

St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

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We Grow and Learn with Jesus

Headteacher: Mrs Elaine Harrold

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Governing Body welcomes you to a new school year, we hope your children have settled into their new classes by now. We would like to inform you of the recent changes within the Governing Body. Imogen Barrett Walsh has stepped down as Chair after serving three years. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Imogen for her dedication to the role. In light of this, from this term, I will be taking over this role from her.

To introduce myself to you - I am a Pharmacist by profession, I serve as the Clinical Lead for technology initiatives at Princess Alexandra Hospital, where I also hold the position of Deputy Chair on the Clinical Risk and Safety Board. I have a daughter and a son currently attending St. Anthony's. I have been a Parent Governor of the school since 2024.

I am looking forward to continuing to support Elaine, the wider staff and the rest of the Governing Body in the continued development of the school.

We have already had a School Development Committee meeting this term in which we reviewed school policies and formatted a development plan for this academic year. Our Full Governing Body meeting was held in October where we welcomed our new clerk Fiona Waloff; we thank Anna Thomas for all her clerking over the last year. There is now a Governor's comments box for parents available in the foyer if you do wish to raise anything.

At the end of the last school year Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6 took part in a Phonics assessment, Multiplication checks and Key Stage 2 assessments respectively. We were thrilled with the strong performance from the children and their great resilience. This is a credit to the children, staff and parents.

Over the last year we continued discussions around the diocesan plan for academisation. Premises related improvements have been carried out in the way of the new school driveway – maintaining a great appearance of the school.

We have attended school plays, trips, assemblies, liturgies and masses. We have also organised visits to school to meet with subject coordinators where we have observed lessons.

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We keep up to date by attending courses such as training for the Catholic Self-Evaluation Document, Safeguarding, Schools Financial Value Standard, Effective Scrutiny of School Budgets and Safer Recruitment.

Over the next few months, we will be looking for one new Foundation Governor. This involves an election process. I will be very happy to talk through the role with anyone interested in putting themselves forward. Please let the office know via an email to admin or a telephone call.

From the Governing Body, we wish you a well-rested half term. We look forward to working together with you and your child as we continue to 'Grow and Learn with Jesus' in this very special school.

Yours faithfully,

Sunjalee Fernando
Chair of Governors