

OUR LADY AND ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

27th February 2026

Dear Parents

As we continue our journey through Lent, the children are thinking about how they can make contributions in improving how they respond to our obligation in Lent to pray, to give and to act. During assembly and in our RE lessons we are looking at how the Gospel messages enrich our lives and in turn the lives of those around us in school, at home, in our communities both local and global. Our 'Danceathon' Lent fundraising activity will take place on Wednesday 18th March in school.

K Woods

Dates for your diary

Monday 2nd March – PTA meeting at 6.30pm in school

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Monday 9th to Friday 13th March – Assessment Week in school

Monday 9th March – Booking for Parents' Evening available from 7.00am

Monday 9th March – PTA Cake Sale – Cakes to be donated by Y1 & Y4

Monday 9th March – SATs meeting for parents in Year 6 at 5.00pm

Tuesday 10th March – School Nurse drop-in session from 2.00pm to 3.00pm

Thursday 12th March – Reception Class Worship at 9.00am

Friday 13th March – Own Clothes Day in lieu of an item for the PTA Family Bingo Night - see this newsletter.

Monday 16th to Friday 20th March – Neurodiversity Week in school

Wednesday 18th March – Danceathon Lent Fundraising – see this newsletter

Thursday 19th March – Year 6 Class Worship at 9.10am in school

Friday 20th March – Odd Socks Day for World Down Syndrome Day

Friday 20th March – PTA Family Bingo in the school hall.

Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th March - Parents' Evening 4-6.30pm

Tuesday 31st March – Easter Egg Decorating competition – any type of decorated hard boiled egg can be entered, no matter how simple or eggstravagant! – see poster attached. Eggs to be in school on Monday 30th.

Tuesday 31st March – Whole School Easter Mass 9.15am in Church

Wednesday 1st April - EYFS & KS1 End of Term Assembly in school at 9.10am led by Y1 - parents invited

Wednesday 1st April - Easter Lunch –

Thursday 2nd April – KS2 End of Term Assembly 9.10am led by Year 4 – parents invited. School closes for Easter at 2.30pm.

Monday 20th April – School re-opens.

Class Worship – Spring Term Dates

Reception - Thursday 12th March 9.00am in school

Year 1 – Wednesday 1st April 9.10am – leading the end of term assembly in school

Year 3 – Tuesday 31st March – End of Term mass

Year 4 – Thursday 2nd April at 9.10am – leading the end of term assembly in school

Year 6 – Thursday 19th March 9.10am in school

Exciting Opportunity – Train to Teach in Local Schools

Recruiting for September 2026

Catholic Teaching Alliance - Train to Teach in Local Schools

Have you thought about a career in teaching?

Established since 2014, the CTA has 11 years' experience in delivering teacher training. Train locally - schools in Preston, Blackburn, Blackpool or the Fylde coast.

Apply now for a September 2026 start

PGCE with QTS

Minimum requirements for our teacher training courses are GCSEs in Maths and English (and Science for primary), plus an honours degree, class 2:2 or above.

For more information

Call: 01772 326931

Email: CTAPGCE@olchs.lancs.sch.uk

Website: <https://www.catholic-teaching-alliance.org/pgce-courses.html>

Value of the Month

This month's value is LOVE. We will be exploring with the children that love means that we care and want the best for others, it is about feeling safe and recognising the love of Christ for each one of us.

School Meals – Price Increase

From the 1st April there will be an increase in the price of KS2 school dinners in line with the pricing for Lancashire County Council. School meals will increase from £2.90 to £3.00 per day.

TenTen Newsletter

As a school we subscribe to the TenTen resources which we use in assemblies, class worship and staff prayer. Please read the newsletters each month as they provide useful information and spiritual guidance, supporting the work we do in school. Below is a link to the parent newsletter

www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/

Year 6 SATs Information Evening

We have arranged a Year 6 SATs information evening at 5.00pm on Monday 9th March. This will be a short session with Miss O'Donnell providing essential information and opportunity for general questions.

Parents' Evening – 23rd & 24th March

Bookings can be made on Arbor under Guardian Consultations from 7.00am on Monday 9th March. All appointments are in the school hall for 10 minutes and we would ask that you are mindful of this. Your child's books will be on tables outside the hall for you to look at.

Medication in School

A reminder to parents that if your child requires prescribed medication in school that we only accept this medication if it is in date, labelled, provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and includes instructions for administration, dosage and storage. We will not be able to administer any other medication.

Before medication can be given parents/guardians will need to complete a Parental Agreement for Our Lady and St Edward's School to administer medicine form available from the school office.

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

A reminder that this year children are invited to dress up as a character from their parents'/grandparents' favourite childhood book. Please discuss why it was their favourite book and bring a photo/picture of the book. There will be a prize for the winner in each class.

Arbor Payments

Please keep a check on Arbor as your balance for school lunches should always be in credit.

PTA News

Monday 2nd March – PTA meeting – 6.30pm in school. Please join us if you can.

Cake Sale – The next cake sale will be Monday 9th March and we are asking Year 1 & Year 4 to donate cakes. We are raising money for Barnardos.

Friday 20th March- Family Bingo Night – 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Come and have a fantastic night of fun and bingo in the school hall.

Tickets cost £5.00 per adult & £5.00 per child & include 2 slices of pizza and one strip of game cards. Extra game cards £1 per strip (buy on the night). The bar will be open with limited stock! If you are able to help on the night please let Mrs Kippax know.

Doors open from 6.20pm & the evening will finish promptly at 8.30pm.

All money raised will go to PTA funds.

Please complete ticket request slip at the end of this newsletter.

We are looking for volunteers to make up some chocolate hamper prizes on Monday 16th March at 3.30pm please let Mrs Kippax know if you are available.

Have you signed up to the School Lottery yet? We only have 16 members and need lots more!! You can join for £1 per week and the profits come back to the school either in direct fundraising or as cash prizes for our school families and there are some big prizes to be won! A number of draws have taken place with members winning money. Join here:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/our-lady-and-st-edwards-catholic-primary-school>

Easy Fundraising – Have you downloaded the Easyfundraising app yet? easyfundraising is the simplest way to raise money for Our Lady & St Edward's Primary School PTA – We have raised over £1,400 so far! Shop with any of over 3,300 well-known retailers via the easyfundraising website – <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/UJX6FK/MHPPPE8/>

When you click on this link just search for the cause – Our Lady & St Edward's Primary School PTA. It's simple and quick to do!

St Edward's School Club

A reminder that if you are booking a session within 48 hours please also email the school office on bursar@ourlady-st-edwards.lancs.sch.uk to advise so that your child can be manually added to the list. This also applies if you are booking over a weekend for a session on the following Monday or Tuesday.

A reminder too that bookings are not confirmed until payment has been received or voucher payment has been ordered.

Cancellations can be made at any time by contacting the school office but refunds will only be given for cancelled sessions provided that we are informed by 10.30am the previous school working day (this includes weekends and school holidays). For example – if a Monday session needs to be cancelled then you will need to contact the school office by 10.30am on the Friday before. Sessions cancelled after this time will not be refunded. Once booked, sessions cannot be swapped – the session would have to be cancelled and a new booking made.

Easter Lunch – Wednesday 1st April

All children are invited to have an Easter Lunch. The cost is free for EYFS and KS1 pupils and £3.00 per KS2 child. If your child normally brings in a packed lunch on a Wednesday but wishes to have an Easter Lunch, please complete and return the slip.

Menu for Easter Lunch

Sausage, Veggie Sausage or Fish Finger in a Finger Bun
Oven Chips, Sweetcorn, Peas, Salad
& Bread Basket

Chocolate Nest or Easter Biscuit or Yoghurt and Fruit

Volunteers required to help with setting up, decorating tables and clearing away – please let Mrs Kippax know if you are able to help out.

CAFOD Lenten Fundraising

On Wednesday 18th March, we will be participating in a Danceathon. CAFOD is such an important charity which provides aid and support to poorer communities across the globe therefore, we want to raise as much money as possible to support their work. Each child has been given a sponsor form today that they can fill in and return to school by Friday 13th March - this will then be signed by school to confirm that your child has completed the activity and then returned so that sponsor money can be collected. Thank you very much for supporting our fundraising event.

Please send in your money by Thursday 2nd April. Any cheques are payable to MECMAT.

Odd Socks Day – Friday 20th March

In recognition of World Down Syndrome Day we are asking pupils to come to school in odd socks. All other uniform remains the same.

Weekly Certificates

Congratulations to the following pupils on recognition of their hard work throughout the week.

Reception – Matilda R & Tommy

Year 1 – Emily & Ayzin

Year 2 – Ayda & Edwin

Year 3 – Ava-Grace & Jack

Year 4 – Mae & Faris

Year 5 – Seb & Wilfred

Year 6 – Amelie G & Logan

Attendance

Attendance at Our Lady and St Edward's is usually good and continues to be monitored. A small number of children have attendance which is below 90% and as such are considered to be persistent absentees (PA). Currently, our PA is 5.91% which relates to 11 pupils (Y1-6). Compared to this time last year our PA was 3.92% (6 pupils), this is disappointing with many of the absences as a result of term time holidays. It is important that children attend school regularly so that there is continuity of learning and consistent social interactions with their peers. We appreciate that illness cannot be avoided but would encourage that parents carefully consider if their child is still well enough to attend school even though they are slightly under the weather. Please check your child's attendance via arbor.

Sports' News

We will continue to report on our sporting events in our weekly newsletters.

Sporting events this week:

U9 Football Team – Seven of our Y3/4 pupils took part in the Sir Tom Finney Trophy at Play Football. They won 5 and drew 1 in their group stage games finishing top of their group. They progressed to the semi-final where it finished 1-1. Unfortunately, they were beaten on penalties after a nail biting finish. However, they did win the 3rd/4th play-off. Most importantly the boys had a great time!

Congratulations to the teams.

Weekly Attendance

This week's attendance

Reception – 98.1%

Year 1 – 100%

Year 2 – 100%

Year 3 – 99.55%

Year 4 – 98.16%

Year 5 – 98.62%

Year 6 – 96.35%

Congratulations to Y1 & Y2 for achieving the highest attendance this week.

Overall school attendance to date 96.7%.

Own Clothes Day – Friday 13th March

In lieu of an own clothes day on Friday 13th March we are asking children from Reception to Year 4 classes to donate chocolate / Easter eggs to be used as prizes for the PTA Family Bingo Night on Friday 20th March. Years 5 & 6 please bring in a money donation for Kalomo.

PTA Bingo – Friday 20th March

I would like tickets at £5.00 per person cash/cheque (payable to OLSE PTA for £..... enc

Child's name Year

Child and Family Wellbeing Service

A monthly drop in where families can access free advice & support
Work well Coach -Through the WorkWell project we can help you take positive steps forward

School Nurse - Bed wetting Sleep Hygiene & More

Compass bloom YP Mental Health support

Housing - Preston City Council - Gateway

Citizen Advice

Benefit Advice - DWP

Debt Advice/Support

Employment advice - DWP

Home safety - Lancs Fire & Rescue

Free Funded Nursery Places

Runshaw College Apprenticeships

Lancashire Women Support for ladies

Domestic Abuse Support

Community Education Sexual Health

Drop in sessions held on the last Tuesday of each month 2-4pm -no appointment needed

Ribbleton Family Hub,Ribbleton Hall Drive, Ribbleton, Preston,
PR2 6EE

Easter Lunch – Wednesday 1st April

Name of child **Year**

My child would like an Easter Lunch on Wednesday 1st April

- My child is in EYFS or KS1 and receives a Universal Infant Free School Meal
- I enclose £3.00 per KS2 child. (Cheques payable to MECMAT).
- Please take payment from my child's Arbor account
- My child would like the vegetarian option

Signed _____ **Date** _____

****Please do not complete this slip if your child normally has a school lunch on a Wednesday as this causes great confusion for Mrs Kippax & Mrs Rutter!!! Thank you.****