



Our Lady and St. Gerard's News

Week Ending: 24th October 2025

Happy Half Term

Hope you have a Safe & Spooky Time!



REMINDER: High School Applications close on the 31st October 2025

New Office Security

We have had a new entry system installed on the front office at school this week for the improved safety of our children and school. Access to the office area for parents is now via an intercom system during office hours. Please speak to the office via the intercom and wait until the door is unlocked. We are hoping to have a canopy installed soon for shelter.

Breakfast Club and After School Club staff will continue to come to the door at the designated drop off / pick up times as have been in place for a couple of years now.

Autumn Dinner Menu

The new autumn winter menu should be up and running on ParentPay by the end of the weekend in time to book for the return to school after the half term. If for some reason you are not able to book lunches for your child for the first week back, please email admin@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk with your choices.

Special Menu Days:

Bonfire Night	Wednesday 5 th November
Lancashire Day	Thursday 27 th November
Christmas Lunch Day	Wednesday 17 th December

Please ignore the published menu on ParentPay for these dates, as the special menus will be the only meals served on that day. If you would like your child to take part, please book a lunch for the required date as you would any other meal booking.



Tempest Photo Orders

Have you ordered your child's portrait school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Tuesday 28th October 2025**. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk

If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3). Many thanks.

Love, Inspire, Shine

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

British Legion Poppy Appeal

The British Legion Poppy Appeal will continue in school after half term.

Paper Poppys & Stickers suggested donation: 50p

Reflectors suggested donation: £1

Snap Bands & Wristbands suggested Donation: £1.50



Sponsored Welly Walk 2025 -

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.

Children in Need – Friday 14th November – Wear Something Spotty! In return for a donation to BBC's Children in Need Appeal.

Feel free to wear Children in Need merchandise if you wish, make your own - colour your own spotty t-shirt or add stickers, or just a pair of spotty socks!



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 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

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

South Ribble Active Camps

Active Camps for October Half Term are a great place for children to stay active and be fed during the half term holidays.

We have low cost and funded places available.

The funded places are available for children who access benefit related free school meals. South Ribble Borough Council fund these places and as such there is no HAF Code required to book these places.

Bookings can be made via www.southribble.gov.uk/activecamps

We also have free Gymnastics and Tennis sessions available courtesy of South Ribble Leisure.

Active Camps

South Ribble

Venues:
Cuerden Church Primary School, PR5 6ED
Monday 27th to Thursday 30th October
Kingsfold Primary School, PR1 9HL
Monday 27th to Thursday 30th October

Halloween Parties, Scooting, Archery, UV Sports, Dodgeball, and so so much more...

Cost per day: £14.00
Cost per block: £52.00

For booking visit:
southribble.gov.uk/activecamps

Drop off 8.30am - 9am
Pick up 4.30pm - 5pm

Funded places available through HAF

All staff enhanced DBS checked, also safeguarding and first aid trained

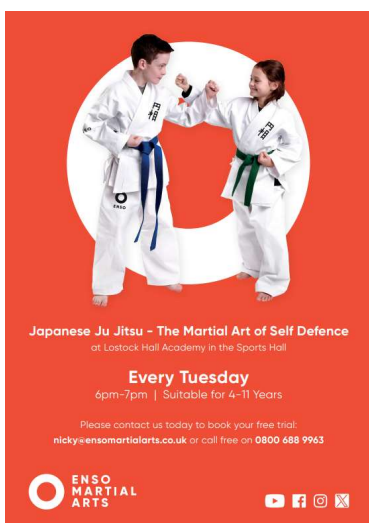
All children provided with a healthy lunch

With highly qualified sports coaches and teachers

Click here to find out more

Dates for the Diary – Autumn Term

Half Term Holidays	Mon 27 th to Fri 31 st October
Mon 3 rd Nov	School opens following half term break
Tues 11 th Nov	Y5 Robinwood – Parents Meeting 5pm
Thurs 13 th Nov	Flu Vaccinations
Fri 14 th Nov	Children in Need – Wear something spotty
Wed 19 th Nov	Tempest Photography –Class 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



LOOKING FOR THINGS TO DO THIS WINTER?

ARE YOU OR IS YOUR CHILD IN RECEIPT OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AND FOOD PROGRAMME 2025

WINTER IN LANCASHIRE: EAT, PLAY, REPEAT!

#HAF 2025

Scan me to find out more, or call in to your local Family Hub.

lancashire.gov.uk/events

Funded by Department for Education

Lancashire County Council

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/>