

## OLPH Blogging Policy

Dear Parents,

Throughout the course of the year, your child's teacher/s may choose to develop communication skills or supplement the curriculum with the use of classroom blogs. A weblog, or "blog", is a special type of web page that can be created and easily updated using a web browser. Each new entry has its own date stamp. Each entry has a comments section where visitors to the blog may leave comments for the author.

Because of the nature of blogging, student work will be available on the web, though it is unlikely that anyone other than other students would stumble upon our work. At no time will personal information be posted. Students will use only first name or initials. Learning how to communicate on the read-write web without divulging personal information is an important skill to be learned. Blogging is an opportunity for students to share their writing with a real audience. It is also a means for them to develop appropriate commenting skills.

The site currently used by OLPH is *classblogmeister.com*, specifically designed to give teachers full control over everything to be posted. Every student entry, every comment, is viewed and okayed by the teacher before it is posted. This monitoring will assure that no student inadvertently divulges inappropriate information. Visiting that site, created by renowned educator David Warlick, will give you more background on the goals of blogging.

Please email Mrs. Ruffing via schoolnotes with any questions you may have regarding this topic or any other technology issues.

### ***Blogging Terms and Conditions – Our Lady of Perpetual Help School***

1. Students using blogs are expected to act safely by keeping personal information out of their posts. You agree to not post or give out your last name, password, user name, email address, home address, or other personal information. You may share your interests, ideas and preferences.
2. Students using blogs agree not to share their user name or password with anyone other than their teachers and parents. You agree to never log in as another student.
3. Students using blogs are expected to treat blog spaces as classroom spaces. Speech that is inappropriate for class is not appropriate for your blog. While we encourage you to engage in debate and conversation with other bloggers, we also expect that you will conduct yourself in a manner reflective of a representative of this school.
4. Student blogs are to be a forum for student expression. However, they are first and foremost a tool for learning, and as such will sometimes be constrained by the various requirements and rules of classroom teachers.
5. Students blogs are to be a vehicle for sharing student writing with real audiences. Most visitors to your blog who leave comments will leave respectful, helpful messages. Comments and posts will be monitored by teachers. No inappropriate post or comment will be published.
6. Students who do not abide by these terms and conditions may lose their opportunity to take part in this project.