

Catholic Teaching Alliance School Direct Programme

Would you, or anyone you know, like to train locally to become a primary or secondary school teacher? If you are a graduate you could train with the Catholic Teaching Alliance in schools in the Ribble Valley and Preston areas.



CATHOLIC TEACHING ALLIANCE

St Augustine's is a member of the Catholic Teaching Alliance which is a partnership between 65 Catholic schools and the University of Cumbria working together to provide first class initial teacher training within the Catholic community. PGCE and QTS are awarded upon successful completion of the course. See the website for more details www.catholic-teaching-alliance.org

Any questions? Mr Gormally will be at Our Lady's, Preston, every Monday from 4.00 – 5.00pm to answer your queries about the Catholic Teaching Alliance and our School Direct training programme. Please email ctaschooldirect@olchs.lancs.sch.uk or

Carol Service



Well done to the school choir, and band for two beautiful evenings on the theme of "peace" at Christmas. As well as traditional carols, the choir performed some new pieces and we were also treated to some traditional bell-ringing. As always, the evening finished with mulled wine and mince pies!

Diary Dates

Wednesday 20th December	End of Term Masses 9.15 Barlow Clitherow Fisher Line 11.00 More Owen Southworth Ward
Thursday 21st December	Y11 Mock Results Day Non-Uniform Day School closes early at 12.15pm
Monday 8th January	Return to school (Week 2)
Thursday 18th January	Y7 Parents' Evening



ST AUGUSTINE'S RC HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017



Christmas Preparations

As we look forward to Christmas, a time of family gatherings and of giving and receiving presents, our school community has also been raising money for Maryvale Parent and Baby Unit in Blackburn. The Maryvale Centre provides a nurturing, safe, secure and supportive environment where young mothers can regain control of their lives and can be assisted to move onto independent living. We have been overwhelmed by the support from pupils, families and visitors to school and original target of £600 has already been overtaken and we are on course to raise over £1300 for the charity.

Another festive event was the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party. This was a lovely occasion with entertainment from the pupils including music, dance and singing, as well as Christmas bingo, a visit from Santa (pictured below with Chaplaincy Assistant Mrs. Carter) and a singalong finale of "White Christmas". Year 11 pupils made our guests feel very welcome, spending time talking with them and making them comfortable. If you are aware of an elderly person who might like to come to next year's party, please let us know.



Early Closure—Thursday 21st December

A reminder that school closes at 12.15pm on the last day of term.
Buses have been arranged for this time.



Farewell!

We wish Mr Greenough the best of luck in his new role as Senior Lecturer in Theology at Edge Hill University from January. Since joining the school in 2012 Mr Greenough has made an excellent contribution as Assistant Headteacher as well as teaching Modern Foreign Languages.

Traffic Issues

- Please do not drive onto the school turning circle at the end of the school day when the buses are picking the children up. If you are dropping children off in the morning, be aware that the buses will require the full extent of the turning circle and the area needs to be kept clear to allow the buses to operate safely.
- We have been informed by the residents of the housing block opposite school (Elker Meadows) that this is a private road and therefore request that families do not use the area for dropping off or collecting children. This is also true for Elker Mews on Whalley Road and the access road to the new house near the roundabout.

Christmas Raffle

Our thanks to all those who supported the PTFA Christmas Raffle that was drawn in school on in the Celebration Assembly on 18th December. The £500 prize was won by Anne Crompton (01614). Other prizes included Amazon HD Tablet - F Lynch (03110); Champagne - N. Sheridan (01542); Whiskey - E McManamon (05933); Port Ian Jackson (04259); Hamper B. Williams (03136); Toiletries - C Caulfield (03462)

Free Microsoft Office for Students

With Christmas around the corner families may be purchasing a new laptop, computer or other device.

Do you know that every student at St. Augustine's is entitled to have Microsoft Office for free on up-to 5 devices?

This means you can use Word, Excel, PowerPoint just by logging in to your school email and clicking "Install Office."



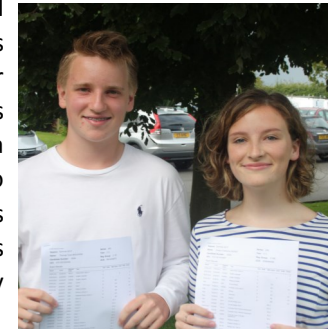
GRAB 2018

The variety of talents of pupils at St. Augustine's made it very difficult to choose the four acts who will progress to the GRAB finals hosted by The Grand in Clitheroe in the new year. All four Ribble Valley high schools enter the competition which will help to raise money for Millie's Smiles and other local and global charities. This year our finalists are Rosie Barrett (singer), Freya Branton and Gabriella Gatti (dancers), Ygraine Alcock and Rosanna Hall (singers), and Tilly Clapham (singer).



Top of the Class

Following publication of the provisional school performance tables this term, St Augustine's was placed as the top Catholic school in Lancashire and in the top ten for the whole county. As a comprehensive school these results reflect the progress of pupils of all abilities, although a particular mention must go to our "high achievers" who had a progress 8 score which is "well above average". This figure includes the high number of the new Grade 9s achieved in English, English Literature and Mathematics by our pupils using the new 1-9 grading system for GCSEs.



For a free and easy way to support the work of the school's PTFA log on to WWW.EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK or visit the link on the school website.

