

# Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 21  
27th February 2026



## “His face shone like the sun.” – Matthew 17:2

In the Transfiguration, Jesus reveals his divine glory to Peter, James, and John. Moses and Elijah remind us that he fulfils God’s promises in the Law and the Prophets. During Lent, we are called to listen to Jesus, reflect on our lives, and follow his guidance. Even in times of struggle or uncertainty, Jesus reassures us: “Rise, and have no fear.” Lent is a time to grow closer to him and let his light shine through our actions.

**Lord Jesus, during this Lenten season, help us to see your light in our lives, listen to your words, and share your love with others. Give us courage and faith to follow you every day.**

**Amen**

## BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Belle Maiden - learned and wise

Year 8: Annabelle Cogle - active and generous

Year 9: Aidan Asgari - curious and active

Year 10: Mollie O'Grady - attentive and discerning

Year 11: Holly Jones - learned and wise



*Being One of Ours*

## YEAR 11 Revision Plan

Year 11 have started the next step towards their GCSEs this week with the beginning of the Revision Plan.

So far this year they have had their mock exam results, then parents' evening, study skills day and now the revision plan launch. We have been really impressed at the number of questions that we have had from the pupils to ensure that they remain focussed and putting their best efforts into getting prepared for the GCSE exams.

The emphasis is now on them completing the prepared study packs at the right time that is noted in the revision plan. Please remember that we are here to support our Year 11 pupils through this crucial time and if they run into problems we are here to help.

In the meantime, keep going Year 11, we are with you all the way and we know you will make us so proud. The hard work will be worth it.



## YEAR 9 OPTIONS FAIR

On Wednesday afternoon Year 9 pupils were invited to our Options Fair. This was run by our Year 10 pupils currently studying each subject. Year 9 pupils had the opportunity to ask Year 10 pupils questions about their positive experience in the subject, along with any surprises or information they wish they knew before the option deadline. The Arts theatre was filled with curiosity; our Year 9 pupils spoke eloquently in their questions, and our Year 10 pupils were active in their roles in gathering the information.

Alongside this, pupils were set an additional challenge. Each subject area was given a key word linked to their curriculum, and Year 9 pupils had to complete a crossword. Highlighted letters in the crossword could be rearranged to form an anagram reinforcing that responsible decision's matter!



# Barcelona 2026

Our annual school trip took us to the vibrant city of Barcelona from Thursday 12th to Sunday 15th February, with 47 pupils and 5 staff setting off for four unforgettable days of culture, sunshine (and rain!), and shared adventure.

## Thursday - Arrival and First Impressions

The trip began with a very early start at 4:30am, but spirits were high as we headed to the airport. After an eventful flight – including a very bumpy landing on our second attempt – we arrived safely in Barcelona and made our way to our hostel to check in.

Wasting no time, we headed out to explore. Our walking tour took us through Parc de la Ciutadella and down towards the harbour, where we saw the colourful Joan Miró Statue and the striking La Gamba sculpture. We stopped by the impressive Christopher Columbus Monument at the Port Vell end of La Rambla before strolling up the famous boulevard to our first evening meal. The day ended with our first experience of the Barcelona Metro as we travelled back to the hostel – a great start to our city adventure.

## Friday - Rain, Resilience and Remarkable Architecture

Friday began early with breakfast at the hostel. Despite torrential rain throughout the day, nothing dampened our enthusiasm. We started with a boat trip around the harbour, learning how important the port is to the city.

Afterwards, we visited the bustling La Boqueria market on La Rambla, where pupils enjoyed lunch and some souvenir shopping. A (very wet!) walk through the Gothic Quarter followed, before hopping back on the metro to visit the awe-inspiring Sagrada Família.

Although soaked through, pupils were thoroughly engaged during our guided tour of the basilica, learning about its history and incredible design. Their resilience and positive attitude were commendable. After heading back to dry off and change, we enjoyed dinner together at FresCo buffet restaurant.





### Saturday - Sunshine and Spanish Culture

Saturday greeted us with sunshine at last. We began the day at Park Güell, enjoying spectacular views across the city. From there, we made our way to Plaça de Catalunya and back down La Rambla for lunch and more shopping.

In the afternoon, we enjoyed a sunny walk to Las Arenas de Barcelona, formerly a bullring and now a shopping centre. We then stopped at the Magic Fountain of Montjuïc for group photos before heading to Poble Espanyol. Here we took a journey across the whole of Spain without ever leaving Barcelona in this unique open-air architectural museum which brings together life-sized replicas of buildings from different regions of Spain.

Dinner that evening was at MexGal tapas restaurant in Poble Espanyol, where pupils sampled a range of traditional dishes including pan con tomate, patatas bravas, tortilla, croquetas, queso, calamars and jamón, followed by crema catalana for dessert. It was a wonderful opportunity to experience authentic Spanish cuisine together.

### Sunday - Beach, Art and Farewell

On our final morning, the sun was shining once again as we headed to Barceloneta Beach. En route, we found ourselves caught up in the excitement of the city's half marathon, adding an unexpected buzz to our walk.

Our final cultural stop was the Museu Picasso, where pupils explored an extensive collection of works by Pablo Picasso and deepened their understanding of one of Spain's most influential artists.

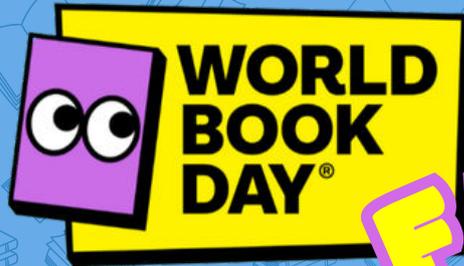
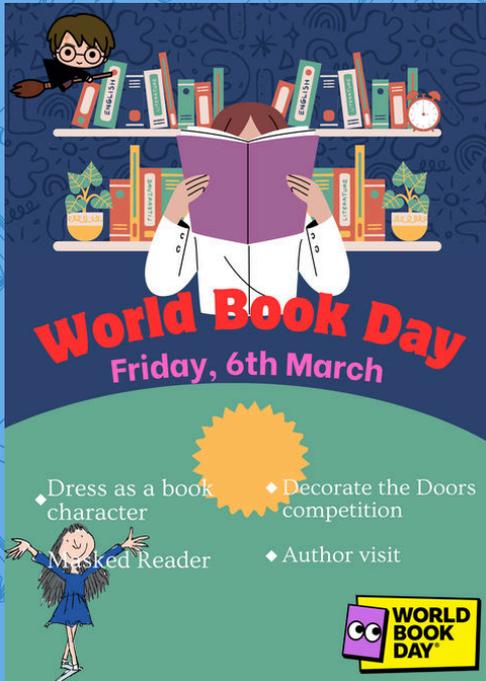
After returning to the hostel to meet our coach, we made our way to the airport for our flight home - tired but full of memories.

Another fantastic trip filled with learning, laughter and lasting experiences. Barcelona certainly delivered, and our pupils represented the school brilliantly throughout.

We are already looking forward to the next adventure - let's get ready for Paris 2027!



# News & Information



**FANCY DRESS**

**guidelines**

## **USEFUL RESOURCES**

**Staying Safe Online -  
Feb' 2026 Bulletin**



**Community Support  
Information**



**IMPORTANT**

**St Anthony's Church Car Park**



Due to maintenance work taking place at St Anthony's Church, please can parents and pupils avoid parking / walking through the church car park until further notice. Thank you.

# Information



**RUGBY**  
PLAYER RECRUITMENT

**GIVE RUGBY A TRY!**

WE INVITE CURRENT YEAR 10 & 11 PUPILS TO COME DOWN TO GARSTANG RUGBY CLUB TO GIVE RUGBY A TRY WITH OUR U15/16 TEAM AND FUTURE COLTS

COME & TRY FOR FREE! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

CONTACT HELEN WILLIAMS 07546844077 OR THROUGH OUR SOCIALS

f Garstang RUFC Juniors    i Garstangrugby



**Art and Creative Workshop: Meet Lela Harris**  
For young people aged 14-19

### Date & Time

Saturday, 7 March from 11am - 1pm

### Location

No. 9

### Age range

For Young People, aged 14 - 19

### Cost

FREE

### Ticket needed?

Yes, ticket needed



## 2026 Diary Dates

### Monday 2 March

Start of Careers Week in School

### Thursday 5 March

Year 11 Group and Individual Photographs

### Friday 6 March

World Book Day

### Tuesday 17 March

Careers Fair in School

### Thursday 19 March

Year 8 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



## BASKETBALL

### YEAR 7 BASKETBALL WINNING STREAK CONTINUES!

Our Lady's Year 7 team has maintained their impressive form with two hard-fought victories against local rivals in the Lancs County Cup.

#### Our Lady's 16 – 10 Archbishop Temple

The clash with Archbishop Temple was a tense affair from the whistle. Our Lady's initially took control, surging ahead by 8 points. However, Archbishop staged a spirited comeback to narrow the lead to 12–10, putting the result in doubt. Rico A earned the MVP title by stepping up in the closing stages, scoring several crucial baskets that broke the opposition's momentum and secured the win.

Point Scorers:

- Connor: 5 points
- Rico: 4 points
- Zach: 3 points
- Alex: 2 points
- Jacob: 2 points

#### Our Lady's 23 – 19 St Augustine's

The away game at Whalley proved to be another nail-biter. St Augustine's came out strong, taking a 6-point lead in the opening quarter. Our Lady's showed great resilience to battle back, tying the game at 12–12 by half-time. In the second half, the team pulled away with several "clutch" baskets to cement a 23–19 victory. Connor F-L was named MVP for his outstanding dribbling and ability to score under intense pressure.

Point Scorers:

- Zach: 8 points
- Oliver: 6 points
- Connor: 5 points
- Alex: 2 points
- Callum: 2 points

**Well done to all the boys. The hard work in training this year was proven again with these results!**



## CRICKET

### U13

The U13 team, captained by Eden P, faced Broughton recently in a closely contested and exciting match. It was a game dominated by bowlers,

with wickets falling left, right and centre throughout both innings. Emily S was a standout performer, taking two wickets with some excellent bowling. She also showed sharp awareness in the field, taking a catch that completed a brilliant hat-trick moment for the team.

Both sides batted nervously under pressure, losing a number of easy wickets as the bowlers kept control of the game. Every run mattered, and the tension built as the scores stayed tight.



In the end, after a nail-biting finish, Broughton edged ahead to win 50–38. Despite the loss, it was a strong team effort and a match full of determination and exciting cricket.

## NETBALL YEAR 7 AND 8

On Wednesday, Year 7 and Year 8 travelled to Corpus Christi for an exciting afternoon of netball. Despite the rainy conditions, all teams showed determination, teamwork and excellent sportsmanship.

The Year 7 team, captained by Emily S, made a fantastic start and dominated play from the first whistle. The team demonstrated excellent dodging skills and created strong space in attack. Scarlett O was outstanding in the shooting circle, successfully converting all five goals scored. In defence, Millicent U and River C worked tirelessly, conceding just one goal throughout the match. Their strong defensive pressure limited Corpus Christi's opportunities and secured an impressive 5-1 victory for Year 7.

Year 8, captained by Isabel W, faced a challenging first half as both teams battled hard in difficult weather conditions. However, the team regrouped at half-time and came back stronger in the second half, pulling away to secure a convincing 10-3 win. Player of the Match was awarded to Eden P for her exceptional speed and agility, consistently driving the ball down the court and creating attacking opportunities.



Year 7B, captained by Freya R, played against the Corpus A team in a closely contested match. The team worked extremely hard and were leading by one goal heading into the final moments. Unfortunately, Corpus managed to equalise in the dying seconds, and the game finished in a well-fought 2-2 draw. Player of the Match was awarded to Maja G for her excellent performance and contribution to the team.

Overall, it was a fantastic afternoon of netball, with all players showing resilience and teamwork despite the challenging weather conditions.

Well done to everyone who represented the school!



## BASKETBALL U14



The Our Lady's U14 basketball team have reached the Lancashire Cup final after a tense 40-39 win against a strong Bacup high school team.

The team were 3 points down going into the last quarter but managed to turn it around and win by a point. This a fantastic achievement for the team.

Players of the Match were Joshua and Huey.



## Scholarship MANCHESTER UNITED

Huge congratulations to Holly and Evie who have both signed a two year scholarship U21's for Manchester United.

We are extremely proud of the girls as this represents years of hard work and dedication.



Lancashire and  
South Cumbria

Careers  
in health and social care

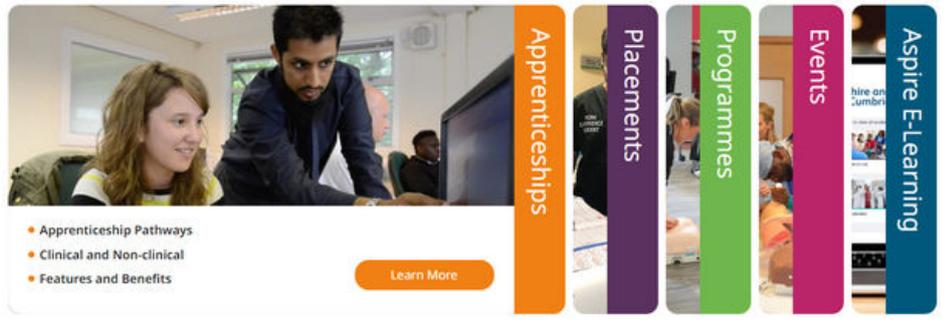


NHS, Social Care and Further Education colleagues from across the North West are delivering an information session on T Levels, with a focus on the Health T Level. We aim to bust some myths and provide expert advice on this pathway and the Industry Based Placements associated with the course.

### Spill the Tea on T Levels at Teatime

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026, 7.00pm to 8.00pm

Live Webinar on Teams



**REGISTER NOW**



Upcoming Army events that may be useful for your students exploring careers, skills development, or post 16 options.

These sessions are free to attend and are suitable for students in Year 10+ , parents and teachers.

## Seven Career Streams, Endless Opportunities: British Army Careers

Join us this National Careers Week and International Women's Day for an inspiring webinar exploring the breadth of career opportunities within the British Army.

Tuesday, 3 March 2026  
18:30 - 19:30

[I WANT TO ATTEND](#)



## Women in the Army: Real Stories, Real Impact

Join us for an online event celebrating women in the Army and the many career opportunities you can explore. You'll hear from soldiers and officers as they chat about their roles, the sports they get involved in, the places they've travelled, and how they balance Army life with family life.

Wednesday, 11 March 2026  
18:00 - 19:00

[I WANT TO ATTEND](#)

