October 2026

Loreto Grammar School

Sincerity Freedom Justice Truth Joy Excellence Internationality

Dear parents, carers, Loreto sisters and friends of Loreto,

Well, that was certainly a very packed half term! You can see how much has taken place from the contents of this newsletter. Interestingly, most of the content relates to the wonderful extra curricular opportunities on offer. Did you know that we have 90 clubs and groups through Loreto+? Parents and carers, a challenge question for you - do you know which clubs your daughter is in or leads? We ask students to log participation through the Unifrog platform so if you don't know, maybe let your daughter show you what she has logged on Unifrog. What the newsletter cannot convey is the everyday classroom experience and the excellent learning that takes place day in and day out - it all adds to the 'enriching and liberating educational experience' we seek to offer.

Of course the Ofsted visit was exceptionally busy and I cannot say enough how proud I was of both girls and colleagues for showcasing the everyday experience of school. We now wait for the publication of the report.

CHIC day crowned the half term, the variety and splendour of nations represented were a joyous celebration of who we are and represent. From Sweden, Lebanon, Ghana and Ireland to Korea, Japan, France and Zimbabwe - we all united under the stripy blazer and you can see the pictures for yourself in this edition.

Thank you for all your trust and support.

With kind regards,

Mrs JA Beever
Headteacher

175 Years
Foundation of the Loreto Sisters - CJ in England
1851 - 2026
Honouring the Past
Gratitude for the Present
Hope for the Future

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O LORD OUR GOD, we dedicate this school to your glory,
to the glory of the Father, source of light and life, to the glory of the Son, in whom are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge,
to the glory of the Holy Spirit, through whom the light and love of truth shine in us.
May it be a place of knowledge and learning.
May all of us who work in it grow in understanding and appreciation of our world.
May we grow in understanding of people, above all, their dignity and powers, their weakness and needs.
And that we may fulfil our task, give us courage and hope and humility and patience and a love of truth.
We ask not only for learning but wisdom.
And since there is no wisdom without love, may your Spirit of kindness and concern be in the hearts of all.
Help us to disagree without bitterness, to foster ambition without envy,
to give generously whatever gifts we have.
In that love, may we go out to help others to grow in understanding and freedom and love.
This we ask through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

2nd	School Opens
3rd	Year 7 Welcome Mass
12th	Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:30-18:30
16th-25th	Year 11 mock examinations
26th	INSET Day (no students in school)
27th	School Holiday

December

3rd	Year 12 Parents' Evening 16:30-18:30
4th	Deadline for applications to Sixth Form
5th	LPA Christmas Fair
10th	Year 11 Parents' Evening 16:30-18:30
15th	Christmas Concert 7pm
18th	School closes at 12:30pm

Attendance

All absences must be reported on each day of absence by ringing 0161 928 3703 option 1. For all other attendance related queries, absence requests or confirmation of appointments, please email attendance@loretogrammar.co.uk directly.

Polite Notice

May we remind you that the area around school and immediately in between the school gates is heavily congested and poses safety issues at busy times. Please can you avoid parking in this vicinity. We also ask you to drop off and pick up your daughter at a safe distance from Loreto. Please be respectful of local residents and refrain from parking over driveways. Thanking you in advance for your help in this matter.

Plas Menai 2026

Year 7 thoroughly enjoyed their Plas Menai residential in October, as part of their induction into our Loreto community. This is the fifth year we have been, and it was as enjoyable as ever. The pupils displayed great engagement and enthusiasm throughout and enjoyed the delicious food, the opportunity to learn new skills and the chance to get to know each other better. The activities enjoyed by all groups were cycling, paddleboarding, sailing and climbing. The egg drop was a particular highlight of the evening activities, with some great designs being employed by pupils to ensure that their eggs survived the drop from the upstairs window. Special thanks to Mrs Davison, Mrs Sims and Mrs Mason, who led the trips, and all the staff who gave up their time to make this wonderful experience possible.

Mrs Stokes









I had such a fun time at Plas Menai! I definitely made some memories for life! The weather was perfect until the last day , where it rained a lot. I loved SUP, biking and high ropes. The ice cream in Caernarfon was SO good. The high ropes were SO high but also really fun. The stand up paddleboarding was very cold but very enjoyable! We had a battle at the end where you could push someone off. We also saw a jellyfish during stand up paddle boarding. But overall I loved Plas Menai and it was so much fun 5/5!!! (Hattie)

The moment we arrived at Plas Menai, I knew an unforgettable adventure was about to unfold. When we finished settling in and heard our dorms and groups for our activities, I found out that I was doing sailing first. I was ecstatic! It was freezing but it was extremely fun. That's what I thought about the whole trip! The food was amazing, the instructors, my classmates and the staff. On our last night, the sun set over the Welsh horizon. This trip was unforgettable. These are the kind of memories I will cherish forever. (Ellie)

Partners in Wellbeing: Home and School together

Wednesday 2nd December 6-7pm online

An important part of our school's mission is a commitment to "prepare each of us to meet with confidence the challenges of a changing world", nurturing in our young people the resilience, self-belief and sense of purpose they need to flourish both now and in the future. We would like to invite all parents and carers to an online evening exploring how, together, we can best walk alongside our students on that journey. The session will consider how young people develop the resilience to cope when things do not go to plan, examine some of the challenges of growing up in the modern world, and offer practical strategies for use at home. Details on how to register for the online event will be sent in November.

Ms Greene, Assistant Headteacher – Student Welfare

Safety Spotlight Series

Safety Spotlights give us the opportunity to focus on specific safety themes with our students. Information is shared with form tutors to discuss with their forms and display on form noticeboards. The information posters were shared with all year groups this term and are attached with this newsletter. You can also find them on our website here https://www.loretogrammar.co.uk/Online-Safety/

Thank you and Happy Birthday to Mrs Fielding



Mrs Fielding worked at Loreto for thirty-seven years, undertaking a variety of important roles and helping to keep our site clean, welcoming and fully stocked. Following her retirement at the end of the last academic year, she returned to school in October to celebrate a milestone birthday with colleagues. We would like to thank Mrs Fielding for her 37 years of dedicated service to Loreto Grammar School and wish her a very happy birthday and a long, healthy and enjoyable retirement.

Chaplaincy Good News

by Mrs Davison

It has been a busy and exciting start to the new school year in Chaplaincy, with lots of opportunities for our students to grow in faith, take on leadership roles and put our Loreto values into action.

Masses





We began our new school year in September with three Masses celebrated by Father Ned Wall. These were a lovely opportunity for our school community to come together in faith after the summer break. Our first Mass was for Years 7 and 12, allowing us to warmly welcome our new students into the Loreto community.

Father Ned chose a Gospel reading from St Matthew, reminding us of the importance of being true to ourselves and recognising the unique talents and gifts that God has given each of us. This was a wonderful message as we began a new academic year.

We are incredibly proud of the many opportunities our students have to take an active role in our celebrations of Mass, particularly our weekly Thursday Masses in the Chapel. Students contribute by writing and reading the Prayers of Intercession, providing music and serving as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Their involvement helps to make our liturgies meaningful and allows them to grow in confidence and faith.

Recently, 12 students completed training to become Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. As part of their preparation, they spent time talking with Mrs Davison and Father Ned about their faith and why they wished to take on this important ministry. Their training culminated in a special Commissioning Mass, which some parents were able to attend. We are delighted that these students have chosen to serve our school community in this way.

To celebrate the end of the Season of Creation, the Sustainability Group led a beautiful Mass. The Chapel was filled with students coming together to reflect on the precious gift of God's creation and our shared responsibility to care for the world around us. Throughout the celebration, we were reminded of the importance of protecting our common home, keeping the message of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si' close to our hearts and inspiring us to live out its message through our everyday actions.

Mini DASH



A group of Year 8 students attended the first Mini DASH meeting of the year. Mini DASH provides an opportunity for Year 8 students from Catholic secondary schools to come together, share ideas and explore leadership opportunities within their own schools.

The students took part in a range of icebreaker activities and games, helping them to get to know one another and build new friendships. An important part of the day was developing relationships with students from other schools and recognising that, although we belong to different school communities, we share a common faith and a commitment to making a positive difference.

It was a valuable opportunity for our students to develop their confidence, exchange ideas and begin thinking about how they can use their gifts and talents to support others.

Praying the Rosary

During October, the month traditionally dedicated to Our Lady, Mary, we have been coming together as a school community to pray the Rosary.

Each form has taken part in praying a decade of the Rosary together, creating a special opportunity for students to pause, reflect and share in prayer. Our Year 7 students also gathered in prayer during their residential visit to Plas Menai.

These sessions have helped students to develop a greater understanding of the prayers that make up the Rosary and the mysteries on which we reflect on different days. Through this shared prayer, we have been able to deepen our understanding of Mary's importance in our Catholic faith and take time to reflect on the life of Jesus.

Chaplaincy Good News

Year 11 Retreat









Our Year 11 students recently visited the Spiritan Centre in Salford for a retreat focused on justice and the importance of creating a society where everyone feels valued, included and respected.

Led by Father Fabias and his team, the retreat included a variety of activities and discussions, as well as the opportunity to hear first-hand accounts from visitors who had come to England as refugees. They courageously shared their personal stories, explaining the circumstances that had led them to leave their home countries and the challenges of building a new life in England.

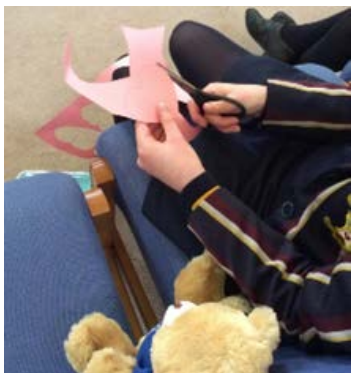
Their accounts were both moving and thought-provoking. The visitors spoke about the difficult decisions they had faced, including leaving family members behind in the hope of securing a safer and better future for their children. By sharing both their positive experiences and the challenges they had encountered, they gave our students a deeper understanding of the realities of seeking refuge.

Hearing these personal stories was a powerful and, at times, emotional experience. It encouraged our students to recognise the people and families behind the word refugee. Some students also had the opportunity to interview the visitors, asking thoughtful questions, including, "How did your faith support you when you felt so low at times?"

The retreat provided a valuable opportunity for our Year 11 students to reflect on the importance of compassion, empathy and justice. Most importantly, it encouraged them to consider how they can make a difference by helping to build a society in which everyone is treated with dignity, respect and kindness.

Youth SVP





We are delighted to welcome lots of new members to our Youth SVP group this year. It is wonderful to see our students keen to put their faith into action by showing kindness, compassion and care for others.

The group has already been busy preparing for Remembrance in November. Students have written messages of comfort to accompany prayer cards and created memory hearts on which people can write messages in remembrance of loved ones. These thoughtful gestures offer an opportunity for people to remember those they have lost and find comfort in knowing that others are thinking of them.

Over the coming weeks, our Youth SVP members will be planning further activities to support people in our local community. They will also take part in a special Commissioning Mass, where they will receive their new badges and formally celebrate their commitment to the group.

We look forward to seeing all that our students achieve through Youth SVP this year as they continue to live out the Gospel message by serving others and making a positive difference in our community.

PE Update

Extra-curricular activities have got off to a fantastic start this year, building on the success enjoyed across a range of sports last year.

Swimming

Our swimming teams have continued the strong performances established last year in the English Schools Swimming Association National Schools Competition. The Junior team placed 157th out of 252 teams in the Freestyle Relay and 146th out of 249 teams in the Medley Relay. The Senior team achieved 82nd place out of 147 teams in the Freestyle Relay and 67th out of 146 teams in the Medley Relay.

The standout achievement came from the Intermediate team, who qualified for the National Finals at the Sandwell Aquatics Centre on 21 November. They secured an impressive 11th place out of 224 teams in the Freestyle Relay and 15th out of 222 teams in the Medley Relay.

Cross Country

Cross country season started, with both the Junior and Intermediate teams competing at John Leigh. The girls produced some excellent performances, with both teams finishing in first place. Special congratulations go to Eleanor and Nina, who were the first counters for the Junior and Intermediate teams respectively. We would also like to welcome our new Year 7 students, who have made a great start and settled into the team brilliantly.

The success continued at the National Schools Cross Country County Round Competition, where the Junior team finished third and the Intermediate team finished second. Both teams have now qualified for the Regional Finals in Sedbergh on Wednesday 4 November, and we wish them the very best of luck.

Hockey

Hockey has enjoyed a strong start to the year, with students from Years 7 to 11 competing in both local and national competitions. Several players have been attending county training sessions and trials and are eagerly awaiting news of their selection outcomes. Congratulations go to Amelie in Year 10, who has been attending the Tensworth Academy trials and has recently learned of her successful selection.

Netball Mary Slade Tournament

The Year 9 B/C Team enjoyed their first taste of competitive netball at the Mary Slade Tournament. Although the day began with rainy conditions, the clouds soon cleared to provide a perfect afternoon for play. With 10 matches to navigate, the tournament required resilience, determination and sustained high-intensity performances, all of which the girls delivered in abundance. The team supported one another brilliantly throughout and showed great versatility, adapting confidently to different positions and challenges. Their efforts were rewarded with five wins and one draw, with the only defeats coming against strong opposition. A particular highlight was running the eventual tournament winners to within two goals, demonstrating just how competitive the team had become. As the afternoon progressed, the players grew in confidence and developed their play with every match. The contribution of every squad member was outstanding, making it impossible to select a single Player of the Tournament, with each player deserving recognition for their commitment, teamwork, and excellent attitude throughout the event.

Congratulations to all of our athletes and teams on their hard work, dedication and achievements so far. We are incredibly proud of your success and look forward to seeing you represent Loreto in many more competitions throughout the year.

With so many students competing at a high level outside of school, it is not always possible to recognise every achievement. If your daughter has gained county or national representation in her chosen sport or activity, please do let Mrs Burnett-Ball know so that we can celebrate her success with the wider school community.

The PE Department

PE Update

Netball

The Year 9 A Team secured an impressive victory over Sale Grammar School in the Sisters-in-Sport competition, earning their place in the second round. Not to be outdone, the Year 10 team followed suit with a strong performance against Wellington, also progressing to round two and continuing the school's success in the competition.

The Year 10 netball teams began the season by competing in the Trafford Schools Netball Tournament. The A Team put in an outstanding performance and were crowned champions for the fourth consecutive year, continuing an impressive winning tradition.

The Year 11 team also enjoyed a highly successful competition. After playing some excellent netball throughout the tournament, they reached the final and finished as worthy runners-up after a closely contested match.

All year groups have had the opportunity to represent the school in competitive weekend fixtures, with both A and B teams enjoying a busy programme of matches. It has been particularly pleasing to see several teams achieve success against strong opposition from Bolton and Altrincham GS reflecting the hard work and commitment shown in training. These fixtures have provided valuable opportunities for players to develop their skills, gain match experience, and strengthen team cohesion, with an exciting schedule of further games already arranged for next term. The next weekend fixture is Saturday 7th November.

Focus on Year 7 Netball

It has been a joy to welcome over 60 students to Year 7 netball practice – either coming on a Friday lunchtime, after-school on Wednesday or both. The focus has been about enjoyment, skill development and understanding the roles of positions on court. This will continue throughout the year, as well as the development of tactical play. We have already had several competitive netball matches and the match reports from our students are below:

A Team vs Altrincham Girls Grammar School CPOM Nia OPOM Charlotte

In our match against AGGS we played very well as a team! In the first quarter we were still getting the hang of playing together but once we got the ball you couldn't stop us! I think the second quarter was when we played the best as the score was 22-0! Around the third or fourth quarter the heavens opened! However, we kept persevering through the rain and even when players started to slip, they got back up and continued playing. The overall score was 35-3! I thought it was a VERY good match. – Ntembe

B Team vs Altrincham Girls Grammar School CPOM Naomi OPOM Angelina

Going into this match, I felt a bit nervous because I didn't really know what to expect, although I was very excited to play my first match for Loreto! Emily had a great match because she was good at intercepting, and Eliza because she was good at getting the ball up the court. At the end of the match, I got OPOM for accurate shooting and Naomi got CPOM for great defending, and the result was 14-4 to Loreto! – Angelina

A Team vs Bolton School CPOM Ntembe OPOM Nia

What a lovely way to start Lilias's birthday celebrations! We met a very strong team. They marked us tightly and forced us to make errors. Despite such a tough match Loreto kept going, with the score finishing 6-26 to Bolton. It was only our second match together and if we work on our skills I think we could have a much closer rematch. Most importantly I think we had fun representing Loreto and we are enjoying learning how to play together. – Charlotte

B Team vs Bolton School CPOM – Lily OPOM - Angel

On Saturday the 3rd of October, the B team played against Bolton Grammar School from 10 to 11am. Unfortunately, the B team lost, but morale was kept high throughout the match. The shooting positions did extremely well, and the defending positions were very effective in getting some interceptions and rebounds. The score was very close at 9-12 and everyone played very well. WELL DONE YEAR 7 LORETO NETBALL TEAM! Natalie

From the Sixth Form

by Mr Newman

Apprenticeship Forum



The school's Apprenticeship Group has made an excellent start to the year, helping students explore the wide range of opportunities available through apprenticeships. Last year was particularly successful, with 12 students securing apprenticeship places across a variety of sectors, demonstrating that apprenticeships are an increasingly popular and valuable progression route after Sixth Form.

This term, the group has already taken part in two informative sessions. The first introduced students to the different types of apprenticeships available, including higher and degree apprenticeships, and highlighted the benefits of earning while learning. The second session focused on developing interview skills, giving students practical advice on how to present themselves confidently and effectively to employers.

Students also benefited from the experience of a guest speaker, Mr Atherton, who shared valuable insights into the recruitment process and offered tips on preparing for interviews and apprenticeship applications. The sessions have provided an excellent foundation for students considering this pathway, and we look forward to supporting more students as they begin their apprenticeship journey throughout the year.

Outstanding National Success in the Sidgwick Prize Essay Competition

We are delighted to celebrate the remarkable achievement of one of our Sixth Form students, Maggie, who has been awarded First Prize in Theology in the prestigious Sidgwick Prize Essay Competition, receiving a £100 prize.

The Sidgwick Prize was launched in 2025 to champion the humanities at a time when STEM subjects often dominate educational discussion. The competition is judged by a distinguished panel comprising three Cambridge academics, a UCL lecturer, and a former Oxford Rhodes Scholar.

In its inaugural year, the competition attracted around 300 entrants, with eight overall winners, one in each subject category. Such was the competition's growing popularity that in 2026 the number of entrants rose to approximately 1,300. While eight first prizes were retained, additional second and third-place awards were introduced to recognise the increased depth and quality of entries.

Against this exceptionally strong national field, Maggie secured first place in Theology and was notably the only state-school student to win a first-prize award in any subject. This outstanding accomplishment reflects both the student's intellectual curiosity and dedication, and the strength of humanities education within the Sixth Form.

Congratulations on a truly exceptional achievement.

Yale University Summer School

Over the summer I went to Yale University to attend a summer program called Yale Young Global Scholars (YYGS). It was an amazing opportunity to explore my interests in science among students from across the world in a variety of ways. I got the opportunity to experience university style learning and collaboration through lectures, seminars, a capstone project, a symposium and breakouts, which I was able to tailor to my interests. In my Engineering Capstone, as part of a group, I was able to design a biomimetic F1 car rear wing with an accompanied simulation, alongside participating in seminars around learning python, supernovae and leptons. There were 3 strands surrounding STEM, politics, law and economics and social sciences to suit a variety of interests and provide an interdisciplinary learning atmosphere. Lastly, I gained new friendships, engaged with new cultures and learnt how to live independently. YYGS gave me a unique insight to university life that I otherwise wouldn't have experienced. Oludara Y13 (https://globalscholars.yale.edu/welcome)

EPQ

A pleasing number of year 12 students have signed up for the Extended Project Qualification, in which students carry out, manage and present an extended, independent piece of research on a topic of their choice, outside of their A level studies. So far, students have been familiarising themselves with Project Q – the online system used to manage their project, and have begun to think about the topic they will research. Dr Wilson

From the Sixth Form

by Mr Newman

Edmund Rice Camp



The Edmund Rice Camps aim to provide students who would not usually take part in a summer holiday the chance to be with friends and take part in something fun and enjoyable. All of the camps are funded so it does not cost the students, with volunteers made up from Loreto Grammar and St Ambrose. I am pleased to report that the camp was a great success. Previous students from Loreto who first began with the camp, who have now left the school, begin in their roles as leaders taking on regional organisation of the summer camps - this is a great achievement! A huge thanks to the Loreto girls who made the camp happen. We were really pleased with all the new leaders.

Prevent Breast Cancer

On our trip to the Nightingale Centre, we were lucky enough to get a tour around its new area. The Nightingale Centre is a specialist hospital built specifically to expand local breast screening capacity and provide specialist training. This has led to 20,000 people of the 59,400 diagnosed with breast cancer in England per year being diagnosed at the Nightingale Hospital. During the visit, we gained a valuable insight into how money raised by Prevent Breast Cancer is used , (it's the only charity dedicated solely to the prediction and prevention of breast cancer), followed by a presentation discussing key factors in breast cancer awareness. We then heard from a radiologist and a doctor who gave us a real taste of what it's like as a healthcare professional. Finally, after brainstorming a variety of fundraising ideas, we are excited for future events and inspired by the potential this money has to fund cutting-edge research in predicting and preventing breast cancer, supporting Prevent Breast Cancer's ultimate goal: a future without breast cancer.

By Luna Y13.

Black History Month

I am delighted that this year the Sixth Form once again led on Black History Month throughout the school. Students delivered a powerful assembly to each Key Stage on the theme of 'Honouring our Communities' . This theme allowed students to share stories of influential people who have made a difference in politics and the arts but with a particular focus on local people from Greater Manchester and the Northwest. Students also shared with our community more information about Sickle Cell and make the link to local charities who help support fair access to healthcare in the Northwest. Our annual CHIC day will also donate some of the proceeds to a Sickle Cell charity. More information on the worldwide event can be found here: https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/

UCAS and Apprenticeships Show

Year 12 attended the first part of their Future Pathways events for the Year. The trip to Old Trafford was an opportunity to meet apprenticeship and university providers. This was helpful as students began to settle into their new A Level subjects and ensure they had made the correct choices for their future careers plans. In March, students will attend the UCAS Discovery Day and also experience the Speed Careers event in June before they begin to complete their Post-18 applications. This year we continue to make use of our online platform Unifrog so that Year 12 will take part in a 3-day work experience which they will need to arrange for themselves.

Next Gen Talks

Our programme of Next Gen talks for this academic year got off to a strong start with Florence's talk entitled 'Nobody is perfect': how defective diamonds are paving the way for quantum technologies. The well-researched talk drew together elements of chemistry, physics and computer science, and attendees from years 12 and 13 learnt how different defects occur in crystalline substances, and how these atomic-level imperfections are being applied to advance modern technology. We look forward to the next talks offered by year 13 students, and I encourage any year 12 students who would like to contribute to the programme to get in touch with me.

Dr Wilson

From the Sixth Form

by Mr Newman

Sixth Form Open Evening and Taster Day

The school welcomed a large number of current and new prospective students to our Open evening on Thursday 15th October to our annual event. After hearing the main talk from Mrs Beever and Mr Newman, families toured the school subject exhibitions meeting current students and departmental staff. A special series of talks took place in the chapel to explore Oxbridge applications and also Medicine. There were also many exhibitions up in Cafe Loreto which helped show the vast array of extracurricular opportunities available in Sixth Form. It was a joyful occasion where our vision for education was on display. Our Sixth Form supports the main school in offering an 'enriching and liberating' education in the charism of Mary Ward.









On the following day, Year 11 elected to attend 5 taster sessions where they experienced what the subjects would be like at A Level with an assembly in the morning to hear more about Post-16 studies.

Applications to our Sixth Form are now open via the website with the deadline of Friday 4th December.

Oxbridge Applications

The Oxbridge applicants have had a busy term completing their applications to the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford. They spent last year reading widely around their subject and undertaking a good deal of super-curricular work (summer schools, webinars, online masterclasses, essay writing competitions) to create some very impressive personal statements. Sarah and Maggie were successful in their respective essay writing competitions. The students will now focus on their admissions tests and preparing for interview if they are selected, for which we will again provide advice and practice.

Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Applications

We are delighted that 12 students have submitted applications for Medicine this year, alongside one student applying for Veterinary Science. Their applications have now been sent to universities and they are eagerly awaiting responses. It has been a real pleasure reading their personal statements and learning about the wide range of volunteering, work experience and community activities they have undertaken to prepare for their chosen careers. The next stage of the process is interview preparation, with students taking part in mock interviews both in school and through our valued partnership with Wythenshawe Hospital. We have also been pleased to welcome a new cohort of aspiring medics and dentists from Year 12 to MedSoc, and we look forward to supporting them as they begin their own journey towards careers in healthcare.

16 to 19 Bursary

Loreto Grammar School receives annual funding to provide financial support for students in Sixth Form who may face specific financial barriers to continuing their education. Thank you to all the students who submitted their applications by the September deadline. Applicants have now received notification of the outcome of their applications. Please note that an application can be made at any time during the year should your financial circumstances change. For further information, including eligibility criteria and details of how to apply, please visit the school website: Loreto Grammar School - 16-19 Bursary. If you have any questions about the bursary scheme, please contact the School Office.

CHIC 2026

Our annual CHIC day took place on Wednesday 21 October, where we Celebrate our Heritage, Internationality and Culture. Students dressed in either national costumes or in the colours of a flag of a country of their choice. It was wonderful to see such vibrant and varied outfits. Years 7s generously gave of their time and talents in baking goods for an internationality themed cake stall, which was a huge success. At lunchtime, there were taster sessions in Turkish, German and Cantonese. We also had our much-anticipated dance show. 87 Students from Years 7 to 13 have been busy rehearsing since we returned to school in September, and we were wowed by a showcase of Chinese, Irish, Indian and African dancing. The event was both great fun and a fantastic fundraiser, with a total of £924.11 raised from the ticket and cake sales. A huge well done to all those who helped to organise the event and all those who took part.

Mrs Stokes










Sustainability at Loreto Grammar School

Be an Eco Champion! Love Creation – Make a Difference!

This year, Loreto Grammar School is continuing on our journey the CAFOD LiveSimply Award: An introduction to Live Simply for schools – a wonderful scheme that encourages schools and communities to live simply, sustainably, and in solidarity with those living in poverty.

We launched our year at the Freshers Fair in September, where our stall was buzzing with excitement! Students flocked to sample our delicious Fairtrade chocolate – a reminder that every Friday is Fairtrade Friday, with Year 12 students selling Fairtrade treats at break time.

Our students are true ambassadors for change, embodying the values of Mary Ward and inspiring our community to consider sustainability in every choice we make.

Each year, from 1 September to 4 October, Christians around the world unite in the Season of Creation, a time of prayer and action to care for our common home. In his message for the Season of Creation, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that:

"Environmental justice can no longer be regarded as an abstract concept or a distant goal. It is an urgent need that involves much more than simply protecting the environment. It is a matter of social, economic and human justice. For believers, it is also a duty born of faith, since the universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ, in whom all things were created and redeemed."

This year's theme, "Living Water", explores a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. In the midst of exile and loss, the image of living water flowing from God's sanctuary reveals divine healing that renews the land, water, biodiversity, and our shared responsibility to care for creation.

We marked the Season of Creation with a hope-filled Mass on Thursday 1 October during which our new Eucharistic Ministers were also commissioned. The mass was led by Father Ned and the Chapel was full of all the Eco reps!

We look forward to 2026–27 with renewed hope and commitment, always remembering that together we make a difference. In the words of St Teresa of Kolkata:

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But if that drop was not in the ocean, I think the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."

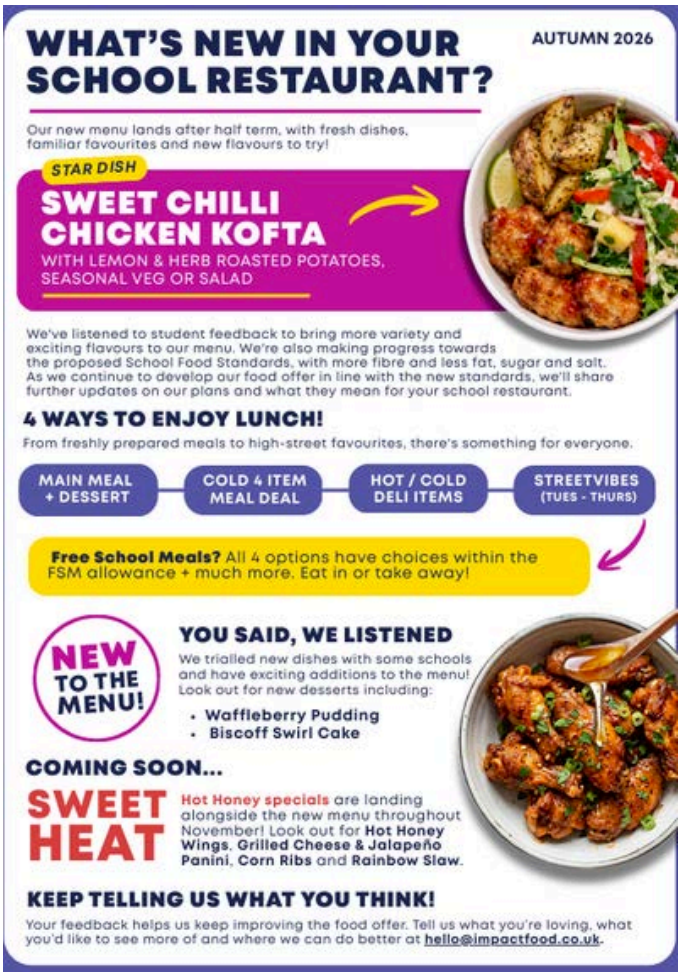
Every action, no matter how small, matters. Each pledge, each step, and each choice brings us closer to a more sustainable, compassionate world — a true reflection of our Loreto values in action.

Free School meals Update

Recent changes to the Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility criteria mean that more families may now qualify for support. From the start of the academic year 2026-2027, all children in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals, regardless of household earnings. There are two categories of eligibility:

- **Targeted FSM**: for households in receipt of universal credit with earnings of £7,400 or less per year. This includes free meals and additional support such as pupil premium funding.
- **Expanded FSM**: for households in receipt of universal credit with earnings above £7,400 per year. This provides free school meals only.

If you believe your daughter may now be eligible for Free School Meals, even if you have not applied before, we strongly encourage you to apply and the process is quick and confidential. If you require any assistance with the application process, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office via info@loretogrammar.co.uk.



The Counselling and Family Centre courses

Pictured below are posters from Trafford Council with details of courses lead by CFC (The counselling and Family Centre). To book a free place, please visit: https://www.thecfc.org.uk/parents. CFC will also be running some more 'Starting Strong' programmes, a series of free workshops for parents and carers of children attending Trafford schools who have emerging special educational needs. All sessions are delivered online and are free to attend. To book a place, please visit: https://www.thecfc.org.uk/sendparents





Trafford Neurodiversity Support





Monkhouse Uniform

Parents/carers can purchase a great value plain winter coat for £35 from Monkhouse. Click here for details; Waterproof Coat