

Our Lady's Catholic High School



Newsletter No. 4
25th September 2026



This week, twelve of our students embarked on the next stage of their **Faith in Action** journey. Students from Years 8, 9 & 10 will be working towards Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. This will involve a greater level of planning, community work, mission and supporting younger students, on their FIA journey.

After our autumn half term, Year 7 students will begin their Faith in Action journey, each week on Tuesdays.

The first Reflection Point for all students is **'We are Loved'**, and this is where we discuss and explore God's Love for us. The wonderful artwork created by a Year 6 student captures the essence of God's love shown through Jesus, to all of us.

The Scripture is from: 1 John Chapter 4 Verse 19 -21

'We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.'

It is sometimes a challenge for us to love. Through God's example (his gift of Jesus to us), we can be inspired to love because of the love, forgiveness and mercy that we have been shown. As we begin a new week, let us think on the greatness of God's love for us and ask him to help us to love one another, even when it is difficult.

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your love. Show us how to love like you and help us to walk together even through difficult times.

We ask this in Jesus' name,

Amen



BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7: Filip Solski - generous and grateful

Year 8: Ava Ribchester - learned and wise

Year 9: Alicia Botha - attentive and discerning

Year 10: Silene Piotrowicz - curious and active

Year 11: Patrick Taaffe - compassionate and loving



Being One of Ours



AUTHOR VISIT

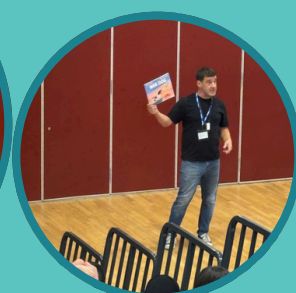
YEAR 7

Tom Palmer

Year 7 students were thrilled to welcome award-winning author Tom Palmer to school for a truly memorable and inspiring morning. During his visit, Tom spoke to the entire Year 7 cohort, captivating pupils with fascinating insights into the life of a professional writer and the journey from a first idea to a published novel.

Pupils gained a valuable understanding of the writing process, including what a completed manuscript looks like and how authors work closely with editors to refine their work. Tom shared examples of editorial feedback and explained how he revises his manuscripts in response to comments and suggestions. Students were also interested to learn about the extensive preparation that takes place before writing begins, including the creation of detailed idea boards to gather research, images and inspiration, a process that can take up to two months.

Students were highly engaged throughout the session and relished the opportunity to ask Tom questions, not only about his popular novel 'D-Day Dog' but also about his own life, inspirations and experiences as an author. Pupils were eager to learn what motivates him to write, where his ideas come from, and what it takes to become a successful writer.



A particular highlight of the morning was the opportunity for the majority of Year 7 pupils to have their copies of D-Day Dog personally signed by Tom. This proved to be a memorable experience and a wonderful way for pupils to celebrate their reading of the 'Year 7 Transition' novel.

During the second part of the Author's visit, a select group of Year 7 students participated in an exclusive creative writing workshop with Tom Palmer, where they explored storytelling techniques, developed their own ideas and participated in a very competitive quiz with the author. A big shout out to Mustafa who got the opportunity to put Tom Palmer on the spot with a question of his own! The session concluded with a tense but enjoyable penalty shoot-out - applause for our resident goalie, Harrison who was a skilled opponent in goal, providing a fitting end to an excellent morning of learning and creativity.

Tom Palmer's visit was a tremendous success, inspiring students to develop their reading and writing skills while offering a unique insight into the craft of authorship. We extend our sincere thanks to Tom for such an informative, engaging and memorable experience for our Year 7 pupils.



Information



OUR LADY'S
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



LOVE
LEARN
and GROW



OUR LADY'S
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 2026

6PM UNTIL 8.30PM

Headteacher Talk at 6pm | 7pm | 7.45pm

COME AND FIND OUT WHAT IT MEANS
TO BE
One of Ours



OPEN DAY

Friday 9 October at 10am

Friday 9 October at 11.15am

To book an Open Day appointment
please use the QR Code or [click here](#)



OurLadysCatholicHighSchool



olchs_fulwood



olchspreston

LOVE | LEARN | GROW BEING ONE OF OURS

Being One of Ours

Information



Monthly Art and Creative Workshops for Young People aged 14-19: Culture on Canvas with Artist Shailan Wynter

A colourful, hands on painting workshop celebrating culture, identity and self expression.



Date & Time

Saturday, 3 October at 11am - 1pm

Location

The Studio

Age range

Young people ages 14-19

Cost

Free

Ticket needed?

No ticket needed

**MORE
INFO**



Being One of Ours



Aged 11-24 and looking for an inspiring volunteer opportunity? Culture Hacks are young volunteers in Lancashire's libraries and Lancashire Archives.

You'll help make fun and creative activities happen...

-  Lego, coding and science based sessions
-  Displays and exhibitions
-  Children's activities and reading programmes
-  Creative projects
-  History and heritage projects

Why join?

- ✓ Receive awards and certificates
- ✓ Valuable experience to add to your CV
- ✓ Do as part of another award like DofE
- ✓ Meet new people
- ✓ Create your own projects
- ✓ Contribute to your local community
- ✓ Develop new skills

lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County Council



Interested?

Join today

Find Culture Hack opportunities through Lancashire Volunteer Partnership.

Scan the QR code to get started.
Or call into your nearest library.



**LANCASHIRE
VOLUNTEER
PARTNERSHIP**

USEFUL RESOURCES

**Staying Safe Online -
September 2026 Bulletin**

**Community Support
Information**



IMPORTANT

St Anthony's Primary School



A reminder to parents that the barrier on St Anthony's Car Park is enforced from 2.30pm - 3.30pm each day.

2026 Diary Dates

Thursday 1 October
Open Evening

Thursday 22 October
Year 11 Parents' Evening

Thursday 26 November
DofE Presentation Night

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





A once in a lifetime opportunity – OLCHS represent England

From 14th–16th September, fourteen girls from OLCHS travelled to the prestigious National Sports Centre at Lilleshall to take part in the *British Isles Football Tournament*.

Accompanied by Mrs Lin, Assistant Coach Ella G and Miss Moore, the girls were given a truly once in a lifetime opportunity – the chance to represent England on the football pitch.

The team earned their place at the tournament following their fantastic achievement in May, when, as U13s, they won the National Schools' Final at Stoke and were crowned National Champions.

That success meant the girls would now step onto an even bigger stage, proudly representing not only OLCHS, but their country, as they competed against champion schools from across the British Isles.

A Winning Start

We arrived at Lilleshall in plenty of time and, after getting checked into our rooms, the excitement really began to build. The girls changed into their new kits and made their way down to the pitches to warm up ahead of their opening fixture.

Their first opponents were one of the Welsh teams, and the girls couldn't have asked for a better start to the tournament. They played some fantastic football, eventually securing an impressive **7–3 victory**.

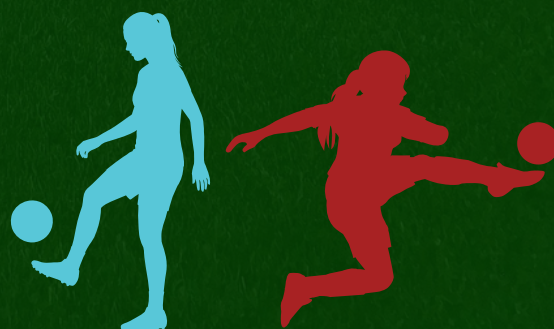
It was great to get that first win under their belts and gave the whole team confidence going into Day Two.

After a good night's rest, the girls were up and ready for an early fixture against the second Welsh team. From the very first whistle, they were determined to attack and build on the previous day's performance.

And they certainly did that!

The girls produced an outstanding display of football, finding the back of the net time and time again and eventually coming away with a fantastic **9–0 victory**.

With two wins from two, attention naturally began to turn towards Wednesday's final game, where we knew we would face a very strong team from Ireland. Rather than spend the afternoon thinking about the match, Mrs Lin decided it was time to get everyone off site and give the girls a chance to switch off. A trip to the local shopping centre provided the perfect opportunity to relax and take their minds off football for a few hours.



One Final Challenge

Wednesday arrived, and with it came our final fixture against Presentation School from Ireland. As the two teams lined up, it was clear that Presentation were a very strong side and we knew we were in for our toughest test of the tournament.

What followed was an incredibly competitive game. The OLCBS girls battled for every ball and refused to give their opponents an inch. At half-time, the score remained 0-0, with everything still to play for.

The girls came out for the second half determined to find that all-important goal. They fought incredibly hard and came agonisingly close on three separate occasions, but unfortunately it just wasn't to be our day. Presentation eventually managed to break through and, despite everything the girls threw at the game, proved just too strong on the day, with the final score finishing 2-0.

Naturally, there was disappointment when the final whistle blew. The girls are competitors and desperately wanted to finish the tournament with one more victory. However, that disappointment was soon replaced by an enormous sense of pride.

They had travelled to Lilleshall as National Champions, represented England, won two of their three matches, scored an incredible 16 goals and competed against some of the best school teams from across the British Isles.

More importantly, they gave absolutely everything they had.

Mrs Lin could not have been prouder of the girls – not only for the football they played, but for the way they represented OLCBS throughout the three days. Their attitude, teamwork, determination and behaviour were a credit to the school.

The results will always be remembered, but perhaps even more importantly, the girls returned home having shared an experience and made memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

An incredible achievement from an incredible group of girls. We are so proud of you all.



NETBALL

YEAR 11 PRESTON SCHOOLS' LEAGUE

The Year 11 team continued their Preston Schools' Netball League campaign against Broughton on Wednesday.

The game started end-to-end, with both teams battling hard for possession.

Once Romy L and Amy R found their range in the shooting circle, we settled into the game and began to build a lead.

We continued to apply pressure in the second half and extended our advantage, although a few unforced errors gave Broughton opportunities to get themselves back into the game.

The team stayed composed under pressure, regained control and secured an excellent five-goal victory, finishing 16–11.

Player of the Match was awarded to Amy R and Zuzanna R for their strong performances.





speed networking event Can You Help?

Employers & Professionals needed for our Year 11 Speed Networking Event

On Wednesday 4th November 2026, our annual Speed Networking event will take place for Year 11's in school from 10.15am until 12.30pm.

The event will involve two 1-hour sessions; half the year group will be involved each time. Small groups of pupils will arrive at each desk with a set of questions to ask employers, to investigate different careers and the world of work. After a short time, a whistle will blow and the pupil groups will rotate, in order for them to see and speak to as many employers / professionals as possible.

Please email careers@olchs.lancs.sch.uk if you feel you could volunteer your time to support our students as they explore future careers and develop their understanding of the world of work.

A poster for the Blackburn College Experience. It features a woman in a black jacket and a man in a grey jacket standing on a green and white striped background. The text includes 'Blackburn College', 'EXPERIENCE BLACKBURN COLLEGE', and dates: 'Tues 22 Sept 4.30PM - 7.30PM', 'Wed 14 Oct 4.30PM - 7.30PM', and 'Sat 14 Nov 10.00AM - 7.00PM'. It also includes a QR code and the website 'blackburn.ac.uk'.



Our Work Experience programme is ideal for students who want to gain more experience in the world of work.

This programme is delivered remotely via Waypoint, a platform provided by SixtyLearn, enabling more young people to gain insight into careers at Parliament. The programme gives you the chance to explore Parliament as a workplace, try realistic tasks inspired by real roles, get personalised feedback to help you grow, and learn about the teams that make Parliament happen!

[CLICK HERE >](#)

CARDINAL NEWMAN COLLEGE

OPEN EVENTS

Saturday 10th October 2026

Saturday 14th November 2026

Saturday 6th February 2027

[click here](#)

RUNSHAW
COLLEGE

OPEN EVENTS

Next School Leaver Open Event:
Saturday 26th September 2026,
10am-2pm.

[click here](#)

LUSoM Open Day

Saturday 10th October



LANCASTER UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

[CLICK HERE](#)





Pupils can sign up for access to career webinars with professionals and can sign up to online discussions.



Access other links from the home page to inform you of the how to become a qualified solicitor
Law apprenticeships
Different types of Law Practice
Paralegals
Application process
Professional training and qualifications.
Other Law and legal careers available.



For All Students Aged 14-18 Interested in Healthcare Careers

This October, the Premed team are running **Future Doctors Month** — four completely free, live online medical work experience sessions for students aged 14–18.

Students can join our doctors each Sunday and work through a different interactive medical scenario:

11 October — A&E: Can You Save the Patient?

Students assess an emergency patient and decide what should happen next.

18 October — Inside the Operating Theatre: Anaesthetics

Explore anaesthesia, airway management, monitoring and how patients are kept safe during surgery.

25 October — The Diagnosis Challenge: Medical Detective

Students investigate a mystery patient, interpret the evidence, and work towards a diagnosis.

1 November — Outbreak: Can You Stop the Spread?

Investigate an infectious disease outbreak and make clinical and public health decisions.

All sessions are **live online at 2pm UK time** and recordings will be available afterwards, so students don't need to attend live.

At the end of the program me, students can take our Future Doctors Knowledge Test, with those achieving 80% or above receiving a personalized certificate.

It's completely free and students only need to register once for all four sessions. [CLICK HERE](#)

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