



From the Chair – Peter Griffin



Dear Parents

We held our first FGB (Full Governing Body) meeting of the school year on Monday September 27th and this was the first time in 18 months that most of us were able to meet in person at school. It was lovely to be back on site and we're all saying our prayers that there will be a slow return to 'normal' over the next few months.

As always, we had a very full agenda; despite all Governors being in attendance our numbers were somewhat depleted as, so far, we have been unable to recruit new governors to replace the two Foundation Governors who stepped down in the summer and the LA governor who stepped down last year. I would like to put on record my heartfelt appreciation for all the time and effort put in by Chris Bracey who gave many years of excellent service to the Governing Body (GB) and who really helped me when I joined the GB back in 2015. Elizabeth Burnett retired as Vice-Chair of the GB and her experience and wisdom will be sadly missed. I am indebted to one of our parent-governors, Amy Husband, for accepting the unanimous wish of the governors as she takes over the role of Vice-Chair. Foundation Governors are appointed by the Archdiocese and are required to be practicing Catholics; if any parents amongst you have relatives or know of anyone who might 'fit the bill' please do get in touch.

Being back on site will, hopefully mean that Governors can be a more visible presence in the school as we support the excellent work done by all our wonderful staff to educate and care for your children. I really enjoyed helping the PTA last year to clear the garden area and some of you may have come across me in the last few weeks working outside the new school fence. It is great to see the much needed new boundary fencing and playground resurfacing that took place in the summer. I want to put on record my thanks to Edd Robertson, Princeshoppe College groundsman, for providing staff and helping to clear most of the brambles and some of the trees from this area to enable the fencing contractors to do their work. They have promised to treat this area during half-term to suppress weeds returning and we hope to be able to sow grass seed and plant spring flowering bulbs to make this aspect look even better. Hopefully you will hear more about this before half-term.

We want the site to look its best as we host an **Open Morning on Saturday October 16th** for prospective Reception and Nursery children from September 2022. As always it is our present parents who are crucial to spreading the word amongst their peers about Our Lady's. **Registration for the Reception class** starting in September 2022 is ongoing and can I remind you and your friends that the **deadline set by Warwickshire is 15th January**. Full details of the Admissions process can be found on the school website.

There are many other issues I could mention but I want to keep this newsletter brief. I want to conclude by thanking all of our parents for your support for Our Lady's school and, on your behalf, to thank all our wonderful staff for coping so magnificently during the most difficult year that any of us can remember.

Stay safe and God bless

Peter Griffin

Chair on behalf of Our Lady's Governing Body