



Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 13 December 2019

The Prayer Theme for next week is Good News (Matthew 11: 2-11)

John, from his prison cell, starts to doubt whether or not Jesus is the Messiah. He had expected something quite different in the Messiah. He had expected a fierce judge, a frightening figure from whom you would want to run away! He turned out to be very different. Those who meet Jesus have to work out who He is from his actions and His words. It's a decision in faith. However, John's doubt is often our doubt. It's part of being human.

Is Jesus the one for us? Do we recognise him in others? Perhaps this Advent we can think about these questions and ponder on the message of Christ.

Dear Lord

Help us to recognize Your love and compassion in the world around us, even in difficult circumstances. Strengthen our faith. Help us to be fearless. Help us to believe.

Amen

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY THURSDAY, 19 DECEMBER

Pay £1 and wear a festive jumper to school. **School blouses/shirts, trousers/skirts and normal school shoes must be worn** but everything else can be changed!



The following guidelines must be followed:

- A Christmas jumper **MUST** be worn as a pre-requisite for anything else
- Once a jumper is worn other accessories e.g. Christmas hats/earrings/festive nails/make-up can then be worn
- Pupils can make their own Christmas jumpers by adding baubles/tinsel to a fluffy jumper

All proceeds will go to CAFOD. Join in and make a difference.

PUPIL AWARD

Congratulations to two of our pupils; Hallie Brady who was awarded the Senior Member of the Year runner up award and to Eden Turley who was awarded the Junior Member of the year runner up award by the Lancashire Association of Boys and Girls clubs. The girls attended a ceremony at Lancaster House Hotel on Tuesday, 3 December and were presented certificated by Dame Sue Black from Lancaster University for their work in the school community.

YEAR 9 PUPILS TAKE THE LEAD ON THE SALVATION ARMY COLLECTION

Four of our Year 9 Pupils took the lead on collecting food and toys for the Salvation Army in Preston. The goods collected from pupils and staff will make a big difference to people's lives this Christmas. The girls took the lead in assembly a few weeks ago, to inform us about the needs of the local community. They delivered a mini bus packed full of items to the Salvation Army this week and staff were delighted. Well done girls!

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME - REMINDER

Our Attendance Policy states that any absence attached to either side of a school holiday will be assumed to be a holiday taken in term time and such absences will be classified as 'unauthorised' unless evidence is provided which proves otherwise. We ask for this evidence to be fair and consistent with all families. In addition, we will expect to

meet with parents whose children have taken such absences and the child will be taught separately until the meeting takes place. We will always meet with parents at the earliest possible opportunity. Should your child be ill on a day attached to a school holiday we ask that you provide evidence of this; an appointment card from a doctor or a dated and named prescription would suffice. You could also contact us on a landline or briefly call in to school for us to see you. The principle is that attendance at school is a legal requirement and duty and we must do all that we reasonably can to support this. Finally, may I remind all families that any unauthorised absence for holidays or otherwise in Year 11 will result in the invitation to attend the Year 11 Prefects' Ball being withdrawn.

Dates to remember

Thursday, 19 December – School closes for Christmas at 12.45 pm

Monday, 6 January – School opens for the Spring Term

Friday, 14 February – School closes for half term

Monday, 24 February – INSET day pupils at home

Tuesday, 25 February – school opens

Friday, 3 April – School closes for the Easter holidays at 12.45 pm

Monday, 20 April – school opens for the Summer Term

Friday, 8 May – school closed for May Day Bank Holiday

Friday, 22 May – School closes for half term

Monday, 1 June – school opens

Friday, 17 July – school closes for summer