



Our Lady and St. Gerard's News

Week Ending: 26th September 2025

School Admissions

Applications for Primary and High school admissions for **September 2026** are open from 1st September 2025. 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 2025**. If you have a child who is due to start Reception class in September 2025 the deadline to apply is **15th January 2026**. **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/>

Church Harvest Mass & Coffee Morning – Sunday 28th Sept

It is the Church Harvest Mass & Coffee Morning at Our Lady & St Gerard's Church on Sunday 28th September at 10.30am – Children & Families are invited to bring a donation of food for the Altar and then we have the Coffee morning where a variety of cakes are available to buy. Be lovely to see you there.



Open Evening – Tuesday 7th October

We are holding an Open Evening on Tuesday 7th October between 3:45pm-6pm. A member of staff will show small groups around our school and answer any questions you may have, between 3.45pm and 5.15pm. Last tour 5.15pm. If you have any pre-school children, please come along and have a look at our 'Outstanding' Early Years Department.

We also have limited places to view the school during the school day for those who are unable to attend the open evening. Please ring the school office on (01772) 335025 to book in if you would like to book an appointment.



Sponsored Welly Walk 2025

Don't Forget Your Wellies! Please make sure your child has a warm coat as well!

The Welly Walk is Back!

The much loved Welly Walk is back this term. We were unable to hold this event last year due to the works on the field, however now that this has been completed, we can use the field again.

The children will be taking part in a sponsored 'Welly Walk' around the school field on **Friday 24th October** to raise money for the Friends of Our Lady & St Gerard's School PTA (Charity No. 1112348). Our school PTA provides lots of extras to enhance our children's school experience, so we thank you in advance for your generous donations.

Sponsor forms have been set home this week both electronically, via ParentPay, and a paper copy. Please collect sponsors for your child. **Please ask UK taxpayers to tick the gift aid column and provide an address on the form. This will allow PTA to claim an additional 25p per £1 donated from the UK government. Please make sure you return the completed sponsor form to school so the gift aid can be claimed.**

Donations can be paid in via the 'Welly Walk 2025' payment item on ParentPay or by cash to school. If sending cash, please place in a sealed envelope with the sponsor form, clearly marked Welly Walk and with your child's name and class on the front and on the form.

Please return both the sponsor form and the money by Friday 7th November.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Friends of Our Lady & St Gerard's School PTA.



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



OPEN EVENING
Thursday 25th September 2025
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
Crabtree Avenue, Penwortham, Preston, PR1 0LN
Tel: 01772 746121
www.allhallows.lancs.sch.uk



Walton-le-Dale High School **Belong · Explore · Excel**

Brindle Rd · Bamber Bridge · Preston · PR6 6RN

Come and see the transformation on our journey to excellence...

Open Evening
Thursday 25th September
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



01772 335726
www.wldhigh.co.uk



Join us at our Open Evening and see how every child can truly **belong**. From the warm welcome at the door to the inclusive spirit in every classroom, our community ensures every student feels valued and supported.

BELONG

Come and **explore** the opportunities on offer: tour our facilities, meet our dedicated staff, and hear from our students. From sporting success to academic achievement, there's something here for every child.

EXPLORE

Discover how we help students to **excel**. With high expectations and a personalised approach, we enable young people to achieve excellent results while building confidence, ambition, and resilience for life.

EXCEL

www.wldhigh.co.uk



'Let your light shine' **BROWNEGE ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**
Headteacher: Mrs Nicola Oddie BA (Hons) NPQH




A value-based education that will last a lifetime.

Pupils and Parents are warmly invited to our
OPEN EVENING
Family Guided Tours & Headteacher's talk
Wednesday 1st October, 5.30pm to 8.30pm

Tel: 01772 339813 Web: st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk
Email: info@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk Address: Station Road, Bamber Bridge, PR5 6PB 

September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to warmly invite you to our **Open Evening** which will take place in school on

Wednesday 1st October 2025, 5:30pm to 8:30pm
Headteachers Talks 6pm & 7:00pm
Guided Tours from 5:30pm

Those of you who know us will appreciate that the feel of a school – its atmosphere, relationships and values – are so important for a successful high school like ours. Brownedge continues to go from strength to strength as one of the most popular high schools in the area, and it is on these strong foundations that our pupils continue to flourish.

Primary pupils and their parents can visit our school for a Headteacher's talk and a guided tour. There is no need to book, please just turn up.

We look forward to welcoming you to our great school, to experience first hand what makes our Brownedge family so special.

Mrs N Oddie
Headteacher



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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.

ALLERGY ALERT

PTA

This term's events: Welly Walk, Christmas Bingo & Christmas Grotto
The next PTA meeting is on **Thursday 9th October at 3.30pm in school**

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 6th October close on Monday 29th 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 and Pupil Premium. If you claim certain benefits you may be entitled to free school meals for the whole of your child's journey through primary school.

To check you 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.

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.

Autumn 1:	Dodgeball Years 3 & 4	17 th Sept – 15 th Oct
Autumn 2:	Athletics Years 5 & 6	5 th Nov - 3 rd Dec
Spring 1:	Tennis Years 3 & 4	7 th Jan – 4 th Feb
Spring 2:	Fundamentals Years 1 & 2	25 th Feb – 25 th Mar
Summer 1:	Fundamentals Reception	22 nd Apr – 13 th May
Summer 2:	Multi Sports Years 1 & 2	10 th Jun – 8 th July

There will be additional after school clubs throughout the year – further details to follow.

We also have additional paid for clubs and activities run by external providers.

This term these include:

Tuesdays	Guitar with Miss Galea – Tuesday afternoon (1:45, 2:15 and 2:45pm) Singing with Miss Galea – 3:15 to 4pm
Fridays	Drumming Lessons 10.00 – 11.30am

Dates for the Diary – Autumn Term

Fri 3 rd Oct	Harvest Celebration
Mon 6 th Oct	Tempest Photography – Individuals and Family Groups
Thurs 9 th Oct	PTA Mtg 3.30pm in school
Mon 20 th Oct	Parents Evening
Tue 21 st Oct	Y6 Taster Day – All Hallows
Wed 22 nd Oct	Parents Evening
Thurs 23 rd Oct	Year 6 London Trip Meeting for Parents 5.15pm
Fri 24 th Oct	PTA – Sponsored Welly Walk
Half Term Holidays	Mon 27 th to Fri 31 st October



Mon 3 rd Nov	School opens following half term break
Fri 7 th Nov	Tempest Photography – Team Photos
Tues 11 th Nov	Y5 Robinwood – Parents Meeting 5pm
Thurs 13 th Nov	Flu Vaccinations
Wed 19 th Nov	Tempest Photography –Class & Group Photos
Thurs 20 th & Fri 21 st	Y6 London Trip
Fri 21 st Nov	Mufti Day for PTA Christmas Bingo
Mon 24 th to Wed 26 th	Y5 Robinwood Residential
Mon 1 st Dec	PTA Christmas Bingo
Wed 10 th Dec	KS1 Nativity in Church 10am & 1.30pm
Thurs 11 th Dec	EYFS Nativity 9.30am & 1.45pm
Mon 15 th Dec	KS2 Carol Service in Church 2pm
Tue 16 th Dec	All Hallows Christmas Roadshow
Fri 19 th Dec	School Closes for Christmas



General Information

School Office Opening Times:

Office opening hours are 8.15am until 1pm and then from 2.45pm to 3.45pm Monday to Friday during term time. The school office will close every afternoon from 1pm to 2.45pm.

School Admissions

High school applications for 2026 close **31st October 2025**.

Reception class applications close **15th January 2026**.

Apply online: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/>

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 that you can apply from birth. Please ask at the office for an application form or email: bursar@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk

Nursery children can attend from 7.30am to 5.45pm with our wraparound childcare provision.

30 hours funded childcare

30 Hours of free childcare available for 3 & 4 year olds. Please click the link: [30 hours childcare](#)

Tax Free Childcare

You may be entitled to further financial support from the government such as Tax Free Childcare

Find out more at: [Help paying for childcare - Lancashire County Council](#)

Free School Meals

We would strongly encourage you to check your eligibility at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/>

Love, Inspire, Shine

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

Holiday List 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term 2025

INSET

School Opens

Half-term:

Close

Reopen

School Closes for Christmas

Monday 1st September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

(Years 1 to 6. Reception start Wed 3rd)

Friday 24th October 2025,

Monday 3rd November 2025

Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2025

School Opens

Half term:

Close

Reopen

School closes for Easter

Monday 5th January 2026

Friday 13th February 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

Thursday 2nd April 2026

Summer Term 2025

School Opens

School closed for Bank Holiday

Half-term:

Close

INSET

INSET

Re-open

School closes for Summer

INSET

INSET

Monday 20th April 2026

Monday 4th May 2026

Friday 22nd May 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

Tuesday 2nd June 2026

Wednesday 3rd June 2026

Friday 17th July 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Tuesday 21st July 2026



Japanese Ju Jitsu - The Martial Art of Self Defence

at Lostock Hall Academy in the Sports Hall

Every Tuesday

6pm-7pm | Suitable for 4-11 Years

Please contact us today to book your free trial:

nicky@ensomartialarts.co.uk or call free on **0800 688 9963**



Our Lady & St Gerard's RC Primary School

Communication & Contact Information



Welcome to Our Lady & St Gerard's RC Primary School. Our school uses a variety of different systems to communicate with parents such as Class Dojo, ParentPay, and the school website.

If you need to speak to someone about:

- 1. Your child's learning, behaviour, or have class questions or queries** - Speak to the class teacher. This can be done at the door at the end of the day. If you need longer please message the class teacher on Dojo to make an appointment.
 - **If you have spoken to the class teacher and feel you need to speak to someone further**, contact the school office by email admin@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk, phone 01772 335025 or come into the school office and ask to speak to / make an appointment with a Senior Leader.
Mrs Cowell - Deputy Headteacher & Phase Leader for Early Years & KS1 (Yrs 1 & 2)
Mrs Pilkington - Assistant Headteacher & Phase Leader for KS2 (Yrs 3-6)

For the points below (points 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6): Please contact the school office by email admin@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk, phone 01772 335025 or come into the office and speak to Mrs Richards or Mrs Pickering

- 2. Reporting your child absent, or to inform us of an appointment**
- 3. Someone different is collecting your child from school**
- 4. Information about the school diary dates or school event,**
- 5. Information about dinners or breakfast club, including assistance with bookings**
- 6. Your child's attendance** (If you are requesting special leave of absence please speak to us prior to booking and requesting time off)
- 7. If you need to speak to someone about Special Educational Needs** – Please contact Mrs Cowell on r.cowell@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk
- 8. If you have a Safeguarding concern about a child, family member or member of staff**, please call school on 01772 335025 and ask to speak to the DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead).
Our DSL in school is: **Miss Harvey – Headteacher**
If Miss Harvey is not available ask to speak to a backup DSL;
Mrs Berry – Child & Family Support
Mrs Cowell – Deputy Headteacher, SENDCO, EYFS & KS1 Leader
Mrs Pilkington – Assistant Headteacher & KS2 Leader
- 9. PTA Events and Information** please email admin@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk
- 10. School's Out After School Club** – Please call Angela on 0770 400 3000

The school office is manned from 8.15am to 1pm and then from 2.45 to 3.45pm daily during term time. The telephone lines and email are always open for messages, however there are busy times when it is not always possible to speak to someone directly. Please leave a voice message and we will deal with your message as soon as possible.

Class Dojo: Your child's class teacher will contact you with information about how to join the class dojo. Dojo points are awarded for good work and behaviour throughout the week and we run a weekly competition and certificates are awarded. Dojo is also used for direct messages relating to your child or class and can be used to communicate with the class teacher. **Please note that during the teaching day your child's teacher will be in class and not able to respond to messages. If urgent, please contact the office.**

ParentPay: www.ParentPay.com School's online payment & communication system. We use ParentPay to send out emails and texts, you can pay and give permission for clubs & trips, book and pay for Breakfast Club and school meals and pay for Uniform & Nursery. We also use ParentPay to book parents evening appointments. Please complete your online registration as soon as you are sent your login details.

Website: www.ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk Contains lots of useful information such as policies, forms, newsletters, holiday dates, class information, PTA and Governors.

Should you have any problems accessing any of the above, please contact the school office on admin@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk or 01772 335025