



Cardinal Newman Catholic Primary School

Arch Road, Hersham, Surrey KT12 4QT

Telephone: (01932) 222536

Headteacher: Ms G Keany

Dear Parents, Guardians and staff,

As I write this letter it seems that summer has arrived at last and in school today the sounds of the children playing outside made one feel that they were enjoying the change as well. I expect it also brings it home how quickly the summer holidays will be upon us!

It is always with mixed feelings at this time of year that we say farewell to our staff members who are leaving us but also to our children (and their parents) who quite rightly, move onto the next step in their education. This year I would like to mention particularly Mrs Kate Speroni who has been a teacher at the school for 17 years as well the RE lead for many of them. This is a particularly important role for a Catholic school and thanks to her dedication and hard work our children have a very sound base for their continuing Catholic learning and also how to live their faith day to day which is how we, as a school, embed RE into the school day. We all wish her a very happy retirement. Another person I would like to mention is Rose Belbin who has given 13 years of teaching support to the children and has made an impact on the school. We send our best wishes to her for her future plans, as indeed we do to all the other staff leavers this school year. Through their hard work and dedication every one of them has added to the success of the children. Thank you all and our best wishes for your futures.

As always it has been a very busy year for the school and the added challenges of no 'levels' for assessing children's progress and the implementation of a new curriculum have meant that a great deal of hard work has had to be carried out by the staff to enable the children (and parents) to adapt to these changes and gain an understanding of what it all means. Our new SLT configuration has given the school the added depth and strength it needed to meet these and the forthcoming challenges of next year and Ms Keany and the governors are constantly aware of the need to keep good and outstanding teachers at our school and enable all our children to be the best that they can be, not held back by any lack of resources or teaching capacity.

To help us do this we have refreshed the membership of our governing board and also reviewed how we work. It is very pleasing that some new people have joined us through Parent Governor Elections; a new LA Governor through a one to one selection process, as well as adding strength to our Resources Committee which covers Personnel, Finance and Premises with two Associate Members. All their details will be on the new website and I look forward to working with them all in the next school year. A big 'thank you' to our Office staff who have installed our bright, interesting and easy to use new website. I hope you all enjoy the difference it makes.

The ethos of our School is evident in all that staff and children do and we experience this whenever we visit the school. The care and respect for one another does not however stop at the school but extends into the local community and further afield. The School Council have been extremely proactive this year, supported not only by their parents but also by the whole school community. They

have been raising money for St Michael's Orphanage in Uganda with for example, a successful toy sale and a sponsored walk in the school grounds. As governors we see this as our faith in action and are very proud that it is the whole School, led by the School Council that has achieved this wonderful fundraising and link to children less fortunate than themselves.

The PA continues to provide very welcome and effective support for the school with a great variety of events led by many different people. All that they do benefits the whole school community and the governors and Ms Keany want to thank them all for their very hard work which provides much needed extra funding.

Fundraising will continue to be at the forefront of governors' minds as we continue to be challenged by reducing school funding from central government. It could mean a change in how governors manage the school and our new governors and members in particular, will be looking at what we can do to improve our income. One simple step you can take is to support your child's school, and I would urge all of you to consider contributing to the Governors fund which we use to maintain the fabric and essential provision for your children's school. If you do not currently contribute we would be grateful if you could consider a regular contribution, with £5 per month being the recommended basic contribution. A form is available via the office.

As always we would like to hear your views about the school and your child/ren's experiences and you can feedback directly to the Clerk to Governors at

clerk@cardinal-newman.surrey.sch.uk.

In the meantime, all the governors and Ms Keany, wish you all a very happy and relaxing summer holidays and look forward to welcoming you all back next term,

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CAR Roycroft', written in a cursive style.

Carole Ann Roycroft
Chair of Governors

