



ALL HALLOWS

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

50 YEARS
GOLDEN JUBILEE

All Hallows

Catholic High School

Anniversary

Memories, Moments and Milestones



Celebrating 50 Years of All Hallows Catholic High School

This year marks a truly special milestone for All Hallows Catholic High School in Penwortham as the school celebrates its 50th anniversary. For half a century, All Hallows has been at the heart of the local community, providing generations of young people with an education rooted in faith, learning, and service.

Since its foundation, All Hallows has remained committed to its Catholic ethos, placing Christ at the centre of school life. The values of respect, compassion, and responsibility have shaped not only the school's curriculum but also the character of its pupils. Over the years, students have been encouraged to grow academically, spiritually, and personally, leaving the school prepared to make a positive contribution to society.

The school's success is built on the dedication of its staff, past and present, whose passion and commitment have helped All Hallows continually adapt and thrive. From classrooms and sports fields to chaplaincy and community outreach, countless individuals have given their time, talents, and care to support pupils and uphold the school's mission.

All Hallows' strong links with families, parishes, and the wider Penwortham community have also been central to its story. These partnerships have ensured that the school is not just a place of learning, but a community where faith is lived, friendships are formed, and achievements are celebrated together.

As the school reflects on 50 years of memories, achievements, and challenges overcome, it also looks forward with hope and confidence. Guided by its Catholic values and inspired by the legacy of those who have gone before, All Hallows Catholic High School is well placed to continue nurturing future generations for many years to come.

This golden anniversary is an opportunity to give thanks for the past, celebrate the present, and look ahead with faith to the future. Happy 50th anniversary, All Hallows Catholic High School.

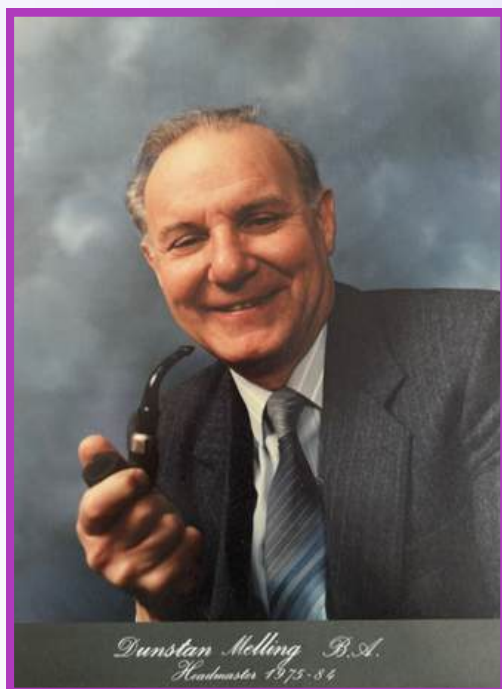


All Hallows Catholic High School, 1975. The photograph shows new pupils and staff on the first day of opening. Pictured are Mr Dunstan Melling, Headteacher (seventh from the right), Fr Michael O'Callaghan, Chairman of the Governors and Parish Priest of St Teresa's, Penwortham, and Mr Bernard Henderson, Deputy Head.

"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

Headteachers of All Hallows: 1975–Present

Since opening in 1975, All Hallows Catholic High School has been guided by a succession of dedicated Headteachers whose leadership has shaped the school across five decades. From the founding years under Mr D Melling (1975–1984), through the long period of growth and development led by Mr M Flynn (1984–2006), and the continued progress overseen by Mr C Riding (2006–2018), the school has evolved to meet the needs of each new generation. Mr C Horrocks led the school from 2018 to 2022, before Mrs A Cooper took up the role in 2023 and continues to lead All Hallows today. Each Headteacher has played a vital part in the school's journey, building on the work of their predecessors and contributing to the strong, caring community that All Hallows is today.



Mr D Melling



Mr M Flynn



Mr C Riding



Mr C Horrocks



Mrs A Cooper

"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

Anniversary Mass

The school's 50th anniversary celebrations began on Thursday 18th September with a special Anniversary Mass, bringing together staff, pupils, families, and members of the wider community to mark the opening of the school in September 1975. Around 400 people gathered for this significant occasion, including past and present staff and pupils.

The Mass was celebrated by the Archbishop of Liverpool, the Most Reverend John Sherrington, alongside priests and deacons from the school's partner parishes. Pupils from across the school played a central role in the liturgy, serving and ministering throughout the celebration. The opening hymn, Build Your Kingdom, performed by both adult and pupil choirs with the music group, set a joyful and reflective tone for the evening.

A procession of pupils carried flags, images of form saints, and school symbols to the altar, while others contributed through readings, bidding prayers, and a special offertory. The offertory included objects chosen by pupils to reflect the Catholic life and values of the school.

The Gospel reading from Matthew focused on the Beatitudes. In his homily, Archbishop John spoke about how young people, by living out Jesus' teachings of love, mercy, and compassion, can help to build the Kingdom of God on earth. This message closely reflected the school's mission: Growing Together in the Spirit of Christ's Love.

Following the Mass, past staff and pupils were invited to a reception and guided tours of the school, led by Year 11 prefects. The evening was a fitting and prayerful beginning to the school's golden anniversary celebrations.



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

Sweet Success for the 50th Anniversary Mass

Year 10 students Chloe L and Darcey C showcased their baking skills by preparing and decorating over 100 fairy cakes for our school's 50th Anniversary Mass. Working alongside Mrs Caw, our Food Technology teacher, the girls created a delightful treat that was enjoyed by all after the service. Their efforts were a huge success, and the cakes were not only a delicious addition to the celebration but also a wonderful example of student creativity and contribution to school life. Well done, Chloe and Darcey!



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

All Hallows

50th

Anniversary Ball



During half term, our school community gathered for a truly special occasion – the 50th Anniversary Ball of All Hallows Catholic High School. Held at the iconic home of Preston North End, the evening was a wonderful celebration of 50 Years of Faith, Learning and Community.

The event brought together past and present staff, pupils, families and friends of the school, creating a warm and joyful atmosphere filled with memories, laughter and pride. It was a chance not only to celebrate how far our school has come over the past five decades, but also to reflect on the strong values and strong sense of community that continue to define All Hallows today.

We were especially delighted to welcome former Headteachers Mr Flynn and Mr Riding, whose dedication and leadership have played an important role in the school's journey. It was lovely to see them reconnecting with colleagues and former pupils, sharing stories and celebrating the school's achievements.

A very special thank you must go to Mrs Finn and our wonderful PTFA, whose hard work and dedication made the evening such a success. From the planning and organisation to the thoughtful details on the night, their commitment ensured it was a truly memorable occasion enjoyed by all.

It was a lovely evening and a fitting way to mark this important milestone. As we celebrate 50 years of All Hallows, we look forward with excitement and hope to the future, continuing to build on the strong foundations laid over the past half century. Here's to the next 50 years!



All Hallows Catholic High School proudly celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a truly outstanding production of *Les Misérables*. This ambitious and powerful musical was a highlight of our anniversary year, taking place in March and marking a very special moment for our school community.

Having been performed successfully at All Hallows on two previous occasions, it was wonderful to bring this iconic production back once again. This latest staging showcased the incredible talent, commitment and teamwork of our pupils. From those performing on stage to those working behind the scenes, pupils demonstrated exceptional dedication throughout the rehearsal process, contributing to one of our most technically ambitious productions to date.

A special thank you goes to Mrs Colclough and the Performing Arts team for their vision, passion and tireless efforts in bringing this production to life once again. Their commitment continues to provide our pupils with invaluable opportunities to grow in confidence, creativity and skill.

To all our pupils involved — you have done us proud.







Summer Concert

Our Summer Concert 2026 was a truly special celebration, marking 50 years of All Hallows Catholic High School.

The concert took the audience on a memorable journey through five decades of musical theatre, from the iconic productions of the 1970s to the modern masterpieces of today. Each era showcased unforgettable music, powerful storytelling and outstanding performances, highlighting the enduring magic of musical theatre.

The evening was a wonderful celebration of the talent and creativity of our pupils, who delivered exceptional performances throughout.

A heartfelt thank you to Mrs Colclough and her team for their hard work in bringing this spectacular production to life.



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"



Our recent 50 Fest was a tremendous success and provided a wonderful opportunity for pupils to come together and celebrate our school's 50th anniversary. The day was filled with excitement, laughter and a fantastic range of activities, creating memories that will last for years to come.

Pupils enjoyed a wide variety of attractions throughout the day, including wipeout challenges, mini golf, soft target archery, football darts, basketball inflatables and axe throwing. There was also the opportunity to take part in technology activities, enjoy games of benchball and cricket, sing favourite songs during the ever-popular karaoke sessions, dance along to music provided by our DJ, and relax with a film. With something for everyone, the atmosphere across the school was vibrant and full of enthusiasm.

The event perfectly reflected our school motto, "Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love," as pupils supported one another, worked as teams and shared in the celebrations. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and pupils making the most of every opportunity on offer.

A special thank you must go to Mrs Colclough and her team, whose hard work, dedication and careful organisation made the event possible. Their efforts ensured that everything ran smoothly and enabled pupils to enjoy a truly memorable day. We are extremely grateful for all the time and commitment they invested in making 50 Fest such a resounding success.



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

Celebrating 50 Years with the Big STEM Anniversary Quiz

As part of All Hallows Catholic High School's 50th Anniversary celebrations, pupils from Years 7 to 10 took part in the Big STEM 50th Anniversary Quiz.

The quiz was hosted by our fabulous quiz master Miss Conlon and gave pupils the opportunity to test their knowledge across science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Questions covered a wide range of topics and encouraged pupils to work together, think carefully and use their problem-solving skills. Even some code breaking was required.

There was a fantastic atmosphere as teams discussed their answers, competed for points and enjoyed the challenge. The event was a brilliant way to celebrate both the school's history and the important role that STEM continues to play at All Hallows.

A special thank you goes to Miss Shirley for creating the quiz and providing the wonderful spot prizes, which added extra excitement and helped to keep pupils engaged throughout the event. All pupils were even treated to an ice cream or an ice pop as a celebration of the years hard work.

Congratulations to all the pupils who took part, particularly the winning teams from each year group, who received special certificates to recognise their achievements. Well done to Year 10 winners Kiitan A, Jack B and Jack M, Year 8 winners Luke B, Luke F, Sam R and Year 7 winners Lyla Mc, Morrison D and Indie L. These teams placed first and joint second overall.



The Big STEM 50th Anniversary Quiz was a wonderful celebration of curiosity, teamwork and learning, and a fitting way to mark 50 years of All Hallows Catholic High School —Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love.

"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

Sports Day

Sports Day looked a little different this year, with every pupil competing in one track event and one field event during their PE lessons to qualify for the finals.

The Finals Day took place on Monday 29th June and was a huge success. Years 9 and 10 competed in the morning, followed by Years 7 and 8 in the afternoon. Pupils demonstrated excellent effort, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the day. Congratulations to everyone who took part and earned valuable points for their form. Medals were awarded to the top three finishers in each event on the winners' podium.

A special congratulations to this year's winning forms:

- Year 10: 10M
- Year 9: 9V
- Year 8: 8J
- Year 7: 7F

Finally, congratulations to St Margaret, our overall winning Form Saint across all four year groups this year. A fantastic achievement—well done to every pupil in the St Margaret forms for your outstanding effort and team spirit!



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

A Golden Celebration for Year 7 & 8

As part of our exciting 50th anniversary celebrations, our Year 7 & 8 pupils enjoyed a fantastic anniversary party at All Hallows Catholic High School. The evening was filled with music, dancing and plenty of fun, with pupils choosing their favourite songs through a request playlist that kept everyone on the dance floor.

There was something for everyone to enjoy, including a very popular bubble tea sale, sparkling face gems, a well-stocked tuck shop and the chance to win Amazon vouchers in our prize giveaways. It was wonderful to see so many pupils celebrating together and creating lasting memories as we marked this special milestone in our school's history. A huge thank you to everyone who helped organise and support such a successful event. All funds raised will go to the PTFA.



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

End of Year Mass



Last Friday, we celebrated our End of Year Whole School Mass in the glorious sunshine. As a special event to mark our 50th anniversary, and for the first time in All Hallows' history, the Mass was held outdoors on the Senior Yard.

Organising such a significant event was a huge undertaking. It involved preparing the outdoor space to accommodate the entire school community, as well as moving the altar, sound system, musical equipment and other resources from the Arts Theatre to the Senior Yard. Thanks to the hard work, dedication and teamwork of both pupils and staff, everything came together seamlessly, creating a truly memorable occasion.

The Mass was beautifully celebrated by Fr Ian, whose homily reflected on the Gospel reading of The Road to Emmaus. This powerful message reminded us that Jesus has walked alongside us throughout the past year and will continue to guide us as we continue our journey as members of the All Hallows community.

The music, led by Mrs Colclough and our outstanding Chaplaincy choir and band, added greatly to the celebration. The congregation was welcomed with the uplifting hymn Build Your Kingdom Here, while the joyful My Lighthouse provided a fitting and inspiring conclusion to the Mass.

Celebrating Mass together in the open air was a wonderful and unique experience, made even more special by the beautiful weather. It provided a fitting finale to a year of 50th Anniversary celebrations and reflected the strong sense of faith, community and togetherness that defines All Hallows.

The idea of holding a whole-school outdoor Mass was first discussed at the beginning of the academic year as a way of marking this important milestone. To see that vision become a reality was truly fantastic and something that everyone involved can be proud of.

A heartfelt thank you goes to all the staff, pupils and volunteers who worked so hard behind the scenes and on the day itself to make this celebration possible. Their commitment and enthusiasm ensured that it was an unforgettable morning and a wonderful way to conclude another successful school year.



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

A Family Tradition Across Generations

One particularly meaningful moment during the anniversary year was the arrival of a new Year 7 pupil, Oliver D. Oliver began his journey at All Hallows exactly 50 years after his grandmother, Mrs Denise Darwen, who was among the very first pupils to attend the school when it opened in September 1975.

Denise shared memories of her time at All Hallows and brought in original school reports and first-day photographs, offering a fascinating glimpse into the school's early years. Her four children also attended the school, continuing a strong family tradition. When Oliver joined the school, he followed in the footsteps of both his father and grandmother, highlighting the enduring connection many families have with All Hallows.

While much has changed since 1975, including the introduction of digital technology and modern facilities, the anniversary year reminded us of the continuity that links past and present pupils. Oliver looked forward to his time at All Hallows with the same excitement and hope experienced by generations before him.

The story of the Darwen family captured the spirit of the anniversary year, illustrating how All Hallows continues to bring generations together and remains a significant part of family and community life in Penwortham.



The 70's

Sponsored events by members of Bede House All Hallows raised £250, with the school's first Head Girl, Janet Byrne, presenting a cheque to Mrs Irene Sherrington of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.



Art Deparyment 1975



Headteacher Mr Melling pictured in his office, 1975.

"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

1975



RC parents
win battle
for school

High speed building record by contractors

ONE of the fastest built schools on record opens in Penwortham on Monday.

For it was on November 26 — less than ten months ago — that the contractors arrived on the site of All Hallows RC comprehensive school, off Liverpool Road, to start work.

By
TONY SKINNER

Now they have finished — apart from a few weeks' work on the 80 ft by 40 ft sports hall.

This lightning job by Conlon Brothers of Bamber Bridge will end discontent among Catholic parents living south of the River Ribble.

Said headmaster Mr Dunstan Melling, formerly deputy head at St Cuthbert Mayne RC school, Fulwood: "The contractors have done a magnificent job to get the school finished in such a short time."

Mr Gerald Cassidy, of Cassidy and Ashton, Preston, the architects who designed the school, said: "It must be one of the quickest public buildings ever erected in this country, and I believe it is the fastest ever built school. The contractors have taken building ideas from several quarters to speed-up the work. The building certainly is not a prefabricated one, but incorporates modern building techniques and materials."

OST, Saturday, Sept 20, 1975

Versatile teachers solve a staffing problem



Mr Henderson (left), Mr Melling and Fr. O'Callaghan.



By BRIAN BEST

A £250,000 comprehensive school opening in Penwortham this week has caused staffing headaches for the new headmaster.

Mr Dunstan Melling, head of All Hallows High School, had to gear his small full time staff of nine to giving the 180 children a comprehensive education.

It meant he had carefully to select and balance his staff so that they could teach two or three subjects.

Geography teacher Mrs Moira Marlow spends a lot of her time taking history, and art teacher Mrs Zeta Walmaley also takes physical education.

The deputy head, Mr Bernard Henderson and the head himself are chipping in with some history and religious education lessons.

A RARE FEAT

Chairman of the governors Father Michael O'Callaghan, said: "We are now very proud of our all graduate teaching staff. It's a rare feat to have all graduates."

The school is one of the fastest-built on record, taking only 10 months to complete, apart from a sports hall which is nearly finished.

"We are very excited to make a start in the school. It makes for a good atmosphere," said Mr Henderson.

"It's a glorious opportunity, we start with a completely clean sheet."

Only first and second-year children, initially, have started at the school, but by 1980 there will be 600 children in the 11 to 16 age bracket.

The opening will bring to an end the need for Catholic children living south of the Ribble to travel to Fulwood and other schools in the Preston district.

Accommodation problems at Cuthbert Mayne School last year led to the dispersal of children to schools in Preston, which aroused heated discussion.

ABOVE: Some of the 180 pupils who form the new school.

Pictures
John
Gronow

RIGHT: Art
Summer and
Nicola Pate
boy in the
art room.



Mrs Margaret Robinson teaching cooking to Karen Snape, Jane Wells and Sheila Duckworth.

School built in less than a year

A NEW £450,000 comprehensive school built within 10 months is thought to have set up a British building record.

The builders moved on the site of All Hallows, Penwortham, near Preston, on November 25 last year.

And on Monday when pupils moved in all that remained to be done were a few finishing touches to the sports hall.

The architect, Mr. Gerald Cassidy, said few public buildings had been so speedily erected and it was not prefabricated.

The school eases a problem for children south of the River Ribble who have had to travel to Fulwood and other parts of Preston for their 11-plus education.

Initial intake is 180 first and second year pupils. In 1980 there will be 600.

"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

The 80's

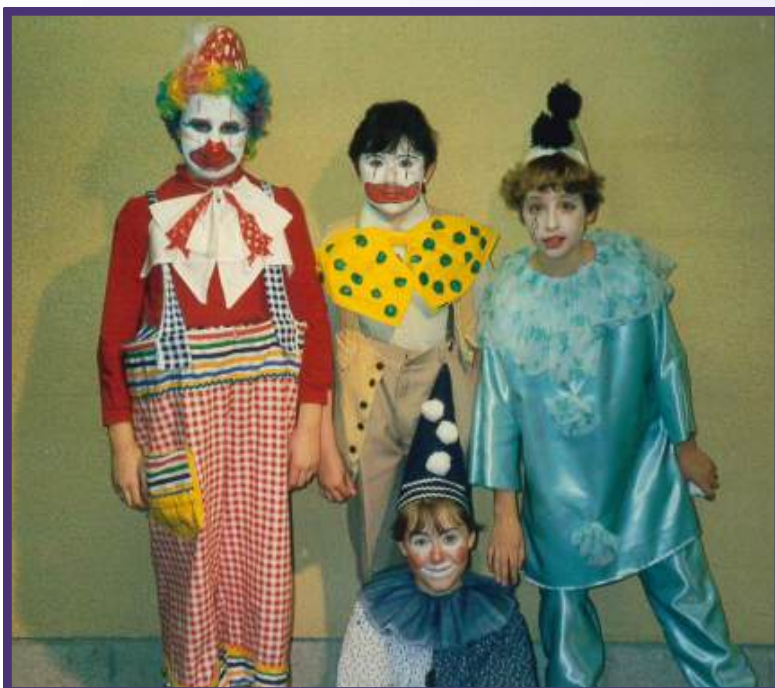
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat



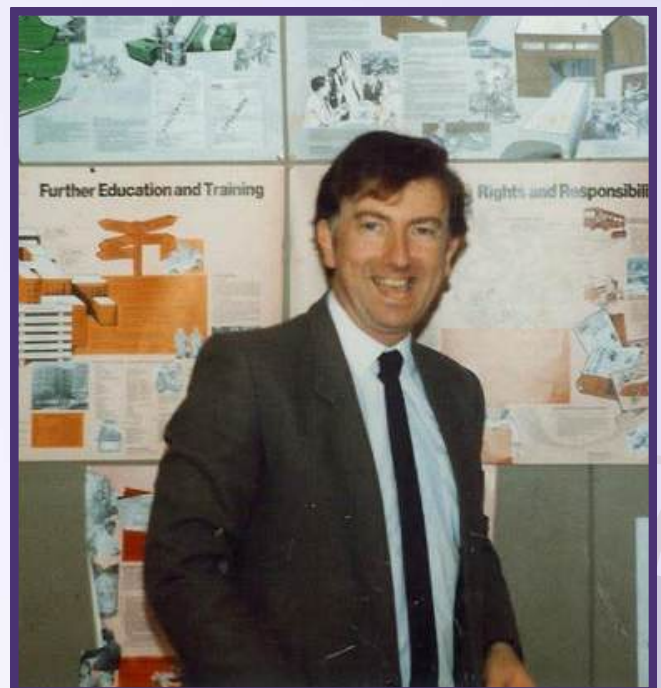
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat



Grassington 1987



Clowns and Tramps Disco 1987



Mr K Breslin – Science Teacher and Head of Year

"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

The 80's

Band Aid- Food for Africa 1986



Mr B Hughes - Geography Teacher and Deputy Headteacher



Left to Right:
Debra Fitzpatrick, Michaela Watson,
Catherine Burnett and Ian Dawson.



School Production of Annie

"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

The 90's



A team of schoolgirls carried the Olympic torch through the Preston area in 1991, having been selected for their involvement in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.



In 1994 The School Community Action Team were presented with special certificates of achievements for their work - including a special Guard-a-Gran campaign. Pictured: Chief Inspector David Jones presents the certificates to Mr Joe Green.



In 1995 All Hallows was the first, official technology college in South Ribble. Pictured: Head of education at British Aerospace Chris Rogan offered advice to headteacher Mr Flynn (back right) and the chairman of governors Fr Bernard Growney, left.



Enterprising pupils launched their own management buy-out when their school company plunged into liquidation. Year 10 students stepped in to save the day when the Young Enterprise company run by older pupils ran into problems and collapsed. Pictured: Pupils with head Michael Flynn, left, Margaret Malcolm from Indel, the industry schools group, Vernon Carus's Martin Walker, Link teacher Eileen Murphy, and deputy head Tony Hacking



South Ribble and District Athletics Championship Trophy which the school won at Stanley Park in Blackpool.

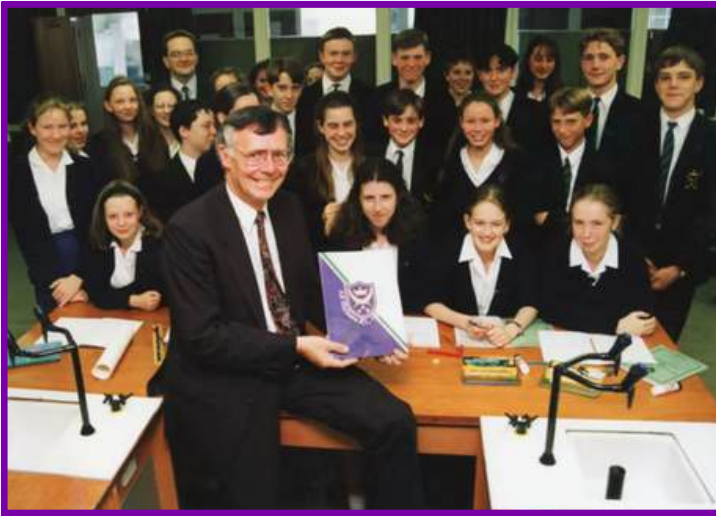


U16s football and netball teams who both won the county championships in their respective sports

Do you recognise any current members of staff in the two photos above?

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The 90's



Inspectors from the Government's Office for Standards in Education praised the good conduct and positive attitude to learning shown by pupils.



The school marked its 20th anniversary by receiving a top award, becoming the first in Preston and South Ribble to be recognised as an Investor in People in 1995.



Mr T Evans conducting the All Hallows RC High School senior concert band at St. Oswalds RC Primary School.



Cast members from the production of "The Return of Miss Maple"



The school's under-15 netball team, featuring five county players, lifted the Lancashire champions' trophy for their age group. Pictured are the Red Rose champion U15s (from left): Frances Evans, Joanne Petrie, Samantha Bruce, Louise Charnock (captain), Lisa McSpirit, Donna Burns and Rachel Stuart.



Pioneering pupils proved they were top of the class by completing a new qualification, working towards GNVQs normally reserved for college students. Pictured are Ann McDonald with James Sawyer, Emma Maddox and other students who gained the qualification.

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2000's



25th Anniversary Mass with Bishop Malone, September 2000. From left to right: Mr Melling (first Headteacher), Mr A Greenall (first Head of Science), Mr S Ansbro (first Head of PE), Mr M Flynn (Headteacher), Mrs Z Walmsley (first Head of Art), and Mr A Culshaw (first Head of English).



Using Sign Language 2007



Celebrating Success – Sixth in "The Times Parent Power" League Table for GCSE 2006



Year 11 Construction Group – Building the New Laboratory 2007



French Café on Open Evening 2006



Outstanding OFSTED Report 2007

"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"



Outstanding' Ofsted rating in a flawless new report 2023



Mr C Thomas with the under 14 Girl's Football Team 2008



A Selection of Our Memorable Trips Over the Years



"Growing together in the spirit of Christ's love"

Highlights from Our School Productions Over the Years



As we bring this journey through 50 years of All Hallows Catholic High School to a close, we are reminded that a school is far more than buildings or dates in history. It is the people, the memories, and the shared experiences that truly define it.

Within these pages are just a glimpse of the countless moments that have shaped All Hallows — the achievements celebrated, the challenges overcome, and the friendships formed along the way. Each generation has played its part in building the vibrant, faith-filled community we are proud of today.

As we look to the future, we do so with the same spirit that has guided the school for the past fifty years: a commitment to faith, to learning, and to one another. The story of All Hallows is still being written, and its next chapters will be shaped by those who walk its corridors in the years to come.

May the legacy of the past continue to inspire the present and guide the future.

Together, we give thanks for all that has been and all that is yet to come.

