

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 36
3rd July 2026

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



PEACE: Matthew 11:25-30

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11: 28)

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that true peace is not found in a life without difficulties, but in walking closely with Jesus. He invites us to bring our worries, fears, and burdens to him because his heart is gentle and humble. When we trust him and learn from him, he gives us a peace that calms our hearts even in the midst of life's challenges.

Dear Lord

Thank you for inviting me to come to you with all that weighs on my heart. Teach me to trust in your gentle love and to find my rest in you. Fill me with your peace, and help me to share that peace with everyone I meet today.

Amen

BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Jacob Dawson - learned and wise

Year 8: James Picking - generous and intentional

Year 9: Henry Draper - intentional and prophetic

Year 10: Harry Dawson - compassionate and loving

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Being One of Ours

BEDROCK CELEBRATION

We were delighted to host our recent Bedrock Celebration Event, recognising the fantastic efforts of our Year 7 pupils in developing their vocabulary and commitment to independent learning.

A group of students were invited to attend, where they proudly received certificates and enjoyed taking part in a range of engaging vocabulary games. The event was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate both achievement and enthusiasm for learning.

Certificates were awarded across three categories:

- Most Progress
- Most Time Spent
- Teacher Commendation

In addition, three special awards were presented for outstanding achievement, recognising pupils who have excelled across all areas.

We are incredibly proud of the dedication our students have shown towards their homework. It has been particularly rewarding to see so many pupils confidently using their newly acquired vocabulary in their work across all subjects, every day.

Well done to all those who were recognised – and to everyone continuing to build their vocabulary and develop their learning habits. Keep up the excellent work.

AWARDS

Shanvi R	Isaac N
Yusuf P	Jerisha J
Hunter W	Soheil S
Oliver J	Casper H
Chikamso E	Anand K
Junior M	Ola K
Jake S	Zachary R-G
Viaan R	Alvina T
Ethan B	Ted B
Arthur W	Aalayah S-H
Vannel O	

The following students were awarded additional certificates and trophies:

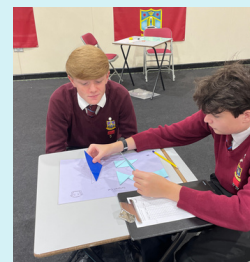
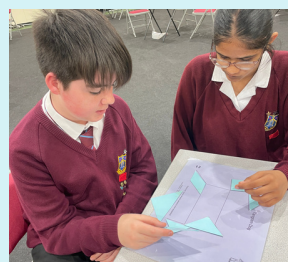
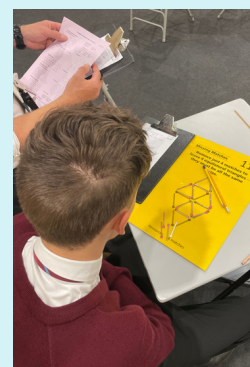
Most Time Spent Zach R-G
Most Progress Ethan B
Bedrock Award Chikamso E



FunMaths ROADSHOW

The FunMaths Roadshow took place on Thursday 18 and Friday 19 June, with every pupil in Year 7, 8 and 9 given the chance to take part in a series of problem solving tasks supported by OLCHS pupils from 10x1E.

Pupils showed great resilience as they worked together to find a solution and it was lovely to see pupils celebrating their successes and wanting to do extra tasks.



YEAR 7 CASTLE PROJECT

The project was for Year 7 pupils to design and build their very own model castle, a type of castle studied this year in History – it could be a motte and bailey, a stone keep, or even a castle that has been improved and fortified from the original Motte and Bailey, like the Tower of London.

The standard of entries was immensely high and pupils demonstrated exceptional effort to win.



Being One of Ours

TeenTech Event



Lancashire Festival 2026

Ten of our Year 9 students, who are planning to study GCSE Computer Science next year, recently attended the TeenTech Lancashire Festival at the University of Lancashire in Preston.

The event brought together more than 2,000 students from schools across Lancashire to explore exciting careers in science, technology, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and engineering. Throughout the day, our students took part in a range of hands-on workshops and real-world challenges, including robotics, cyber security, medical technology, aircraft simulators and coding activities.

The festival gave students the opportunity to work alongside industry professionals, university staff and leading employers, helping them gain a greater understanding of the skills and career opportunities available within the technology sector. It also sparked their interest in all areas of STEM, encouraging them to think more broadly about the exciting opportunities and pathways available in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

As part of the day, students worked together to develop and present their own innovative ideas, with projects that could be developed further and entered into the TeenTech Awards next year. They confidently pitched their ideas and were even interviewed live over the microphone in front of all the schools attending the event. They handled this with great confidence and were not phased at all, demonstrating excellent communication skills and self-belief.

Our students represented the school brilliantly throughout the day, showing enthusiasm, curiosity, resilience and excellent teamwork. The experience has provided valuable inspiration as they prepare to begin their GCSE Computer Science studies next year and explore future careers in STEM.

Well done to all of the students involved for representing the school so positively and making the most of this fantastic opportunity.

SUMMER Reading

Our Lady's Catholic High School has signed up for the First News 2026 Summer Reading Scheme. Thank you!

Our award-winning weekly newspaper is jam-packed with headlines, sport, entertainment, world news and our education resources provide news-based learning across KS2 and KS3.

The First News Summer Reading Scheme is a free initiative for all pupils of National Year of Reading schools. It provides all pupils at your school with free digital access to First News.

This includes:

-  App and web access to the weekly First News newspaper and archive
-  Daily news stories to read, listen to or watch
-  Weekly First News quiz, polls, puzzles and more

The First News Summer Reading Scheme is a free initiative for all pupils of subscribing schools. It gives them full digital access to our award-winning children's newspaper, games and puzzles via the First News app throughout the summer holidays. The scheme helps children stay curious, informed and reading while school is out – supporting families and helping schools reduce summer reading loss with trusted, age-appropriate news and engaging activities.

**SIGN UP
NOW**



Our early intervention hubs have arrived!

Children & Young People's Hubs

Available to children and young people across Lancashire, aged 11 - 25.

Locations:
Preston, Blackpool, Fleetwood, Pendle, Burnley and Blackburn

Services:
We will deliver a range of wellbeing provisions:

- Wellbeing Workshops
- Self help information
- Employability Workshops
- 1-1 Virtual Wellbeing Coaching
- Signposting/Drop In
- Bounce Forward

Our new CYP Hub model will combine a virtual wellbeing coaching service with face to face support in our listed locations.

Click here





Dance & Wellbeing sessions with Chloe at The Vault, Preston

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month

The Vault
Tithebarn St, Preston PR1 1DN
Across from Preston Bus Station

Join us at one of our session times
4pm - 5pm and 5pm - 6pm
No need to pre-book.

Email for more information:
chloefarmer@lancashiremind.org.uk

Click here




Chloe Farmer
Children & Young People's Hubs Coordinator

USEFUL RESOURCES

**Staying Safe Online -
June 2026 Bulletin**



**Community Support
Information**



WE ARE HIRING

Our Lady's
Catholic High School

- **Cover Supervisor**
- **Learning Support**

APPLY NOW



2026 Diary Dates

Tuesday 7 July

Year 10 Newman College Taster Day

Wednesday 15 July

Whole School Mass

Friday 17 July

End of term - School closes at 12.35

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



ROUNDERS

Year 8 and 9

On Monday, the Year 8 and Year 9 mixed rounders teams travelled to Longridge for their first fixture of the season, and both teams got off to a brilliant start.

While the girls were already use to playing competitive league matches, this was the first serious fixture for many of the boys, who stepped up superbly.

The **Year 8** team, captained by Theo L, put in a strong all-round performance. They fielded tightly, batted consistently and deservedly came away with a 6–3.5 victory.

The **Year 9** team, captained by Elliott A, started a little nervously and made a few early mistakes. However, they settled into the game brilliantly in the second innings. A great link-up between Elliott A, Himesh P and Will C at backstop, first and second base helped the team gain control of the match. Their hard work paid off as they secured an impressive 11.5–8.5 win over Longridge. Player of the Match went to Umika P, due to her impressive bowling and consistent batting.

A fantastic start to the season for both teams.



Year 7

The Year 7 rounders team, captained by Emily S, took part in the Preston Schools' Tournament at Archbishop on Wednesday.

The team made a nervous start but showed great determination to secure a 4–3 victory over the host school. That opening win helped settle the players' nerves, and they went on to produce a series of impressive performances throughout the tournament.

The team won all but two of their remaining matches, finishing in a very respectable third place out of seven teams.

There were plenty of positives to take from the day, alongside some areas to work on in training as the team prepares for its remaining league fixtures.

Well done to all the players on a fantastic team effort.



PE

A small group of our Year 10 sport studies students were selected to help with the sports day of one of our feeder primary schools - St Mary's and St Andrews in Barton.

Lots of wonderful leadership being developed and, who knows, future PE teachers in the making!



PRESTON COLLEGE TASTER DAY

Our Lady's Year 10 had a wonderful Taster Day at **Preston College** this week.

A huge thank you to all the Preston staff who made us feel so welcome.

