



GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

St James the Great R.C. Primary and Nursery School
Windsor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 8HJ

December 2018
Issue 2

Dear Parents

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter. We cannot believe how quickly this term has passed and are sure that the children are all looking forward to the Christmas break!

We would like to update you on what has been happening with the Governing Body this term. We had our three meetings; Curriculum, Resources and Full Governing Body, the details of which are below:

Curriculum:

The curriculum plan on Religious Education was discussed. The Child Protection policy and the Safeguarding policy were again revised and adopted. The homework policy is currently being reviewed. Please find time to read these revised policies, which can be found on the school website. Our recent Section 48 Inspection conducted by our Diocese is completed and we are delighted that the school achieved status of "Outstanding." Governors would like to thank Mr Andrew and the staff on the results, which reflect the Catholic education of the school.

Resources:

The budget for the current year was produced and ratified. Governors are aware that reduced funding by the government makes us restricted in our expenditure. The Friends Association has helped us enormously by raising funds through events, for which we are most grateful. Accounts were examined and approved as necessary.

Full Governing Body:

The Headteacher produced his report, outlining tasks that have been completed and his vision for the future. Notably, we have again been awarded Grade A in our RAG Rating, which provides an indication on how our school is performing. The school is continuing to improve its security and website, as well as revising policies in keeping with current regulations. Furthermore, the Governors have approved the purchase of 50 PC's to upgrade our IT systems. Our new Auditors have produced a report for our approval.

GOVERNING BODY:

Chair

Edwin Abreo

Vice Chair

Karen Rodrigues

Foundation Governors

Kirshan Andradi

Margaret Balsekar

Janice Bingham

Lesley Brennan

Gerard Perkins

Father Innocent Ezeonyeasi

Headteacher

Chris Andrew

Staff Governors

Justine Wellington

Chloe Bushell

Elected Parent Governors

Cynthia Simon

Bernadette Menezes Dias

Clerk to the Governors

Irena Corbo

(A photo frame with pictures of the Governors are displayed on the wall in the school office)

Contact E-Mail

clerk@

stjamesthegreat.org

NEW GOVERNORS WELCOME:

The Governing Body welcome two new governors:



Father Innocent Ezeonyeasi (Curate)

Fr. Innocent Chibueze Ezeonyeasi was ordained on the feast of St. Bartholomew, 24th August 2002 for the Catholic Diocese of Orlu, Imo State, Nigeria. Before he came to the United Kingdom, he worked as Assistant Parish Priest, Parish Priest, Principal, Chaplain to Orlu Diocesan Mass Servers' Association, Diocesan Liturgical Master of Ceremonies, and the founding Chaplain to St. Camillus Catholic Chaplaincy - Imo State University Teaching Hospital, Orlu. He was appointed Assistant Chaplain to the Nigerian Catholic Chaplaincy, England & Wales by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Nigeria (CBCN) in collaboration with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales (CBCEW) in April 2009. He became the Principal Chaplain to the Nigerian Catholic Chaplaincy, England & Wales in January 2016 and ended his appointment in the Chaplaincy in December that year. Fr. Innocent was appointed Assistant Parish Priest at St Bartholomew's Catholic Church, Norbury on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, 11th February 2017.



Chloe Bushell

Chloe Bushell has been a teacher at St James the Great for three years. She received her PGCE from The University of London and trained as an NQT at the school. In addition, Chloe also has a B.A in History and an M.A in Anthropology and Politics from the University of Bristol. She came into teaching through the Teach First programme and is extremely passionate about early childhood development and educational equality for all pupils.

NEW OFFICE STAFF:

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to new members of staff:

- Mr Humphreys, School Business Manager
- Miss Johnson, Year 5 NQT
- Miss Castineira, Admissions Secretary
- Mrs Van Spall, part-time member of Support staff
- Mr Finnegan, Assistant Caretaker

SECURITY FENCING PROJECT:

The governors would like to thank Mr Chris Andrew and Mr Alan Willis, Responsible Officer, for the amount of time they gave to enhancing the new gates and increasing the security of the school and safety of the children.

SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESENTATION:

The School Council presented to the governors at our summer Full Governing Body Meeting. The pupils were complemented on their confidence and presentation skills. They informed us of some of the work they have completed, which included the improvement of the school dinner menu through discussions with pupils and the school chef. As a result of this, new products were tested and added to the menu. They also held a competition to design a new Friendship stop sign which had faded. The winner's design was then put up and is in the process of being painted. Their future plans include more sports supplies for playtime, such as cricket bats and balls and the increase of 'The Lighthouse' drop in lunchtime sessions from two to three days a week. 'The Lighthouse' is run by Mrs McElhinney and Mrs Wellington and provides pupils with an area to talk and receive emotional support. The School Council thanked the staff for running these sessions, which they feel are extremely valuable to pupils.

FRIENDS CHRISTMAS FAYRE:

Governors helped out at the Christmas fayre and were able to meet some of the parents. We were amazed at all the time, hard work and dedication the Friends Association give to deliver community and school events such as these. All the money raised from these events go back to benefit the children of the school, so please help where possible. We look forward to helping out at the Summer Fete next year.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES:

Governors attended the school Christmas performances and were impressed with the productions that reflected the hard work of the staff and children. We are looking forward to the Carol Service on Tuesday 18 December.

MEET THE GOVERNORS BREAKFAST MORNING:

In the new year, the Governors will be holding a breakfast get together for staff and parents. If you are available on that day, we would love to meet and chat over a coffee and a croissant. Mr Andrew will issue the invitation in the newsletter next year.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS:

The weekly school newsletter published by the Headteacher continues to provide an excellent insight into the activities at our school. This has proved to be an effective method of communication.

As we are now approaching the festive season, my fellow Governors and I would like to wish you all a joyous and peaceful Christmas and a very happy and prosperous New Year 2019.

May the spirit of Christmas be with you always.

Regards and Best Wishes,

Edwin Albreo



MERRY CHRISTMAS!