

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 31
22nd May 2026



Pentecost

“Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.” (Romans 5:5)

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and filled them with courage, faith, and joy. May we open our hearts to the Spirit this week and share God’s peace and love with those around us. As we begin the half-term holiday, we wish everyone a safe, restful, and happy break.

Let us pray

**Come, Holy Spirit, guide us in faith, strengthen us in hope,
and fill us with your love each day.**

Amen



BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Hunter Wild - compassionate and loving

Year 8: Eden Palmer - active and compassionate

Year 9: Harry Dickinson - intentional and prophetic

Year 10: Romy Lawrenson - compassionate and loving



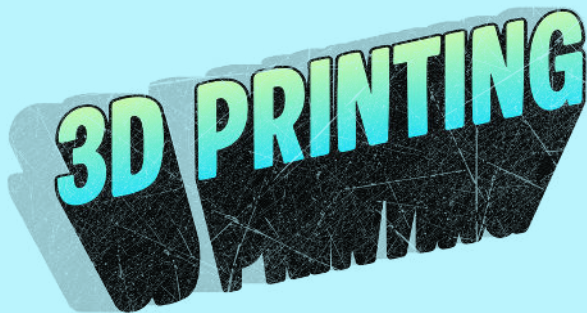
Being One of Ours



Year 10 History students had the opportunity in school this week to work with the Holocaust Educational Trust. Students heard the survivor testimony of Susan Pollack, using virtual reality technology to hear her story but also to virtually visit some key sites of the Holocaust.

Students demonstrated impeccable behaviour and gained a new understanding of the realities of the Holocaust.

Thank you to the **Holocaust Educational Trust (UK)**.



Over two engaging workshop days, Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to learn about 3D printing with Mark from Create Education.

The workshops took place on Friday with Mrs Crowther's group and on Monday with Mr Smith's group. During the sessions, pupils learned how to use 3D CAD software to create their own 3D-printed rockets. They enjoyed developing their ideas and seeing how digital designs can be transformed into real objects.

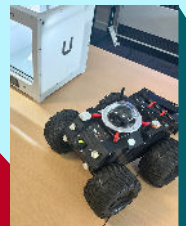
The excitement continued outside as pupils tested and launched rockets on the yard. Alongside the practical activities, they explored the many uses of 3D printing in industries such as film, fashion, animation, medicine, prosthetics and even food production.

Mark also spoke to pupils about the growing range of careers linked to 3D design and manufacturing.

Pupils discovered how engineers use 3D printing to create prototype vehicle and aircraft parts, how costume designers produce props and wearable pieces for films and theatre, and how healthcare professionals can create customised prosthetic limbs and dental products. The workshops highlighted how creativity, problem-solving and digital skills can lead to careers in areas including engineering, robotics, architecture, gaming and healthcare.

To finish the sessions, Mark demonstrated a robot he had designed and built himself for exploring sewers and drains, giving pupils a fascinating insight into how technology can be used to solve real-world problems.

The workshops were both informative and inspiring, and pupils left with a greater understanding of the opportunities available in modern design and engineering.





Young Enterprise



The Young Enterprise team represented OLCBS at the North West Final of the competition held at the University of Salford last week. They gave a wonderful presentation of their time running their business, **Little Harvest**, over the past academic year.

The team confidently answered questions about their business from a panel of judges who recognised their commitment to the use of technology and their innovative idea which included an interactive online game designed by Zack.

We are very proud of all of them!

YEAR 10

Fieldwork trip to the River Wyre

Over two different days the Year 10 GCSE Geography students undertook their physical geography field work study, investigating how closely the River Wyre matches with the Bradshaw Model. Across the four sites from Marshaw Fell down to Abbeystead we saw that the river does indeed get wider, deeper and faster with smaller sediment.

The students enjoyed using the fieldwork equipment with ranging poles, callipers, tape measure, a hydro prop and the tried and tested dog biscuits measure for velocity! 😊



Pupils also received a talk from Rob, an ecologist on the Forest of Bowland for the Grosvenor Estate about his career path and some of the soft engineering to 'slow the flow' of the River Wyre through the moorland and finished with a look at the flood defences in Garstang.

NATIONAL BOOK tokens

Win **£1,000**
for your
school's
library

Click
here

LIBRARY FUNDING – Win £1,000 for your school's library from National Book Tokens. Spread the word, as the more nominations your school receives, the greater your chance of winning.

Furthermore, each week until **Wed 24 June**, a flash winner will be selected at random from all entries to receive a £100 National Book Token for their school, and £25 for themselves. **Competition closes: Wed 8 July.**

Year 8/9s North Lancashire & Cumbria Science and Technology Challenge Day

An opportunity for twelve Year 8/9s from OLCHS to attend the University of Cumbria Lancaster Campus on Wednesday 1st July 2026.

Entries due the first day back after half term.

North Lancashire & Cumbria Science and Technology Challenge Day

This is an exciting, free opportunity for 12 Year 8/9s from OLCHS to attend the University of Cumbria, Lancaster Campus on Wednesday 1st July (free transport from school is provided)

You will work in mixed school teams of four and undertake activities that give an insight into some of the topics you could study at College and beyond. The overall winning team from each event proceeds to a regional final.

You will complete 3 out of the 4 challenges, each lasting for 75 minutes. The challenges are as follows:

- **Robotics challenge:** programming a robot equipped with colour and infrared sensors around a course
- **E-FIT Forensics Challenge:** using the latest E-FIT 6 facial recognition software to make a computer image of a thief
- **Vehicle challenge:** constructing a simple battery powered vehicle from kit pieces, which is timed between finishing lines
- **Medical challenge:** undertaking the role of a doctor diagnosing a patient and using CPR dummies to learn about responding to emergencies.

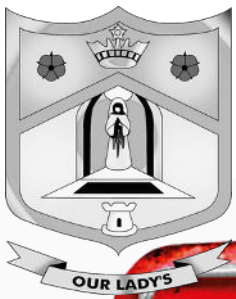
In order to be awarded a place on the trip, you are asked to pick **one** of the challenges listed and explain on no more than 1 side of A4 paper **why you would like to take part in it.**

You might want to consider:

- How the challenge relates to a **career** that you are interested in
- Why the **skills** involved in the challenge are important to you
- Why you think you would be **good** at taking part in that challenge

Your entry must be brought to the prep room by **3pm, Monday 1st June.** Good luck!

**MORE
INFO**



Our Lady's Catholic High School



BOOK NOW



29TH JUNE - 1ST JULY

TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/OUR-LADYS-CATHOLIC-HIGH

"GREASE" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW) www.theatricalrights.co.uk

Being One of Ours

Information



If you are a parent or carer who currently contributes through Gift Aid, we kindly ask that you inform us if your circumstances have changed. This includes any updates to your name or address, if you are no longer a taxpayer, or if you have paid insufficient tax during the 2025/26 tax year to cover the tax reclaimed on your donations.

Please notify the Finance Office by emailing: finance@olchs.lancs.sch.uk.

Thank you for your continued support.

INFORMATION

The City of Preston Annual

Corpus Christi Procession



at St Walburges' Shrine Church

Sunday 7th June 2026 at 2.00pm

All Parishioners and Parish groups, Schools, Colleges, Choirs, Uniformed organisations, Readers, Religious, Clergy, Catholic Organisations, Families, Children and especially, First Holy Communicants, are all invited to take part, on this special and important Feast Day, in this public act of Witness of our Faith.



- Parking is situated on the Church car park which is at the end of Weston Street (the street in front of the main doors to the Church) and also with the agreement of the University, the UCLAN car park on Pedder Street which is literally a two-minute walk away (there are many spaces here). There is therefore plenty of parking provision. There will be no parking behind the Presbytery. People with disabilities can be dropped off at the main entrance.
- Please would you highlight verbally and in your school bulletin that the procession is for all the Preston area.
- If wet the procession will take place inside the Church and so people should not be discouraged from coming along.
- An order of service will be given out on the day.
- The carrying of School and Scout Banners are encouraged. These can be carried in the procession following the Blessed Sacrament.

Being One of Ours

USEFUL RESOURCES

**Staying Safe Online -
June 2026 Bulletin**



**Community Support
Information**



CATHOLIC
TEACHING
ALLIANCE

Job Vacancy ITT Primary Lead

*I would recommend the
CTA to anyone who is
considering becoming a
teacher.*

CTA Trainee Teacher

For more information see our website
www.catholic-teaching-alliance.org



WE ARE HIRING



2026 Diary Dates

Friday 22 May

Half Term - School closes at 3pm

Monday 1 June

All pupils return to school

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



**U13 GIRLS
FOOTBALL
TEAM**

CHAMPIONS

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LADY'S U13 TEAM
CROWNED BOTH NATIONAL AND LANCASHIRE
CHAMPIONS FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING**



It has been a fantastic week of football for the OLCHS U13 girls' team. On Tuesday the girls were crowned Lancashire Champions for the second year running. Then two days later, the U13's team won 3-1 against Chislehurst School for Girls to win the national ESFA U13 9v9 Schools' Cup 2026 for a second year running!!

We are so proud of the team and coaching staff.

ROUNDERS

Year 7, 9 and 10

Years 7, 9 and 10 played their first matches of the Preston Rounders League on Tuesday away at Archbishop.

For Year 7, it was their first ever proper fixture. Although we made a few mistakes due to lack of experience, the team fielded well for the most part and secured an impressive $8\frac{1}{2}$ - $6\frac{1}{2}$ victory. Player of the Match went to Scarlett O for her excellent and consistent batting throughout the game.

Year 9 were involved in a nail-biting match, narrowly losing $7\frac{1}{2}$ -7 in a very close contest. The team worked hard and showed great determination until the very end.

Year 10 made a few mistakes in the first innings, with some players taking risky chances and getting run out. However, after refocusing at half-time, they came back strongly to win 11-4.

Overall, it was a great start to the season for all three teams.



TABLE TENNIS

U13 BOYS

The U13 boys table tennis team were crowned Preston Schools' champions after beating Corpus Christi in the final on Tuesday 19th May.

The team consisted of Marli S, Teddy J, Elliot H and PJ D.



ROTARY CLUB YEAR 7 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



The Year 7 girls and boys football teams took part in the annual Rotary Club football tournament on Thursday 14th May at the University of Lancashire Sports Arena in Preston. The teams faced schools from Chorley, South Ribble and Fylde and the standard was very high as is always the case with this tournament.

The girls team were very strong in defence, rarely conceding a goal and finishing the group stage unbeaten with 5 draws and 1 win. That gave them just enough points to make it to a penalty shoot-out play-off against Penwortham Priory school winning 2-1 and progressing into the quarter-finals. They were then put in a small group of three schools alongside Lytham St Anne's and Penwortham Girls 'A' team. These two teams were just a little too skilful and managed to break through our defence on a few occasions, beating the Our Lady's girls and knocking them out at the quarter-final stage. The girls team consisted of Jessie B, Emily S, Grace M, Willow P, Scarlett O, Delilah R, River B-C and Megan H.

The boys team faced strong opposition from schools in Lancashire, and battled hard in every game, making some excellent blocks and saves in defence whilst working hard to create scoring chances in attack. Unfortunately, the team could not break through on many occasions to win enough games to progress from the group stages and they finished 4th out of 6, beating Walton-le-Dale and drawing with Bishop Rawstorne. Members of the boys team were Jonah L, William R, Dex W, Oliver G, Henry S, Connor F-L, Connor A and Rico A.



Year 11 students



CATHOLIC
PARTNER
SCHOOL

CARDINAL
NEWMAN
COLLEGE

**PRIORITY BOOKING
FOR ENROLMENT OPENS
MONDAY 1ST JUNE 2026**

Check your emails!

NEWMAN

CARDINAL
NEWMAN
COLLEGE

FEST

WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY 2026

**Check your emails
for the booking link!*

***CONDITIONAL OFFER HOLDERS ONLY**