



# Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 5  
10th October 2025



## The Theme Next Week: Luke 17:11–19 – Gratitude

In Luke 17:11–19, ten lepers cry out to Jesus for mercy, and he heals them as they go. Yet only one, a Samaritan, returns to give thanks. Jesus asks, *“Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?”*

This passage reminds us that while faith opens the door to healing, gratitude completes the experience. The Samaritan not only received physical healing but also spiritual wholeness because he returned to thank Jesus. Like the nine, we often forget to return and say thank you. Just like the one who did turn back, we too are invited to recognize God’s work in our lives and respond with gratitude.

**Lord, open my eyes to the blessings that you have given to me.**

**May I receive your grace and return with thanks, like the one who came back.**

**Amen.**

### BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Nadia Rapa - grateful and generous

Year 8: Matthew Haslam - learned and active

Year 9: Maisey Russell - eloquent and truthful

Year 10: Annette Joseph - intentional and prophetic

Year 11: Solomon Evans, Isla Waddington – eloquent and truthful



*Being One of Ours*



Our Lady's Catholic High School

## OPEN EVENING

Thank you to everyone who joined us at Our Lady's for last week's Open Evening.

The night was a fantastic success and it was wonderful to see so many families visit our school to find out what it means to be 'One of Ours'.



*photos*



## THE HARRIS MUSEUM & meeting **Nick Park**



On Friday 26 September, 14 pupils from Our Lady's had the exciting opportunity to attend a special pre-opening event at the newly renovated Harris Museum and Art Gallery. During their visit, pupils explored the impressive new layout and exhibitions, including the delightful Wallace and Gromit: A Case in the Museum.

A highlight of the day was a Q&A session with Nick Park, creator of Wallace and Gromit and a former pupil of OLCBS. It was a magical experience for the pupils and staff to have an audience with Nick Park who we thank so much.

The Harris, one of the true gems in Preston's historic crown, has been much missed during its renovations — but its stunning transformation proves it has been well worth the wait.

## Our Lady's Catholic High School presents our proposal for **The Great Lancashire Debate 2025**



Five talented pupils, Chris G, Olivia F, Nyla L, Sam S and Zac T from Year 9 at Our Lady's Catholic High School are proudly representing the school at The Great Lancashire Debate 2025. Their winning idea, 'Building a Bigger and Better Guild Wheel', showcases exceptional oracy skills throughout the presentation. Their articulate delivery, expressive prosody and confident intonation will, we hope, captivate the Lancashire Council judges, reflecting both their preparation and passion for public speaking. Each participant demonstrates a deep understanding of the topic discussed, has contributed meaningfully to the debate and will leave a lasting impression.

We commend them for their outstanding performance and for being such inspiring ambassadors of our school. We wish them all the luck in reaching the finals!



## Being One of Ours



### **Celebrating Black History Month in Form Time**

As part of Black History Month, students will be hearing short, powerful stories from inspiring Black individuals during Form time. Each clip is designed to spark curiosity and interest.

### **Student Competition**

Students are invited to create artwork, poems, or fact sheets based on what they learn from the clips. Entries can be shared with Mrs McNeela, with prizes awarded for selected submissions.

We hope this initiative inspires students and highlights the remarkable achievements and experiences of Black individuals.

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# MATHEMATICS

12 of our Mathematicians attended a trip to Stonyhurst College for their **“Much to do with Mathematics”** event. During the day students explored the cross-curricular nature of Mathematics and were shown how it fits with many other areas of the curriculum.

Students took part in 4 activities:

- A visit to the Stonyhurst Historic Collections to view our Shakespeare First Folio and other artefacts of interest.
- A cross-curricular activity focusing on using Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics.

- The Stonyhurst Quiz – a team quiz featuring rounds on Mathematics, Shakespeare, history and more.
- A talk by key-note speaker Rob Eastaway who spoke about his latest book “Much Ado About Numbers” which explores the Mathematics of Shakespeare’s life and times.

OLCHS students were curious and active in their learning and displayed excellent teamwork, communication and mathematical skills throughout the day.

Three members of the Currys team from the Capitol Centre and Deepdale recently visited Our Lady’s Year 9 class to discuss **online safety** and upcoming projects that our school will be involved with.

The Currys team explained how **eSafety** has evolved over the years. When the internet was “new” technology, the main threats were viruses that attacked devices and caused them to stop working. Today, threats are aimed more at users than devices. Pupils and visitors shared real-life examples, including a story about accidentally giving a grandmother a virus by downloading a free game. They also discussed online financial risks, highlighting how people can lose money without noticing, and the long-term impact this can have.

Cyberattacks on companies like Land Rover and Marks & Spencer were also discussed, showing that the effects extend beyond the immediate victims to factory workers, office staff, and suppliers. The session encouraged great participation from pupils, and Gracy P even received a copy of McAfee Antivirus, donated by Currys, to use on her personal devices.

During their visit, Currys also spoke about a recycling incentive that Darren and Miss Worthington have been developing.

They are exploring similar initiatives to those they have done with Chorley Football Club, with the potential for our school to become a blueprint for others nationwide.

Finally, the Currys team teased an upcoming Guinness World Record attempt that pupils will be invited to participate in.

Overall, the visit was exciting, informative, and inspiring, and the school is looking forward to seeing what happens next.





# Information

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS.

Best attendance in each Year Group so far:

**September:** 7L (98.68%) / 8R (95.88%) / 9D (96.99%) / 10U (95.16%) / 11L (95.70%)

**October:** 7U (99.44%) / 8A (97.78%) / 9R (98.96%) / 10L (96.30%) / 11U (95.70%)

Currently the top three Forms for highest attendance this year are:

7L 98.86%

7R 97.49%

9D 97.11%



'Love, Learn and Grow'  
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## USEFUL RESOURCES

September Online Safety Newsletter

Community Support Information

## ONE STOP SHOP

Monthly Drop In - Families can access free this is open to everyone advice & support *No appointments needed just turn up!*

The Barnardo's MyTime to Thrive Service offers short-term therapy for children and young people struggling with their mental health and wellbeing. We support ages 5-18 and up to the age of 25 for those with additional needs.

### Pathway Navigator-ASD Autism Pathway Navigator

Learn about the School Age Autism pathway processes, ask for advice about referrals and other mechanisms of support. Receive signposting support from someone with lived experience of a child/ young person with autism.

ADHD North West Learn ADHD Northwest is committed to providing a free, unique support service to empower and improve the wellbeing of individuals and families affected by an attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and associated conditions.

### Talking Therapies

We are a psychological therapy service offering a range of free talking therapies to people aged 16 and over in Lancashire and 18 and over in South Cumbria.

Talking Therapies offer a range of brief psychological interventions to support people's differing emotional needs (such as generalised anxiety, panic, depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), this includes online, telephone and face-to-face treatment and therapy options.

Work well Coach—Through the WorkWell project we can help you take positive steps forward.

School Nurse - Bed wetting Sleep Hygiene & More

Compass bloom YP Mental Health support

Housing - Preston City Council - Gateway

Citizen Advice

Benefit Advice - DWP

Debt Advice/Support

Employment advice - DWP

Home safety - Lancs Fire & Rescue

Free Funded Nursery Places

Runshaw College Apprenticeships

Lancashire Women Support for ladies

Domestic Abuse Support

Community Education Sexual Health

Youth Worker Empower - Contextual Safeguarding Team

Front Door, Assessment & Adolescent Services

Lancashire County Council

Parenting Worker Empower - Contextual Safeguarding Team

Front Door, Assessment & Adolescent Services

Lancashire County Council

Private meeting rooms available

No need to book, just turn up

Last Tuesday of the month  
2pm

Click here

RIBBLETON FAMILY HUB  
PRESTON

Ribbleton Family Hub  
Ribbleton Hall Drive  
Ribbleton,  
Preston,  
PR2 6EE

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# Information

## Our Lady's Catholic High School



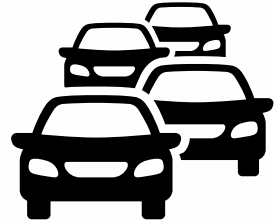
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**WE ARE  
HIRING**

join our team



## 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

**Thursday 23 October**  
Year 11 Parents' Evening

**Friday 24 October**  
Half Term - School closes at 3pm

## 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



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# Sporting News

## *Year 10 Boys Football*

The Year 10 boy's football team made a winning start to their league campaign, beating Moor Park High School 7-1 on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September. Scorers included a hat-trick (3) for Bobbie B-C as well as goals for Charlie M, Jack F, Harry B and an own goal. The team were thrilled with their performance and look forward to their next fixture against Corpus Christi Catholic High School.



## *Year 11 Boys Football*

Year 11's opening league fixture was against a strong Longridge team. Our Lady's started strong and very nearly took the lead in the first 6 seconds of the game! Both teams shared possession of the ball throughout the first half but despite Our Lady's hitting the woodwork three times, Longridge took 1-0 advantage into the half time break.

The second half was very similar to the first half, many Our Lady's attacks forcing great saves from the Longridge goalkeeper followed by a niggly goal conceded to make the double the advantage for the opponents. This only lasted 2 mins as a cool finish from Bobby W brought the score back to within touching distance!

More great saves by the opponent's goalkeeper - who happens to be the PNE academy keeper - and time running out saw the game play out into a 2-1 final score to Longridge.

Mr Waring was impressed with the Our Lady's team performance and is encouraged for the season ahead.

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## NETBALL YEAR 11

The Year 11 netball team were in action in the Preston Schools' League in a triangular fixture against Longridge and St. Cecilia's. Both matches were extremely close at half time. It was 8-8 against Longridge and we trailed by just two goals against St. Cecilia's. The second half in each game was end to end, but our opponents capitalised on shooting opportunities.

The final scores were 17-13 to Longridge, with player of the match being awarded to Karley R, thanks to her speed down court distributing the ball well. The gap was slightly higher against St. Cecilia's with Our Lady's losing by 8 goals. Player of the match went to Emma F, as she found space well in the shooting circle.







**LANCASTER UNIVERSITY**  
**SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS**

**Apply Now**

Applications for September 2026 entry are now open!



**CLICK  
HERE**

**Open Day**

Our next Open Day is taking place on Saturday 11th  
October, 10:00 – 12:30.



**CLICK  
HERE**

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**PRESTON  
COLLEGE**

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

**YEAR 10 & 11**

## OPEN EVENTS

**CLICK  
HERE**

**In next week's  
Newsletter**



Read about our  
Information Assemblies



## Spill the Tea on T Levels at Teatime

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025,  
7.00pm to 8.00pm

Live Webinar on Teams

**REGISTER HERE**



NHS, Social Care and Further Education colleagues from across the North West are delivering an information session on T Levels, with a focus on the Health T Level. We aim to bust some myths and provide expert advice on this pathway and the Industry Based Placements associated with the course.