

Our Lady's Catholic College

Learn, live, love together in a caring Catholic community



December 2023

Dear Parents,

We are at the end of a busy and fruitful term. As a school we have been supporting local charities who need funding to help those in need. This is part of our mission as a Catholic school and pupils, staff and you parents have made a big difference to people's lives. This half term our Advent work included bringing in essential items for LDHAS, our local homeless charity. The sixth formers also completed an Elf Run for St John's Hospice. Thank you for your support with these appeals.

Curriculum

Of course as a school it is the learning in the classroom and beyond which is our key role. I hope you have had the opportunity to read the curriculum newsletter. It shows you a little of what the pupils have been learning this term. Please ask your children about what they have been learning. The more they are able to recall what they have learned in lesson, the better they will be able to apply their learning in assessments throughout the year and the better knowledge they will have to equip them for life beyond school.

https://sway.office.com/rNGZviDIAleiLse?ref=email&fbclid=IwAR0V223itu-vj8IJ5uyuxVCDvRLRdkdsipF9I_WLbuRijvPE8OnYCbmg97U

Behaviour

I would like to thank you for your support of the implementation of our new policies related to behaviour. Through consultation with external advisors, parents, pupils and staff, adaptations to our behaviour curriculum, smart device policy and rewards system were implemented during the Summer term and have been embedded through this Autumn term. The success has been clear, with in class and out of class incidents reducing by over 40%, detentions down by 39%, suspensions down by 70%. There have been less than 60 smart devices confiscated over 15 weeks, an average of 4 per week, with more than 1100 pupils on site each day!

We ask that you continue to support these positive changes with your child, there are some easy ways to do this daily:

Remind your children frequently of the importance of showing respect to everyone they meet and showing kindness.

Ensure your child has the correct uniform. Please refer to the website if you are unsure of our expectations. <https://www.olcc.lancs.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=119>

Ensure your child has the correct equipment, **rucksack not sports bag**, pencil case and PE Kit. We have had a considerable volume of PE kit donated, please contact school if your child could make use of the donated kit.

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Please download and access the School Synergy Parent Portal App, this allows you to send and receive texts, view your child's attendance, view their Aspire points and Sanctions. If you need log in details please contact s.sweet@olcc.lancs.sch.uk after the holiday.

During the Spring term we will continue to focus on our three steel poles (the strength of our school): Uniform, punctuality and behaviour, alongside this, we will further develop our outside of lessons behaviour curriculum to encourage our wonderful pupils to develop and further enhance our community.

We are introducing a ban on smart watches as unfortunately some students have been using them to text and access the internet in school. As with other smart devices these will be confiscated if seen as per the smart device policy.

Term begins on Monday 8th January and it will be week B. Year 7 pupils will begin swimming lessons. Miss Brogan will contact parents to give details. They will NOT need swimming kit on Monday 8th January.

I am sure Santa will be generous this Christmas and some of our pupils will be very fortunate. A reminder that smart devices, games consoles, jewelry and make up, including fake eyelashes and nails are not allowed in school. I am sure they will have time to enjoy them during the holiday but they need to be left at home once we return.

I would like to wish you all a happy and holy Christmas with your family and friends. Thank you for your support this term and I look forward to welcoming our pupils back in the new year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'H Seddon'.

Helen Seddon