

# Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mrs N Oddie BA(Hons) NPQH



*Let your  
light shine*

19 July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

## NEWSLETTER 12 – END OF 2022/23 ACADEMIC YEAR

I would like to start this newsletter by firstly thanking parents and carers for their continued support throughout this busy, yet productive year. This year, I'm pleased to say, has been a relatively normal year, if indeed such a thing exists in schools! As I write my final newsletter and realise how quickly time flies by, I am thankful to all who contribute to making our school community the vibrant place it is to live and grow in. We all look forward to the sun and summer holidays and before we leave for a well-deserved break, I'd like to update and remind you of key information in preparation for September.

### Staffing Changes

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you and farewell to staff who are leaving this year. Mr McCreesh, Mrs Faulds, Mrs Weights, Mrs Warburton and Miss Conway, all leave us for new adventures; either promoted positions, retirement or new pathways. Between them they have served the school for over 33 years! On behalf of all our Brownedge family, I wish them good luck and send love and best wishes to them all. We also say thank you to Mr Kitchen and Ms Latham who supported us temporarily over the year. We wish them well in their new permanent positions. In September we will be joined by Miss Clarke, Head of Physical Education, Mrs Pendreigh, Head of Business and Computing, Mr Bridges, Head of Music, Mr Sankey, Teacher of Computing, Miss Casement, Teacher of English, Miss Close, Teacher of Maths, Mrs Bowes, Teacher of Religious Education, Miss McNally, HLTA and Mrs Greeney, Teaching Assistant. I look forward to introducing them to you in the new academic year.

The new academic year also sees changes to the Senior Leadership Team, and I would like to congratulate Mrs Godbold and Miss Mault on their promotions within the team. Both members of staff I know will be well known to you with them having served the school for many years. In September, Mrs Godbold will take up the position of Senior Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for Teaching and Learning and Miss Mault will take up the position of Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for Pastoral care including behaviour, culture and personal development. I am sure you will join with me in congratulating them both on their newly promoted positions. Also joining the Senior Leadership team temporarily from September are Mrs Crew as Assistant Headteacher and Mrs Bland and Mr Hayhurst as Associate Assistant Headteachers. As the year progresses, I will share with you the exciting projects and new initiatives for school improvement planned to continue Brownedge's journey to be an outstanding school in the local community and justify its position as the number one choice for our parents.

### School Day Timings 2023-24

Thank you again to all parents who expressed their views during the consultation of the new school day for 2023-24 onwards. As shared in my Newsletter 11 school will begin at 8.30am and finish at 3.00pm from September. Please can I ask all parents to ensure that any public transport considerations and changes have been taken into account to ensure we continue our standards and expectations in terms of punctuality to school. The new school timetable, from September is outlined below.

Start of School Morning registration including assembly, reading and other pastoral and intervention activities	8.30 – 8.55am
Period 1	8.55 – 9.55am
Period 2	9.55 – 10.55am
<b>Break</b>	10.55 – 11.10am
Period 3	11.10 – 12.10pm
Period 4	12.10 – 1.10pm
<b>Lunch</b>	1.10 – 1.50pm
Period 5	1.50 – 2.50pm
Afternoon registration	2.50 – 3.00pm

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## Holiday activities and food programme (HAF) Summer 2023

As the summer holidays are nearly here, preparations are well underway by Lancashire County Council to deliver a fun packed programme of activities and support for families which will run from 24 July to 1 September. Last summer over 200 clubs delivered a huge range of activities. This included sports such as football, tennis, rugby, gymnastics, athletics, rounders, basketball and swimming. More unusual sports like fishing, paddle-boarding and canoeing were also on offer. But it is not just about sport! LCC also offered dance, drama and arts groups, music, DJing, computer coding and games, forest schools and cooking. If you are interested in seeing what is on offer this Summer, [please click here to visit their website for more information.](#)

## Other initiatives

Please see the attached information about an exciting opportunity from the **Pauline Quirke Academy Preston**. They are a performing arts Academy providing tuition for young people from 4-18 years. They are offering a free taster session on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September. **HomeStart Central Lancashire** are offering support for families through the summer holidays; please see attached leaflet for further information. Fancy exploring the 6 county council museums across Lancashire? Why not take advantage of **cheap bus offers** this summer. As part of the council's [Bus Service Improvement Plan](#) they are running some great offers on bus tickets; with a maximum of £2 for single journeys every day on most bus services. Also with the new weekender ticket, you can buy a day ticket on the bus on a Saturday for free travel on Sunday. Kids under 5 always travel free. Find out more about the bus ticket offers and the different museums you can visit at [www.lancashire.gov.uk/publictransport](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/publictransport)

## Uniform, Haircuts, Shoes and Piercings

As always at this time of year, it is essential that I remind pupils and parents of the school rules in terms of haircuts, shoes, false nails and piercings. In recent days pupils have had assemblies to remind them of our school rules and expectations in preparation for September. Quite rightly over the summer, pupils have the freedom to express themselves differently than they do when they are in school. This is, in my opinion, an important aspect of their development. However, once September comes around, it is imperative that the high expectations and rules we have regarding school uniform are followed. Please see our website ([click on this link](#)) to view information about appropriate school rules in terms of hairstyles, false lashes and nails and shoe types school permits. In September, we will continue to NOT allow plastic retainers to be worn in ears and noses. Please ensure that any new piercings are done early enough for them to be removed at the start of term. This is also the case throughout the year. Pupils are abundantly clear on our rules regarding this and unfortunately any pupil choosing to break the rules will be placed in our internal exclusion unit, the POD, from September.

Thank you for your continued support with ensuring our uniform standards remain high. In September, we will continue to provide temporary uniform to any pupil who does not wear their uniform correctly, including shoes and appropriate length skirts etc. Should any parent require financial support in ensuring that their child's uniform meets our high standards, please get in touch and we will do all we can to support you.

## Uniform Pop-up shop

Information was sent out recently via Firefly regarding the South Ribble Uniform Pop-up shop. Clean, wearable uniform items can be donated to the South Ribble Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland, PR25 1DH during the week of 24th July. Parents can go along to the pop-up shops (details of date and times below) for any uniform free of charge.

South Ribble Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland, PR25 1DH

Monday 24 July - Friday 28 July, 10am - 3pm

Monday 31 July - Friday 4 August 10am-3pm

Monday 7 August - Thursday 10 August, 10am-3pm

Withy Grove Sports Hub, Bamber Bridge, PR5 6YJ

Monday 14 August - Friday 18 August, 10am-3pm

Both locations are accessible and have free car parking available.

Station Road, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6PB

[info@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk)

Tel: 01772 339813 Fax: 01772629236

[www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk)

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## **Safety over the summer**

You will be aware that there have been some significant incidents over the recent months that cause us safety concerns for our pupils over the summer period. We have recently been visited by Lancashire Fire and Rescue team to deliver assemblies to pupils on water safety. Pupils have been educated on the important safety risks and if you could repeat the important messages about them, we can continue to keep our school community safe. I have attached some additional information relating to this.

## **Prize Night**

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July we celebrated our 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Prize Night in the beautiful parish church of St Mary's, Brownedge. I am very pleased to say that Fr Mark was able to use the technology available at church to record the proceedings and if any parent, grandparent or relative were not able to attend, a recording can be seen by following [this link](#). I must say that our guest speaker, Mr David Wells was superb, bringing some of the audience close to tears with his speech on the theme of Love. I would recommend a watch to all and to catch it quick before the recording expires from the church listings.

## **FSM Vouchers over summer**

We can confirm that approval has been granted for schools to utilise the LCC Edenred account to order summer term vouchers for benefits-eligible FSM pupils. Each eligible pupil will be issued with a £90 voucher to cover the six-week holiday period. Please contact Mr Burrows, our school Business Manager if you have any questions.

## **School Holidays Next Year**

The school holiday times are printed at the end of this letter. Please do not take holidays during term time.

## **End of Term July 2023 and Start of Term September 2023**

We end the school year, as we always do, with a whole school liturgy at our beautiful St Mary's Church on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July. School will finish at approximately 1.15pm. There will be no school dinners served on this day, but the usual food will be available at break. We reopen on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Year 7 pupils will start their high school journey at 8.30am, with all other year groups joining at 10am. Pupils are to gather on the Tennis Courts to be welcomed by their Form Tutors and Heads of House.

Once again, a huge thank you to the staff, parents and pupils for all their work this year. The pupils have certainly risen to the challenges put in front of them. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Wishing you a restful and sunny summer holiday when it arrives.

Kind regards

Mrs N Oddie  
Headteacher

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## Term Dates 2023-24

<b><u>Autumn Term 2023</u></b>	
INSET DAY	Friday 1st September 2023
INSET DAY	Monday 4th September 2023
School Reopens	Tuesday 5th September 2023
Last Day of School for Half-Term 1	Friday 20th October 2023
INSET DAY	Monday 30th October 2023
School Reopens for Half-Term 2	Tuesday 31st October 2023
Last Day of School for Half-Term 2	Friday 22nd December 2023
<b><u>Spring Term 2024</u></b>	
School Reopens for Half-Term 3	Monday 8th January 2024
Last Day of School for Half-Term 3	Friday 9th February 2024
INSET DAY	Monday 19th February 2024
School Reopens for Half-Term 4	Tuesday 20th February 2024
Last Day of School for Half-Term 4	Thursday 28th March 2024
<b><u>Summer Term 2023</u></b>	
School Reopens for Half-Term 5	Monday 15th April 2024
Bank Holiday	Monday 6th May 2024
Last Day of School for Half-Term 5	Friday 24th May 2024
School Reopens for Half-Term 6	Monday 3rd June 2024
Last Day of School for Half-Term 6	Friday 19th July 2024
INSET DAY	Monday 22nd July 2024