



St George & St Teresa Catholic Primary School



**Mill Lane, Bentley Heath, Solihull, West Midlands, B93 8PA.
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Headteacher Mrs K Bickley**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is hard to believe that another school year has gone by. What a busy year it has been. On behalf of the Local Governing Body may I take this opportunity to thank you for all your support and engagement over the past year.

Your support comes in many ways, through your support of PTA events-setting up events or spending money at events, all of which help our school in special ways. You support by attending meetings, bringing your children to special Masses and Sacramental celebrations, or taking them to school activities. You and your children make our school a very special place. Sometimes we might struggle to see the way forward clearly but with your support, challenge, co-operation and most importantly with God's Holy Grace and Blessings we move forward. A special mention to all the committee members and those who work for or support the PTA. I know this you have made another wonderful contribution to school. Mrs Flanagan will update you on how this money has been spent early in September.

All governors are volunteers giving their time happily in many ways, often unseen, to help St George and St Teresa's be the best Catholic Primary School it can be. We hold leaders, including the MAC, to account where we need and offer our support, experience and skills to help the school progress. We have spent much time this school year considering and responding to the question of headship of the school. We were very disappointed that despite our very best efforts we were unable to procure a substantive headteacher. Recruitment to primary headships is very difficult in all schools and made more complicated in a Catholic school where we draw from a smaller pool. However, I and all the governors are delighted that we have appointed Mrs Flanagan and Mr Haine to the posts of Executive headteacher and Head of School. We feel confident that their expertise and dedication will bring the consistency we all desire and I ask you to join us in asking God to bless them as they start their new posts in September. We have diarised a 'Meet the leaders' meeting for Thursday 14th September in the school hall at 7pm so we can share our vision for the school. Mrs Flanagan will send out more details in September, but please 'keep the date'.

Over the last year we have monitored the key areas of the Ofsted report: phonics, the curriculum and behaviour. We have tracked the developments in these areas at our regular meetings and had extra meetings to focus specifically on key aspects. Developments have been made and results in national and school assessments/tests reflect the progress made. Visits to classrooms have shown that pupils are receiving more challenge in lessons and this is improving their learning attitudes and behaviours. More consistency in behaviour strategies is also having a positive impact. Consistency in the teaching of phonics and fidelity to the scheme adopted by the school is paying dividends. Detailed plans for the teaching of each subject area and the purchase of new published schemes are ensuring that there is

more rigour in the teaching and that pupils are remembering more of what they have learned and learning is built on secure learning blocks that are been carefully assessed.

As governors we want to thank Mrs Bickley and all the staff, for all their hard work to ensure the children are safe, happy and have the highest quality education possible. As governors we want to say a tremendous thank you to each and every member of staff: office, midday supervisors, teaching assistants, Dragons staff, caretaker and cleaners and teachers for all that they do. We wish you a wonderful holiday.

However, we are not complacent and have an agenda of continuous improvement. We have a strong sense of the strengths of our school but also a secure understanding of what needs to be developed next. We thank the hard work and dedication of the central team at the MAC and support from the Local Authority, for working with us as governors to secure and evaluate our judgements. We also thank you as parents who have made suggestions of areas for development, and I can assure you we take your suggestions and concerns very seriously.

The children of St George and St Teresa's school are wonderful, a real credit to you as parents and to all their teachers. As governors we celebrate their success and thank them for making our school so joyous and special and for representing our community so well. I hope you all have a lovely summer children and wish Year 6 every happiness and success in their new schools.

We have been delighted to welcome Father John this year and look forward to working with him further and benefiting from his wisdom, spirituality and prayers. As governors we wish you a happy summer break from the demands of school Father.

We say a fond farewell and thank you to Mrs Connelly on her retirement after many years dedicated and true service to the school and children. We wish her a very long, happy and healthy retirement.

May I take this opportunity on behalf of all the governors to wish you a very happy summer holiday at home or abroad—neither too rainy or too hot. We look forward to working with you and for you as governors next year.

May next year we be blessed with God's grace and a real sense of stability and development.

Very best wishes

T Willmott

T Willmott
Chair of the Local Governing Body