



Our Lady's Catholic High School

A National Teaching School



Friday, 26 April 2019

Our prayer theme next week: Seeing is believing

This week in the Gospel we hear the story of doubting Thomas. Jesus appeared to His disciples first, when Thomas wasn't there. When he heard the story he said he would only believe if he saw Jesus himself.

Lord, take away our doubt, help us to have faith and to believe in you. Help us to understand the disciples as real people, not just characters from a book. Lord, help those who have faith to share it with others. Amen.

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 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 celebrating British Science Week and the application of new software purchased for our Design and Technology Department. This software has enabled our embroidery machine to enhance pupil outcomes in Textiles, particularly at KS4. Pupils have been able to use this in a variety of ways and utilise the machine to illustrate wonderful examples of quality workmanship and industrial practice. It is anticipated that pupils will continue to use the software to embellish their work in GCSE coursework from June 2019 when the tasks are released by the exam board. Our theme for British Science Week was "Journeys" and every class in Year Groups 7 to 10 had a British Science Week lesson or activity. The Year 7 pupils followed the "Journey to the after-life" referencing the ancient Egyptians. The pupils learned about the process of mummification and made their own mummies from oranges packed with salt and spices prior to wrapping them in bandages. They also undertook an activity which was based on decoding hieroglyphs. The Year 8 pupils learned that more than one third of the world's population do not have access to potable water and so they were given the opportunity to clean up "dirty water" using a variety of substances to filter the water. They used plastic bottles (for the filtration unit), gravel, sand, fabric, paper towelling and cotton wool to construct and determine the best filtration system and the pupils timed how long it took to collect 100ml of "clean water". The "Journey" which the Year 9 pupils investigated was topical with the life cycle of plastic being the topic of discussion. Pieces of a synthetic fleece, made from a polyester, were washed and the water filtered to determine how much "plastic" was released into the water. Some plastics take up to 450 years to decay. Finally, Year 10 focussed on the "Journey of the body" and the lesson was based on creating a face, encoding it with such information as eye and hair colour with pupils then being given the opportunity to decode the DNA of another's face. If you would like to support our STEM activities and make a donation, please let us know. Could we also kindly ask that if you currently donate and your details have changed, i.e. name or address, you are no longer a tax payer or have paid insufficient tax during 2018/19 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. Thank you.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE TEAM - PERSONALITREE

The Year 10 Young Enterprise team, Personalitree took part in the Lancashire Final of the Company Programme at UCLAN on Wednesday, 3 April. They competed against a number of other schools and youth groups where they presented their account of their year in business to a panel of judges. The team also submitted a report on their company as well as being interviewed at their trade stand. Personalitree were awarded the trophy for best business plan.

"It has been a chance for me to discover both about myself and the world of business. I now feel more confident about embarking into any future careers. I have thoroughly enjoyed everything". Lois Turley

"I thoroughly enjoyed being part of the creative design side of our business as it allowed me to build on existing skills and develop new ones. It also let me and my friends gather new memories and strengthen our relationships." Beau Smith

LOST PROPERTY

Please note that all lost property items have been bagged up and will be kept for one month; after this time they will be sent to charity organisations for recycling. Please do encourage your child to ask to look for any items you may have lost and believe to be still in school.

NETBALL NEWS

The year 7 A and B netball team made a great start to the Preston Schools' league on Wednesday. 7A beat Fulwood 14-0, Ashton 8-6 and St. Cecilia's 10-7. They had a very close game against Longridge losing by just one goal. 7B won against St. Cecilia's 4-1 and Moor Park 3-2 but unfortunately lost to a very strong Broughton team. A fantastic start girls, well done!

MARAFIKI GARDEN

We have been growing plug plants from seed and this week the first Sunflower, fruit and vegetable sale of the year took place. Numerous varieties of tomatoes including Tigerella, Mini Munch, Sungold and Roma along with courgettes, broad beans and runner beans have sold out. £29.50 was raised and this money will be ploughed back into the gardening club and used to buy seeds and other supplies.

NHS CAREERS EVENT

There will be an NHS Careers Event on Tuesday, 7 May 2019 at Royal Preston Hospital, Health Academy Centre 1, Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 9HT from 3.00 pm until 6.00 pm. The event is open to all who have considered a career in the NHS. There will be information on apprenticeships, NHS careers, University paths and much more. There will be interactive stands from a wide range of our departments for you to explore. You do not need to register for this event and for more information please contact Brittany.Mollart@lthtr.nhs.uk

Dates to remember

Wednesday, 1 May – Year 7 Normandy Trip
Monday, 6 May – School closed for May Day
Friday, 24 May – School closes for half-term at 3.30 pm
Monday, 3 June – School opens
Tuesday, 16 July – Whole School Mass
Friday, 19 July – School closes for the end of term
Tuesday, 3 September – School opens for Year 7 pupils
Wednesday, 4 September – school opens for all pupils