

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



MAIN SCHOOL SITE

RIGBY DRIVE
GREASBY
WIRRAL
CH49 1RE
TEL: 0151 677 6262
PRE-SCHOOL: 0151 677 6813
FAX: 0151 677 5609
EMAIL: schooloffice@ourladyofpity.co.uk

ANNEXE SITE

BIRKENHEAD ROAD
HOYLAKE
WIRRAL
CH47 5AF
TEL: 0151 632 1908
PRE-SCHOOL: 0151 632 6336

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

Half term is here, and the school team brings this segment of the year to a close with a rousing dance assembly, enjoyed by all and showing the children's skills, fitness and flair to be of the highest standards. Our congratulations to all the staff and children!

News from the Kitchen

The kitchen team is providing a themed lunch on 31st October to celebrate Halloween. It looks delicious!

Please look on the website for the latest menus. We now have a three-week rolling menu. Fruit sales are proving extremely popular so we are no longer selling toast.

PTA

Please look out for the PTA Halloween competitions. Design your hat, decorate your pumpkin and test your art skills.... all funds raised will go towards science resources.

Attendance

Thank you for supporting school attendance. We aim for 97% attendance across the whole school. Please do not take holidays in term time.

Sporting events

Congratulations to the Year 6 Football Team who reached the TRFC finals... sadly they were beaten on penalties! Cross Country - the boys have been placed first twice and second once in the three races so far. Well done! The girls are not far behind and we're sure they will bring home their own clutch of medals soon.

Science Talkabout - Pine Cone Magic Trick!

Perhaps you might be inspired to take an autumn walk through some pine woods this half term. If you get the chance, you might like to search for pine cones - on the trees and on the forest floor. Encouraging your child's inner scientist might look something like this.

See what your child notices about the cones - on and off the trees - is there anything different about the ones on the ground? Can you find any open cones? Where did you find them? Can you see where the seeds are on the scales? What kind of seeds are they? Do you see any closed cones, where the seeds are tucked away from sight? Where did you find the closed cones? Is there anything else about where you find open or closed cones?

You might want to perform a simple experiment at home with two, similar sized, open cones. If you place the cones into a bowl or vase of water and watch for five minutes, you will find that the cones start to close - it is almost magical! Leave them for 20 minutes or so, to see the full effect.

Take the cones out and leave them to dry; see what happens then. And if you want to know the science behind it...

When the weather is wet, the water soaks into the base of each scale swells causing the scale to curve inward. The pine cone closes and the seeds are protected inside the cone at a time when it wouldn't be best for the seeds to be released.

When the cone dries out, the scales open again and the seeds are free to disperse into the wind. The drier and lighter seeds will travel further than the heavier, wetter ones.

And so we pray...

This is a great time of year to teach your child the prayer:

Glory be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.

Amen.

Wishing you a very enjoyable half term,

OLOP team