

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 15
9th January 2026



loving
hopeful
curious
wise
grateful
discerning
compassionate
active
eloquent
prophetic
learned
attentive
faith-filled
generous
intentional
truthful

Baptism of the Lord (Matthew 3:13-17)

'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'

As Jesus is baptized in the Jordan, the heavens open and the Father declares him the beloved Son. Though without sin, Jesus enters the waters to be close to us, showing that God meets us where we are. This moment reveals who God is and who we are called to be. In baptism, we too are claimed as beloved children, filled with the Holy Spirit, and sent to live our faith each day.

Dear Lord,

Renew in us the grace of our baptism.

Help us listen to your voice, trust that we are loved, and follow Jesus with faithful hearts.

Amen.

BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Jayden Gardner - generous and grateful

Year 8: Lucas Smith - compassionate and loving

Year 9: Poppy Boardman - compassionate and loving

Year 10: Oliver Singleton - curious and active

Year 11: Lincoln Smith - curious and active

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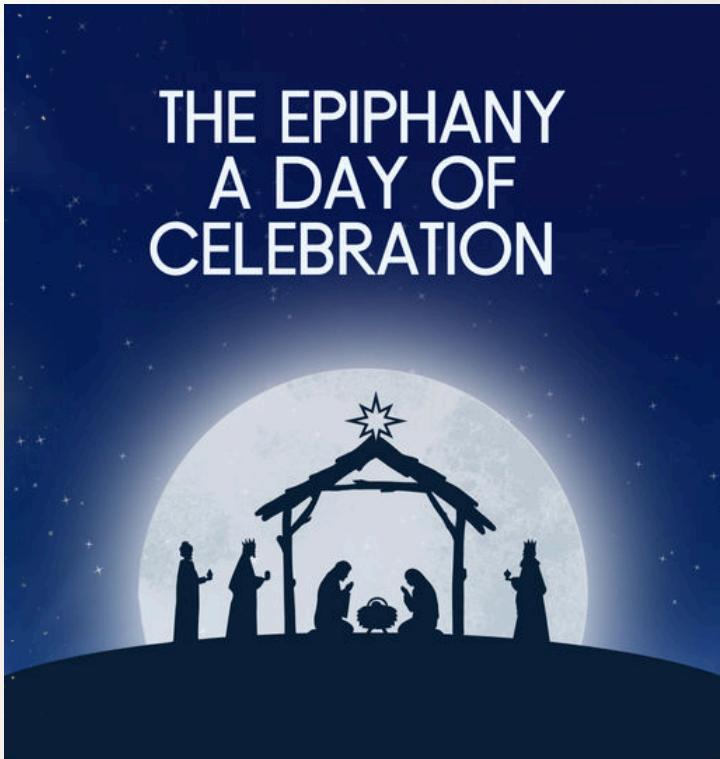
Being One of Ours

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, wise men came to Jerusalem from the east, and suddenly the star they had seen rising went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. (Matthew 2:1, 9-12)

This day is a significant and important one for people of every race and nationality.

The wise men represent God's people throughout the world. The Son of God, the Word made flesh, came into the world to give life and salvation to every member of the human race.



No matter what our race, nationality, colour or religion, each of us is made in the image and likeness of God.

Mass in Chapel

On Tuesday 6th January, The Feast of the Epiphany, we celebrated Mass with Fr Andrew from St Anthony's in our school Chapel.

Form 7D hosted the Mass by preparing the readings and the offertory. In addition, staff and pupils from all year groups were invited to attend. It was a beautiful celebration.

Thank you to Sarah, our school Chaplain, for organising.



News & Information

Upcoming Parents' Evening

Year 10 & 11 - See the Diary below or
please visit the school website

IMPORTANT

St Anthony's Church Car Park



From 2nd February 2026 the car park at St Anthony's Church will be **closed** for approximately 8 weeks as the church undergoes outside maintenance work.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Staying Safe Online -
OLCHS

Community Support
Information



online
safety
information
privacy

Online Safety
Newsletter

CLICK HERE 

Being One of Ours

Information



Free SEND Support Webinars for Families

We are highlighting three free online workshops taking place this January, designed to offer practical advice and strategies for parents and carers supporting children with specific needs.

Upcoming Sessions (all start at 10am):

- 14th Jan: Neurodiversity & Eating – Understanding ARFID (Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder) and PICA.
- 21st Jan: Communication Support – Signs and strategies for Developmental Language Disorder (DLD).
- 28th Jan: School Avoidance – Identifying triggers and supporting students with EBSA (Emotionally Based School Avoidance).



2026 Diary Dates

Thursday 15 January
Year 11 Parents' Evening

Thursday 22 January
Year 11 Careers Mock Interviews

Thursday 29 January
Year 10 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



Being One of Ours

NETBALL

YEAR 9

Just prior to the Christmas break, the Year 9 netball team recorded an excellent away victory against Ashton. The team dominated throughout the match and led comfortably at half time with a score of 12-1. Building on this strong performance, they continued their momentum in the second half to secure a convincing 20-1 win.



Player of the Match was awarded jointly to Olivia F, who delivered an outstanding performance while playing out of position at Wing Attack, and Lois W, whose accurate shooting and ability to create space in the circle were key to the team's success. Team captain Melody B was unable to play due to injury but attended the match to support her teammates.

YEAR 7 & 8

Year 7A, 7B and 8B were all in action away to Broughton on Wednesday. Broughton are always tough opponents and had the advantage of playing on home ground.

Year 7A, captained by Emily S, were locked in a close contest, drawing 3-3 at half time. However, the team showed great composure and determination in the second half, pulling away to secure an excellent 7-5 victory for Our Lady's. River B-C was named Player of the Match for an outstanding performance.

Year 7B, led by Freya R, also faced a challenging fixture. Despite a strong effort and moments of good play, the team were unable to match Broughton on the day and lost 7-2. Player of the Match was awarded to Sofia V for her perseverance and commitment throughout the game.



Year 8B played another closely contested match. Isobel W impressed in defence, making numerous interceptions, while Georgia S shot consistently throughout the game. Georgia was deservedly named Player of the Match. The team finished with a well-earned 9-6 win for Our Lady's.

Well done to all players for their effort, teamwork and sportsmanship in challenging away fixtures.

Careers

YEAR 11 Careers Mock Interviews



On Thursday 22nd January 2026, Our Lady's Catholic High School annual Mock Interviews will take place for Year 11 in school from 2pm until approximately 5.30pm. This involves the pupils being asked a series of questions in an interview setting to prepare them for the future. We are looking for volunteers to conduct the interviews and aim to match pupils to a sector they may be interested in. If you feel this is something you could help with, please email careers@olchs.lancs.sch.uk with your name and include your role within the organisation where you work



HALF TERM WORKSHOPS

Suitable for YEAR 10 and
YEAR 11 pupils

CLICK HERE



Being One of Ours

Careers

Congratulations to Our Lady's pupil Lincoln who has been offered a two-year U18s football contract and a scholarship at Accrington Stanley football club once he leaves school. Accrington Stanley will provide Lincoln with the opportunity to gain further qualifications with a BTEC Level 3 in Sport. We are so proud of Lincoln's achievement.



**PRESTON
COLLEGE**

*Hair &
BEAUTY*

Congratulations to OLCHS pupil Isabelle E in Year 10, who achieved an impressive second place in the Preston College Christmas Nail Art Competition. Isabelle is currently working towards a Level 1 qualification in Hair and Beauty at Preston College as part of her KS4 studies; an excellent achievement and a testament to her creativity and dedication.



**In next week's
Newsletter...**

Read how our Year 7 Futures Day went and the activities our Year 7 pupils embraced with enthusiasm.

FUTURES

Being One of Ours