



Our Lady and St. Gerard's News

Week Ending 20th September 2024

NEW School Times Reminder: Gates open 8.35am, Registers taken 8.45am

Open Evening – Tuesday 24th September

We are holding an Open Evening on Tuesday 24th September 2024 between 3:45pm-4:45pm for any new families.

A member of staff will show small groups around our school and answer any questions you may have.

We are also welcoming visits to school on the following dates:

- Thursday 27th September - 11am
- Wednesday 2nd October - 11am
- Tuesday 8th October - 11am

Please ring the school office on (01772) 335025 to book in if you would like to book a place on one of the additional tours.



HARVEST COLLECTIONS

new day church

Next week, (Monday 23rd September until Monday 30th September) as a school, we will be collecting donations New Day Church Food Hub in Lostock Hall.

As we celebrate Harvest, we would like to invite families to donate food items to someone in need. If you can donate, please bring items into school and give them to your class teachers.

Our Harvest Mass will be celebrated in Church on Tuesday 1st October. We will be taking some of our collected items over to church for a blessing.

We want to say thank you in advance for your kind donations.

Food Hub Notice Board

Thank you !

We continue to be so grateful for the generosity of local businesses, community groups and individuals helping collect and donate food.

Your kindness is making a huge difference to those needing help in our community.

Our volunteers will be at the church building every Tuesday and Wednesday, 9.30am – 3pm to accept donations. Please contact us if you would like to give financially.

Items We Need...

- Toiletries & sanitary products
- Laundry tablets & washing up liquid
- Pasta/Rice sauces
- Microwave rice pouches
- Tinned meat and fish items
- Tinned puddings/custard
- UHT milk, coffee & sugar
- Cooking oil
- Tinned fruit & vegetables
- Pasta in sauce
- Chocolate bars, biscuits & cake



Registered Charity No. 1188645

Love, Inspire, Shine

United in Love and the light of Jesus, we inspire one another to learn, grow and shine

Nursery Applications



Our School nursery accepts children from the term after they turn 3, therefore we have an intake in September, January and April. We operate a waiting list so that you can apply from birth.

If you have a 3 or 4 year old, did you know... All 3&4 year old children in Lancashire are entitled to up to 15 hours per week (570 hours per year) funded by the government and for most working families this can rise to 30 hours per week (1,140 hours per year).

Nursery Places

It's not too late to apply for Nursery we still have some places available for school year 2024-2025. If you have a child that turned 3 at any point up to **31 August 24** they can start in our school Nursery class **NOW** or if they turn 3 **between 1st September and 31st December** they can start in **January 2025**.

We have funded and paid for places available and Tax free Childcare or vouchers can be used to pay for paid for sessions. Please contact the school office by email: bursar@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk or by calling 01772 335025 for more information.

If you need more hours than the government funds... If you want to increase your child's hours or are currently paying for extra hours you may be entitled to further financial support from the government such as Tax Free Childcare or through Universal Credit.

Find out more at: lancashire.gov.uk/childcare or contact the school office



School Admissions

Applications for Primary and High school admissions for September 2025 are open from 1st September 2024. If you have a child in year 6 who will be moving up to high school next September, the deadline to apply for your child's high school place is **31st October 2024**. If you have a child who is due to start Reception class in September 2025 the deadline to apply is **15th January 2025**. **This includes children who already attend our nursery class.**

To apply for a school place for your child visit <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/>

High School Open Evenings & Events

All Hallows Parent Meeting and Open Evening

Monday 23rd September – Meeting at All Hallows' for parents of year 5 & 6 children interested in sending their children to All Hallows in 2025 and 2026

Followed by All Hallows **Open Evening on Thursday 26th September** 5:00 to 7.30pm

Brownedge St Marys High School Open Evening

To be held on **Wednesday 2nd October**: Pupils are invited to look around Brownedge school. During the evening Mrs Oddie will be hosting two Headteachers talks, one a 5pm and one at 7pm. Nearer the time, parents will have the facility to book onto these using Eventbrite. Details of this will be shared at a later date.

Walton Le Dale High School

Walton Le Dale High School will be holding their Open Evening on **Thursday 3rd October** Please see the link below for further details: <https://wldhigh.co.uk/parents/open-evening>.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS PRIMARY SOUTH

Do you have a child starting primary school in September 2025 and living in Lancashire?

Closing date: 15 January 2025

You must apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school, or the school is listed in your child's nursery. Please check the admission criteria for your chosen schools on the website, or get a copy from them.

Apply for a school place now by scanning the QR code or visit lancashire.gov.uk/schools

If need cost is an important factor in your school preference, please check the guidance on our website, or call 01772 335108.

Between 1 October and 31 January schools are competing with you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs. To get our free advice on what to do next visit lancashire.gov.uk/schools and click 'before admission starts'.

Lancashire County Council

All Hallows Catholic High School
Opening Together in the Spirit of Christ's Love

OPENING EVENING
Thursday 26th September 2024
5.00pm - 7.30pm

We invite you to experience the school's Catholic ethos and facilities. Come and speak to staff, pupils and see our departments.

The Headteacher's address will be in the Arts Theatre at 5:00pm & 6:30pm

All Hallows Catholic High School
Cradford Avenue, Penwortham, Preston, PR1 0LX
Tel: 01772 746121
www.allhallows.lancs.sch.uk

Ofsted
Outstanding Provider

Lostock Hall Academy

LHA Open Evening will be taking place on **Thursday 26th September, between 4:30 and 7:30 pm**. Once again, to avoid overcrowding, we are requesting that parents book a slot at either 4:30, 5:15 or 6pm, to visit and listen to Mrs Gorman deliver her welcome speech, before taking a tour with a prefect, and seeing what the school has to offer.

Bookings live on eventbrite at 7pm Friday 13th September via the website.

Westholme Senior School

Annual Open Evening due to held on **Thursday 3 October 2024**.

Parents can register by simply scanning the QR code.

This is a wonderful opportunity for families to discover what makes Westholme Senior School different!



Breakfast Club & Dinner Booking Reminder

Please remember to book school meals and breakfast club via the ParentPay app at least a week in advance as bookings close. **Bookings for week commencing 30th September close on Monday 23rd September**

Free School Meals & Pupil Premium

If your circumstances have changed recently it is worth checking if you are now eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) and Pupil Premium. If you claim certain benefits or universal credit you may be entitled to free school meals for the whole of your child's journey through primary school. Don't wait until they are in Key stage 2 (Year 3) to check as Pupil Premium is much more than free school meals.

School budgets also benefit from Pupil Premium as our funding is based on numbers of children receiving FSM at the beginning of October each year, so at this time of year it is more important to check than ever. If you think you may be eligible then please take a couple of minutes to complete the short form to check.

To check your eligibility please go to <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/> school will be informed automatically if you become eligible. You can check eligibility at any time via this link.

PTA

We have a very active 'Friends of OLSG' group who regularly raise funds to ensure our children benefit from exciting resources and experiences. If you are interested in being involved, please contact school and we can provide further details. Your involvement could be by helping out at events when you can, or attending meetings to help with fundraising ideas – every little helps!

The next PTA meeting is on Monday 23rd September at 6pm

We will sadly be losing our long-standing Chair (Rebecca Mason) and our Vice Chair (Liz Forster) as they step back from these roles. They have served our school community through their tireless and committed fundraising efforts for more than a decade! We will soon be announcing the dates of our meetings and would love to see some of you there – maybe you could stand for one of these important roles?

Severe Allergy Alert

We have children in school with severe allergies.

These allergies are caused by both touching and consuming certain foods.

I am sure you will agree, that we need to work together to do everything possible to ensure the safety of any child who may become seriously ill as a result of being in contact with certain food products.

We need your help to keep these children safe and healthy and you can do this by not sending food that contains the following in your child's lunch box:

- **Any food item containing nuts**
- **Chickpeas (including houmous).**
- **Sesame seeds - these are also found on bread buns.**

We would really appreciate your support in this matter and we ask that you do not send the above food items in even if your child is in a different class. **This allergy is life-threatening.**

To ensure that school is as safe as possible for our children, we would like to get everyone into the habit of sending food that doesn't contain nuts, chickpeas or sesame seeds. We appreciate your support in this matter.

ASDA Cashpot for Schools

Parentkind – a charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. To support our PTA, all you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our school, shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com.

Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024 – every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your chosen Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support our Primary school, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

The supermarket has joined forces with Joe Wicks to support the initiative – look out for the TV advert, radio ads and social media coverage!

It's as easy as 1,2,3

1. Download the Asda Rewards app, register and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools
 2. Choose our Primary School – either searching by name or postcode – PR5 5TB
 3. Shop instore across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com and start filling your Cashpot as you shop
- Asda does the rest, all money raised will be donated to schools to spend on the things they need the most. This initiative is on top of the existing Asda Rewards benefits you get as a shopper – so you won't lose out on any of your own earnings or Cashpot, so everyone is a winner!

Swimming – Monday Mornings 9am

Autumn	Year 5P and Year 6 Catch up – group will be notified
Spring	Year 5 Johnson
Summer	Year 4 – half a term each



After School Clubs

Wednesdays are the Active Club days. Each half term, a different year group will be given the opportunity to attend a sports/active club led by a sports coach. Further information to follow.

Wednesdays Y5 & 6 **Football** - Autumn 1 half term (Sept & Oct)
Year 3 **Dodgeball** – After half term (Nov & Dec)

We also have additional paid for clubs and activities run by external providers. This term these include:

Wednesdays **Mad Science** 3:15 to 4:15pm – Starting 11th September for 6 wks
Tuesdays **Guitar** with Miss Galea – Tuesday afternoon (1:45, 2:15 and 2:45pm)
Fridays **Singing** with Miss Galea – 3:15 to 4pm
Drumming Lessons 10.00 – 11.30am



Dates for the Diary – Autumn Term

Mon 23 rd Sept	All Hallows Parents Meeting in school Hall
Tues 24 th Sept	OLSG Open Evening
Thurs 26 th Sept	Year 2 Maths Mastery – Parents Workshop 4.30 to 5.30pm – Details TBA via class dojo
Thurs 26 th Sept	All Hallows Open Evening 5.00 to 7.30pm
Tues 1 st Oct	Whole School Mass - Harvest
Wed 2 nd Oct	Brownedge St Marys High School Open Evening
Thurs 3 rd Oct	Walton Le Dale High School Open Evening
Mon 7 th Oct	Tempest Photography – Individuals and Family Groups
Tue 8 th Oct	EYFS Phonics Stay & Learn – 9.15 – 10.15am
16 th & 17 th Oct	Flat Stan – First Aid
17 th & 18 th Oct	Year 6 London Trip
Tue 22 nd Oct	Y6 Taster Day – All Hallows
Half Term Holidays	Mon 28 th October to Fri 1 st November
Fri 20 th Nov	Tempest Photography –Class & Group Photos

Whats on..... & Information

We are excited to offer a special promotion that we believe would greatly benefit your students and their families. We are currently offering **4 weeks of free martial arts classes** at one of our locations. This promotion provides an excellent opportunity for students to try out martial arts in a safe and supportive environment.



Promotion Details:

- Title:** 4 Weeks Free Martial Arts Classes at Total Taekwondo
- Details:** Students can attend free martial arts classes for four weeks at any of our Total Taekwondo locations. This is a great way for them to explore a new activity, develop self-defence skills, and boost their confidence.
- How to Participate:** Simply visit our website or contact us directly to sign up and choose a location.
- Contact Information:** info@totaltaekwondo.co.uk | 01772 382988

STUDY SMART
Free Online Courses



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Education & Skills
Funding Agency

Fully Funded School Support Course

www.studysmartuk.online



Levels 1, 2 & 3

CACHE Certificate in Understanding
Safeguarding & Prevent
CACHE Certificate in
Understanding Challenging Behaviours
CACHE Certificate in the
Principles of SEN

Six Week Course

Mon - Fri
9:30 - 11:30am
12:30 - 2:30pm
4 - 4:30pm

(last optional session for
reflection and support if needed)

Level 1:

- CACHE Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools
- CACHE Level 1 Award in Safeguarding in a Learning Environment
- CACHE Level 1 Certificate in Wellbeing
- Level 1 Occupational Studies for the Workplace

Level 2:

- CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent
- CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours

Level 3:

- Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Special Educational Needs

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must Be Aged 19+
- Either Claim Benefits (Universal Credit, JSA, ESA, PIP, Income Support, Housing Benefits or any type of Tax Credit including Child Tax Credit).
- OR, be in employment, able to attend the sessions and earning less than £23,500 per year
- You Can't be a student or an International Student
- You Can't be an Asylum Seeker
- You Must have lived in the UK for a Minimum of 3 Years (Except if you are from the Ukraine).

Go to: www.studysmartuk.online for more info'