

ST MARY'S GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2015

DEAR PARENTS

It is always amazing how quickly the school year passes but yet again we are close to the summer holidays.

Once again we can reflect on a full and active year. A year when each and every one of our children has worked with vigour and endeavour to achieve their full potential. A big thank you to Mr Marsh, the leadership team and staff who work so hard to help the children achieve. Thank you to the PTA for their tireless work raising money for the school and bringing parents together socially helping to strengthen the school community. And indeed thank you to all our parents for making sure their children are ready and willing to meet the challenges of each new school day.

We had hoped that by now work would have begun on the new early years building of our phased development as we move towards expansion. We realise that the school site hasn't been at its best during the last year and we apologise for that. The children of course have shown their usual resilience and have continued to excel despite this. Problems in the original tendering caused the building delay and the council had to go through a new tendering process. We are now hopeful that initial works will begin during the summer break with completion of the first phase (the new nursery and reception block) by Summer 2016.

We ask for your continued patience and can assure you that Mr Marsh and the leadership team will ensure that the learning environment is safe for the children at all times and that their learning experience will not be affected. The borough's moderators again judged our Early Year's provision to be good.

GOVERNING BODY

- **Mr. F. Marsh
(Headteacher) -**
- **Mrs. J. Williams
(Elected Teacher
Governor)**
- **Mrs. J. Corley,
(Foundation Governor
and Chair)**
- **Mrs C. Giglio (Parent
Elected Governor)**
- **Mr. C. Lucas
(Foundation
Governor),**
- **Dr Jim Park (LEA
Governor and Vice
Chair)**
- **Ms. A. McGibbon
(Foundation
Governor)**
- **Fr. S. Hasker
(Associate Governor)**
- **Mrs A. Mason
(Foundation
Governor)**
- **Ms Sara Corry (Parent
Elected Governor)**
- **Mrs M. Hooper
(Foundation
Governor)**

The governors have done a brief initial analysis of the most recent parent survey which was overwhelmingly positive and will look to address any issues arising from it during the next school year.

We would like to see more parents taking part in these surveys and will be looking at ways to achieve this.

They are very helpful to both governors and the leadership team to make sure we are taking the school in the right direction so at the next opportunity please be pro-active and take part.

There will be a separate more focused survey to coincide with anti-bullying week next term. Please look out for it.

Although we look forward to the rest and enjoyment the summer holidays bring it is also a time for goodbyes. You will already be aware that Mrs Kissinger will be retiring at the end of term after 37 years at St Mary's. The governors would like to add their thanks to her for all she has done for the school. It is impossible to overstate the impact she has had on the school community here at St Mary's. As a classroom teacher and school leader she has always maintained the highest professional standards helping mould and drive the school forward. She will be missed by the children, parents, staff and governors. We thank God for her vocation as a teacher and her time at St Mary's. We wish her well in all the new adventures she undertakes, we thank for all she has done for us and will pray for her as we hope she will for us.

Of course there are other goodbyes. We wish well all staff who are moving on to new challenges – Miss Menezes, Miss McKeon, Miss Stephens, Mr Flanagan (guitar) and Mrs Duda-Religa (EAL & PSA support) – thank you for all you have done.

To our Year 6 children who have contributed so much to life here at St Mary's we say good luck throughout your secondary schooling and beyond. Work hard, stay focused and enjoy your education and you will surely achieve all that God wishes for you.

And finally goodbye and thank you to all the parents who leave St Mary's for the last time. We thank you for all your support without which the school would be a poorer place. Have a happy and restful summer break. Keep well and God bless you all and see you at the start of the Autumn term.

Jacqui Corley

Our school family at St Mary's wants this to be a safe, caring, creative and happy place, where we all have a fair chance to learn and grow together and to do the best we can.

We do this by knowing and loving Jesus more and more everyday and by following his teachings in a joyful way.