

OUR LADY OF GOOD HELP

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Miss S. Peacock

Acting Headteacher: Mr. M. McQuiston



Dear Families,

We have reached the end of an enormously challenging year for our whole community and beyond. The final few weeks of term have been very strange with 3 classes and many staff isolating right up to the end of term. It is certainly not how we want to finish the school year.

Our children have amazed me this year. They have shown immense resilience in the face of the pandemic. Despite having to work from home in spring and at different points throughout the year, our children have continued to make progress in their learning.

The absence of Miss Peacock, who has transformed our school in recent years and is a huge part of who we are, has been greatly felt by the community. She continues to be an important influence on us as a staff and school community. As you will see from her message, she always finds the right inspiring words! I know, personally, that she has felt the love and prayers of everyone involved with Our Lady's and she is extremely grateful for all the well-wishes. Miss Peacock continues to receive treatment and make lots of improvement. We all wish her the very best during this time.

Our staff have been superb this year. Their commitment is unwavering and I'm sure you will all appreciate how hard they have worked not just this year but throughout the pandemic. Each and everyone deserves this holiday!

We implemented a few changes to our teaching methods this year and I am delighted with how these changes are taking shape and the impact they are making on learning. Read, Write Inc. has been a phenomenal success so far. Each member of the teaching staff has undergone extensive training to implement the new strategies and the children have responded by making great progress. Power Maths has successfully been introduced to improve maths provision across the whole school and our new foundation curriculum, although hampered by the spring lockdown, has provided the children with improved enjoyment. Our themed days for science, art, DT, superheroes, TT Rock Stars and history have been a huge success. We will continue with this approach next year to provide children with exciting learning opportunities.

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We say goodbye today our fantastic Year 6 today and wish them all the success in the world as they venture to secondary school. They have proved themselves to be hardworking, talented and resilient this year. Though they had a few disappointments, such as not being able to sit their SATs (!), they did manage to go to PGL which they absolutely loved! I know that each and everyone one of them will go to their new schools and make the most of all their wide-ranging talents, finding new talents and friendships along the way. During the beautiful Leavers' Mass with Father Colin last week, the children were encouraged to grasp these opportunities with both hands as we celebrated their final mass at primary school. We hope they stay in touch with us. I reminded them today that although they are flying the nest, they will always be part of the amazing, tight-knit family here at Our Lady of Good Help.

One of the most difficult things in schools currently is the inability to welcome parents into school for events. Being unable to hold whole school assemblies and masses all year has meant that we have missed those quality times together, hearing what other classes have been up to each week. We have had to change many of our routines, such as home-time arrangements amongst many others. During the summer, we will be reflecting on the changes we would like to keep and which we will not, in light of new guidance from the DfE. It would be brilliant if we could once again be able to hold parent stay and play sessions, parent workshops, Messy Maths mornings, Parent and Toddler mornings and open afternoons to name a few.

You will be delighted to hear that we have retained the services of Jordan Beacall next year. Mr. Beacall has been a superb addition to our school, organising lunch time provision with fun and engaging activities as well as leading PE sessions with innovative approaches. The children absolutely love his lessons. Once again, I'd like to thank the members of our staff who are moving on this year: Miss Mullan, Mrs. Ayegba - we wish you every success in the future - and Mrs. Sharp, we wish you a fantastic retirement. We welcome our new additions for September and know they will prove themselves to be very valuable: Mrs. Olushonde, Mr. Dade and Mrs. Foster.

Next year, we aim to rebuild our enrichment activities and competitions, develop our parental involvement and we are focused on improving whole school attendance and punctuality. I want the very best for our children and I want our school to be viewed as one of the best in the city. By having high expectations for everyone and of everyone, we will ensure our school continues to grow and our children receive the best possible education.

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Teaching Staff Structure 2021-22**Acting Headteacher**

Mr. M. McQuiston

Acting Assistant Headteacher

Mrs. H. Edwards

Mrs. L. Cooney (covering maternity leave) and Year 3 teacher

Senior Leader		Senior Leader		Senior Leader	
Mrs. S. Olushonde English Leader		Mrs. J. Foster SENCo		Mrs. T. Christopher Maths & Science Leader Year 2 teacher	
EYFS	Year 1	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
Mrs. V. McGorry Music & DT Leader	Mrs. H. Roberts Phonics, Art & RSHE Leader	Mr. N. Ferguson Computing Leader School Council	Mr. J Johnson PE & Spanish Leader	Mr. R. Dade Subjects to be confirmed	
EYFS LSA	KS1 LSA	LKS2 LSA	Apprentice LSA		
Mrs. S. Blythe RWI Teacher	Mrs. J. Spence RWI Teacher	Mrs. D. Edison RWI Teacher	Mr. E. Rodriguez Sports Coach		

I wish everyone a well-deserved summer break. Thank you for all your generosity. All of the staff at Our Lady's are so grateful of your support. Spend quality time with your loved ones - I can't wait to see mine! I pray that you all have a happy and safe summer. See you all on the 6th September!

Best wishes,

Mr. M. McQuiston

*Acting Headteacher***www.olgh.co.uk**