



# Our Lady's School

Founded 1953  
Templeogue Road, Terenure, Dublin 6w  
Telephone 4903241 Fax 4922511



Email: [admin@olschool.ie](mailto:admin@olschool.ie)

---

June 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

As another very busy school year draws to a close, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the school, throughout the year. I have enjoyed meeting many of you at parents' evenings and different events in the school. I thank you for working in partnership with us to ensure that your daughter reaches her full potential.

The year finished with the Department of Education and Skills carrying out a Whole School Evaluation, Management, Leadership and Learning inspection in May. The Board of Management is delighted that so many areas of school life in Our Lady's were found to be highly commendable. The inspection allowed the school community show the quality education that is offered to our students. The preliminary findings identified that teaching and learning in the classrooms is at the highly effective level, a standard which is very hard to reach and represents an exceptional review of classroom practice. The school community is delighted with the recognition of the high standards in our school and the promotion of academic excellence. We welcome the DES inspection report as we always seek to improve, to challenge ourselves and our students to set the highest standards and achieve our ambitious goals. We will be sharing the final report with you on the DES and school websites when it is published later in the Summer.

As we reflect on the year we have much to celebrate in OLS and many happy memories. Our students have enjoyed another successful year. They have excelled in so many fields, as reflected through the end of term newsletter. I have attended many celebratory events and have listened as their achievements have been described. These achievements have been in their academic studies, sport, music and the arts to name just a few and we are justly proud of them. Our achievement wall by the GPA celebrates many of these successes.

We particularly wish our 6<sup>th</sup> Years, the class of 2019, the best in their exams and in future endeavours. This group added so much to the life of Our Lady's School and will be missed.

This year we made many positive changes in OLS. We invested heavily in our ICT facilities to assist with CBAs. We added a new collaborative classroom and purchased 31 laptops. We added an extra classroom and will create another classroom over the summer. We resurfaced the pathway for the students and extended the changing rooms in the Sports Hall. As part of our green initiative we invested in Green recycling bins throughout the school, and opted into the All Ireland Pollinator Plan. Our extra and co-curricular programme was extensively developed this year to ensure that student needs were addressed. Many of the highlights of the year feature in the termly newsletters and the school magazine designed and edited by the TY Journalism class.

The School App and website also contain daily updates on the rich array of activities in Our Lady's. This year we have continued to improve communication and reduce costs by posting all letters to parents on the school APP and using email. It is imperative for all parents/guardians to use the App as we now ask that parents/guardians notify all student absence through this platform. If you haven't already done so please download the App, by accessing our website, [www.olschool.ie](http://www.olschool.ie), on your phone and selecting 'Download our App'. Please note that when registering as a parent you must use the email address and phone number you have provided for school records. A mismatch will restrict your App access.

Our Sports Facilities Fundraiser has had a great start this year and I would like to thank you for your generous support. The Parents' Council ran a very successful Race Night raising over €6,500 to add to the fund. We now have a total of €39,114 raised to date. If you would still like to donate to the fund you can do so through Easy Payments Plus or through the GoFundMe accessed on the website.

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Year summer reports are now available online at, [olschool.vsware.ie](http://olschool.vsware.ie). The return to school schedule, booklists, a recommended reading list for each year group, draft calendar for 2019/20 and uniform requirements can be viewed under the 'Documents' tab on the school website. You are advised to view information on **acceptable school shoes and piercings**. All school uniform rules are outlined in the school's Code of Behaviour and we expect students to adhere to them. A reminder that attendance at Our Lady's School is subject to acceptance of the new Code of Behaviour, signed by both parents/guardians.

Additional costs for each student, which cover items such as school journals, lockers, etc. are payable on or before the return to school date in August. Please note that prompt payment of these costs assists the smooth running of the school. Payments can be made online, via the 'Payments' tab on the school website.

Supervised study is provided for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year students. Application forms can be downloaded from our website or alternatively, a hard copy can be collected from Reception. All forms should be submitted by Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Payment for study can also be made by using the 'Payments' tab on the school website.

I have really enjoyed my first year as Principal of Our Lady's. I have been supported throughout by an extremely hard working and dedicated staff. I would like to thank them for all they do for our students. We all work together to set high expectations and to promote the academic, physical and spiritual development of our students.

I wish you and your families a happy and restful summer. I look forward to welcoming the students back at the end of Aug, refreshed and ready for another rewarding and productive year.

Yours faithfully

Marguerite Gorby  
Principal