, came first place in the individual event. It was a great day and a fantastic competition. Well done to all the pupils who took part!

RUGBY UPDATE

On Thursday, 6 December, the Year 8 rugby team travelled to Preston Grasshoppers to take part in another set of rugby fixtures. The all made huge improvements which was fantastic to see. In their first game, they beat Broughton comfortably winning by three tries. Despite the win, the team looked one dimensional and they were collectively advised to think about the 'bigger picture'. In their second game against Ashton, they were attempting to act on the feedback given which was great to see. Unfortunately, they were passing in dangerous areas and were putting themselves under pressure. Nevertheless, they defended bravely and tackled the large Ashton team with courage and determination. It was a very close game but in the last few minutes, two fantastic solo tries from Marcin Wojtowicz resulted in a two try victory. Their third and final game saw them come up against a very strong and powerful Archbishop Temple side. They had a number of quick players which caused Our Lady's a lot of damage. They lost by four tries in their final game but after the game, they were all happy at how much they had improved as individuals and as a team which, in turn, improved their results on the night. Well done to all involved!

BASKETBALL NEWS

The U14 Basketball team began their Lancashire Cup campaign away against Garstang Academy on Monday, 3 December and it proved to be a difficult start. The Our Lady's team was a mixture of Years 7, 8 and 9 pupils who had not played collectively as a team before. It took time for partnerships to form therefore we were making a few unforced errors early in the game. Garstang were physically strong opponents and clearly played regularly together so began to take a comfortable lead. Our Lady's struggled to get close to the basket however Leo Fletcher worked tirelessly and was rewarded for his efforts scoring a fantastic 3pt shot from distance, followed by a brilliant hook shot. All other players did their best but it was not enough to catch Garstang, the final score being 46-10 to the hosts.

The U16 team travelled to Corpus Christi High School on Thursday, 6 December and played a very close game. Through each of the first 2 quarters the scores were within one basket of each other. In the third quarter Corpus began to stretch a lead after some unforced errors from Our Lady's. This meant that 10 points were needed to tie the game in the final quarter. It ended up being just too much to chase and the team lost 32-22. Excellent performances from Liam Burns and Ed Cafferkey were recognised by both coaches and now the team can look forward to their next opponents a week today.

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

On Wednesday, 5 December four of our pupils competed in the Preston Schools' Table Tennis competition held at Moor Park. The girls finished a respectable third in their league, narrowly missing out on a place in the semi-finals. Well done to Annie Heaton, Krisi Patel, Freya Singleton and Lucy Brown.

On Wednesday 12 December a further two teams competed in the Preston Schools' table tennis competition, again held at Moor Park. Our Lady's 2, consisting of Janna Ellbbany, Molly Macuras, Tessa Feeney and Khushi Udani, narrowly missed out on a place in the finals. However, Our Lady's 1 finished first in their group and made it through to compete against two very strong teams from Broughton. The matches were very close with Our Lady's finishing third overall. Well done to Elodie Chesworth, Caitlin Ball, Hannah Walker and Saara Chikh.

ART AND DESIGN CLUB

For any pupil interested in Art and Design there is a free National Saturday Club, for ages 13-16, at UCLAN beginning 19 January 2019. At the club pupils will learn about a wide range of art and design techniques from expert tutors. Completed art work will be on show in a national exhibition at Somerset House in London. Find out more information and see how to become a member at uclan.ac.uk/saturdayclub

Dates to remember

Friday, 21 December – school closes for Christmas at 12.45 pm

Monday, 7 January 2019 – school opens

Thursday, 17 January – Year 10 Parent/Carers' evening

Thursday, 31 January - Year 8 Parent/Carers' evening

Friday, 15 February 2019 – school closes for half-term

Tuesday, 26 February 2018 – school opens

Thursday, 7 March - Year 9 Parent/Carers' evening

Thursday, 21 March - Year 7 Parent/Carers' evening