



OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE SCHOOL

Where Great Things Are Happening!

Mrs. Margaret O'Connor, Principal

(718) 351-0370

22 Steele Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10306

Dear **PK4** Parents and/or Guardians,

We hope you are having an enjoyable summer. It's hard to believe, but the beginning of the new school year 2026-2027 will be here before we know it!! We would like to take this opportunity to welcome your family to our **PK4 Program** at Our Lady Queen of Peace School – Where Great Things Are Happening! This letter is to inform you about our first day of school and orientation. We are looking forward to meeting with you to discuss our exciting early childhood program and school procedures. In addition, if you have not yet submitted an updated health form, please have the one enclosed completed by your doctor and sent to school **by Tuesday, August 18, 2025**. If the school does not have an updated medical for your child, he/she will not be able to attend the PK4 program until a completed, updated medical form is received.

The first day of school is **Thursday, September 10th**. The school year begins with **FULL DAYS**. On **Thursday, you and your child will meet their teacher at their pick up/drop off door. Your child will enter through door #4, which is in the school yard, at 8:00 am, where you will sign your child in. Dismissal will also be at door #4 where you will meet your child at 2:20 to sign him/her out.**

We will continue to offer morning care each day beginning Monday, September 14th, starting at 7:00 am. The cost is \$3 per child, per day. Please provide exact change daily. Drop off is at door # 1 in the school yard.

Aftercare will also begin on Monday, September 14th. Aftercare ends each day by 5:45pm. Pick up is from door # 1 in the school yard. The registration for Aftercare is located on the school website (www.olqpsi.com) for your convenience.

Orientation for PK4 parents is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15th, at 1:00 pm in the school gym. Please ensure that you have that day/time reserved to meet with the school staff as we will have many exciting things to share with you regarding this school year.

The following are some points of information you will find useful to have before the beginning of school:

- ❖ The only school supply the children need to bring to school is a backpack large enough to fit a full-sized folder. **Please label your child's backpack clearly with his/her full name across the front.** All other supplies are provided by the school.
- ❖ Breakfast, snack, and lunch will be provided in school. *Whitsons Culinary Group* will provide breakfast as well as hot (and cold) lunch for our children each day. Weekly menus will be posted on the school website (www.olqpsi.com). If you choose to send in lunch with your child, please ensure it is a healthy lunch. We are trying to teach the students about healthy eating and a nutritious lunch is an important part of their day.

- ❖ Please regularly review the school calendar posted on the school website (www.olqpsi.com) to keep informed of activities and daily schedules.
- ❖ Students will need extra clothing. Please put these in a large Ziploc bag labeled with your child's name. **It is important that everything you send to school be labeled with your child's name** (ex. jackets, backpacks, sweaters, lunch bags, etc.). Please keep in mind when shopping for school clothing that Pre-K is fun, messy work! The children are very active and should be in play wear so that they are able to participate fully and comfortably in all of our activities. The children usually "sit like a pretzel" during circle time so if they wear a skirt, the girls are more comfortable with leggings or shorts underneath. The purchase of a school gym uniform for your child is your decision, it is not necessary. We want the children comfortable for our school day, so they need to be dressed accordingly.
- ❖ A favorite part of our day for the children is "Big Moving Time." We use the gym and/or schoolyard almost every day with a variety of materials such as balls, chalk, hoops, etc. **For safety purposes, the only acceptable footwear for the students is sneakers. Any style is permitted, however, velcro is preferred.**
- ❖ Your child will be given a cot for his/her rest time. You may send in a small sheet or blanket for your child. Please note any blanket, or sheet, sent in for your child will be sent home every Friday for you to wash and then return to school on the following Monday for your child's use.
- ❖ Please note, you will be receiving an email in the beginning of September, with information regarding your child's assigned classroom.

A word about separation - it takes time for some children to make the adjustment at the beginning of a new school year! This is true even of children who have previously attended school. The best thing you can do to encourage your child is give him/her a confident and happy smile at the door. Children usually stop crying and become engaged in an activity soon after entering the classroom, it's usually much worse for the parent than for the child!

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Enjoy the summer! We look forward to seeing you on September 10th!



Catherine Falabella
Assistant Principal/PK Director



Margaret O'Connor
Principal



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2026-2027 BACK-TO-SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Welcome Back!

Dear Parents,

I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer with family and friends! We are excited to welcome both our returning and new families to Our Lady Queen of Peace School for another amazing school year.



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Thursday, September 10, 2026

Full Day of School

Bus Service Provided

A separate email will be sent to our Pre-K 3 and UPK 4 families with program-specific information.



MORNING ARRIVAL

Kindergarten–Grade 8

- Teachers on Duty: 7:35 AM
- Bell Rings: 7:50 AM

Students will line up each morning in the schoolyard as we begin our day together in prayer.



INCLEMENT WEATHER:

Students should report to the gym through Door #1.



MORNING CARE

Begins
Monday, September 14

🕒 7:00–7:35 AM

💰 \$3 per child per day

📍 Drop-off: Door #1

Please send exact change in a labeled envelope.

At 7:35 AM, children in morning care will join the students in the yard or gym.



AFTERCARE

Begins
Monday, September 14

✔ Billed monthly through FACTS

📍 Pick-up: Door #1



CAR LINE

- ✔ Parents remain in vehicles.
- ✔ Students exit on the sidewalk side only.
- ✔ Please pull forward promptly to keep traffic moving safely.



UNIFORM INFORMATION

School Shoes (Flynn & O'Hara)

- Boys (Gr. 1–8): Brown shoes
- Girls (Gr. 1–4): Blue Mary Janes
- Girls (Gr. 5–8): Same style as last year
- Kindergarten: Gym uniform with white sneakers and white socks

On gym and yoga days, all students must wear the OLQP gym uniform with white sneakers and white socks.



LUNCH PROGRAM

Hot lunch through Osteria Santina begins Monday, September 14.

Please pack lunch on September 10 & 11.

PLEASE REMEMBER

- ✗ No lunch money accepted
- ✗ No DoorDash or food deliveries
- ✗ No glass bottles

New families will receive ordering instructions in a future email.



FUNDRAISING & PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Our fundraising events are successful because of our amazing parent volunteers.

Your time, talents, and generosity help make Our Lady Queen of Peace a wonderful place for our children.

Thank you for supporting our school community!



APPEARANCE

- No hair dye or colored streaks
- Boys' hair must be above the collar
- No mohawks, faux hawks, mullets, or shaved designs

Students not meeting these requirements will be sent home until corrected.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE



- No nail polish, acrylic nails, or French tips



Jewelry should be modest
No hoop earrings or bangle bracelets

IMPORTANT SCHOOL REMINDERS



DAILY PROCEDURES

Send all money in a labeled envelope with:

- Student Name
- Grade
- Purpose

No loose money



OTHER IMPORTANT POLICIES

No gum chewing
Recess privileges will be lost and repeated offenses affect conduct grades.



Schoolwork will not be provided in advance for vacations.



The only water bottles permitted must be plastic or BPA free. They must be 18 oz. or smaller. (Metal or steel are not permitted.)



Thank You!

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together we will provide a safe, faith-filled, and academically excellent environment where every child can grow and succeed. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Thursday, September 10!

Warm Regards,

Mrs. Margaret O'Connor

Principal

Our Lady Queen of Peace School

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