



Our Lady's Catholic High School



A National Teaching School

Friday, 11 March 2022

The theme for next week is Transformation (Luke 9: 28 – 36)

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

In this week's Gospel, 'The Transfiguration of Jesus', we see Christ transformed by the love of his Father. He is changed by love. Some people may not know what that feels like – to be loved. This Lent, make a special effort to be the one to show love through your words and actions. Your compassion and kindness will transform others. Small acts of compassion, as we see on the news every day, changes everyone they touch, including the giver.

Dear Father

We pray that you are with those who are hungry, displaced or grieving today.

We pray that our compassion through action and prayer, will transform the whole world.

Amen

CAFOD WALK AGAINST HUNGER

From Monday, 14 March, pupils will be walking at least one mile in PE to raise money for the 400 million children around the world who are suffering from malnutrition, including giving support to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. We hope that you will sponsor your child in this event. There is an active link on SCOPAY 'Walk Against Hunger'. Please give what you can. Thank you.

FAMINE OR FEAST?

In solidarity with people in need of food and shelter across the world, a FAMINE OR FEAST event will take place on Friday, 25 March in the Arts Theatre. Pupils pay £1 for a ticket via Scopay to enter the draw. 10 winners on the day will be served a yummy dinner with cookies and drinks whilst everyone else looks on with a cup of rice. It is a fun event that allows us to celebrate what we have and stand in solidarity with those who have little or nothing. Funds will go to the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal set up by CAFOD. Please support the event.

PARLIAMENT OUTREACH WORKSHOP

On Wednesday, 9 March, all Year 8 pupils took part in a Parliament Outreach workshop. The workshop focused on what democracy is and how we can all make a difference. Pupils were put into groups to form a political party, come up with a name, manifesto and campaign speech. They then presented their campaign to the rest of their class. Pupils were then sorted into constituencies to vote for the party they wanted to elect using a secret ballot. Once the votes had been counted, one person from each constituency was elected using the First Past the Post system and the party with the most pupils elected formed the government. This was a great workshop to help pupils understand how the electoral system works and it gave the pupils an opportunity to speak on issues that they are passionate about. Year 8 rose to challenge and engaged brilliantly. There were some truly excellent campaigns.

BADMINTON RESULTS

The U16 badminton team took part in 2 rounds of games as part of the Preston schools' district badminton competition. Both rounds were held at Our Lady's on two consecutive Fridays. The team of 8 consisted of four boys and four girls from Year 11 and matches were against St Cecilia's RC High School and Broughton High School. The standard of competition was excellent with all pupils keen to represent their school and achieve success. Matches of singles and doubles badminton showed how pupils were able to work tactically with a partner while the length of the individual games placed a greater demand on physical fitness, and it was fantastic to see how the Our Lady's pupils rose to the occasion. However, it was St Cecilia's and Broughton that were to be overall winners in the girls' and boys' competitions respectively. The Our Lady's teams included Tiarán Hayes, Malachy McGuire, Ali Mehtajee, Isaac Chew, Olivia Gregson, Alice Moncrief, Millie Metcalf and Alicia Scott. The school will continue to host these

competitions on a Friday after school for the remainder of this half term with the U14 team currently taking part, followed by the U12 team in the next few weeks.

The U13 and U16 boys' table tennis teams took part in the first round of games as part of the Preston district competition on Thursday, 10 March. Our Lady's were represented by A and B teams in each age group which allowed a greater number of pupils to be involved in the competition. Table tennis has continued to be a hugely popular sport at Our Lady's since its reintroduction a number of years ago and this gave the school excellent strength in depth in our teams. The competition takes place over two consecutive Thursdays in March and will be followed by the same format for the girls' competition. In the U13 category both A and B teams won 1, drew 2 and lost 0 while at U16 level the A team won 1, drew 1 and lost 1 and the B team won 2, drew 1 and lost 0. Both age groups have two remaining matches to play with all teams currently in a position where they could potentially progress to the finals. Members of the U13 team include Pranay Modashia, Harley Midgley, Filip Markiewicz, Sam Brown, Matthew Lancaster-Brown, Harrison Collinson, Seb Helm and Aaron Connell. The U16 consists of Luke Smith, Malachy McGuire, Isaac Chew, Joseph Lumby, Ben Walker, James Hutchinson, Joe Craig and Will Murray.

BRITISH BIATHLON NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Four Our Lady's pupils took part in the British biathlon national championships in Bath over the last weekend in February, representing Preston Swimming Club. The biathlon includes a timed middle distance run on the track along with a timed swim and all pupils performed tremendously. Finley Murray finished 13th overall in the U13 age group, Lucy Mulholland was 6th overall in the U15s, Emil Dawkins was 3rd overall in the U15s and Will Murray finished 16th overall in his U16 category, however his team were crowned overall 2022 U16 team champions. Next up for the biathlon students is the British Schools event later in March where they will be joined by another couple of Our Lady's pupils and will be wearing the new school biathlon vests.

NETBALL NEWS

The Year 9 A and B and Year 10 netball teams were very excited to be participating in the Preston Schools' Netball tournament at St Cecilia's on Thursday. All three teams faced lots of matches in the round robin tournament. Our Lady's were the only team in the competition to field a B team. Consequently, the girls had some tough, yet very close matches. They managed to get within two points of the winning score in several matches and drew against Corpus Christi. Lucy Monaghan, (captain) performed well at centre and Nikita Fraser and Maggie Livesey worked tirelessly in defence to intercept the ball.

Year 9A and Year 10 teams also had some very tough games. With each match only being six minutes each way, early goals were vital. Both teams rose well to the occasion. Mariyah Mal used her athleticism well to get numerous rebounds in defence, whilst Millie Lonergan, Sophie Johnson and Leona Dickinson did not let the pressure get to them and shot consistently. We had convincing wins over Christ the King, Longridge, Corpus Christi and St Cecilia's. However, Ashton pushed us right until the final whistle and the game ended up in a draw. Broughton were our toughest opponents and they beat us 11-0. However, Broughton did go on to win the overall tournament. Our consistency and motivation saw Our Lady's Year 10 team finish a respectable second.

Year 9A had several very close games that really tested their resilience, but they held their nerve well and implemented skills and tactics from training with great success. Maisie Batty had a fantastic game against a very tough Ashton attack. Despite being against a competent and tall Goal Shooter, she got several key interceptions to turn the ball over in our favour. Lillie Heath was strong in centre court making sure she was always available for the pass and marking her opponent tightly. Lucy Beesley showed great vision and timing with some fantastic passes from centre court directly into the shooting circle. The whole team really rose to the occasion and as a result they finished runners up just two points behind the winners Archbishop Temple.

A huge thank you also goes to the following Year 9 and 10 pupils who helped with the running of the tournament by collecting result cards from staff, keeping score and ensuring the teams were on the correct court at the right time: Elise Mcquade, Scarlett Willans, Rebecca Monaghan, Abigail Mitchell, Ruby Robinson, Kayleigh Gunson and Rose Hatch.



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Dates to remember

Thursday, 24 March – Year 7 Parents' Evening

Thursday, 7 April – School closes for the Easter Holidays at 12.45 pm

Monday, 25 April – school opens

Monday, 2 May – School closed for May Day

Friday, 27 May – School closes for half-term

Monday, 6 June – School opens

Thursday, 21 July – School closes for the Summer Holidays at 12.45 pm