



Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 8 October 2021

The theme for next week is Commitment (Mark 10: 21)

'Give everything you own to the poor and follow me'.

What does this Gospel say to us? Do we have to give up everything we have? Pause and think about it. If we have nothing, are we nothing? Our possessions: nice clothes, gadgets and money do not make us who we are. They do not define us. Commitment to God and our neighbour is what makes us who we are. Focusing on others, rather than ourselves and our possessions will make us far richer than we can imagine. We inherit a whole new family!

Dear Lord

Teach us the joy of committing our lives to the service of others.

Let us show love and compassion and, in this way, experience the freedom it brings.

Amen

PHONES IN SCHOOL – MESSAGE FROM MR RANSON

I should like to remind all families of the school position on mobile phones in school. Phones are not allowed to be used in school at any time unless under the direct instruction of a member of staff. They should be kept safely out of sight throughout the school day and never be used inside the school building. This allows for a phone to be used on the way to and from school, should parents/carers so wish.

Phones seen or used in the school day/building will always be confiscated without exception. Please never make arrangements to contact your child via mobile phone during the school day. Doing so puts your child in a position where they will fail and is not fair to them. Contact school if there is an important message to pass on.

Some children have a bus or train pass on their phone. This will never be used as a reason for not confiscating the phone if our school phone rules are broken. Should your child let you down by using their phone, we will make contact to inform you but we will not return the phone on the same day of confiscation to anyone other than the parents/carers who must come to school personally to collect it. I would always suggest making your child wait until the following day to get their phone back with a request note from you – they let you down by using it so let them experience the problem this causes rather than you experiencing the problem instead.

For clarity:

- **Phones must be switched off at all times within the school building and school day**
- **If a phone is seen or is used it will be confiscated**
- **Bus or train passes on phones will not be used as a reason to return a phone on the same day that it is confiscated**
- **Parents/carer, if they wish, may transfer bus/train money via Scopay and School will give the cash to the child to get home**
- **Phones confiscated on a Friday will be kept over the weekend unless the parent/carer comes into school to collect it**

Your support really does make a huge difference to the smooth and efficient operation of school and I thank you for this.

FOOTBALL NEWS

The Year 9 football team beat Corpus Christi Catholic High School 9-0 on Wednesday 29th September. Our Lady's were dominant from the first whistle. Outstanding performances were evident from all three lines of formation. Liam Ronan, Harry Sumner, Luke Simpson and Jacob Lucas were all calm and composed at the back. In addition, they all maintained an attacking mindset which allowed the midfield players to really push forward. Bruce Leeming and Jack Meers controlled the middle of the pitch, showing athleticism and intelligence in their play; both striking the ball beautifully. Daniel Cornall was the player of the match; he never stopped running and delivered some superb crosses from the right of midfield all throughout the game. Liam Hamer, Liam Taylor and Joseph Summers came on as substitutes and made a superb impact! There are many more comments that could be written but all in all, it was a mature, determined and skilled team performance. Well done to all involved.

PRESTON DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY

For the first time since September 2018 there was a Preston District Schools' cross country competition held on Monday, 4 October at St Cecilia's Catholic High School. Our Lady's took an impressive 64 pupils ranging from Years 7-11 and each one gave their all in what was an excellently organised competition. Pupils who finish in the top 10 in their category are often invited to represent the district in a county event and there were some notable results for Our Lady's pupils.

Year 7 races:

George Hargreaves 2nd, Holly Wilson 3rd, Evie Mitchell 6th.

Year 8/9 races:

Lucy Beesley 2nd, Lucy Mulholland 3rd, Luke Kane 6th, Daniel Maguire 9th, Casey Eden 9th.

Year 10/11 races:

George Rainford 4th, Will Murray 8th.

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

Following the recent ballot, we are delighted to welcome Katharine Lonsdale to the Governing Board. Katharine will serve a 4-year term of office and will be on the Staffing and Curriculum committee.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME

Please see the attached letter regarding the Confirmation Programme for pupils who attended St Bernard's Primary School and/or live in the parish of St. John Paul II. Parents should make contact with Mrs Barlow should they wish to be included in the Confirmation programme.

MARAFIKI POTATO DAY

On Thursday, 23 September the Marafiki Gardening club held its first potato day. In March pupils planted 2 types of potatoes, Red Rooster and Clara. The gardening club had planned to have an open garden in the summer but due to COVID this had to be put on the shelf and the idea of the potato day came. Year 6 pupils from St Anthony's Primary School, St Anthony's Pre-School Playgroup, Our Lady's staff and school governors attended the day. Pupils were treated to a variety of activities as well as tasting our home-grown potatoes. Both groups planted seeds which they have taken away as part of our Marafiki (friendship) garden. Both groups of pupils were an absolute delight and looked like they enjoyed their time with us. We hope you can all join us again; it was an absolute pleasure.

MARAFIKI POTATO EXPERIMENT

During the planting of the potatoes, we conducted an experiment. During World War 2, there was hearsay that using potato peelings allowed for more potatoes to be grown. We had to test this theory. We planted a whole potato, half a potato and potato skins. We expected the whole to produce the most and the skins to produce little or nothing. The results were astonishing!

The whole potato produced the most as expected but they were very small. The half, fewer but much bigger in size and the potato skins were bigger than the whole and more than the half! To say we were surprised was an understatement. So, don't throw away those peels, plant them!



Also, please do not forget to donate your Morrisons Good to Grow vouchers to Our Lady's Catholic High School, Preston.

NETBALL NEWS

The Year 9 A and B netball teams had their first fixture of the season on Wednesday at home to Corpus Christi. Corpus took an early lead in both games, and we found ourselves 7-2 and 4-2 down in the A and B games respectively. However, the second half was much more positive. The A team scored 4 goals, compared to Corpus' 2, but it wasn't quite enough with the final core finishing 9-6. The B team's final score was 9-4 to Corpus.



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SCIENCE IN THE NEWS

Read about how Norway's hydro power will supplement the UK's wind power to increase the availability of green energy

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-58772572?ns_mchannel=social&ns_source=twitter&ns_campaign=bbc_live&ns_linkname=58772572%26Longest%20under-sea%20electricity%20cable%20up%20and%20running%262021-10-03T11%3A39%3A45.603Z&ns_fee=0&pinned_post_locator=urn:bbc:cps:curie:asset:5936d2e9-eacd-4e49-89cf-069ffdb21262&pinned_post_asset_id=58772572&pinned_post_type=share

Europe's mission to mercury returns and here are the first pictures. This is only the third ever mission to Mercury and it will get closer for longer than previous missions. There are actually two spacecraft joined together and they will separate when they reach a stable orbit around the planet in December 2025. Some pictures were taken this October on the first fly-by of the solar system's inner most planet. Read the article to find out what happens in between and what the two in one spacecraft will do.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-58754882?ns_mchannel=social&ns_source=twitter&ns_campaign=bbc_live&ns_linkname=58754882%26Europe%27s%20mission%20to%20Mercury%20returns%20first%20pictures%262021-10-02T11%3A03%3A29.629Z&ns_fee=0&pinned_post_locator=urn:bbc:cps:curie:asset:c0386e08-94cb-48cd-a20b-c99797369916&pinned_post_asset_id=58754882&pinned_post_type=share

POD CAST OF THE WEEK

In their element - Aluminium. Andrea Sella, Professor of Inorganic Chemistry, talks to Professor Mark Miodownik at the Institute of Making at UCL about why aluminium is such a useful material, from keeping crisps crisp to the tinsel on our Christmas trees. He talks about the lightness of bicycles made from aluminium with Keith Noronha, of Reynolds Technology.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000cmrs>

CAREERS IN SCIENCE

National Cyber Force to be based in Sarnesbury. Could this be your future career opportunity?

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-58779337?ns_mchannel=social&ns_source=twitter&ns_campaign=bbc_live&ns_linkname=58779337%26National%20Cyber%20Force%20to%20be%20based%20in%20Lancashire%262021-10-03T11%3A50%3A19.170Z&ns_fee=0&pinned_post_locator=urn:bbc:cps:curie:asset:fc2a7e-5934-4125-b8d7-64e948fde4b3&pinned_post_asset_id=58779337&pinned_post_type=share

PRACTICAL FROM HOME

Use reflection to look round corners. The law of reflection is used for periscopes on submarines, see how to make your own periscope, attached.

Dates to remember

Friday, 8 October – INSET day school closed for all pupils
 Friday, 22 October – School closes for half-term
 Monday, 1 November – School opens
 Thursday, 16 December – School closes for Christmas at 12.45 pm
 Wednesday, 5 January – School opens for the Spring Term
 Friday, 11 February – School closes for half-term
 Tuesday, 22 February – School opens

