Issue #44 - Autumn Term

16th October 2026

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

· CATHOLIC · CARING · COMMUNITY · CHALLENGE ·

Sensational Tournament Performance for Year 7 Footballers

The Year 7 girls' football team delivered a fantastic performance at Aspire during their tournament on Monday night. Demonstrating great resilience, teamwork, and athletic talent, the team grew stronger with every match.

Across the evening, the team faced tough competition, recording one loss and one draw before finding their momentum to claim four impressive victories. The squad showed remarkable determination throughout the event, supporting one another on the field and showing true sportsmanship.

A special mention goes to Isla and Lottie, who were in outstanding form in front of goal, finishing as joint top scorers with an incredible nine goals each.

Congratulations to all the players involved for representing St Mary's so brilliantly!

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 19th October
Royal Shakespeare Company in school all week

Wednesday 21st October
Sports Academy Williamson Park

Thursday 22nd October
BEBCMAT Fundraising Day
Non Uniform Day
Finish For October Half Term

Monday 2nd November
Y11, 7-a-side Boys Football Tourney

Tuesday 3rd November
Students Return To School

Wednesday 4th November
Young Dreamers Event at Winter Gardens

Saturday 7th November
Y11 Saturday Maths

Tuesday 10th November
Lancaster Uni Linguistics Trip
Y7 Family Games Night

Events are subject to change

Weekly Prayer

Heavenly Father,
We give You thanks for our community and the many gifts You bestow upon us.

As we join together across the BEBCMAT family to support Mary's Meals, open our hearts in generosity so that we may bring hope, nourishment, and education to children in need across the world.

Help us always to walk in Your love, showing kindness, respect, and support to one another. Amen.

BEBCMAT Fundraising Day

On Thursday 22nd October, the final day before half-term, our school will join other primary schools across the Blessed Edward Bamber Catholic Multi Academy Trust (BEBCMAT) family for a special joint Fundraising Day.

All BEBCMAT schools are coming together to raise money for Mary's Meals, an amazing charity that serves a nutritious daily meal in school to over three million children across 16 of the world's poorest communities. By providing food in the classroom, Mary's Meals gives children the energy to learn and helps them build a path out of poverty.

To support this vital cause, Thursday 22nd October will be a non-uniform day (usual rules apply).

Students must bring in a £1 cash donation before the day to participate which will be collectd by form tutors.

If everyone participates, our school community can raise over £1,000 for this life-changing cause. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

What's Happening In PSHE Next Week?

Next week in PSHE, students across all year groups will explore key topics covering relationships, personal safety, and social awareness. Here is a look at what each year group will be discussing to help support open conversations at home:

Year 7 -	**Family and Friends**
Year 8 -	**How can I deal with my friends using drugs and alcohol?**
Year 9 -	**Human rights and wrongs**
Year 10 -	**Incel culture**
Year 11 -	**What is the difference between an arranged and a forced marriage?**

Check back next time to see what essential topics our students are exploring!

Year 11 Bite into their Business Presentations

Our Year 11 Business Studies students have recently completed their presentations on their burger products as part of their coursework. These presentations contribute towards their final grades. This was an important opportunity to demonstrate knowledge, preparation and communication skills they have been building since the beginning of Year 10.

The students did a brilliant job, presenting their ideas with confidence, enthusiasm and professionalism. They demonstrated a wide range of verbal and non-verbal communication skills, including clear speech, effective body language, eye contact and engaging delivery.

It was fantastic to see their hard work and preparation pay off, with students showcasing their creativity and understanding of business concepts in such a positive way.

Well done to everyone involved! They should be incredibly proud of their achievements and the effort they put into their presentations.

New "Wellbeing Walk" Powered by Innovate

We are thrilled to announce that Innovate, our catering company, has awarded St Mary's with a Social Impact Fund which the school council has deliberated on the best way to spend.

After much discussion, it has been unanimously agreed that the money should be spent on a "Wellbeing Walk" which will provide students with a safe outdoor environment to walk and talk with staff. Designed to engage the senses through nature, the walk aims to give our school community a simple, powerful tool for mental wellbeing.

This week, the school Gardening Club began the first stage of preparing the ground ready for planting wildflower seeds, which will hopefully be ready in the springtime for our planned opening.

A Buzzing Evening of Discovery at Our Sixth Form Open Evening

St Mary's was filled with energy and enthusiasm last Thursday evening as we welcomed students and families to our annual Sixth Form Open Evening. The event saw an outstanding turnout, with strong representation from our own Year 10 and Year 11 pupils, alongside an impressive number of visitors joining us from high schools across the local area.

Throughout the evening, departments across the academy were vibrant hubs of conversation. Prospective students took full advantage of the opportunity to speak directly with subject teachers, diving into course details, entry requirements, and future career pathways.

A particular highlight of the event was the contribution of our current Sixth Form students. Serving as subject ambassadors and tour guides, they offered invaluable, honest insights into post-16 study at St Mary's. Their first-hand experiences of academy life, academic support, and extracurricular opportunities gave our visitors a clear picture of what makes our Sixth Form community so welcoming and dynamic.

Thank you to all the staff, student helpers, and visiting families who contributed to making the evening such a success. For Year 11 pupils considering their next steps, application details and subject information are available on the academy website, and our sixth form team remains on hand to assist with any further questions.

We are hiring:

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

We are seeking to appoint a talented and enthusiastic Teacher of English to join our successful department. The successful candidate will teach English across Key Stages 3 and 4, with the potential to teach Key Stage 5 depending on experience.

Applicants are encouraged to consult the application packs, available via our website **www.st-mary.blackpool.sch.uk/recruitment-homepage** or via the QR code, for the full person specification, job description and further details.

SCAN HERE FOR MORE DETAILS

KEY DATES:

Closing Date: Monday 19th October at Midday

POST DETAILS

Salary: Teachers' Pay Range
Contract: Permanent, Full Time

NEXT WEEK'S CANTEEN MENU

WEEK 1 — Innovate

Week Commencing;
07/09/26 28/09/26 19/10/26

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS	VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS
MONDAY Beef & Lentil Bolognaise with Pasta & House Salad	**MONDAY** Plant Based Bolognaise with Pasta & House Salad (V)
TUESDAY Bang Bang Chicken with Soy & Mixed Rice	**TUESDAY** Bang Bang Eat Curious with Soy & Mixed Rice (V)
WEDNESDAY Glazed Gammon or Lemon & Thyme Roast Chicken, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy	**WEDNESDAY** Vegetable 'Squashage' Roll with Crispy Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy (V)
THURSDAY Chicken Tikka & Chickpea Masala, Braised Rice & Kachumber Salad	**THURSDAY** Cauliflower, Courgette & Chickpea Rosti with Braised Rice, Kachumber Salad & Minted Yoghurt Dressing (V)
FRIDAY Chip Shop "Fryday" Fish, Salmon Fishcake or Pizza with Chips, Peas & Tartare Sauce	**FRIDAY** Vegan Chickpea & Coriander Burger with Fries (VE)

DESSERTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Spiced Pineapple Cake	Chocolate & Banana Brownie	Sticky Ginger Cake	Oaty Apple Crumble	Hot Chocolate Rocky Road & Custard

Fruit and Jelly Pots Available Daily

JACKET POTATOES

Topped with a Choice of: Cheese, Tuna or Beans Available Daily

Street Vibes — MADE YOUR WAY!

CHOOSE IT! ADD IT! TOP IT!

Switch up your flavours with our street food-inspired range, available **Tuesday to Thursday.** With weekly rotating choices, there's always something tasty.

Choose a base, add protein, and top it your way!

Visit the restaurant to check out what's on offer each week

NATURally

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)	The Big Plant Burger (VE)	Roasted Butternut, Sweetcorn & Chipotle Pasta (VE)	Maple & Chilli Cauliflower Wings with Cajun Wedges (VE)	Garlic & Chilli Noodles (VE)

TRATTORIA

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pasta in Cheese Sauce	Tomato & Basil Pasta	Margherita or Pepperoni Pizza	Creamy Pesto Pasta	Margherita Pizza

HOME LEARNING TIMETABLE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
YEARS 7 & 8	ENGLISH SCIENCE	HISTORY RELIGIOUS STUDIES	SCIENCE MATHS	ENGLISH MFL	GEOGRAPHY MATHS
YEAR 9	ENGLISH GEOGRAPHY	SCIENCE HISTORY	MATHS DESIGN TECHNOLOGY	RELIGIOUS STUDIES MATHS	MFL ENGLISH
YEARS 10 & 11	ENGLISH SCIENCE	OPTION A RELIGIOUS STUDIES	SCIENCE MATHS	ENGLISH OPTION B	MATHS OPTION C