DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY OUR LADY OF PITY ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL A VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

MAIN SCHOOL SITE

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PRINCIPAL: MR MARK COTTON HEAD OF SCHOOL: MRS BERNADETTE GALLOWAY

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have been appreciating the words of Jesus 'You are the light of the world, let your light shine,' this week as they explore their gifts and aspirations. They have been discussing the ways in which they shine, helping to reflect this back to each other. One of our year 5s wrote: "This means that everyone here is a light to someone else and, every single time you show kindness, you radiate your light." He went on to say: "One of the required things (for your light to shine for others) is a calm, meaningful smile, so they know that someone really is on their side."

The Year 3 children took time to reflect one child's strengths back to her, in preparation for our assembly this week. She then wrote:

"I have just found out that the light I bring to others is patience and kindness, being a good friend. I am always smiling and always try to do the right thing."

She said that it was a great experience to have this reflected back to her by her classmates and she is now looking forward to doing the same for the others. She went on to write:

"I aspire to be a fashion designer. I already have a sewing machine!"

Please take every opportunity over this period to chat with your child about the ways people contribute to the world, to expand their knowledge of the possibilities that exist for them.

Raising Aspirations - 'Wonderful World of Work' Week 17th - 22nd June

We will be hosting a 'Wonderful World of Work' week next half term, focusing on broadening children's understanding of the ways in which their gifts and interests might translate into the world of work as they become adults. We will be asking for volunteers from the community to come in to share their work experiences with the children. Please come forward! Help us to develop the children's sense of purpose and value in the wider world.

Challenging Racism Workshop

Our older juniors are currently exploring the issue of racism with input from the Multi Ethnic Advisory Service (MEAS) They are discussing the challenges of ensuring respect for all. The MEAS team work with our children across the school and throughout the year to promote appreciation of cultural diversity and to develop British Values of tolerance and respect for all faiths and beliefs at an age appropriate level. We are most grateful for the significant part they play in unpacking our mission of JOY through Respect.

Year 2 'Read and Feed'

The Read and Feed event for Year 2 was a major hit with the children and we will be planning future events along the same lines - watch this space for details! Our thanks to the kitchen team who did a wonderful job of making this a great experience for all.

Interim Website

We now have an interim website, as we prepare to redesign its content. If you have thoughts about possible improvements, please let us know: email amaney@ourladyofpity.co.uk.

Parent Survey

You should have received a link to the latest parent survey, our thanks to those who have already completed it. Please do share your views - the survey takes five minutes; we value your feedback.

Facebook Feed

We are increasing our posting rate on Facebook to give you a really good picture of the richness of the children's curriculum. You will find the link to the feed on the Home page of our school website, take a look, it makes great viewing!

<u>eSafety</u>

We continually revisit the need to keep ourselves safe online. Please keep this conversation fresh with your children. Remind them never to share personal details and to stop and report to an adult, any online activity that does not feel right.

Science Talkabout

Need a rainy day activity? Try freezing some different sized bowls of water, tip out the ice into a deep tray or bowl and have your child sprinkle salt on it. Watch as the salt seems to eat away at the ice, the salt molecules separating the water molecules and stopping them from linking up to become solid. This is 'freezing point depression' - the salt actually lowers the freezing point of the ice by getting in the way, preventing the molecules from locking into a solid.

Chatting to your child about how useful this is in the winter when we keep roads ice free with salt liberally spread over them makes for fascinating discussion as you watch the ice mountains form and see the rivers flow.

A few drops of food colouring added to the mountains you have made can make for a wonderful exploration of colour mixing: you can dip paper into the swirls of multi-coloured liquid if you want some abstract ice art to keep as the ice melts away. Dry those pieces of paper, cut or tear them up and you're ready for collage!

And so we pray... May we reflect to all the light of the risen Christ. Help us to be gentle, be gentle, be gentle, as we remember that each soul is crafted of God's light. Amen Warm wishes, OLOP Team