

St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Stanley Grove, Penwortham, Preston, Lancashire PR1 0JH

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Headteacher: Mrs Jillian Holmes

"Christ be in our heads, in our hearts and in our hands"

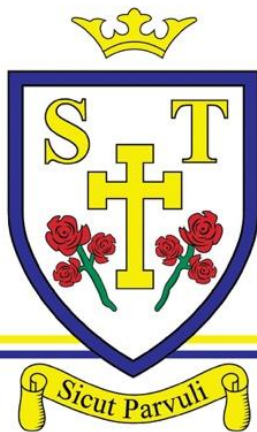
Dear Parents,

As the academic year draws to a close can I take this opportunity to report on the work of the Governing Body this year. I was appointed to the role of Chair following on from Mrs Sumner who had steered the Governing Body for over a decade. Mrs Sumner remains on the board and School continues to benefit from her commitment and experience. Parent Governors hold a term of office for four years and during this time Mrs Toal has made a valued contribution to the Governing Body developing expertise in sports and numeracy, areas where she reports on as Link Governor. We are delighted Mrs Toal has agreed to continue contributing to the Governing Body by taking up a vacant Foundation Governor role. Other changes include the appointment of Mr Adamson to Chair of the Buildings / H&S Committee, a role to which he brings a wealth of experience. Mrs Anna Cookson has recently been appointed as the new parent governor and will begin her induction in September. All Governor Committees have now met for the final time this academic year. Can I extend my thanks for the commitment shown by our Governors throughout this year. This has been demonstrated by both their level of attendance at meetings and quality of reports produced.

We are a Catholic School with voluntary aided status, School is owned by the Diocese however its strategic direction and oversight is steered by the Governing Body. This structure allows School to engage effectively with all of our stakeholders including the Diocese, Department for Education, Lancashire County Council, yourselves as Parents and our Parish here at St Teresa's. The Governing Body is made up of 12 Governors with 7 representatives from the Parish, 2 Parents, 1 Local Authority representative, 1 Staff representative and the Headteacher. Our role as a Governing Body is one of a strategic nature, to develop school's vision and ethos, to monitor operational progress and maintain fiscal responsibilities. This structure has historically served school well and our stakeholders continue to offer valuable support and advice.

In recent years the Governing body has focused on building a dedicated and experienced Senior Leadership Team who, with associated Middle Leaders and Staff, have the knowledge and experience to implement our strategic goals including those identified in our School Development Plan. These strategic goals have been identified following consultation with our dedicated School Advisor. Mrs Holmes has implemented a robust plan to deliver on these aims and faces regular challenge. I am delighted to report the Governing Body can evidence extensive progress towards all objectives and Mrs Holmes has the full confidence of Governors. Indeed, the Governors would like to extend their gratitude to both Mrs Holmes and all staff at St Teresa's for the commitment they are making to ensure we are a school where all children are prepared for living and learning responsibly in society.





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Our Curriculum Committee has focused on ensuring our enhanced curriculum has been fully embedded. We have had presentations from both Key Stage and Subject Leaders. Learning walks have been undertaken along with Book Scrutinies. We have monitored closely internal and external data and the value of CPD being undertaken by staff. We have appointed individual Link Governors to report on Numeracy, Literacy, Sports, SEND and the contribution our PTFA make. Our Resources Committee has monitored in year spending and allocated both human and material resources to support our continuous improvement journey. This has been particularly challenging in the current fiscal environment of inflationary pressures. The Building H&S Committee maintains a safe, well-equipped environment for all in school to utilise. Key improvements this year has been the installation of the bigger EYFS canopy which supports our EYFS children in developing through outdoor activities and also investing in LED lighting within school which will hopefully save on costs and also provides a better quality of artificial light.

It is equally important in tandem with academic progress we meet our children's needs for social development and wellbeing. As a Catholic school we promote love and respect for God and for each other through relationships, prayer and worship. All classes start each day by coming together for an act of Collective Worship. The Governing Body has individual Link Governors appointed who have oversight and report on RE, Child Protection, Wellbeing, Online safety and PHSE. As a Church School we continue our commitment to teaching RE as a curriculum subject. Our strong Parish links have continued this year with regular visits to school by our Parish Priest Fr Ian and trips into Church when sufficient staff are available. Again, this year school has assisted the Parish in preparing children for the sacrament of First Holy Communion. A regular fixture enjoyed by both school and the Parish is our Mini-Vinnies entertaining parishioners at the Parish Christmas dinner.

Our strong links with All Hallows Catholic High School support our children's wellbeing through the transition programme when moving up from Year 6. All Hallows expertise also supports us in other ways such as the provision of a comprehensive Internet Security system which allows our children to develop their IT skills in a safe and secure environment.

The Governing Body wishes all our School community an exciting and relaxing summer break and that we all return safe in Autumn ready to continue to develop both together as a school and as individuals. May Christ keep us safe in our heads, our hearts and in our hands.

Regards

Paul Hood.
Chair of Governors

