

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



MAIN SCHOOL SITE

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PRE-SCHOOL: 0151 677 6813
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ANNEXE SITE

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PRE-SCHOOL: 0151 632 6336

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

Dear Parents / Carers,

Walking through the school, as the term's momentum builds, shows children of all ages thriving on their daily work, happy in the knowledge that everything they do is opening doors in their future. The more they look beyond school to the great world beyond, the more they will be inspired to want the skills and knowledge which will take them to great experiences in the adult world ahead of them. We will be revisiting the 'Wonderful World of Work' theme soon, to refresh the children's focus on aspirational thinking. They continue to explore ways in which, as adults, they will continue to live the school's mission of JOY through Respect.

Over the next couple of weeks the teachers will be helping the children to focus on high standards of presentation in everything they do: every piece of work should show maximum effort and respect. Please encourage your child to think in this way when they are helping at home or doing their homework. Look for small improvements because it all helps!

Safeguarding

Please help us to keep your children safe. Talking to pupils last week, it seems fairly widespread that they are using phones, iPads etc at home to access apps intended for older children or young adults. This is a very worrying trend because the age restrictions are set by law.

All apps have a clear age rating. No child in primary school should be accessing apps with a 12+ rating. Please note that TikTok, Instagram and Snapchat are amongst the most commonly used apps and all have an age rating of 12+. YouTube has a rating of 17+ and whilst we may have good intentions, it simply isn't possible to watch over children's screen activity at all times.

We have been speaking to pupils about 'pestering' parents to allow access to these apps. We now need your help if we are to eradicate this widespread issue. Please spend a few moments this weekend, adjusting the settings on any app device that your child uses. Please set the age to match your child's chronological age exactly.

If **every** parent does this, there won't be any peer pressure and the pestering will stop!

If you would like further information or support, the website - internetmatters.org is an excellent source of guidance for parents and carers.

Coming up...

The mile run - please make sure that your child has a full PE kit and trainers in school on Tuesday 24th September.

Parents' evenings - letters will be sent home this week.

Sponsored Read 'A lifelong love of reading' - this will be launched at a special assembly on Monday this week and will start on 30th September.

Collective Worship - Every day the children spend a short time praying together. They take great pride in leading this themselves, and in choosing the focus for their reflection. We will be encouraging parents to join classes from time to time to share this short period of prayer. Keep an eye on homework letters for dates and times.

And so we pray...

In our whole school collective worship, we have reflected on the parables of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin and the Prodigal Son. Time after time, Jesus describes God's boundless love and forgiveness. No matter how lost we may

feel, God seeks us out and is always ready to welcome us home. This is a beautiful message to ponder with our children.

We look to the Jesuits for our prayer this week:

A Prayer for Peace and Justice

Lord,

lead us from death to life,
from falsehood to truth.

Lead us from despair to hope,
from fear to trust.

Let peace fill our hearts, our world and our universe.

Let us dream together, pray together and work together,
to build one world of peace and justice for all.

Amen.

Warm wishes,

OLOP Team