



Personal Development Newsletter

July 2026

Drama & Music Residential

From Friday 3rd - Sunday 5th July, 33 students from years 7-11 enjoyed a fantastic, culturally enriching experience to Stratford-upon-Avon. As well as tours around Shakespeare's Birthplace, Shakespeare's New Place and an exhibition at the Royal Shakespeare Company, they relaxed on a boat trip down the River Avon and spent some time exploring the town.



We stayed at the Youth Hostel near Stratford-upon-Avon, where students had some time to explore the grounds, participate in a drama workshop based on A Midsummer Night's Dream and play games together. We had a fabulous challenge night on Saturday night, with charades, a quiz and the 'big musical reveal' of our next show. A brilliant time was had by all!

Our pupils performed a variety of Music and Drama pieces at Rother Arts House and the Bandstand by the River. Audiences were impressed with the talent and professionalism of our wonderful students and we had many compliments from the public.



Loreto High School's Sustainable Travel Initiative

A group of our Year 10 Prefects have been working all year on different ways to encourage pupils and staff to travel sustainably to school. They collected over 500 signatures for a new zebra crossing outside school, organised World Bike Day with Dame Sarah Storey, invited Dr Bike in, spoke at Year 6 Transition Evening & local primary schools and created a display board with cycle and walking routes to school.



They presented all their work at the TfGM Travel Ambassador Celebration ceremony at the end of term. They have done an amazing job, and they will be handing this over next year, but will ensure that we continue to contact the council about the zebra crossing!



Sports Leaders 'Change For Life' Event



On Wednesday 10th June, our Sports Leaders attended the Change for Life event at Platt Lane, working with Team MCR. This event was the third and final Change for Life event of the academic year.

During the event, our Sports Leaders led activity stations for pupils from six primary schools. The stations focused on developing teamwork, physical skills, social skills, and mental skills, providing an engaging and positive experience for all involved.

The event gave our Sports Leaders a valuable opportunity to work with younger pupils and inspire them through physical education. The stations were delivered to an excellent standard, with pupils confidently breaking down instructions to ensure they were clear and easy for the primary school pupils to follow.



Both our Sports Leaders and the visiting primary school pupils thoroughly enjoyed the day, making it a lovely and memorable event. Our Sports Leaders represented Team PE and Loreto exceptionally well throughout the event.

Year 7 University Of Manchester Trip



On Friday 26th June, we took a group of 10 Year 7s to the University of Manchester. They took part in some Maths activities and a group of our girls won the team competition! Well done to all years 7s for their hard work, and congrats to Erin, Mylah, and Alanah.

Trips to Ghyll Head, York, North Wales & the Peak District

In the summer term pupils from both Year 8 and Year 9 visited the Peak District national park, where they climbed Mam Tor and had amazing views from Hollins Cross. They were outstanding and loved experiencing the rural landscape.



In June, 20 Year 9 pupils visited Ghyll Head outdoor centre in the Lake District. They took part in canoeing, ghyll scrambling, and did activities on the climbing wall and zip wire. The instructors commented on their resilience and great attitude. Their walk up Side Pike in the Langdale Valley was a real highlight!



Our Year 10 Geographers travelled to North Wales to take part in Coastal Fieldwork, they practiced beach profiling, wave counts and did land use surveys. They visited Colwyn Bay and Little Orme. They were a credit to the year group!



Our Year 10 Prefects took part in the Loreto Leadership conference in June. They joined students from Loreto St Albans, Loreto Grammar school, Loreto College, and Loreto St Michael's. All students gave a presentation on current leadership opportunities, created an action plan on a new project, and explored York in a mixed school group. It was an excellent weekend where students reflected on Mary Ward's leadership as an inspiration for their own.



Chaplaincy

Residential Retreat in Wales

In May the Chaplain led students on a Residential Retreat at the Loreto Spirituality Centre in Llandudno. The Retreat 'A Times with God' provided students with time to reflect and develop their faith. They also learnt the different ways of praying with scripture and nature.



"Hope is the thing with feathers. God is always there even in your worst moments but you have to always try make him proud and do good." Paulina Year 10

"You need to learn to trust God more, even though he is not there physically." Weronika Year 10

"Reminder that God is in nature and I enjoyed it. Try your best, you can go above and beyond" Pip Year 7



Welcoming CAFOD International Partners from Bolivia

On Friday 26th June 2026, we are privileged to welcome to Loreto, two representatives of Pastoral Social CARITAS BENI a CAFOD partner organisation in Bolivia. Allan and Daniel were in the UK to meet governmental officials and other stakeholders to raise awareness on the issue of sustainability as well as to advocate for policies that enrich Human dignity by safeguarding our planet from damage.



Gaelic Football Success



As part of our commitment to providing enriching personal development opportunities, a group of pupils recently represented the school at a prestigious Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) tournament held at the newly opened Centre of Excellence at Broughton Park. Competing against more than 60 schools from across the country, our pupils demonstrated exceptional teamwork, resilience, sportsmanship and determination. The Year 8 team, supported by a Year 7 pupil, successfully progressed through the group stages before reaching the quarter-finals, while our mixed Year 9 and 10 team advanced all the way to the final, finishing as runners-up against a highly experienced side. These achievements are particularly impressive given the level of competition and experience of the teams they faced. The tournament provided pupils with a valuable opportunity to develop confidence, leadership skills and a sense of belonging through sport, while proudly representing our school and community. We are delighted to see the continued growth of Gaelic games within our school and look forward to building on this success in the future.



Year 10 Child Development: Bring your toddler to school day!

Year 10 Child Development students recently had the valuable opportunity to observe toddlers aged 2–3 years as part of their child study. Miss Beamish and Miss Robinson very kindly brought their little ones into school for the session. It was a delight to watch the children at play, interacting confidently with both their mums and our students. The toddlers happily joined in activities and demonstrated many of the developmental milestones expected for their age.

I think it is fair to say that they are absolutely meeting their developmental norms – and perhaps that's no surprise, given the wonderful care, support and encouragement they receive at home!



The visit provided an invaluable real-life learning experience and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone involved. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to see child development theory brought to life in such a positive and enjoyable way.

Loreto Festival of Poetry

We hosted the Loreto Poetry Festival on Wednesday 24th June. Children from our partner primary schools came in to perform poems they had learnt by heart, along with six of our year 7 students.

Our guest judges were extremely impressed with performances from the poets and the year 10 band, Chasing the Ace.

2025 Poetry Festival year 6 champion, Joshua Pedro Carrilho maintained his title by winning the year 7 category this year.



'Care for Creation' Garden Project

On Tuesday 30th June, our Eco Group were visited by St Peter's RC High School. Students had the opportunity to play the 'Go for Green' game and learn about the impact of their actions on our climate. Students were then invited to help us begin work on our school garden which will be an ongoing project undertaken by our Care for Creation gardening group next year.

Flying The Flag For Loreto!



On Saturday 21 June 2026 Emirates Old Trafford hosted their first two matches of the ICC T20 Women's Cricket World Cup. Year 10 Sports

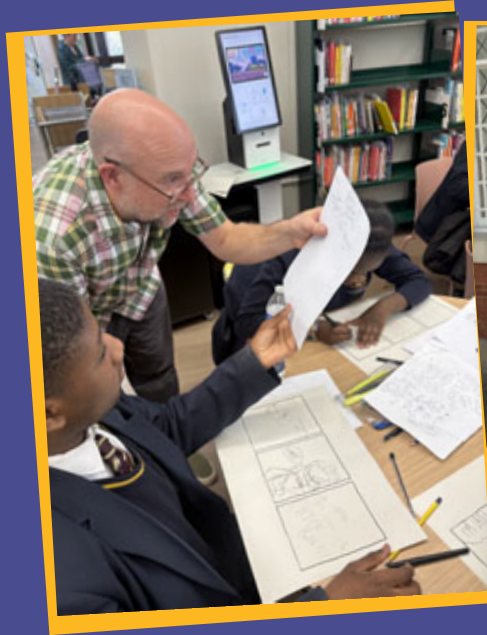
Leader and Prefect Hattie, a successful hardball cricketer herself, was invited to be a flag bearer at this international event as part of her Young Officials volunteer role for Lancashire Cricket Foundation. Hattie participated in the opening ceremony ahead of the Scotland vs Ireland match and afterwards had the pleasure of meeting Kathryn Bryce, Scotland's Captain. It was a fantastic opportunity to represent girls and women in sport, as well as Loreto High School and Whalley Range Cricket Club.



Comic Book Workshop at Chorlton Library

Miss Shepherd took 8 students to Chorlton Library to work with comic book author, Jim Medway. The students created their own cartoon characters and developed their ideas in a shared storyboard.

They also heard a short talk about Manchester Libraries and a free app available to them whereby they can read comics online. They took away forms to register for their own library cards.



RE Department – KS3 Practical Project Showcase

Each year group in Key Stage 3 completes a practical project linked to a different area of their curriculum including the Catholic Church and Mosques in the 21st Century, and Holocaust memorials. These projects give pupils the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity while deepening their understanding of important religious beliefs, practices and historical events.

We are always amazed by the effort, imagination and talent shown in the finished pieces, and this year has been no exception. Pupils have produced some truly fabulous artwork, and we are delighted to share a snapshot of a few of our winning entries.

If you would like to see more of our pupils' fantastic work, please visit our Instagram page [@loretohighredepartment](#). We are incredibly proud of the creativity and dedication shown by our students. Well done to all involved!

School Sports Week

Our school sports week was a great success with each year group taking part in their chosen sport for the full morning. Pupils represented their house whilst playing Football, Basketball, Dance or Rounders. Pupils remained physically active for sustained periods of time, behaved impeccably and enjoyed success representing their house. We are incredibly proud of our school community for baring the heat, having fun and tapping into the physical and mental benefits of physical activity. Longford Park 2027 incoming...



National Games Week



As part of our School Sports Week, our community also took part in National Games Week. After school each day, all of our pupils were invited to take part in a different co-curricular sport, ending the week with our annual staff vs pupil rounders. Pupils took part in a world cup themed football afternoon, dodgeball and rounders. A total of 172 students took part in a PE co-curricular activity, with 84 pupils representing the pupil team vs a strong staff team. Staff were the ultimate winners of the day, beating the pupils 14 rounders to 11 rounders. The current standings Staff 3 - 0 Pupils with the bragging rights remaining with our Loreto Staff. Mr Cullen remains desperate for a pupil team win, will next year bring success for them?