OUR LADY OF PITY JULY 2017



# School Newsletter

IN MEMORIAM - FINAL FEAST - SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY

### A Wonderful Year!

As summer beckons, we reflect on a wonderful school year. Your children work beautifully and show incredible kindness, curiosity and enthusiasm.



We bid a fond farewell to our year six children knowing that they will go from strength to strength in their new schools.

## In Memoriam Mrs Riley

This beautiful wall sculpture has been installed in the infant library area, in memory of our dear colleague and friend, Debbie Riley. The words were chosen, by Debbie's family, from children's phrases, gathered as they reflected on their fond memories of her. The library is the perfect setting for this memorial: it is a beautiful space, filled with light, welcoming all to the beauty of children's books, so treasured by Debbie. Her spirit will be with us always.



## Debbie Riley Our teacher and our friend.

Always smiling Made learning easy Loving & caring Funny Unique



### **Must-reads!**

#### Look out for these fantastic publications:



A powerful book for our older children - Linda Sue Park sensitively shares with us the true story of Slava, a Sudanese "lost boy", separated from family by a school shooting, struggling to survive.

A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park Aesop's Fables
by Michael
Morpurgo
Nothing beats an
Aesop's fable - and
this is a beautiful
edition, crafted by
the master - Michael
Morpurgo.

"If you want your child to be intelligent, read them fairy stories..." Einstein See our blog, at: <a href="http://www.olopschool.co.uk/home/blog-school">http://www.olopschool.co.uk/home/blog-school</a>

#### Our Thanks to the PTA

What a dedicated team, bringing us such richness from Book Fair to pirate ship playground. Sincere thanks to Mike Craven, for his leadership and to Louise Ash for taking up the mantle from Mike.

Come and join this fabulous team: our next project - the infant and junior playgrounds!



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# A Masterclass in Mastery Dr Yeap Ban Har

Such a privilege to have the foremost international mathematics trainer - author of the "Maths, No Problem!" text books - Dr Yeap Ban Har, teaching our Year 4 children at Our Lady of Pity in May this year.

Ban Har was deeply impressed by the responsiveness and depth of the children's thinking. The way children explored concepts and challenged each other's ideas shows the level of expertise of the teachers and the readiness of the children to learn at their best, consistently.

Children's journals evidence the power of this approach to mathematics - the benefit of teaching children to explore problems, solving them in different ways and communicating their thoughts clearly.



Children worked with absolute focus despite sound booms, several cameras and tripods, plus an audience of around 12 teachers and school leaders, all fascinated by the learning taking place.

The 19th June edition of the Times Educational Supplement hosts an article by Professor Pete Boyd, principal lecturer at the University of Cumbria: "Maths mastery makes setting according to ability irrelevant". His research with our maths team is now complete and attracting interest.

# Our Lady of Pity- A School of Sanctuary A place of safety and welcome for all

The whole school has worked with powerful focus across the year, to develop our understanding of what it is to be a school of sanctuary. The children have been guided to explore the concept: what is sanctuary and why is it needed so particularly at this time in our history?

We have challenged ourselves to look carefully at the difficulties which can arise when offering hospitality to those in need. The children's compassion is profound and poignant.

The learning focus during national Refugee Week was a testament to the depth and generosity of the community we serve. The children have made everyone proud and offer hope for the future.





Our presentation inspired the School of Sanctuary team to ask us to repeat it in September at the launch of next year's application window for this award.

Our video will be used on the national website and our file has been requested for use as an exemplar for schools following in our footsteps.

Well done all at OLOP!

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#### 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 HII

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

## **Enriching the Curriculum**

### A Feast of Learning Experiences!

This year ends with a true feast on all fronts: sports, art, drama, cultural visits and technological triumph, and scientific exploration from chick-rearing to potato growing.

What a privilege to enjoy these rich experiences with children who respond with such enthusiasm and aplomb!



## SCHOOL UNIFORM 20% OFF!

20% off all school uniform at:

m&syourschooluniform.com

Buy now while the offer lasts!

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Please **do NOT** book holidays during term time - term dates for 2017-18 are on the website now. Attendance in school is critical. Thank you.

# internetmatters.org for Internet Safety Advice

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



### **FOODBANK**

Fantastic generosity once again from the school community. The Foodbank team is delighted with our offerings.

**THANK YOU!** 

#### THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC...

Learning to play a musical instrument has innumerable benefits and the children across the school are thriving on the richness of choice, from ukulele to flute, with increasing numbers achieving well in music exams.

### Day to Day...

#### **SIGN UP NOW!**

If your child currently does not play an instrument and is Year 3 or above, sign up now and open their world to this delightful discipline.

## A STUNNING YEAR FOR SPORTS AND WELLBEING

PE is at an all-time high and is bearing fabulous fruit, not only in the sporting arena but also in the health and wellbeing of children, who focus better and show greater enthusiasm for life as a result of increased access to exercise and physical learning.

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.





