

# Our Lady's Catholic College

Learn, live, love together in a caring Catholic community



16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear parents and carers

Another term and year draws to a close. We have had a very busy and productive term. In addition to a number of extracurricular trips we have been raising money for those within our local community who are struggling. We have supported the food banks with your generous donations of food and this term have been raising money for the local street homeless. Sixth formers began this appeal with a 'sleep out' in our courtyard in November. Thankfully the weather was not as cold as it is currently, nevertheless, it gave them a small insight into the struggles the street homeless face. Again, thank you for your generosity. As a Catholic School, this work is essential to our Mission to care for those who are vulnerable and fits with this term's three virtues - Faith, Hope and Love.

## Attendance

This has been a very difficult term for attendance. We are aware that there are many viruses and illnesses that are affecting pupils and staff. It is really important that your child attends school as much as they possibly can; the target is 97% of time. When pupils are not in school, they are not learning and as they have missed so much school due to the pandemic we really do need them in classrooms with our teachers. Please bear this in mind when making the decision of whether to let them stay at home or not.

## New Website

This term saw the launch of our new website. If you have not already had a chance to look at it then please follow the link:

<https://www.olcc.lancs.sch.uk/>

Remember you can always keep up-to-date with what has been happening in school on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

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Headteacher  
Helen Seddon BSc Hons



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## Synergy

I hope many of you are now familiar with our new system. Currently only 54% of parents have signed up. I strongly encourage you all to register as you will be missing out on important information if you do not access Synergy. When you register and log in you can then download an APP which may be easier for you to access via smartphones/tablets etc.

## Homework

Completing homework makes a huge difference to the test and exam results of our students and, from January, all main school teachers will be setting all of our pupils' homework on Synergy. This means that both you and your child will be able to easily see what has been set and when it is due to be completed. All students have been sent details of how to access Synergy, it is a very straightforward process which is easily accessed via pupils' school email accounts. All students in years 7, 8 and 9 have been allowed to log into Synergy in their computing lessons and for students in year 10 and 11, I would ask you to encourage them to log into Synergy before they return in January. We will make additional arrangements to ensure all year 10 and 11 students, who have been unable to access and navigate Synergy, get the opportunity to be guided through the process on their return to school. As parents and carers, signing up to Synergy will make it much easier for you to play an important part in your child's overall education. If you have any concerns about any aspects of homework, please contact your child's Progress Leader.

## Governors

We are delighted that Peter Hope is joining the Governing Body as our new Parent Governor. Peter and Laura Gatti, our second Parent Governor, are on the Board of Governors to represent your views when decisions are made about the school. Peter, Laura and all governors can be contacted through school.

## Uniform

Visitors to the school tell us how smart our pupils are and we are pleased that they wear their uniform with pride. A reminder that uniform expectations can be found on our website.

[Uniform-SpecificationsAMENDED-2020.242748709.270490173.pdf](#)

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## Start of New Term

We will return to school on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023** and it will be **Week A**.

I, and the family of Our Lady's, wish you a Christmas filled with the joy, peace and love of Jesus our Emmanuel.

Your sincerely

Helen Seddon  
Headteacher

## Dates for Next Term

- 12<sup>th</sup> January - Year 7 Progress Evening for parents
- 19<sup>th</sup> January - Year 11 Mock Results Day and Progress Evening for parents
- 26<sup>th</sup> January - Sixth Form Progress Evening for parents
- 27<sup>th</sup> January - Talent Show
- 2<sup>nd</sup> February Year 10 Progress Evening for parents
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> February- Dance Show
- 6<sup>th</sup> February – Internet Safety Week
- 10<sup>th</sup> February - Finish for Half Term
- 20<sup>th</sup> February - School starts again, week A
- 20<sup>th</sup> February - Year 9 exams
- 9<sup>th</sup> March – Year 9 Options Evening
- 16<sup>th</sup> March - Year 9 Progress Evening for parents
- 27<sup>th</sup> March – Year 7 exams
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April – French Trip
- 7<sup>th</sup> April – School closes for Easter break

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