## Al Hallows Catholic High School Newsletter 15th November 2024

#### Dear Parents/Guardians,

This week in school we have experienced two wonderful and contrasting events. On Monday the school fell silent for our Remembrance service. This was at the request of our many Airforce, Police and Army cadets, who volunteered to plan, which this year, we were able to hold outdoors in front of the school chapel. They led a beautiful service, one that offered us the time to come together in community, as one. As the whole school fell silent, we gave respect and appreciation to all those service men and women who have given so much for the freedom we benefit from today. We were also represented at the Penwortham cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday where our Senior pupils laid a wreath and read out the names of the fallen.

In contrast another event this week was the celebration for our Year 11 past pupils who returned to school for their Certificate Evening. This group of pupils achieved record GCSE results, and it was a fantastic evening celebrating their success. It was lovely to see our pupils and their families again and hear about how well they are settling into exciting college courses and apprenticeships. We are now very much looking forward to our Christmas events in school and I hope parents will be able to support many of the activities and events that we have planned.

As always, we appreciate your support.



On Sunday 10th November, four members of our Year 11 student leadership team represented the school at the Remembrance Service at Penwortham War Memorial. Ryan and Rebeca read out the Names of the Fallen, to honour those who had lost their lives in the First and Second World Wars, and Harrison and Lilly laid a memorial wreath at the cenotaph on behalf of the All Hallows community. Many other members of our school community were also involved in the service, with church groups, scouts, guides and other community groups all represented. It was lovely to see so many pupils, past pupils, parents, staff and friends of the school in attendance. The service was incredibly moving and all of the pupils involved were a credit to the school. A number of All Hallows pupils were also involved in remembrance services across the local area and are to be congratulated on their significant contributions to such important events



Yours faithfully,

Alison Cooper Headteacher



The school office is open 8.00am until 4.00pm





#### In Flanders' Fields

In Flanders' fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.

we are the dead. Short days ago we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved, and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders' fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch, be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders' fields.

Major John McCrae, 1915





























# Catholic Life

#### <u>Hidden Jesus</u>

Saints were those who searched for Jesus, so we decided to give our pupils a chance to do the same. Mini Jesus' were hidden around school and pupils had to hunt Him down. Pupils had a lot of fun searching for Jesus, asking staff if they had found Jesus and finding him in all sorts of interesting places, from being amongst the ketchup sachets in the kitchen to being amongst the flowers in the flower bed. Those that found a Jesus were rewarded with a sweet treat from Kate.







#### T<u>he Saint that is just me...</u>

All week exceptional acts of kindness and saint like behaviour was awarded with saints reward cards which they could present to Kate the Chaplain for a reward. It was wonderful to see so many pupils receiving this award for using their talents and their strengths. Their saintly acts included helping young pupils, looking after other pupils who were upset and unwell, assisting staff with jobs, helping their peers in class, helping other in the local community.

#### **Celebration Mass**

On Friday lunchtime we celebrated our Feast week Lunchtime Mass. We listened to the reading from All Saints Day and prayed for the courage to be the saints God has created us to be. Our Faith in Action Team read our readings and prayers, and our chaplaincy choir helped us to celebrate with song raising the roof with a lively rendition of oh when the saints go marching in. We marched out of our Mass singing after an uplifting and joyful celebration.

Thank you to everyone who made our feast week a real celebration of our school community.



# Catholic Life

#### <u>Breakfast with God</u>

Mr Burbidge led a beautiful time of prayer during our feast week breakfast with God. He invited pupils to think about how they are called by God to be saints and how they can use the Beatitudes to help them achieve sainthood. It was wonderful to be joined by so many pupils for tea and toast and time of prayer to start day.





<u>Year 7</u>

Olivia Fitzpatrick Finn McMullan

Year 8

Keira McKenzie Daniel Odeyemi

Year 9

Laoise Lancaster Evie Kennedy

<u>Year 10</u>

Maisy Leaver Sophie Bowman Noah Stringer

Year 11

Evie Turner Oliver Grainger Luke Hunter

Congratulations, keep up the great work!







#### All Hallows Feast Week 2024!

Last week we celebrated our school feast week. On Friday 1st November the Church celebrated All Saints Day or All Hallows Day therefore during our first week back after half term we had a full week of celebrations.

#### Faith in Action celebration

Our Faith in Action Team celebrated our feast week during their usually Monday afternoon meeting. We brought out the board games and enjoyed some sweet treats. We had lots of fun playing games and celebrating as a team. The Faith in Action Team work incredibly hard all year to plan events, lead times of prayer, liturgies, and assemblies, and this celebration was a wonderful way to thank them for all their hard work.



# Saint Vincent de Paul



#### November Foodbank

Donations of tinned stews or curries as well as baked beans, pasta sauce, and curry sauces are needed. Also, as Christmas approaches any festive fare with long sell-by dates would be most welcome and appreciated. Many thanks for your continued support.

#### **Shoebox Appeal**

Thank you to everybody who has contributed to the SVP Shoebox Appeal, they have now been donated to our chosen charity, for which they were very grateful.

#### **Toy Appeal**

Thank you to all the staff and pupils who have contributed to the toy appeal, donations have been dropped off at the Children's Community Centre in Leyland.

#### <u>Dates for the Diary : -</u>

SVP Christmas Dinner - Sunday 8th December at St Teresa's hosted by the Youth SVP and the SVP conference group

**SVP Christmas Hot Chocolate** - Friday 6th December. Hot Cholate will be sold for £1 outside the chapel at breaktime - don't miss out!



#### Chapel Café

The Youth SVP helped us to celebrate with hot chocolate at breaktime by running our Chapel Café. Not only was this a wonderful way to celebrate together but it also helped them to raise vital fund for their SVP projects that will help to support our local community. The hot chocolate, cream and marshmallows were a huge hit on a cold Friday breaktime.

#### **SVP Community Concert**

On Tuesday 12th November at St Teresa's our Youth SVP held a concert to raise funds for the Christmas dinner for local parishioners which will be held on 8th December. Pupils from all year groups performed, sang, danced and sold raffle tickets to support the Youth SVP. The performances were of a very high standard and all pupils involved deserved the standing ovation!







#### **Anti Bullying Week**

This week is Anti Bullying Week. In school we have been promoting ways to tackle bullying behaviour. Our trained Anti Bullying Ambassadors delivered 'How to be an Upstander' training to our newly appointed Anti Bullying Ambadassors. We are using The Diana Award's Anti Bullying Ambassador Programme to provide our ambassadors with the skills and confidence to tackle any bullying bebavious

confidence to tackle any bullying behavious in school or online.

Our Anti Bullying Ambassadors are Grace Rooney, Sadie Hesmondalgh, Harrison Kirkham, Jayden Obikoya, Hallie Mattison, Hayley Hees, Edosa Odíase, Ella Finley, Onaopemikiitan Atalabi, Eimear Nicholson, Renae Rogers, Naomi Sait, Grace Rafferty and Fave Price.

The children are working hard to develop a campaign to promote Respect throughout school. This week they have been developing anti bullying pledges and are showing extra kindnéss to all.

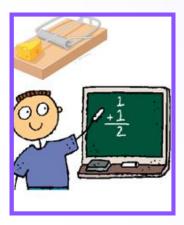




#### Primary School Maths Challenge

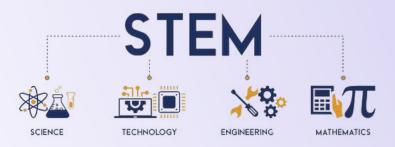
Last week we hosted a Primary Maths Challenge for our four feeder primary schools. The event was organised to celebrate National Numeracy week; a week dedicated to raising confidence and aspirations in numeracy. The challenge focused on decision making, teamwork and creativity; using numeracy and logic effectively to gain the most points. The event was a huge success, with all the Year 6 pupils showing superb enthusiasm, initiative and problem-solving skills. St Oswald's had a hugely successful evening, with both of their groups finishing in the top 3 spots! One of the teams from St Gerards Team finished in 2nd place. Well done to all pupils and thank you to all the staff, parents and our own Year 10 pupils who helped to make the night such a great success.

Unfortunately, we don't have any photos of the event, but we have a copy of some of the Maths Dingbats that parents were invited to try on the evening. Try to identify the key mathematical words that are depicted in the images.









#### **STEM Club**

Thank you to all the pupils that have been attending STEM Club each week on a Monday since the beginning of September. The club has been growing steadily in numbers and we currently have around 60 pupils attending each week. Year 7 have begun work on a Spike Prime Robotics task – working in small teams to design and build a robot and then code it to complete a variety of tasks, from moving trees to picking up ping pong balls. There is a brand new all female Robotic group being led by Mrs Houghton from BAE Systems working on VEX Robotics (see article below) and there are a number of Year 8's-11's working in teams to design, build and code VEX Robots ahead of our regional competition in a few weeks. They are keen to emulate their success of reaching the National Final last year and we hope that we can get a number of our fantastically hard working teams back there for the 2025 competition. As we currently hold the Silver STEM Club Quality Mark, one of our aims for this year is to apply for the Gold Quality Mark. This is something that is only held by a handful of schools across the country and we would very much like to achieve that this year. If anyone is aware of any grants/funding opportunities or is able to provide any assistance with STEM Club, whether it be engineering based talks or highlighting useful links, please do not hesitate to get in touch. STEM Club is open to any pupil that would like to take part and takes place on a Monday after school as well as on a Wednesday lunchtime in the D&T area – it is never too late to join.

#### **STEM Club All Girls VEX Robotics Group**

Just before the summer, plans were put into place to create an all female off-shoot of STEM Club, focusing on VEX Robotics. These plans were helped to be put into place by Mrs Houghton, a STEM Ambassador from BAE Systems who is now leading the group each week. The girls are able to work as a team, with a fantastic female engineering role model each week, to design, build and code a VEX based robot that has to complete a range of challenges. One of these challenges is to enable the robot to throw a ball through an opening in a structure, with accuracy and repeat this. Coding tasks allow the robot to be driven around based on the coding sequence or alternatively driven through a remote control. The group has grown steadily in numbers since September and we currently have a mixture of Year 7 & 8 girls taking part. We welcome any other pupils who would like to join. Later this term or Spring term they will be given the chance to take part in a regional final of the VEX Robotics competition, with the aim of reaching the National Finals. Good luck!



#### Tomorrow's Engineers Week

As part of Tomorrow's Engineers Week pupils had the opportunity in form and in Tech/Computing lessons to learn more about the role of an engineer and to 'Power Up Their Passion' - to find and explore the sweet spot where their talents and interests meet and how to identify what activities and qualification routes can turn this into an engineering or technology career. National Engineering Day on Wednesday 13th November also aimed to show how engineers make a difference to our everyday lives here and across the world, both now and in the future.

#### National UCL Ocean Health Challenge Competition

As part of STEM Club pupils have been working on a national challenge called the Ocean Health Challenge. The aim is to design a way to prevent plastics ending up in the ocean. This could be through a method of recycling and cleaning either in the home or in the street, an app that reminds people to take their reusable carrier bags with them when they go shopping or even an advertising campaign to educate people on the dangers of plastics in the ocean and how to be more sustainable. There are some fantastic prizes on offer as part of the competition and we have opened up this week to the whole school so that everyone can get involved. The overall winner of the national completion could be in line to receive £500 and there are a number of age group related prizes and runners up prizes. To enter, pupils need to complete a short 75 word brief about their idea, a design (drawing/sketch etc) and a poster. These would need to be given to Mrs Caw by Friday 29th November so that she can submit them by Saturday 30th November. Please see Mrs Caw if you are interested in taking part. If you would like to access the STEM Club resources linked to the project please see Mrs Caw or any member of the D&T department for the google classroom STEM Club code. We look forward to seeing the wonderful ideas that you can create.

https://extend.ucl.ac.uk/mod/page/view.php?id=146407

## OCEAN HEALTH , CHALLENGE 2024

# How can you stop plastic getting into the ocean?

Design's could be things such as: an app that reminds people to take their carrier bags when shopping a robot that sorts all waste properly in the home an advertising campaign to encourage people to use less single use plastic

To submit:

Write a short brief of less than 75 words, create an annotated design and a poster.

ADLINE: FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER - give work to a Caw and have completed the submission form

#### <u> Under 14 and Under 16's Netball</u>

Congratulations to the U14 & U16 Netball teams who played in the Lancashire schools netball tournament held at Stonyhurst College. Both teams did All Hallows proud. The U16 finished 4th in their group & U14 came second which meant they progressed to the semi finals but narrowly lost out to a very impressive Stonyhurst team 10-7! The girls should be so proud of how they played today considering both teams were a mix of all years and therefore have never played together as a team before.







#### **Netball Fixture Results**

Such a great start to this half term! Last weeks netball fixtures results:-

Year 8 v Balshaws - won 22-17 Year 11 v Balshaws - won 31-8

Well done to everyone involved.

#### South Ribble District 7-a-side football tournament

What an incredible achievement by the Year 10 and 11 girls who played in the South Ribble District 7-a-side football tournament! Being undefeated and not conceding a single goal is a testament to their outstanding skill, teamwork, and determination. They played some brilliant football and truly worked together as a team to secure the victory. We are so proud of their performance - such a well - deserved win! Well done to all the girls involved!



#### **UK Athletics Cross Challenge**

Well done to Ellie Blackhurst in Year 8 who took part in the 2024/25 UK Athletics Cross Challenge series! Ellie finished third in the U13 girls' race at the World Athletics Cross Country Tour Gold meeting in Cardiff. It was such a tough competition, and for Ellie to come out on top like that shows her determination and skill. Here's to many more successes for her in the season ahead!



#### Lewis Balyckyi Rising Star Award

Huge congratulations to Isla Bamber on winning the Lewis Balyckyi Rising Star Award at the South Ribble Borough Council sport awards! That's such a fantastic recognition of her hard work and talent. It's clear Isla is making a big impact in her sport, and this award is a well-deserved accolade for her dedication. Here's to even more success for Isla in the future—she's definitely one to watch!



#### **English National Cross Country Relay Race**

Congratulations to Jack Turner in Year 8! Jack and his two teammates achieved an outstanding victory by winning the gold medal at the English National Cross Country Relay race this past weekend. This remarkable accomplishment showcases their hard work, dedication, and teamwork. We are incredibly proud of their achievement and look forward to seeing more successes in the future!





#### **Ballroom and Latin Dance Competition.**

Well done to Bella Cumia in Year 8! Bella recently competed in her biggest competition so far in Ballroom and Latin dancing—the prestigious ISTD Blackpool Grand Finals. This national event took place at The Winter Gardens, a venue known for hosting some of the most exciting and high-level dance competitions in the world. The day began bright and early with all the essential preparations— false tan, hair, makeup, and plenty of glitter! With so many competitors from all across the country, it was a tough and thrilling two days of dancing, but Bella truly shone. We are thrilled to share that she was successful in winning a trophy for her performance in the Cha Cha Cha! Looking ahead, Bella is already preparing for her next competition in

Looking ahead, Bella is already preparing for her next competition in January 2025, where she hopes to compete in an impressive eight dances

Best of luck, Bella-you're sure to do brilliantly!











#### Springboard FutureChef Competition

Springboard FutureChef is a schools-based programme across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland that supports the development of key life skills whilst inspiring young people to pursue an exciting career within the world of hospitality. We support students to build industry based culinary skills and knowledge, as well as connecting teachers and students with industry professionals. The Springboard FutureChef competition is now the biggest school culinary competition is the UK culinary competition in the UK celebrating talent and adding to our long list of successful alumni.

For further details please see Mrs Caw.



#### **Careers Fair**

#### Date: Wednesday, 20th November 2024 Time: 4.00PM - 6.00PM Location: Leyland St Mary's Catholic High School

We are excited to invite all year 9, 10 and 11 pupils to attend our Annual Careers Fair, where you will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from a range of professions, colleges, and universities. This event is a fantastic chance to gain insights, ask questions, and explore various career paths. Participating Organisations will also include:

- . Aspens Caterers .Blackburn College . Cardinal Newman College . Chorley Golf Club
- . DWP . Fleetwood Nautical Campus
- HMRC
- Lancashire & South Cumbria Social Care Training Hub
- . Lancashire Constabulary . Lancashire Youth Futures Team
- . Leyland Playscheme
- . Leýland Trućks
- Lloyds Motor Group
- Manchester Money
- . MBDA Systems . MPCT Academy
- . Myerscough College
- . NIS Ltd (Engineering)
- . Persimmon Homes
- Pink Spaghetti PA Services
- Preston College Progress Futures
- . RAF
- . Runshaw College
- . SRBC
- . Steven Gerrard Academy
- . The Ref Stop
- . Training 2000 . UCLan Student recruitment engagement office
- . Wigan & Leigh College



Springboard FUTURECHEF

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akeoff 2024

erollie

Register for Bakeoff today! BakeOff is the competition element of our FutureChef Jnrs and is open to S1/2 (Scotland) Y7/8 (England & Wales), and Y8/9 (N.I).

BakeOff Competition

FutureChef BakeOff is a virtual competition!

Bake your savoury tart and document the process with pictures, complete our BakeOff

entry pack and submit your entry to be judged by

Our judges are looking for creative combinations,

polished presentation and hygienic handiwork so get practicing and submit your entry before 5pm on the 17/01/25

our panel of professional chefs!

updates

Ollie's winning Bake

#### RS • Ξ

#### LET US HELP BUILD YOUR FUTURE

A great opportunity for students and parents to meet and get advice from teachers, colleges and representatives from various professions.



Whether you're interested in further education or exploring vocational routes, our Careers Fair will provide you with the information you need to make informed decisions about your future.

#### We look forward to seeing you there!

#### PTFA CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

As we prepare for our upcoming PTFA Christmas raffle we are reaching out to ask for your support. If you own or are part of a business that can donate a gift or service for our raffle, we would greatly appreciate your contribution.

Examples of donations could include vouchers for restaurants, beauty treatments, gym memberships, or products such as hampers, event tickets, gift items or vouchers.

Your generosity helps us raise vital funds that directly benefit our school and your children at All Hallows. Every donation, big or small, makes a difference!

In exchange for your generosity, we will advertise the business in the school newsletter and on the raffle tickets themselves, providing great visibility to our school community.

If you are able to contribute, please contact us at ptfa@allhallows.lancs.sch.uk. Thank you for your continued support.

Friends of All Hallows

#### **PTFA**

We've registered Friends of All Hallows - Penwortham with easyfundraising, which means over 7,000 brands will now donate to us for FREE every time you use easyfundraising to shop with them. These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us - it's completely FREE and doesn't take long:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-all-hallows

Friends of All Hallows Registered charity: 1118676



#### <u>Old Uniform</u>

We are aware that many parents may have uniform at home that your child has grown out of, but may be still in good condition. Some items of uniform are very expensive and we would be happy for you to send these items into school to create a uniform bank. When families are finding it difficult to meet the costs of a uniform item, please feel free to contact school and we may be able to put some of these items to good use and support our families in this way.

#### **Staff vacancies**

We are seeking dedicated and passionate individuals to join our team. Please click on the link below to view our current vacancies.

https://www.allhallows.lancs.sch.uk/school/informatio n/vacancies/



# REMEMBRANCE

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die." Thomas Campbell (Scotish Poet)

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

"Dear God, on this Remembrance Day, we thank You for the brave men and women who gave their lives so that we could live in peace. Help us to honour their sacrifice by loving one another, just as You have loved us. Teach us to be kind, to make sacrifices for others, and to always choose love. Amen.

In John 15:12-13, Jesus teaches us about the greatest kind of love — a love that is selfless and willing to give everything for others. He says that the greatest love a person can show is to lay down their life for a friend. While we may not be called to make such an extreme sacrifice in our everyday lives, we are still called to love and care for others in ways that show kindness, support, and generosity.

# WORD OF THE WEEK

John 15: 12-13

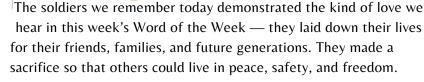
My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.



#### A time to remember... On Remembrance Day, we take a moment to pause and reflect on the sacrifices made by soldiers who gave their lives to protect our freedom and keep us safe. It's a time to remember those who served in wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping missions. But it's

of sacrifice and love in our own lives.

## A Legacy of Peace The soldiers we remember today demonstrated the kind of love we



On Remembrance Day, we reflect on the sacrifices made by soldiers who gave their lives to protect peace and freedom. It's a time to honour their memory, but also to think about how we can continue their work by being peacemakers in our own lives. Peacemakers are people who work to create peace, resolve conflict, and show kindness and understanding in difficult situations.

How can you bring and promote peace in the world today? Talk to the person next to you about the small things you could do to promote peace, that together can make a real difference to the world around us.

### November: The month of remembrance

In the Catholic Church, November is a special month when we remember and pray for all those who have died, especially our loved ones. In the Catholic faith, we believe that when we die, our life is not ended, but changed. Death is a passage, not the end. As Catholics we believe that our souls live on after we die, and we are called to eternal life with God. The changing season of autumn can help us understand this. As the leaves change colour and fall, it may look like the trees are dying. But we know that this is just a part of the cycle of life. In spring, new leaves will grow. In the same way, we believe that after death, life continues in a new, beautiful form with God in heaven.

Take a moment in silence this morning to pray for those who have died. If you would like to share as a form the hames of those in your family who you would like everyone to pray for and remember.



Letters Home - Remembrance 2022 (Watch Here)

**Remembrance Song** (Listen Here)





## A Moment of Silence

In fields where poppies gently grow, We pause today to think and know, Of those who fought, who gave their all, And answered freedom's distant call. With courage strong and hearts so brave, They walked the path that few would pave, To keep our skies and lands so free, So we could live in harmony. We remember those who lost their lives, And honour those who still survive, Their sacrifice, a gift so grand, For peace and hope across the land. Today we stand with grateful hearts, For every soldier, every part, They gave so much so we could see A world where love and peace are free. So in a moment, silent, still, We honour them with quiet will. And vow to make the world a place, Of kindness, peace, and loving grace.