



Our Lady's Catholic High School

A National Teaching School



Friday, 8 February 2019

Our prayer theme next week: Trusting God

This week our theme is trusting God. It can seem like a difficult thing to understand and an ever more difficult thing to actually do. When we place our trust in someone, we make ourselves vulnerable, there is the possibility we might get hurt. When we place our trust in God we know that he loves us and that he will never let us down.

Lord, help us to trust. Give us faith that we may trust in Your plan for our life. Give us courage to take risks in getting to know You. Help us to trust that in serving others we are serving You too.

Amen.

EMAIL CONTACT

We value the importance of excellent communication with parents and carers and email can be a very efficient way to communicate. We ask parents to understand that a typical teacher will work with over 250 different pupils in a week, some far more. What is a quick message to write could easily be one of dozens of emails received by that teacher and they may be teaching throughout the day and have no opportunity to reply. We ask parents and carers to only email teachers for matters that are really important to you and to remember that it may take three days before the teacher is in a position to reply. Should you fail to get a response after three school days please re-send and copy the Learning Manager (pastoral issues) or Principal Teacher (curriculum issues) into the email. With thanks for your consideration and support.

DRIVING ON ST ANTHONY'S DRIVE

This morning we have had reports of cars driving on the pavement to avoid waiting in the queue to exit St Anthony's Drive. Please may we remind all parents about the importance of road safety, particularly in this area where there are a large number of both primary and secondary school pupils at the beginning and end of the school day. The safety of all our pupils is paramount.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS IN YEAR 11

The NCS Challenge is an experience designed to make young people feel challenged and changed, engaged and empowered. The four-phase, three-week programme runs during the summer holidays is designed to develop skills and create memories. It is a nationally recognised programme which will enhance a student's CV or university application. Taking part in the programme will also count as the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award residential.



Week 1 will involve a 5-day residential outdoor education course in Wales. During week 2 students will live independently in university halls for 5 days and learn essential life skills from local business leaders and charities, gain confidence in public speaking, communications skills and budgeting. It all looks great on your CV, whatever you do next. In week 3 students will go back home and work in their teams to devise a community project based on an issue they feel passionate about. Finally phase 4 is a celebration evening with other NCSers.

We would encourage all our Year 11 students to look into taking part in the programme; not only will it look great on their CV but the programme is developed to open doors and maximise employment opportunities. There are 10 start dates during the summer holidays. Places are limited and are allocated on a first come first serve basis. Please see <https://www.ncsyes.co.uk/find-programme>. Places cost a maximum of £50 which includes everything for 3 weeks. Please feel free to contact Miss McNeela (cma@olchs.lancs.sch.uk) for more details or for funding support if needed. The NCS team will be in school for the Revision Plan launch to answer any questions.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

On Saturday, 2 February Jasmine Dover, Kate Moir and Nandhini Kovvuri from Year 9 competed in the annual District Rotary Public Speaking finals held at Windermere School. The views of the snow-covered Lake District were impressive and so too was the Our Lady's trio who had chosen the topic of whether the voting age should be lowered to 16. Disappointingly, the girls were not able to secure one of the top two positions and thus proceed in to the regional finals; Kate Moir was, however, awarded the prize for best speaker.

CROSS COUNTRY

Lancashire Schools' Annual Cross Country Championships took place at Witton Park, Blackburn on Saturday, 2 February. The Our Lady's PE department had coordinated the Preston District Team and there were 6 pupils representing the school in a range of age groups. The weather was very cold, however this had firmed up the ground making running conditions much better than in previous years. All runners performed excellently however the field was very strong, with the senior category setting a very fast pace in the first race. Successful runners who finished in the top 8 of their races were invited to run in the English Schools Cross Country Competition in March and Year 10 runner Tom Durney finished 9th, finding himself placed on the waiting list, hoping for someone to drop out to give him a chance in the national competition. Well done to all runners. More result will follow soon.

HANDBALL SUCCESS

Year 10 girls competed in the Preston Schools' Handball competition held at Preston's college on Wednesday, 6 February. The girls finished third overall. They lost 2-0 to Archbishop Temple but won all of their other matches in the round robin tournament. However, the team ended up in joint second place with St Cecilia's and ended up in a play-off. The game finished 0-0 and consequently went to golden goals. St Cecilia's were the first to score and won the game. It was a great effort by the whole squad and the girls gained lots of experience from the matches.

PE MESSAGE

As of Tuesday, 26 February, all pupils who are taking part in any Physical Education extra-curricular activities must ensure they wear their trainers if they wish to take part. Furthermore, if the activity is before the school day, they must arrive in their full school uniform and change into their trainers when they arrive.

GIRLS' FOOTBALL SUCCESS

Congratulations to the Year 7 girls' football team. They played Ashton High School and won 6-1 and then played Moor Park and won 2-0. All the girls were fantastic and played out of their skin in very windy conditions. Manager's player of the games goes to our defender Ellie Wright. She showed great strength and courage throughout both games.

NHS CAREERS EVENT

On Tuesday, 7 May there will be an NHS Careers Event at Royal Preston Hospital, Health Academy Centre 1, Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood PR2 9HT. The event will run from 3.00 pm-6.00 pm and is for anyone who is interested in a career in the NHS. There will be information on apprenticeships, NHS careers, University paths and much more. There is no need to register for this event and for more information please contact Brittany.Mollart@lthtr.nhs.uk

Dates to remember

Monday, 11 – Friday, 15 February – Year 10 Work Experience

Wednesday, 13 February – Dance Diva

Thursday, 14 February – KS4 Paris Trip

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

Tuesday, 26 February 2018 – school opens

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

Tuesday, 12 March – Normandy Parents' meeting

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

Tuesday, 26 March – Year 9 Options Evening

Friday, 5 April – School closes for Easter at 12.45 pm

Tuesday, 23 April – School opens for the Summer Term