



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

"a place of educational excellence  
with Christ at its centre"

Term 2- Easter 24

Head teacher: Mrs L. Concannon

## A message from the Chair of Governors.

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well and are looking forward to the Easter break. As always, the staff have provided excellent opportunities for the children to participate in. We are genuinely grateful that all children have the space and opportunity to develop their own special and unique skills.

The Governing board have undertaken an RE monitoring review this term. With a focus on the RE section 48 visit, we don't anticipate this to be until early in the next academic year but there have been significant changes since our last inspection and therefore, we need to ensure we are on track for a successful visit.

There have been some changes at the Northamptonshire Diocese which are having an impact on us. We are working through this with them and will update you when we have more information. We are also thrilled to announce the launch of Aston Angel's, our new preschool offer for Sept 2024. See details below, a huge thank you to Mrs Concannon and team for all the work that has gone into this to make it happen.

Rebecca Iley, Chair of Governors

### The Governing Board

Rebecca Iley - Chair of Governors

Steve Prance - LSA Governor

Debbie Brimson - Staff Governor

Theresa Atkin - Foundation Governor

Paula Aitkens - Parent Governor (in progress)

Tess Smith - Foundation Governor (in progress)

Daniel Brimson - Associate Governor (in progress)

We are fully committed to being an inclusive board and ensuring equal opportunities. We are keen to make our board as diverse as possible, and we hope to attract applications from underrepresented groups, including, Men, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) people, people with a disability. Please do consider how your experience and skills could benefit the board; we would love to hear from you.

**Premises** - Thank you to Steve Prance (LSA governor) who has been working closely with Laura Concannon to ensure we are working towards and achieving our premises 'To Do' list. Internal fire doors have been replaced. The roof is the next big project, thank you to those who have already supported the fund. We have received quotes of circa £60k, the diocese owns the building and therefore pay for such things, however we have to pay 10% towards it. Please look out for upcoming fund-raising events. We really need your support!

**Aston Angel's - Pre-School** - As part of commitment to ensuring pupil numbers for the school we have been reviewing the possibility of offering a pre-school provision. There are various permissions needed which I am thrilled to say Mrs Concannon has achieved. The Pre-School offer will go live in September and will form part of the reception class, we need a minimum of 6 children to make the venture viable, so please do spread the word. Mrs Vale will head up the offer, she has extensive experience and knowledge of pre-schools which will ensure the provision is both in good hands and of high quality. The governors would like to extend our thanks to Mrs Vale for her invaluable knowledge and support she has provided to make this happen. Our USP is that we will be the only Catholic Pre-School in the local area, this will be a fantastic offer for local families within the diocese.

### Governor Monitoring -

The governor monitoring week this term had a focus on our RE provision. Thank you to Theresa Atkin for her work on this; Theresa has attended training session with the education department of the Northamptonshire Diocese to ensure we are fully up to date with the expected changes to the Section 48 RE inspection. Mrs Concannon has also attended training with other Headteachers in the Diocese.

Theresa attended the Easter celebration in church and as always was impressed with the children's confidence to present and perform, and for the whole school who took part in the celebration so beautifully. There was also the opportunity to observe RE in the classrooms and talk with teachers about the curriculum.

### Marketing -

Thank you to Mrs Concannon and the team for all the work that has gone into marketing St Mary's this term. Thank you to everyone who has liked and shared a post, this is so important for the sustainability of our school and to attract new families to join us. Mrs Concannon has welcomed several new families and has more to show around the school in coming months.

New flyers have been produced and will be dropped to houses within our catchment area, advertising the new Pre-School, our previous flyers were very successful, and we hope for the same success.

### Academisation -

Due to current events at Northamptonshire Diocese this project is currently on hold. Our focus for the immediate future will be to ensure the success of the new Pre-School.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss anything detailed on this newsletter or any other matters.

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