



Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 7 February 2020

The theme next week is: Light of the World (Matthew 5: 13-16)

Let your light shine.

Light is not a private energy. Light should be put where everyone can share it. The point of light here, is not to illuminate ourselves, but to point others to God. When we are a good witness, even a quiet one – others wonder. Why do they live like that? Who or what inspires them? This kind of witness is very powerful. So let your light shine, even if that means saying nothing.

Dear Lord,

Let my light shine. Take me from my hiding place.

Let me be the one to lead others to wonder.

Amen

SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY

On Thursday, 30 January Mrs Robinson, Mrs Howard and 4 pupils were invited to receive the 'School of Sanctuary Award' on behalf of our school at County Hall in Preston. We are the first secondary school in Preston to receive the award and only the second in Lancashire. The pupils presented to other schools and members of the community about what activities our school community have been involved with as part of this award. A School of Sanctuary is a school that helps its students, staff and wider community understand what it means to be seeking sanctuary and to extend a welcome to everyone as equal, valued members of the school community. It is a school that is proud to be a place of safety and inclusion for all.

GCSE ART EXAM 2020 (Year 11)

All Year 11 GCSE Art pupils have now been given their exam paper. Pupils are currently working on preparatory work for their chosen exam theme over the following weeks in sketchbooks provided by the Art department. Pupils should produce as much of their best quality preparatory work (this consists of drawings, research and photography) as they can in class and at home. There is a weekly plan available on Google classroom, which clearly lays out the minimum work that pupils must complete in class and at home for each stage of their preparatory work (pupils wishing to attain the higher GCSE grades, will want to maximize their chances by extending their developmental preparatory work as much as possible). The controlled 10 hour element will be completed during school time. The exam project contributes 40% to the final GCSE grade and will be fully completed on the second session of the 10 hour exam. Please encourage your child to work hard at home and make use of the extra sessions offered in school: *Mon-Fri lunch. Mon (after school on request), Wed after school (week A and B) and Tues (week B) after school.* Further information/exam planning/exemplar work/ guide to annotating work/copies of the exam paper and the OLCHS help sheet are on Google classroom code: 50hhxe8 Dates for the exam final piece are as follows (Sketchbooks/Preparation work must be handed in on the first session of their 10 hour exam – failure to comply with this exam regulation will result in withdrawal from the GCSE exam):

11A & 11D: Tuesday 28/4/20 & Thursday 30/4/20. Periods 1-5

11B & 11C: Wednesday 29/4/20 & Friday 1/5/20. Periods 1-5.

YEAR 10 AND YEAR 11 CAREERS FAIR 2020

On Wednesday 5 February, we held our ever growing 5th annual Careers Fair in the Arts Theatre for all of our Year 10 and some Year 11 pupils, to assist them in making informed decisions about their future in further education, training or employment. The event featured 30 stalls representing a wide variety of employers and further education providers. Pupils had an hour to move around and speak to the visitors, with a pro-forma to complete that encouraged meaningful conversations about the skills, qualities and pathways required to be successful in a particular field.

The pupils left the event with a plethora of further reading materials and a greater insight into their future career paths.

INDOOR ATHLETICS

A group of Year 8 pupils competed in the Preston Schools Indoor Athletics competition which took place at Preston's College on Wednesday, 5 February. There were a number of fantastic performances and both teams competed with grit and determination. The boys came third overall and each earned a Bronze medal. The girls came 5th overall. A great effort from everyone involved and all the athletes had a wonderful team spirit. Well done everyone!

ENGINEERING TASTER WEEK (ETW) AT BAE SYSTEMS

This is a five-day residential course, designed to offer students a glimpse into the day-to-day work of an engineer. During the week, successful applicants will work in small groups on an exciting and comprehensive engineering project designed and refreshed this year to reflect the future direction of the business. This project will call on student's innovation and imagination to develop solutions to real-world challenges. Students will be encouraged to reflect on the skills that they have developed, with a view of enhancing their job applications, personal statements and CVs in the future. The week also provides a great opportunity for students to network with peers and professionals, giving them the chance to learn about the wider business and the different routes to becoming an employee at BAE Systems. Applicants must be; UK Nationals, 16 to 18 years (at the time of the weeks), currently participating in full-time education and interested in pursuing engineering through an apprenticeship or higher education

2020 ETW Dates: Week A: Monday, 13 July - Friday, 17 July; Week B: Monday, 20 July - Friday, 24 July

For more details: <https://www.baesystems.com/en/our-company/education/engineering-taster-week>

Apply here: <https://www.baesystems.com/en/careers/careers-in-the-uk/getting-ready-for-work/work-experience>

Dates to remember

Thursday, 13 February – Year 10 and 11 Barcelona Trip

Friday, 14 February – School closes for half term

Monday, 24 February – INSET day pupils at home

Tuesday, 25 February – school opens

Thursday, 27 February - Year 9 Parents Evening – 4.00 pm until 6.30 pm

Thursday, 19 March - Year 7 Parents Evening – 4.00 pm until 6.30 pm

Tuesday, 24 March – Year 9 Options Evening at 5.00 pm

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

Monday, 20 April – school opens for the Summer Term

Wednesday, 29 April – Year 7 Normandy Trip

Friday, 8 May – School closed for VE day celebrations