

All Hallows

Catholic High School

Newsletter

14th February 2025



Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach half term, the anticipation and excitement in our school community is building for our Performing Arts production of Matilda. Rehearsals are going well and tickets are selling very fast. It would be lovely to see the Arts Theatre full every night supporting all our pupils who are involved. Tickets are still available on the website for the nights 24th – 28th March.

I hope parents have seen the invitation to the initial planning meeting for our 50th Anniversary which will begin in September 2025. This meeting is simply to encourage anyone with a link to the school to be part of the organisation and planning of events which could take place during the celebration year. Please share this as widely as possible and it would be wonderful if we have interest from pupils and staff who have been to or worked at our school during the past 50 years.

As always, our talented students have been representing All Hallows and their families beyond the school gates and the newsletter is full of their accomplishments.

A special shout out should go to our Under 15 300m English Champion and gold medallist Imogen!

Yours faithfully,

Alison Cooper

Headteacher



Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for exam invigilators for the upcoming summer exam series. If a parent or carer is interested in applying, please contact our Exams Officer, Mrs. Nicholson (mni@allhallows.lancs.sch.uk), or check out our vacancies on the school website: <https://www.allhallows.lancs.sch.uk/school/information/vacancies/> Please pass this information regarding the role on to friends and family who may be interested in exploring this opportunity.

Many of our community will be aware that 2025–26 school year marks the 50th Anniversary of the opening of All Hallows. The school has played an important role in the education of the local Catholic community and we would like to mark our Golden Anniversary with some exciting events and activities. We are hoping that past pupils, staff members and people in the community and parishes will be interested in helping us to prepare for these events. There will be an initial meeting at All Hallows on the 26th February to begin our preparations. If you wish to be involved in the planning of our celebrations, please come along to the meeting!

I am sure that if we work together, we can make our year of celebrations a significant time in the school's history.

Thank you in advance.



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

Year 9 Savio House

Year 9 enjoyed a fabulous retreat to Savio House near Macclesfield last week accompanied by some All Hallows Staff. Two groups of 30 of our Year 9's were privileged to experience and immerse themselves in the many activities provided by the engaging, multi-cultural Savio House staff. The theme of the retreat was water and there were many opportunities for the pupils to reflect on how water affects our lives, its healing properties and how water can fill up any shape just like Jesus. How better to start the second retreat by climbing up White Nancy. Despite some comments on how steep the climb was, no-one could deny it was not worth it as the views from the top were spectacular. The pupils engaged so well with each other and all the staff and fully took part in all activities. There were also some hilarious games outside including space hoppers and it was lovely to hear the pupils' laughter. The karaoke and disco night was so much fun too- especially the rendition of 'Sweet Caroline!' Pupils prepared for mass in their small groups and this culminated in a beautiful mass celebrated by Father Joe that included drama, thoughtful prayers and creative artwork all prepared by the pupils. Every night the pupils gathered to write quietly and reflectively in their journals before a 'Salesian Good Night.' Their journal will be a reminder of their special time at Savio House. George, the Savio retreat leader, commented on how fantastic and respectful our pupils were and a credit to our school. We are very proud of them.



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

Sacrament of Confirmation

On Monday 3rd February the Animate Youth Ministry Team came to speak to our Y8 pupils about the Sacrament of Confirmation. During the session that explored the different sacraments of the Church and introduced Confirmation to the year group, explaining to them that this sacrament is a way of continuing their journey with God and inviting him to be in their lives as they begin to make important choices about their lives. The sacrament of Confirmation is a special moment in a young person's faith journey. It is when they are strengthened by the Holy Spirit to live out their Christian faith more fully. By receiving this sacrament, they affirm their commitment to God and the Church, and they are called to be active, courageous witnesses of Christ's love and teachings in the world. It is an important step in growing deeper in faith and becoming more connected to the Church community. The Confirmation programme is open to all pupils in Year 8 or above who haven't been Confirmed. To register for this year's Confirmation programme please click the link and complete the form: <https://liverpoolcalled.co.uk/confirmation>. Registration closed on Monday 17th March.




Liverpool Called




SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2025



If you are in year 8 and would like to receive the sacrament of confirmation.

Registration is open:
13th January 2025-17th March 2025

Register at:
[Liverpoolcalled.co.uk](https://liverpoolcalled.co.uk)




5 Spiritual Effects of the Sacrament of Confirmation
from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1303

	CHILD OF GOD	EFFECT 1	
	It roots us more deeply as children of God which makes us cry, "Abba, Father!"		
	GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT	EFFECT 2	CLOSER TO CHRIST
	It unites us more firmly to our Savior Jesus Christ.		
	DEFEND THE FAITH	EFFECT 3	FULLY CATHOLIC
	It increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us: wisdom, counsel, understanding, knowledge, fortitude, piety, fear of the Lord.		It renders our bond with the Catholic Church more perfect.
		EFFECT 4	
	It gives us a special strength to spread and defend the Faith as true witnesses of Jesus Christ.	EFFECT 5	

The Catholic Company
Because Faith Matters

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

Year 11 Mock Interviews

170 of our Year 11 pupils recently participated in a highly successful series of mock interviews conducted by industry experts spanning various fields, including engineering, midwifery, technology, and the creative arts. This enriching event offered our students a unique opportunity to engage with professionals who are leaders in their respective industries, providing invaluable insights and real-world perspectives.

The mock interview sessions were designed not only to help students with their interview skills but also to boost their confidence as they prepare for future career opportunities. Students were able to receive tailored feedback from the interviewers, who were impressed by their enthusiasm, preparedness, and professionalism. The positive feedback we received from the interviewers underscores the exceptional potential of our pupils and highlights the effectiveness of our approach to career readiness.

Many of the industry professionals remarked on the impressive calibre of our students and their ability to articulate their thoughts clearly and confidently. It was truly inspiring to see how well the pupils handled the pressure of a formal interview setting, demonstrating both poise and a genuine interest in their chosen fields. This hands-on experience provided them with a taste of what to expect in the job market, equipping them with skills that will serve them well as they transition from education to the workforce.

Furthermore, the event fostered meaningful connections between students and industry professionals, opening doors for future mentorship and opportunities. The success of the mock interviews has reinforced our commitment to preparing our students for their future careers, and we are excited to build on this initiative to create even more engaging opportunities.

Overall, this event was not just a success; it was a significant milestone in our students' educational journey, one that they will carry with them as they move forward into their future endeavours. We are immensely proud of all participants and grateful to the professionals who took the time to empower and inspire the next generation of leaders and innovators. We would like to extend a special thank you to Mrs Ayrton-Parker for her exceptional efforts in organizing this remarkable event.



Thank you to all the Year 10 helpers who were instrumental in supporting the very successful mock interview. Your hard work and dedication played a key role in making this event memorable and impactful. Throughout the evening, it was evident how much effort you put into ensuring everything went smoothly. Many visitors to the school commented on how welcoming and professional you all were. Your ability to engage with the Year 11 students and create a positive atmosphere was truly commendable.



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

North West Regional VEX IQ Robotics Competition

We are incredibly proud to share the achievements of our All Hallows STEM Robotics teams at the North West Regional VEX IQ Robotics Competition. Three of our teams took part in this prestigious event, showcasing their skills in robot building, programming, driving challenges, and teamwork competitions.

All three teams performed brilliantly, reaching the finals and securing remarkable results:

One team won the Skills Coding and Driving Challenge, with another securing second place.

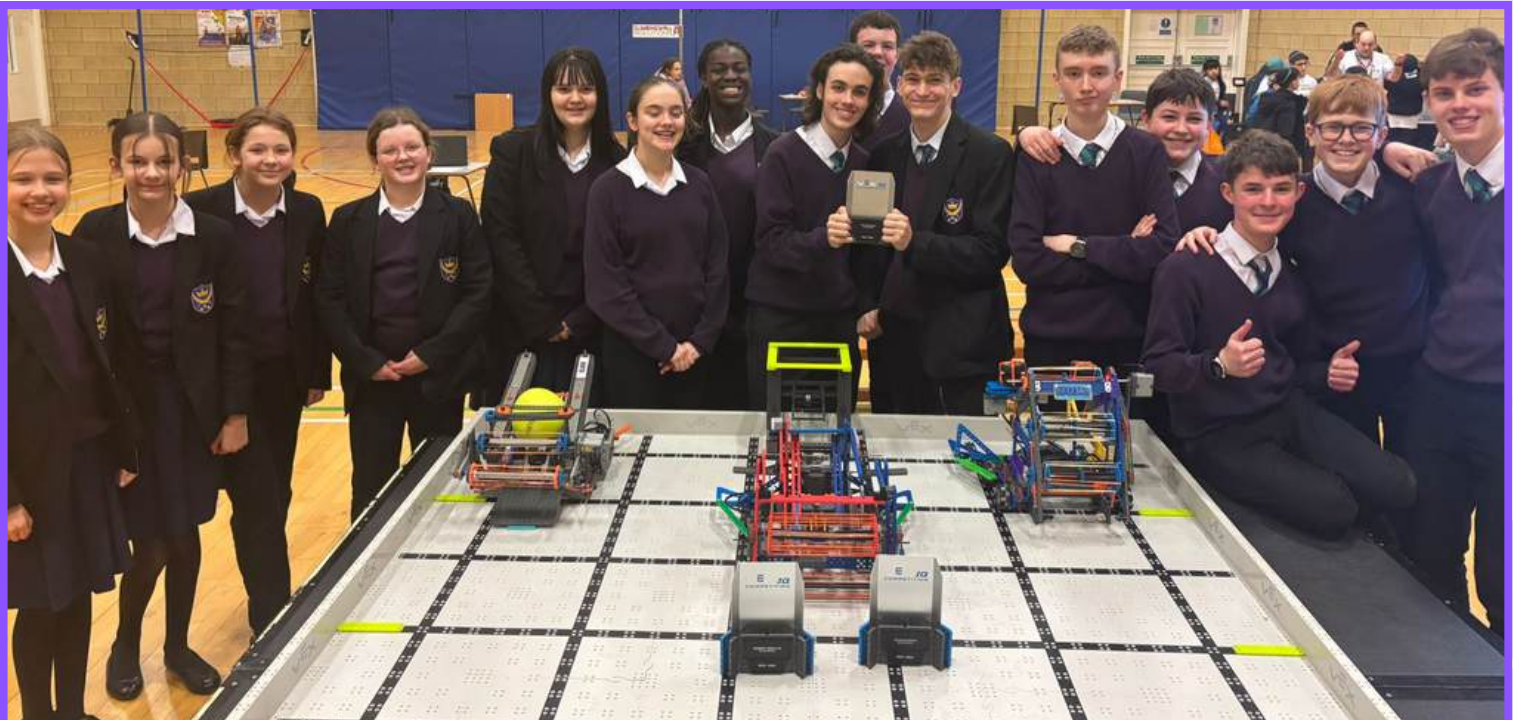
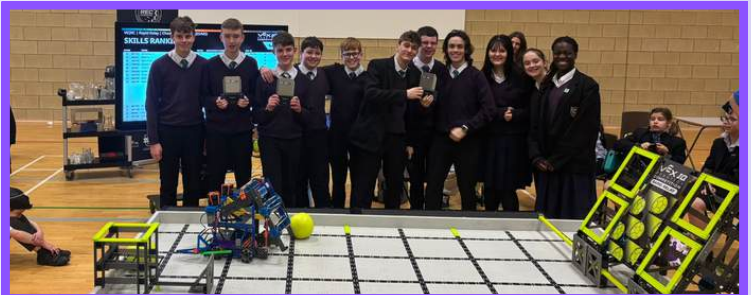
Two of our teams finished first and second in the Teamwork Challenge, earning them both a well-deserved spot at the VEX IQ National Finals in Telford on 2nd and 3rd April.

This is a huge achievement, as very few teams from the North West ever qualify for the national finals. Our pupils were an absolute credit to the school, demonstrating exceptional skill, dedication, and teamwork. We wish them the best of luck as they compete in Telford against the best robotics schools and clubs in the UK for a chance to reach the VEX IQ World Championships in Texas!

Support Our Robotics Teams!

As we prepare for the national finals, we are seeking sponsorship to help support our teams. If any parents own or are connected to local businesses, we would greatly appreciate your support. Sponsors will have the opportunity to feature their logos on our robots and team t-shirts, gaining fantastic exposure—especially as the national finals are livestreamed to tens of thousands of viewers across the UK and beyond.

If you're interested in sponsoring our talented teams, please get in touch with the school at djo@allhallows.lancs.sch.uk. Your support will help give more of our students access to the equipment and could help these young innovators reach new heights!



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

STEM Club

Pupils are continuing to take part in the Royal Society Book vote, reading the STEM related books, writing their reviews and completing activities on a Wednesday lunch. The deadline for submissions is Friday 14th February and we will be casting our votes for our favourite STEM book.

The Design Ventura competition has been launched - pupils have until 23rd February to submit their ideas. More information can be found at <https://ventura.designmuseum.org/>

The Year 7 robotics groups will be having an internal competition after half term to see who can complete 5 robot based challenges e.g. building and coding a robot to move a tree to a designated place on a map, designing and coding a robot to collect tyres from around a map and even picking up a ping pong ball. 3 teams will compete against each other on Monday 24th February during our STEM Club time. We are looking forward to seeing their creativity, teamwork and problem solving skills.

Advanced notice - there will be no STEM Club on Monday 3rd March due to the VEX robotics National Final taking place.

CyberFirst Mega Event

Imagine a room buzzing with the energy of 250 bright young minds, all captivated by the endless possibilities within STEM. That was the scene at the CyberFirst Mega event in Chorley Town Hall, where 29 enthusiastic Year 8 and 9 girls joined their peers from across Lancashire for an unforgettable day. This wasn't just another school trip; it was a spark ignited by the National Cyber Security Centre's (NCSC) CyberFirst initiative, designed to empower the next generation of female tech leaders. Delivered by IN4 Group, the event transported the girls into a world of cutting-edge innovations across areas including Cyber Security, Robotics, AI, OSINT (Open Source Intelligence), Immersive Tech, Data Analytics, Esports, and Problem Solving. They connected with inspiring women who are shaping the future of STEM, explored the power and potential of these diverse fields, and discovered the thrill of tackling real-world challenges. More than just learning about technology, the girls experienced it first-hand, igniting a passion that could lead them to become the cybersecurity experts, AI innovators, data scientists, and tech pioneers of tomorrow.



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

Imogen King – National 300m Champion

Congratulations to Imogen in Year 9 on her outstanding achievement! Since joining Preston Harriers in the summer of last year, she has truly excelled in her athletic pursuits. Competing in a variety of 200m and 300m events across the North West, Imogen has shown tremendous determination and talent. Her commitment to training and perseverance through each competition have clearly set her apart from her peers.

Recently, Imogen took on a new challenge by entering the 200m race at the prestigious Northern competitions in Sheffield. This event brought together some of the best young athletes in the region, and Imogen rose to the occasion, showcasing her skills and competitive spirit.

At the Northern competitions in Sheffield, her efforts culminated in an impressive performance. Not only did she compete fiercely, but she also achieved a remarkable personal best time of 25.68 seconds in the 200m event, earning a Gold Medal as a testament to her hard work and dedication. Imogen also faced the challenge of competing against athletes who were a year older than her in the English Championships last weekend. Despite this formidable competition, she achieved yet another notable success—she is now the U15 300m English champion, winning gold with a new personal best of 40.24 seconds.

The whole event can be seen here <https://search.app/Up9N47EUu63cCPit8> - Imogen's heats were at 12:20 and the final at 17:17. You need to scroll to the race is on at 7:27:00 on the stream!

Imogen's success is an inspiration to her teammates and classmates alike. It highlights what can be achieved with determination, focus, and a passion for the sport. As she continues on her athletic journey with Preston Harriers, we are excited to see what the future holds for her. Keep pushing your limits, Imogen—your journey is just beginning, and we can't wait to cheer you on in the races to come!



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

Netball Success

A huge congratulations to all the girls from the Year 7, 8, 9, and 11 Netball A teams who faced Penwortham Girls High School this week in chilly conditions! We are thrilled to announce that all four teams emerged victorious, showcasing their incredible skills and teamwork on the court. Each player delivered outstanding performances, and special shoutouts go to our Players of the Match: Faye, Amelia/Charlotte, Leighton, and Oliwia! Their tenacity and dedication truly deserve this recognition, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements!

Match Results:-

- **Year 7A Won 36-1**, demonstrating a commanding performance that left the opposition struggling to catch up.
- **Year 8A Won 12-7**, showcasing excellent teamwork and strategic play that secured their victory.
- **Year 9A Won 19-11**, with a strong performance that allowed them to overcome their opponents.
- **Year 11A Won 41-14**, reflecting their exceptional skills and experience throughout the match.

Well done to the Year 7B team, who also excelled in their league fixtures at Priory on Tuesday! They played exceptionally well, clinching victories in all their matches while conceding only 1 goal. This impressive performance highlights their hard work and commitment to the sport. Players of the Match were Maya & Emily, who stood out with their strong skills!

A big shoutout to the Year 7C team in the B league, who showed great improvement across their games. They won 1 match and faced tough competition, with Players of the Match being Elsie & Constance.

A special thank you to Mrs. Roscoe and Miss Hunkin for their fantastic coaching and to Sam and Ronan in Year 10 for officiating the tournament. Your support has been invaluable!

Keep up the great work, everyone! Your dedication and passion for Netball are truly shining through!



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

Year 8 South Ribble District 5 a Side Football

Congratulations to all the Year 8 girls who participated in the South Ribble District 5-a-side football tournament at school this week! It was an exciting event filled with competitive spirit and showcased the talent of all teams involved.

A special mention goes to Team 2, comprised of non-bib players, who had an impressive performance and finished in 3rd place overall! Their teamwork and determination were commendable. Team 1, wearing bibs plus Millie, fought hard and secured 5th place, displaying great perseverance and teamwork throughout the tournament.

This event not only highlighted the girls' skills but also emphasized the importance of sportsmanship and collaboration. A heartfelt thank you to the coaches, referees, and supporters who made this tournament a success.

Well done to all the players! Keep up the fantastic work, and we look forward to seeing your continued growth in the sport!



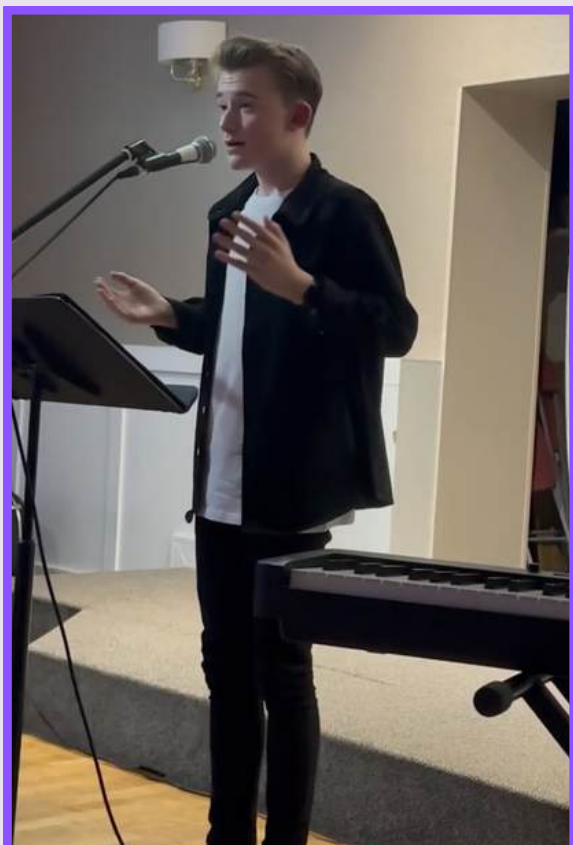
Parish and Community Links

Last Friday night, the vibrant Parishes of St Teresa's and St Mary Magdalene's united for a heartfelt evening dedicated to celebrating the incredible individuals who support our communities. This event served as an appreciation gathering, acknowledging the dedicated parishioners, volunteers, and friends who contribute so much to the life of the Parishes.

The All Hallows Community had a strong presence at the event, with both staff members and students participating wholeheartedly. Their involvement not only enriched the atmosphere but also underscored the importance of youth in our communities. The evening was filled with an array of talents, as attendees were treated to a captivating program featuring song, poetry, and other artistic displays. The pupils truly shone with their stunning performances, showcasing their hard work and dedication in a way that left everyone in attendance inspired and entertained.

The ambiance was further enhanced by the delightful offerings of hot pot, fostering a sense of camaraderie and warmth among all present. It was a night not just of entertainment, but of connection and fellowship, reminding us all of the strength found in community ties.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening, from the performers to the organisers. Your efforts brought joy and celebration to our parishes, highlighting the important role each person plays in nurturing our community spirit. Events like these not only foster appreciation but also strengthen the bonds we share, reminding us that together, we can create a vibrant and supportive environment for all. Here's to many more evenings of joy, creativity, and community connection in the future!



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

All Hallows Catholic High School
Production of



ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL JR.

Tuesday 25th - Friday 28th March 2025

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EKRL>
@7.30pm

Book by
Dennis Kelly

All Tickets £10 each

Music and Lyrics by
Tim Minchin

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International.

All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

Attendance

In January 2025, All Hallows transitioned to a new platform designed to enhance our monitoring of school attendance. This change comes amid growing national concerns surrounding school attendance, which has been clearly linked to students' academic success, improved social skills, and overall well-being.

Our school community has certainly felt the impact of poor attendance. When a child is absent, the effects resonate beyond just that individual; it disrupts their learning process, hinders skill development, and affects the entire classroom dynamic. Teachers work tirelessly to keep the class moving forward, often having to bridge the gaps left by absent students, all while trying to adhere to a limited curriculum timeline. Furthermore, frequent absences can sometimes lead to increased anxiety among students, as they may feel overwhelmed by the content missed and lose confidence in their abilities within certain subjects.

To address these challenges, we are closely monitoring attendance using our new 'Attend' system, which is integrated with our existing Synergy System. This innovative platform will allow us to communicate with you more effectively about your child's attendance. Through 'Attend', you will receive regular updates regarding any attendance concerns or achievements, ensuring that you are always informed and engaged in your child's school journey.

We sincerely encourage your support in helping us instill resilience and determination in your child. It's vital for their academic and personal growth that they attend school consistently and feel secure in their learning environment. By working together, we can ensure that our students not only succeed academically but also enjoy their schooling experience to the fullest.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out to Mrs. Rainford or Mrs. Washington. Your involvement is crucial in helping us create a supportive and thriving school environment for all our students. Thank you for your continued partnership!

EXCESSIVE LEAVE IN TERM TIME - S444 EDUCATION ACT 1996

Lancashire County Council are currently reviewing the arrangements for pupils who are absent from school due to unauthorised leave/holidays.

Attendance at school is vital to help children thrive and achieve their best. Children who are absent from school can fail to meet their academic potential and those who fall below 90% attendance are at significant risk of underachieving.

Absence during term time must be avoided. If you are considering taking your child out of school for any reason, it is essential that you request permission for the absence.

When penalty notices are issued, parents have the opportunity to discharge liability for an offence under S444 of the Education Act instead of being prosecuted by the Local Authority. The penalty notice regulations determine the amount of the penalty notice fine. Unfortunately, some parents are choosing to remove their children from school for longer periods, as the fine amount is the same regardless of the number of school days missed.

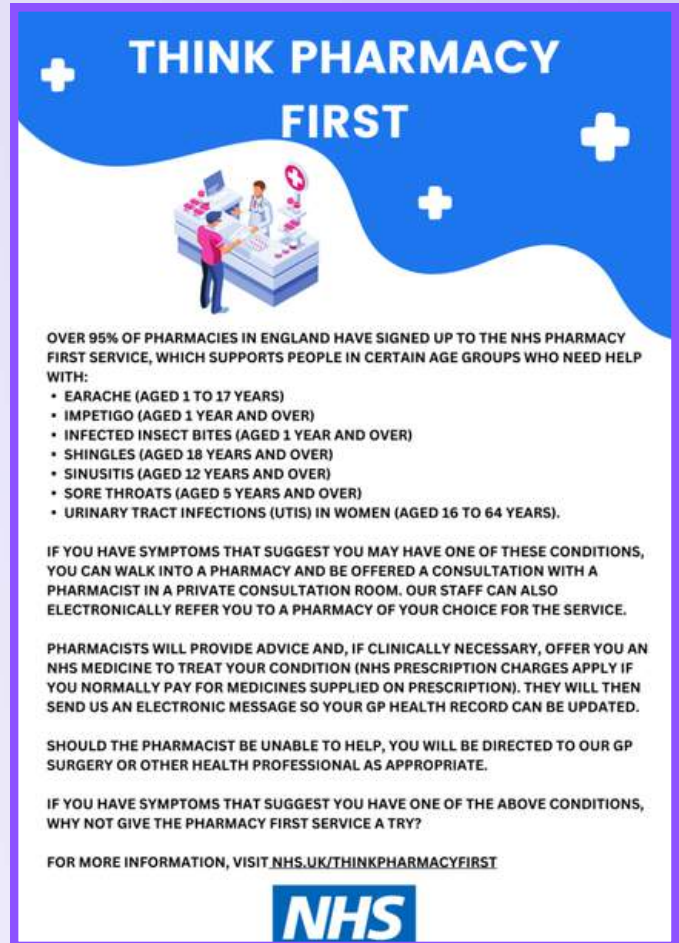
From 01/01/2025, the following rules will apply:

1. **Unauthorised leave less than 15 school days:** penalty notice issued
2. **Unauthorised leave of 15 school days or more:** the Local Authority will review any requests for penalty notices and may **prosecute** parents and not offer the opportunity to pay a penalty notice fine instead.

Where enough notice is given for a warning to be issued, and a request made is for 3 weeks (15 school days) or more out of school, the Local Authority may issue you with a warning explaining that you will not have the opportunity to pay a fine and that you will be prosecuted if the leave is still taken. Even if the authority doesn't send you a warning letter, you can still be prosecuted for the offence as there is no legal entitlement to a warning or a penalty notice.

Failure to ensure your child's regular attendance at school is a criminal offence, and this means that if you are convicted, this could result in **a fine of up to £2,500 and you will have a criminal record.**

We have been asked by Lancashire County Council to issue this warning to parents to inform you that this procedure will now be applied to all excessive leave requests made to this school.



THINK PHARMACY FIRST

OVER 95% OF PHARMACIES IN ENGLAND HAVE SIGNED UP TO THE NHS PHARMACY FIRST SERVICE, WHICH SUPPORTS PEOPLE IN CERTAIN AGE GROUPS WHO NEED HELP WITH:

- EARACHE (AGED 1 TO 17 YEARS)
- IMPETIGO (AGED 1 YEAR AND OVER)
- INFECTED INSECT BITES (AGED 1 YEAR AND OVER)
- SHINGLES (AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER)
- SINUSITIS (AGED 12 YEARS AND OVER)
- SORE THROATS (AGED 5 YEARS AND OVER)
- URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS (UTIS) IN WOMEN (AGED 16 TO 64 YEARS).


IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS THAT SUGGEST YOU MAY HAVE ONE OF THESE CONDITIONS, YOU CAN WALK INTO A PHARMACY AND BE OFFERED A CONSULTATION WITH A PHARMACIST IN A PRIVATE CONSULTATION ROOM. OUR STAFF CAN ALSO ELECTRONICALLY REFER YOU TO A PHARMACY OF YOUR CHOICE FOR THE SERVICE.

PHARMACISTS WILL PROVIDE ADVICE AND, IF CLINICALLY NECESSARY, OFFER YOU AN NHS MEDICINE TO TREAT YOUR CONDITION (NHS PRESCRIPTION CHARGES APPLY IF YOU NORMALLY PAY FOR MEDICINES SUPPLIED ON PRESCRIPTION). THEY WILL THEN SEND US AN ELECTRONIC MESSAGE SO YOUR GP HEALTH RECORD CAN BE UPDATED.

SHOULD THE PHARMACIST BE UNABLE TO HELP, YOU WILL BE DIRECTED TO OUR GP SURGERY OR OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONAL AS APPROPRIATE.

IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS THAT SUGGEST YOU HAVE ONE OF THE ABOVE CONDITIONS, WHY NOT GIVE THE PHARMACY FIRST SERVICE A TRY?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [NHS.UK/THINKPHARMACYFIRST](https://www.nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst)



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

World Book Day 6th March

We are excited to be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 6th March 2025! Last year, all our staff participated in dressing up to mark the occasion, and this year, we would like to extend this to our pupils as well. Dressing up in an appropriate World Book Day costume is now optional to all our pupils who should come dressed to celebrate on Thursday 6th March. Additionally, we will be running our annual Readathon sponsored read with KS3 classes and will be hosting the All Hallows Book Bake Sale which encourages pupils to bake a book related cake to be sold at break time on World Book Day. Finally, we are encouraging pupils to bring in any unwanted books to be sold/exchanged in our book sale which will be held in the LRC. Further information regarding all the events will be publicised on the school Instagram accounts. If you have any additional questions regarding the events of the day, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Poston.



WORLD BOOK DAY



Thursday 6th march



BFA
BLACKBURN FILM ACADEMY

NFTS

NATIONAL
FILM AND
TELEVISION
SCHOOL

Blackburn Film Academy

blackburnfilmacademy.co.uk/apply



Apply Now
17th - 21st February

Aged 14 - 19
Want a career in Film & TV

Apply for a place at the
Blackburn Film Academy
this half term and make a film with us and
the National Film and Television School



Funded by
UK Government



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The SEND Partnership in Lancashire would like to include your artwork, words or similar in their new SEND Strategy which will be published later this year

YOUR ENTRY NEEDS TO
ANSWER THE QUESTION:

WHAT MAKES ME FEEL INCLUDED?

You can create a picture, a quote, a voice recording, a short poem - however you wish to express yourself!

EMAIL YOUR ENTRIES WITH
YOUR FIRST NAME AND AGE TO:

SENDPartnership@lancashire.gov.uk

THERE WILL BE A £20 HIGH STREET VOUCHER FOR
WINNING ENTRIES IN THE FOLLOWING AGE RANGES:
EARLY YEARS, PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND 16+
THOUGH ALL ENTRIES MAY BE USED



DEADLINE: 31ST MARCH
2025

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

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

WORD OF THE WEEK

Luke 6: 27-38

“But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone hits you on one cheek, let him hit the other one too; if someone takes your coat, let him have your shirt as well. Give to everyone who asks you for something, and when someone takes what is yours, do not ask for it back. Do for others just what you want them to do for you.

“If you love only the people who love you, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners love those who love them! And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners do that! And if you lend only to those from whom you hope to get it back, why should you receive a blessing? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount! No! Love your enemies and do good to them; lend and expect nothing back. You will then have a great reward, and you will be children of the Most High God. For he is good to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank You for showing us what true love looks like through Jesus. Help us to love our enemies, forgive those who hurt us, and show kindness even when it's hard. We ask for the strength to be generous and to live out these teachings in our daily lives. Fill our hearts with Your love so we can love others as You love us.

Amen.

In this week's Word of the Week Jesus teaches us to go beyond the ordinary and show love even to those who may not treat us well.

Jesus' command to love our enemies is one of the most radical teachings in the bible. It's easy to love those who love us back, but what about those who hurt us? Jesus challenges us to show kindness, forgiveness and compassion even to those who we might feel don't deserve it.

- Who in your life do you find it hardest to love or forgive?
- In what ways can you show generosity, kindness, or forgiveness toward that person?
- What is one specific action you can take to follow Jesus' example of love in this situation?



LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

In this week's Word of the Week Jesus says that we are not to just force a smile and mind our own business when we are hated or mistreated. But that we should actively try to do good towards those people. Loving those that are unkind to us or mistreat us can lead to peace and reconciliation.

Can you think of a time when you have done this, and gone out of your way to love those who haven't been kind to you?

Can you think of a time when you have seen someone do this, either at school or in the media?

"You don't love in your enemies what they are, but what you would have them become by your prayers."

St Augustine



Loving your enemies means choosing kindness and understanding, even when someone has hurt or upset you. It doesn't mean you have to agree with what they did or let them treat you badly, but it's about not letting anger or hate control your actions. Instead, try to show empathy and forgiveness. This can help break the cycle of negativity and may even encourage the other person to change. It's a reminder that love and respect can be powerful tools for healing and growing, even in difficult situations.



Reckless Love (Bethel Music)
[LISTEN HERE](#)

Love Your Enemies Bible Story
[WATCH HERE](#)

Loving Your Enemies is Messy
[\(WATCH HERE\)](#)

Love Your Enemies | Luke 6:27-36
[\(LISTEN HERE\)](#)

RADICAL LOVE

Watch this clip [\(CLICK HERE\)](#).

(One of our greatest freedoms is how we react to things - the boy the mole the fox and the horse)

What are your first thoughts?

How does it make you feel?

What does this teach us about loving our enemies? How does it link to this week's theme?



LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

It's hard, I know, to turn the page
When hurt and anger fill your rage.
When words are sharp, and actions cold,
It's easy to let bitterness take hold.
But what if love could break the chain,
Release you from the endless pain?
What if kindness, like a light,
Could change the dark and end the fight?
Your enemies, they feel the same—
They're human too, just trapped in shame.
Their hearts may hurt, their minds confused,
Don't let their hatred leave you bruised.
Rise above the bitter words,
The fights, the grudges, the silent swords.
You're stronger when you choose to see,
That love can set your spirit free.
Not for them, but for your soul—
To heal, to grow, to make you whole.
So give a smile, forgive the past,
And you'll find peace that's built to last.
Because the greatest strength, you'll see,
Is loving those who disagree.
In kindness, there's a power pure—
A strength that time will never cure.

