

OUR LADY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter No. 8
6th November 2026



Jesus is our Hope and our Salvation

With All Saints Solemnity on Sunday and All Souls on Monday, we begin a time of remembrance, reflection and prayer for the faithful who have died.

In the bible, the book of Hebrews speaks of our great Hope: 'We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek'. Hebrews Ch 6- Vs 19-20.

This verse speaks of eternity with God. If we consider the enormity of eternity against our short lives, we can see that possessions and success are of far less value than living for God and following the good path towards him. Our paths may run differently, with different experiences and trials, but we are promised that if we look for Jesus, we will find him.

On All Souls Day, we celebrate this great hope, the hope that Jesus has already won salvation for us.
This is a day of joy and assurance. Our trust in Jesus will never fail us. He has overcome everything on our behalf, and nothing can ever separate us from His love.

So let us keep calling on Him, believing in Him, and living our faith in Him. For Jesus is our Saviour - He has saved us, and He will keep saving us, day by day.

Let us pray the prayer that recognises the relationship we need with the Father, and the prayer that unites us as God's people.

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen

BOOO Virtues

Congratulations go to:

Year 7
Amelia Arkinstall-Banks - compassionate and loving

Year 8
Erin Morey - faith filled and hopeful

Year 9
Eden Palmer - intentional and prophetic

Year 10
Jaiden Connell - attentive and discerning

Year 11
Ruby Mcdonald - curious and active

Year 7

MASS OF WELCOME

On Friday 23rd October Year 7's Mass of Welcome took place, with Fr. Andrew Dawson (St. Anthony of Padua), presiding.

Our Year 7 students and staff were delighted to welcome teachers and head teachers from many of our local primary schools, and over fifty parents.

It is always important to celebrate Mass in the first half term with our new year 7's, and this year there has truly been a great deal to reflect and be thankful for.

The year group had just completed their Castlerigg retreats and brought with them a respect for Mass, and a Joyful attitude towards worship.

Accompanied by our wonderful school choir, Year 7 sang our traditional and modern hymns beautifully. It was evident that our beautiful school Hymn 'As I kneel before You' meant a lot to our parents, who sang with reverence, and possibly with memories of their own services here at Our Lady's.

Fr. Andrew's Homily encouraged our students to live out our school virtues, and to press on with the same enthusiasm and good spirit in which they have started this academic year.

Students are always delighted to see their primary school teachers and those teachers were very proud of the progress the young people are making.

Our students carried out their responsibilities during Mass with quiet confidence and respect. The readings and bidding prayers were said beautifully and added much to a reflective and worshipful atmosphere. This was a wonderful celebration and a fitting close to Year 7's first half-term. The Mass also serves as start to Year 7's bright future here at Our Lady's.

Many thanks to our music department and choir for all their hard work and preparation.















Extracurricular Achievement



Year 10 pupil, Emily, is part of the RAF Cadet Squadron and took part over the last few weeks in Squadron competitions, making it to the regional finals.

At the regional competition Emily won the archery competition and together with her team came 1st in Archery.

YOUNG PEOPLE COMMUNITY ACTION

Before half-term, three OLCHS Year 11 students, Birdie, Jess and Harry, approached our school youth worker, Terry, to ask if they could visit Brooklands Care Home and spend time with the residents.

During their visit, our pupils entertained the residents through music and singing. The smiles on the residents' faces and their enthusiastic clapping showed just how much they enjoyed the afternoon. It was wonderful to see young people and older generations connecting through a positive community project that promoted citizenship, compassion and community engagement.

Credit to the pupils, for giving up their own time during the half-term break to support others and make such a positive difference in the community.

Information



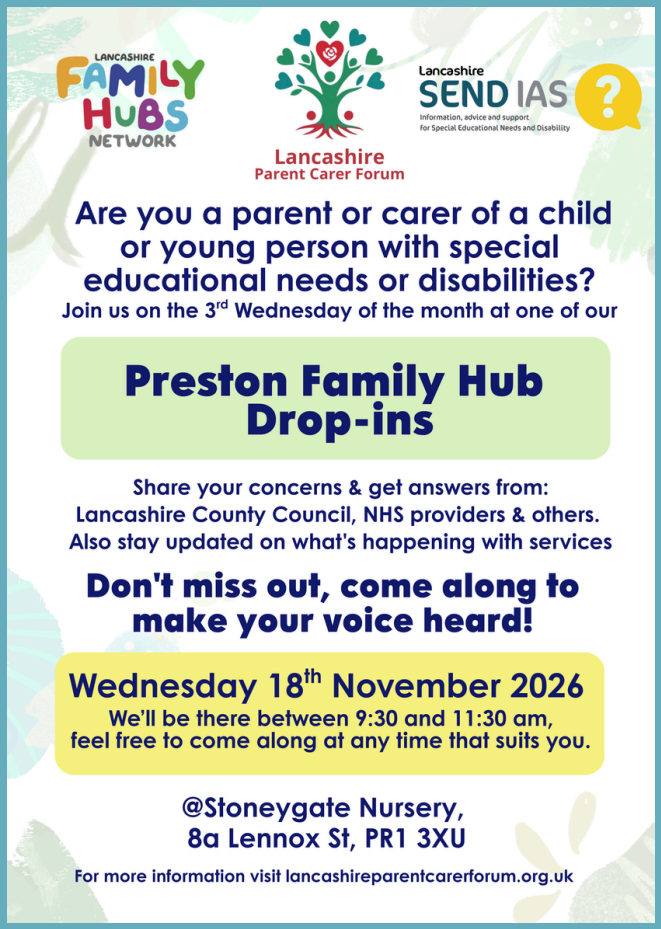
Save the date for a PNE Health & Wellbeing event in collaboration with Preston City Council.

The event is from 10am to 4pm, with 10 till 1pm being a WOMENS ONLY session, including a fantastic self-defence workshop, and then open to all from 1pm onwards

ADMISSIONS 2028-2029

Changes have been made to the Admissions Policy for 2028-2029. There will be a 6 week consultation period and the policy will be available to view until Friday 11 December by clicking on the link below.

CLICK HERE



Information

USEFUL RESOURCES

Staying Safe Online - October 2026 Bulletin

Community Support Information



ANIMAL CARE

Mrs Ardern is looking for a parent / carer who may be a vet or a veterinary nurse, to possibly offer a one-off short session for our animal carer group.

If you can help, please email Mrs Ardern at **JAR@olchs.lancs.sch.uk**

2026 Diary Dates

Wednesday 11 November
Remembrance Day

Thursday 19 November
PSHE Day 1

Friday 20 November
Celebration Morning - school closes at 12.35pm

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

NETBALL PRESTON SCHOOLS' LEAGUE

YEAR 9 & 10

The Year 9 and Year 10 netball teams, captained by Fearne B and Umika P respectively, travelled away to Corpus Christi for their opening fixtures in the Preston Schools' League.

The Year 9s made a tentative start but managed to establish a narrow 4–1 lead by half-time. They grew in confidence as the game progressed, dominating possession in the second half and creating plenty of opportunities. Although they didn't always convert their chances in front of goal, they secured a convincing 8–2 victory to get their league campaign off to a winning start.

The Year 10s faced a tougher challenge, but battled hard to keep the game close and trailed by just two goals at half-time. Unfortunately, they struggled to find their rhythm in the second half as Corpus Christi began to pull away, eventually winning 17–9.



Despite the result, there were plenty of positives to take from the performance, alongside areas to work on in training as the team looks to build on this first outing.

YEAR 8

Well done to the Year 8 netball team, captained by Maja G, who put in a fantastic performance against Corpus Christi. The team dominated from the first whistle, displaying excellent teamwork and attacking play to establish a comfortable 6–0 lead by half-time.

They continued to build on this in the second half, maintaining their momentum to secure a convincing 11–1 victory.

Player of the Match was awarded to Emily S for her excellent shooting and ability to create attacking opportunities for her teammates. A brilliant team performance.



Sporting News

FOOTBALL
PRESTON SCHOOLS' CUP

Huge congratulations to the Year 7 girls football team who participated in the Preston Schools' Cup on Wednesday at Corpus Christi. They beat Broughton 2-0, St Cecilia's 3-0, Fulwood 2-0 and Christ The King 7-0. The girls showed great determination and played some beautiful football. Goals came from Sophia E and Amelie R.





FOOTBALL
ENGLISH SCHOOLS' CUP

On Monday the U14 girls hosted Unity College from Burnley at Corpus Christi in the third-round of the English Schools' Cup. The girls dominated from the onset and went ahead very early on in the game. From there the goals trickled in nicely from Rio A, Isabelle W, Charlotte B, Sofia V and Coco SV. Final score was 13-2 to OLCHS. The girls have Lymm High School in the next round.

BIG NEWS for one of our U14 players in next week's newsletter



GB Championships

Cora competed for Team GB in Madeira over half-term in the World Biathle Championships. Cora qualified for the final and placed 17th overall out of 39 competitors.



Careers



WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

Also click here for other upcoming webinars from the ***Amazing Apprenticeships*** website.

CLICK HERE



On Mondays in Mr Powers room during break and lunch, Victor our school careers adviser will be running a **JOB CLUB** for any Year 11 pupil to access. No appointment needed.

Help with:

- College and/or apprenticeship applications
- Creating a CV
- Cover letter for an apprenticeship
- Sourcing employers and jobs/training
- Creating a personal statement
- Sourcing work or voluntary experience



OPEN EVENTS

Saturday 14th November 2026
Saturday 6th February 2027

click here