



School Newsletter

WELCOME BACK! - RICH CURRICULUM - PARENT PARTNERSHIP

WELCOME BACK!

We hope you have had a wonderful summer, with precious time to enjoy family and friends.

It is wonderful to see how much the children grow over the summer. They make the transition so swiftly to their new year groups and learning takes off from day 1!



We love the start of a new year; there's a real tingle of excitement in the air as we prepare to take your children's learning further.

You will find helpful information in this newsletter, please also visit the school website for diary dates for the year.

www.ourladyofpity.co.uk

Celebrating Culture

Our first week back in September will see a whole school focus on cultural diversity. We will be studying three counties in particular: Bangladesh, Poland and Mexico. The children will be exploring the similarities and differences between peoples; their challenges and triumphs; their stories and beliefs.

This year, we will be welcoming back one of our governors: Anna Turnbull and her team from the Multi Ethnic Advisory Service to share stories and artefacts from these cultures with the children across the week. We will look at British culture and values, and those of the Catholic church in today's world.

This leads us to look again at our school's ethos and motto as we ask ourselves - what does JOY THROUGH RESPECT look, sound and feel like in Our Lady of Pity School now and what needs to happen for this joy to be present in everything we do?

CLASSES STUDYING MEXICO

Year 1 DE
Year 3 AJ
Year 4 SA
Year 5 SG

CLASSES STUDYING BANGLADESH:

Year 2 EG
Year 3 LB
Year 5 KH
Year 6 MM

CLASSES STUDYING POLAND:

Year 1 HS
Year 2 NH
Year 4 KW
Year 6 CR

START YOUR RESEARCH NOW!

This might be the perfect opportunity for a weekend trip to the library! Perhaps you can find a story or a song, a picture or an artefact to send in to school next week. You may have contacts or relatives, connections to share - all contributions are welcome.

A Rich Curriculum

An innovative approach

We have been developing an alternative approach to the teaching of the full range of primary school subjects in such a way as to make the most of the breadth and depth of the National Curriculum.



This year, from Year 1 upwards, we are approaching each year group's curriculum as a story, which will unfold across the year, chapter by chapter, as subjects are given deep focus in sequence rather than in a weekly spread of short sessions.

The children will share their learning at points across the year - sometimes inviting other classes to come and learn from them, and hosting exposés periodically for parents. Dates for the exposés will be published on the school calendar shortly.

The stories are about to be published on our website; the themes for each year group are:

Year 1 - In My Life

Year 2 - What a wonderful world!

Year 3 - Zero to Hero - from matter to magic and mirrors

Year 4 - Contrast - The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Year 5 - Survival of the Fittest - but at what cost?

Year 6 - Fragile Earth

Practicalities Please!

Sports kit: We do not want to cut the summer short so the children will be spending plenty of time learning outdoors. We will also be running, skipping, dancing and generally staying active, so **please make sure that your child brings a complete PE kit (Navy tracksuit, trainers, white T-shirt, navy shorts) on the first day back.**

Music Tuition: Music lessons and all clubs will start in the first week of term - please send musical instruments in on the first day of term, to ensure that lessons are not missed whilst timetables are being issued. There are places available for some of the sports clubs and for music tuition, please contact the school office if you are interested in accessing these for your child.



Mouse House
Rumer Godden
3-7 years

Mary's disappointment at the flannel mice she is given to play with in her little toy mouse house, is transformed by the arrival of Bonnie, a real mouse from the basement, in search of lodgings...

Must-reads!

What are YOUR best-loved books?

There's nothing like the power of a family settling down to the enchantment of a shared book - what are your best books just now?

Let us know your recommendations:
email amaney@ourladyofpity.co.uk



Abel's Island
William Steig
7+ years

The experiences of Abel, a well-bred and rather pampered mouse, who suddenly finds himself in challenging circumstances... which bring him untold gifts.

"If you want your child to be intelligent, read them fairy stories..." Einstein

See our blog, at: <http://www.olooschool.co.uk/home/blog-school>

PARENT CONCERNS?

Please contact us with any concerns.

schooloffice@
ourladyofpity.co.uk

PARENT COUNCIL

Are you interested in working to enhance learning? Contact amaney@ourladyofpity.co.uk.

ESAFETY

thinkuknow.co.uk
Visit for latest guidance.

PARENT VIEW

You are invited to register your views at:
parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

FOLLOW US!

@olopschool1 

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.olopschool.co.uk 

Say HI!

Let us know if you need documents in another language, or if a translator would help.

Partnership is Paramount

An invitation, not to be missed!

In order to give you a richer picture of the year ahead for your child, we are replacing the September parents' meetings for Y1-Y6 with Year Group Information Meetings.

At this meeting, the teaching team will lead a short presentation outlining key learning, academic standards, trips, topics and events for the year and will give you hints and tips for helping your child at home. There will be an opportunity for you to ask any questions and to speak to the teaching team afterwards if necessary.

Thurs Sept 7th

Year 1
4:00pm
Year 3
4:30pm
Year 5
5:00pm

Thurs Sept 14th

Year 2
4:00pm
Year 4
4:30pm
Year 6
5:00pm

Lunchbox Plea

May we remind you of our Lunchbox Policy - see our website for full details.

It is hard for children to see others eating chocolates, crisps etc without wanting the same.

Please support the needs of all the children by keeping treat foods for home.

Thank you.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

PLEASE ensure that the children's uniform is clearly labelled.

Let's make this year a "No Lost Property" year!

internetmatters.org

for Internet Safety Advice

Want to know how to set up devices safely for children using the internet?
Visit internetmatters.org

HOME TIME

PLEASE ensure that home time arrangements are known - email schooloffice@ourladyofpity.co.uk if unsure.

DRESS CODE

Please help the children focus, by **removing all unnecessary distractions**: nail polish, coloured hair braids, tattoos, hair gel, hair dye, jewellery, wrist bands etc. When the children come back to school, it is a relief for them to be free to express their individuality through their thinking and creative learning, rather than competing with trends and fashions. You would be amazed at the difference this smart, respectful uniform code makes - the eye is then drawn to the child, not what they are wearing.

Keeping things simple really helps the children to settle. THANK YOU.

As with many schools, we are now using our Facebook page to post in-the-moment photos and updates.

Please like our page: **Our Lady of Pity RC School.**

