

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Diocese of Clifton

Inspiring everyone to **REACH** through

Faith, Hope, and Love

Governors' Newsletter Summer 2024

Welcome to the summer Governors' Newsletter! Thank you for all your support throughout this year. We have been so impressed with the school's achievements, including musical concerts, the Y6 production of Moana, the Oracy Competition, the photography competition, the fabulous artwork created (including the beautiful depiction of St. Terese), the Mock Trial Competition, District Sports, Cross Country, the Swimming Gala (to name but a few...) and, of course, all of these are underpinned by the excellent academic results:

KS2 SATs Results 2024	National	2024
% achieved expected standard in reading	74%	96%
% achieved higher level of attainment in reading		56%
% achieved expected standard in writing	72%	88%
% achieved higher level of attainment in writing		16%
% achieved expected standard in maths	73%	84%
% achieved higher level of attainment in maths		32%
% achieved expected standard in GP & S	72%	96%
% achieved higher level of attainment in GP & S		44%
% achieved expected standard in reading, writing and maths	61%	84%
% achieved expected standard in Science	81%	88%

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	National	2024
% achieved 25	29%	71%
% achieved 20 or more		79%

Phonics screening Check	National (2023)	2024
Year 1 (% achieved above 32/40)	81%	94%

As always, we are especially proud of our children, who always strive to be the best they can be. We do know that we couldn't be the St Joseph's Family that we are without the support of our wonderful, dedicated staff, parents and carers. THANK YOU.

In January, we became part of The Little Way Catholic Educational Trust to secure our long-term future. All six Primary Schools across the Trust are working together, sharing expertise and, with a shared common goal, continuing to be successful as individual schools and as a Trust.

Our current number of pupils is not at PAN (published admissions number) and we would like to see them increase. Whilst we are a one-form entry village school, a growth in our pupil numbers would mean we would benefit from the additional 'per pupil' funding that would be received from Local Government. This, in turn, would enable us to fund additional resources, which would greatly benefit our children.

We are absolutely delighted to report that our new Reception class has attracted 22 children, which is above the average for schools in our locality. This is wonderful as we know that, given our location, the majority of pupils in our St Joseph's Family attend here out of choice, rather than catchment boundaries, and as a result of your recommendations; **thank you!** We would also like to thank the Leadership Team for showing new families around the school, and the staff in the office for arranging so many visits for prospective parents.

The Governors' role is to challenge and be a critical friend to the school. We, as Governors, continue to challenge and monitor to ensure that the high standards that have been achieved at St Joseph's continue to remain. The Governors are: Gabriella Tiley, Syd Gwyer, Nicola Connolly, Claire Wooldridge, Katharine Piper, Loraine Patrick and Clare Howells (ex officio). We are indebted to our clerk, Roger Slater, for his ongoing support and guidance.

The Governor role is a rewarding one. It allows an insight into the everyday running of St Joseph's and enables an oversight of our children's education. As a governing body, we each bring different skills to our Board and we enjoy acting upon our collective mission. Each of us has acquired new skills and expertise, transferrable into our professional and personal lives. We agree that whilst we dedicate our time, it is very much a two-way-street and very worthwhile.

The Governing Body meets once per term (i.e. six times per year). We meet in person, at school (sometimes meetings may be held remotely). Governor monitoring, per allocated role, is three times per year and is carried out at Governors' convenience (at a mutually agreed date and time).

We are not at capacity on our Governing Board. We do have vacancies and would love for you to think about joining us. You may not consider yourself to have enough time or, indeed, to have the relevant experience; but it is highly likely that you have both. You may not be aware, but many employers offer time off for an employee to carry out a role in governance.

Please feel free to speak to Mrs Howells or any of the Governors if you would like to discuss the role further. We cannot recommend this more highly; it is rewarding and we get the chance to engage and shape our school's future. Contact details for Roger Slater, our clerk, below.

We leave you with this closing thought. At St Joseph's we always start with Quality First Teaching. This has been achieved thanks to the dedicated support of our Leadership Team, challenging to ensure that not only our children, but our outstanding staff are working in a positive and supportive environment. This allows them to be the best they can be too. We are so lucky to have them.

We hope you have a wonderful summer break and we'll see you in September!

Many thanks

The St Joseph's Governing Body

Syd Gwyer & Gabriella Tiley – Co-Chairs of Governors

Nicola Connolly – Vice Chair of Governors

Claire Wooldridge

Katharine Piper

Loraine Patrick

Clare Howells (ex officio)

Roger Slater – Clerk to Governors

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Little Way Catholic
Educational Trust