



ST MARY'S GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

DEAR PARENTS & CARERS,

I hope you and your family are all keeping safe and well during these unprecedented times and I wish you all good health throughout these weeks/months. So much is still unknown not least how long we will remain in lockdown and how we will weather the effects of the necessary countrywide closures in the long run. We are all committed to following the Government's guidelines; we know that this shall pass!

We can keep united in hopefulness and in prayer. In particular we pray for our Key Workers and their families that they may be safe and that the Risen Christ will be close to them in all of their comings and goings. We pray too for everyone in our school community - children, parents, grandparents, staff and governors - that we may all witness to the Good News of

the Resurrection of Jesus and show our thankfulness in the response to the message that Christ is Risen!

Our school has remained open for Key Workers' children since 23rd March. Along with 28 other Hounslow primary schools we have been open for these children over Holy Week and Easter Week. We are grateful for the ongoing work of the teachers who are preparing work weekly for the majority of children who are not in school. Let's pray for them too.

You may remember that national budget austerity measures were applied to schools' funding. This affected our ability to provide general classroom items and equipment such as books, pens, pencils, glue, paints and math resources. To help bridge this lack of funding we asked you, if possible, to make donations to the Sundries Fund,

GOVERNING BODY **2019-2020**

- **Chair**
Dr J Park
(LEA Governor)
- **Vice-Chair**
Mrs A Mason
(Foundation Governor)
- **Clerk**
Mrs I Bowles
- Miss E Dawson
(Teacher Governor)
- Miss M Donoghue
(Foundation Governor)
- Mrs C Giglio
(Foundation Governor)
- Mr S Hogg
(Parent Governor)
- Mrs M Hooper
(Foundation Governor)
- Fr N Lobo Ratu
(Foundation Governor)
- Mr F Marsh
(Headteacher)
- Mrs M Martin
(Foundation Governor)
- Mrs C Raffet
(Parent Governor)

Please contact the Chair of Governors via the School Office.

as and when you could, throughout the school year via ParentPay. Many of you have kindly done so and I would like to thank you for doing this. All your donations have been really appreciated and have gone directly to providing for the children in the classrooms. However, now that the majority of the school is closed, Governors feel it would be unfair to ask you to still contribute towards these resources. I can therefore confirm the Sundries Fund has now been 'frozen' until the school reopens. When the school re-opens, Governors will

review the fund to see whether it is still needed.

On the other hand the Maintenance fund, which is paid by you as a monthly or annual standing order, was set up over 20 years ago and is paid directly into an account which is controlled by the Diocese. This money is vital to the maintenance of the school and the grounds. It is necessary because, like all voluntary aided (Faith schools), we receive only 90% of the funding for the maintenance of the school from the Government, with 10%

expected from parental contributions. In the last few months contributions to this fund have allowed us to completely refurbish the main girls' toilets. Governors thank you for your Standing Orders to this important fund and would ask you to still continue with this payment if possible.

Governors look forward to welcoming you all back as soon as it's possible and in the meantime please stay safe.

Jim Park

Chair of Governors