



# Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 3  
19th September 2025



## **The Theme Next Week: Luke 16:10-13 "You cannot serve God and money."**

Jesus speaks to us in this week's Gospel about faithfulness in the small things. It is often in the quiet, everyday moments; the little conversations, a moment of laughter – or tears, a kind gesture; where real love and character are formed.

Jesus challenges us to reflect on what (or who) we truly serve. Do our choices point towards values that last - kindness, integrity, faith - or are we sometimes caught up in the pressure to succeed by the world's standards? We are invited to lead by example: to show others that what matters most isn't what we own, but how we live.

### **Let us pray**

**May we seek God in the small things, planting seeds of faith that will grow strong in the hearts of our families and our community.**

**Amen**

### **BOOO Virtues**

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Lexi Jackson - generous and grateful

Year 8: Harrison West - compassionate and loving

Year 10: Olivia Slater - attentive and discerning

Year 11: Jacob Wilcock - compassionate and loving



*Being One of Ours*



## End of season report

☀️ That's a wrap on this year's Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition season! ☀️

👣 Collectively our students walked an incredible 2,420 miles – that's the same as walking the length of Britain almost three times!

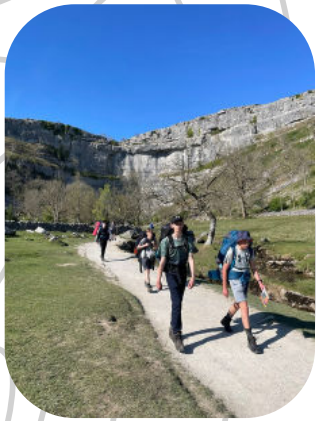
🕒 172 breakfasts cooked, 🍳 172 evening meals made, and 🍷 over 400 lunches eaten.

🏠 113 tents pitched.

🍬 An unmeasurable number of sweets demolished.

📴 0 phones used – proving adventures are better lived than streamed!

What an expedition season. A huge well done to all our DofE students – what an achievement! 🌟🌟





SHOW  
TIME

# DRAMA!

*in the Spotlight*

## LOOKING BACK ON AN EXCEPTIONAL YEAR IN DRAMA

Last academic year was nothing short of spectacular for our Drama department! From the energy of our pupils to the creativity behind our productions, we celebrated a year full of talent, innovation, and unforgettable performances.

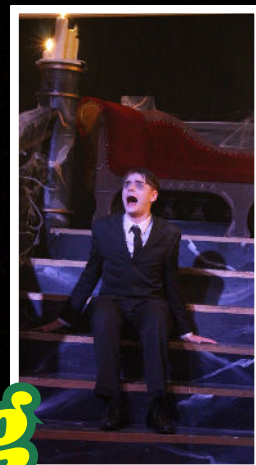
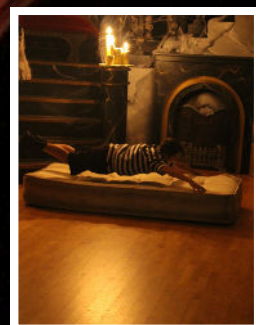
We began the year with **The Show Must Go On**, written by our very own Mr Pill. This original production captivated audiences with clever humour, heartfelt moments, and strong ensemble performances. It was a testament to the creativity and dedication of both students and staff.

In the summer, we staged **The Addams Family Musical**, performing to four sell-out audiences and featuring **the biggest set the department has ever built**. The scale and ambition of this production pushed our pupils to new heights, testing their technical skills and performance abilities. Every student shone on stage, demonstrating confidence, charisma, and collaboration.

### Did you know?

Our pupils improvised so much during performances that **Uncle Fester's scenes sometimes lasted several minutes longer than scripted**, delighting every audience.

LARGEST SET THE DRAMA  
DEPARTMENT HAS EVER  
BUILT



**Rising  
Stars**

*Being One of Ours*





Engagement across all year groups was truly inspiring. It was especially wonderful to see **so many boys actively participating**, breaking stereotypes and enriching our department with their energy and creativity.

Some highlights from each year group include:

**Year 7** embarked on a musical journey around the world, creating a vibrant class musical mash-up that showcased their growing performance skills and teamwork.

*Did you know?* Year 7's mash-up combined songs and dance from multiple countries—a real "around the world" experience!

*Did you know?* Year 8 pupils mastered lifts and ensemble work, demonstrating incredible trust and teamwork.

**Year 8** explored the exciting world of physical theatre, drawing inspiration from Frantic Assembly. Pupils learned to lift and support each other with confidence, creating dynamic and visually striking performances that wowed audiences.



**Year 9** devised their own original pieces inspired by social media, producing thought-provoking performances that provoked discussion and reflection.

**KS4** continued to excel, producing technically strong theatre pieces while developing detailed, thoughtful exam responses. Their dedication and hard work were evident in every lesson and rehearsal, culminating in an **89% pass rate for our last cohort**, with several pupils achieving outstanding progress.

*Did you know?* KS4 students achieved an impressive **89% pass rate**, with many making remarkable progress in both practical and written Drama skills.

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## Staff Reflections

What a thoroughly enjoyable year! Watching our pupils grow and express themselves through Drama is a constant joy. Teaching Drama is truly a dream job.

Mr Pill

Since the boys started participating in rehearsals, I've noticed a marked increase in their confidence and willingness to engage in lessons. Their growth is inspiring.

Mrs Slater

## looking ahead

2025 / 2026

### Exciting Opportunities

As we move into the new academic year, the Drama department is brimming with ideas and enthusiasm. **Mr Pill and Miss Croly** have already started planning next summer's production, promising another memorable performance full of creativity and energy.

### Trips

Trips and experiences are also on the horizon, including a special outing to the cinema to watch **WICKED Part 2**. These opportunities allow pupils to see professional theatre, gain inspiration, and bring new ideas back into the classroom.

### Extra-curricular

Drama clubs are thriving, and we are offering:

- **Musical Theatre Choir** – Mondays, 3–4 pm
- **Dance Club** – Wednesdays, 3–4 pm
- **Acting Club** – Thursdays, 3–4 pm



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# OPEN TO ALL

The response for **Drama Clubs** has been phenomenal. During the first week of the new school year, **over 120 pupils attended these clubs**, demonstrating the excitement and enthusiasm for Drama across the school.

**Did you know?** Even pupils who had never performed before joined our clubs this year, proving that Drama is for everyone, no matter your experience level.

## COMING SOON

**We are preparing to announce details of our Christmas Showcase, which promises to be a highlight of the festive season.**

Our focus this year is on positivity, engagement, and creating more opportunities for pupils to perform. Whether on stage, behind the scenes, or in workshops, there's a place for everyone.

With such a strong foundation, the Drama department looks forward to another year of creativity, laughter, learning, and unforgettable performances. We can't wait to see what our talented pupils achieve next!

**Did you know?** Our staff often get "starstruck" watching pupils grow: "Teaching Drama is a dream job," says Mr Pill, as students surprise them with creativity and confidence each week.



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# COMPOS

University of Oxford – Department of Physics

## Comprehensive Oxford Mathematics and Physics Online School (COMPOS) 2025

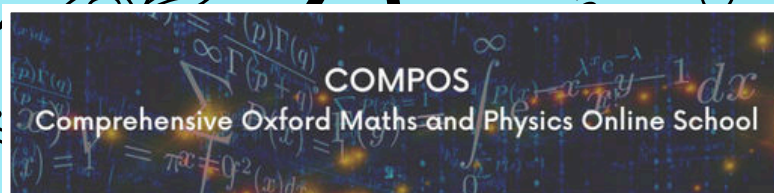
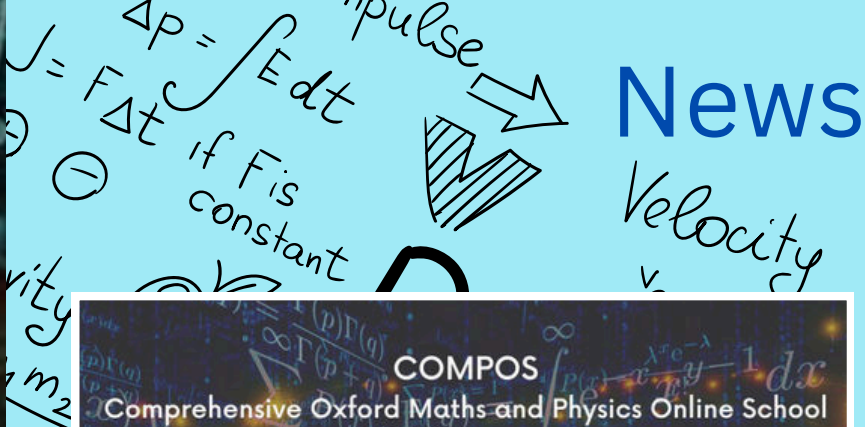
The Our Lady's science department would like to make you aware of an exciting opportunity available to Year 10 and Year 11 pupils with an interest in physics and mathematics.

Oxford University has opened applications for the COMPOS 2025 programme. There are 1000 places available for high quality extra-curricular opportunities for students with a passion for STEM and helps to prepare them for future study at university.

100% of students from 2023 and 2024 went on to study a STEM degree, with 46% attending Oxford or Cambridge, and 94% going to a Russel Group university.

COMPOS helps students to systematically learn mathematics and physics at a deep level by offering free tuition and mentoring. The programme covers school topics at a higher and deeper level, concentrating on problem-solving skills.

Students will receive assignments throughout the year which include reading material, links to online webinars and problems to solve. Students' work will be marked and returned by their tutor who will also deliver weekly online tutorials.



COMPOS is a FREE year long programme accepting anyone in Y10-Y12 who's interested in both physics and maths.

- Weekly online tutorials
- Mind-bending assignments
- Webinars

Don't miss out! This is a unique outreach project for UK state school students.

"I learn stuff before we do it in school, I am smarter. It is 🧡"



Find out more and register your interest here:  
<https://compos.web.ox.ac.uk>



DEPARTMENT OF  
**PHYSICS**

If pupils wish to register for COMPOS, they must complete a two-part assignment by **23:59 Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025**.

For further information and registration, please see the link to COMPOS below.

<https://compos.web.ox.ac.uk/>

*We look forward to hearing about any successful applications*

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# ATTENDANCE MATTERS.

## ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

News

### 100% attendance Forms:

7L and 9R

### Top attendance Forms in each year group:

Year 7: 7L (100%)

Year 8: 8U (98.21)

Year 9: 9L (97.92%)

Year 10: 10U (97.44%)

Year 11: 11L (99.44%)

### General reminders:

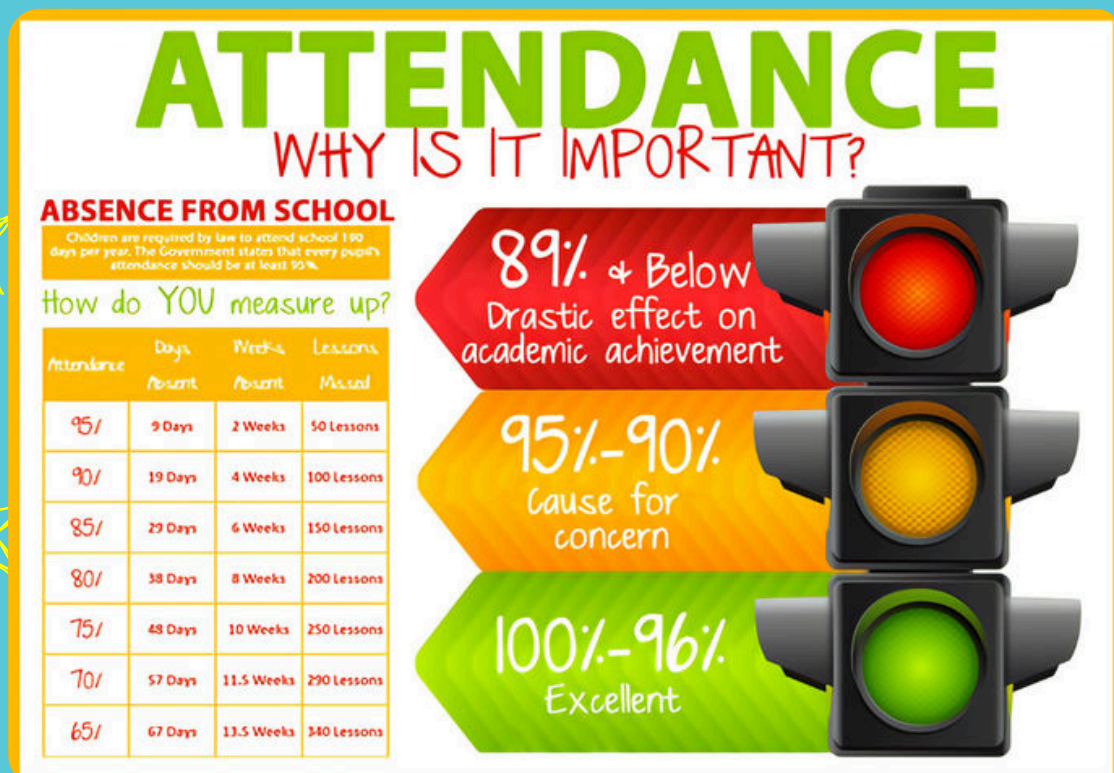
**Any absences must be reported either via telephone or email before 9am on each and every day of absence.**

Telephone: 01772 326 914

Email: [attendance@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@olchs.lancs.sch.uk)

### Medical Appointments

- Should be made **outside the school day** as much as is possible.
- **Please do not schedule appointments between 8:30–9:30am or 12:30–1:30pm.**
- If an appointment must be during school hours, we ask that the **appointment confirmation** is provided. **Any absence will not be authorised until the confirmation has been received. Any information that is shared after 5 days of the absence cannot be authorised.**
  - Email: [attendance@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@olchs.lancs.sch.uk) with a copy of an appointment confirmation.
  - Or send a copy into school with your child to hand in at reception.



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## Welcome to Our Lady's Catholic High School

CATHOLIC TEACHING ALLIANCE 



Our Lady's Catholic High School

# OPEN EVENING

**THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2025**

**6PM UNTIL 8.30PM**

Headteacher Talk at 6pm | 7pm | 7.45pm

COME AND FIND OUT WHAT IT MEANS  
TO BE  
*One of Ours*

## OPEN DAY

**Thursday 9 October at 9.30am**

**Friday 10 October at 9.30am**

**To book an *Open Day* appointment  
please scan the QR code**



[or click here](#)



OurLadysCatholicHighSchool



olchs\_fulwood



olchspreston

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# Information



....to read



CLICK HERE!

## USEFUL RESOURCES

September Online Safety Newsletter

Community Support Information



Online Safety Newsletter  
September 2025

CLICK HERE

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## Our Lady's Catholic High School



**WE ARE  
HIRING**

join our team

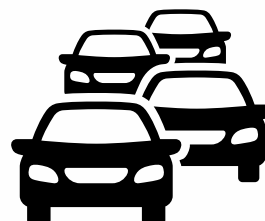
We seeking to appoint cleaners who, under the direction and instruction of the cleaning supervisor, will carry out the cleaning of designated areas within the school.

### Cleaners Required

The post is paid on the Foundation Living Wage and is for 12 hours per week, term time only, plus 5 INSET days and 3 cleaning weeks. The working hours are Monday-Thursday 6.00am-8.30am and Friday 6.00am-8.00am or Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 3.00pm-5.30pm, Tuesday 2.30pm-5.00pm and Friday 3.00pm-5.00pm. The closing date is 12 Noon on Monday 22nd September 2025. Please note CVs are not accepted, to apply for this vacancy you need to complete the application form.



## Polite Parking



We kindly ask parents and visitors to Our Lady's Catholic High School, when parking on nearby streets including St Catherine's Drive and St Anthony's Drive, please be respectful of local residents and their properties.

Thank you



## 2025 Diary Dates

### Monday 22 September

Year 7 Pupil Photos

### Monday 22 September

Author Visit for Year 7 pupils

### Friday 26 September

Year 7 Mass of Welcome

### Thursday 2 October

School closes 12.35 pm for Open Evening preparation

### Friday 3 October

INSET DAY - pupils at home

### Thursday 23 October

Year 11 Parents' Evening

## SCHOOL TIMES

Arrive at school / Go to waiting areas	8.40- 8.45
Pupils go to Form rooms / Locker time	8.45- 8.55
Form Time	8.55-9.15
School finishes	3pm

### Except Tuesdays (ONLY)

Pupils finish at 2.30pm

## OLCHS SOCIAL MEDIA



# Sporting News

## 'One of Ours'



Well done to OLCBS pupil Evie, 'One of Ours', for their selection once again in the England Women's Football Squad and the team's recent international game.

We are all so proud of you Evie.



**ENGLAND WOMEN'S U17 SQUAD**  
INTERNATIONAL FIXTURE VS SPAIN

**EVIE MITCHELL • ERIN WALKER  
FREYA WEEKS**

**ZOE CICCARDINI • ISABELLA COWLEY  
EMILIE GAY • SADIE GREGORY  
ISLA LAW • LUCY ROBINSON • KATIE SCOTT**

**BRYONY BRODIE • MAY CRUFT • LOTTIE DAY  
ROMIA GAGLIANO • EMMA SMITH • GABRIELLA STOREY  
ANNABELLE TANG • KYRITEER-HUTCHINS**

**CAIRO ANTOINE • SOPHIA BURTON  
MIA DIXON • FREYA HIRONS  
CHELSEA N'DRIN • JANE OBOAVWODUO**

## Lancashire U16 Squad

Huge congratulations also to Karley R in Year 11 who has been selected to play for the Lancashire U16 football team. The trials consisted of three rigorous rounds against players from across the county.

Our Lady's wish Karley and the team every success for the season ahead.

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AUGUST 2025



## ARMY CAREERS NEWSLETTER

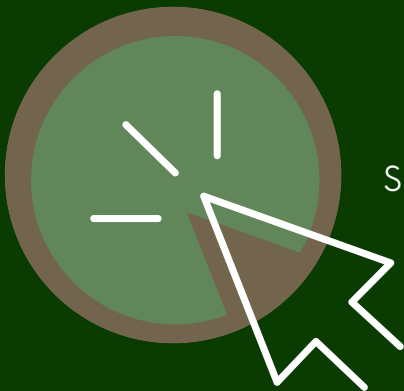
CLICK HERE 

SEPTEMBER 2025



## BRITISH ARMY CAREERS NEWSLETTER FOR EDUCATORS & CAREERS LEADS

CLICK HERE 



ARMY BASIC TRAINING & JOB  
ROLE INFORMATION DAY  
SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2025  
Reserve Centre, Kimberley Barracks, PR1 6PR

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