



# Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 18 September 2020

**The theme for next week is GOD'S MERCY (MATTHEW 20: 1 – 16)**

*'Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'* Matthew 20:16

Surely if we have been good all our lives, we should be rewarded. The more hours we put in, the bigger the reward. In some things this may be the case, but not in the case of God's mercy. It doesn't matter when you come back to God – He will always welcome you with open arms. It doesn't matter who you are, or what is in your past. His forgiveness and love is unconditional. Accept the generosity of God. No one is excluded. All are welcome.

**Dear Father**

**I pray that you would light a spark of true forgiveness and mercy in my heart towards all those who have harmed or hurt me, whether deliberately or unintentionally.**

**Guide me always to show mercy.**

**This I ask in the name of Jesus.**

**Amen**

## **RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER A NEGATIVE COVID TEST**

Mr Ranson's letter to parents dated Tuesday, 21 July 2020 stated that pupils would only be allowed to return to school 48 hours after a negative COVID test result. This was the correct guidance in July. Since then we have received updated guidance from the NHS and upon receipt of a negative test result pupils should return to school the following day if they are well enough, sharing the results with school beforehand. For reference, the latest guidelines are attached with this Newsletter.

## **SCHOOL DEDICATED BUS SERVICES**

I am pleased to inform you that the vast majority of pupils have complied with the government and school requirement that a face mask is worn for dedicated school transport journeys. There have been a limited number of instances of pupils removing their mask once they sit down. This is completely unacceptable. Pupils cannot decide to make others less safe through their selfish actions. Pupils on the buses have been spoken to with absolute clarity about this. I now ask that parents of pupils who use dedicated school transport speak with their child to reinforce this message.

Travel on the bus is not a right and pupils have been told that they will be removed from the bus, should they not be wearing their mask, regardless of whether they have a pass or their journey is lengthy. They will only be allowed to resume use of school transport following a satisfactory meeting with their parents or carers. Please forgive the direct nature of this message but we cannot compromise on the safety of your child and your positive support is valued greatly.

## **EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES**

To celebrate the European Day of Languages, which takes place on Saturday, 26 September, pupils are invited to take part in a Virtual Challenge. Pupils need to create a French or Spanish flag or a landmark from France or Spain out of things they have at home. A photo of the finished item should be emailed to Mrs Crossley at [ecr@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:ecr@olchs.lancs.sch.uk) by 3.30pm on Friday, 25 September. The winners will be announced on Monday, 28 September. There will be a quiz in registration each morning and pupils may be greeted in a different language by their teacher.

### **INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS**

By Friday, 18 September, pupils in Years 7 - 11 should have the date and time of their first instrumental lesson written in their planners. During this lesson pupils will be issued with an 'Instrumental Lesson Music Card', which will be stuck in their planners, upon which they will record future lesson times. At least 24 hrs prior to all subsequent instrumental lessons, pupils should present their 'Music Card' to their teacher for a signature. Pupils who do not have their Music Card signed will have a point removed. Pupils in Year 7 will not have a point removed for failing to get their music card signed prior to **Monday, 28 September**, this is to allow them to become familiar with the system.

### **TOUR DE FRANCE UPDATE**

Ex-pupil of 10 years ago, Hugh Carthy, is continuing his great form in this year's Tour De France competition. Riding get for team EF (Education First) he sits in 37th place overall after 18 stages. Today's stage saw him finish 44th after some gruelling climbs around Méribel. His performances have been a magnificent achievement and with only 3 stages left in this year's competition he is in a great position to support his team in their bid to be overall team winners. The final stage is a professional style grand finish to the competition in which riders end up crossing the line on the Champs-Élysées in Paris. A final good luck to Hugh and Team EF from all at Our Lady's.

### **CHANGE TO EARLY FINISH – IMPORTANT INFORMATION - REMINDER**

Our usual practice is to finish 12.45 pm to allow pupils and staff to prepare for Open Evening. Unfortunately, it is not possible for Open Evening to take place in school this year for Health and Safety reasons and COVID 19 restrictions. Therefore, school will end at the normal time of 3.30 pm on Thursday, 1 October 2020.

#### **Dates to remember**

Friday, 2 October – INSET day school closed for all pupils  
Friday, 23 October – School closes for half-term  
Monday, 2 November – School opens  
Friday, 18 December – School closes for Christmas at 12.45 pm  
Monday, 4 January – School opens for the Spring Term  
Friday, 12 February 2021 – School closes for half-term  
Monday, 22 February INSET day school closed for all pupils  
Tuesday, 23 February – school opens