



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School



Representative Committee Newsletter Autumn 2016

Who are we and what do we do?

The Representative Committee is made up of staff, parents and Foundation representatives. Within the framework set by the Dominic Barberi Multi Academy (DBMAC) to which OLOL belongs, we are responsible for setting the vision and ethos of the school, holding Mrs Walker to account for the educational and financial performance of the school and ensuring that all money is well spent. Quite a mouthful but in essence Mrs Walker is responsible for managing the school and all operational matters while we take a wider view of how well the school is doing in its aim to provide the best possible outcomes for all our children. We are all volunteers in this role who come with a wide variety of skills from other areas of our lives.

Reflecting on the term...

Thanks to the care and attention of Mrs Walker and all the OLOL staff, the children have settled into their new year groups well, particularly those joining the school in September in the Foundation Stage.

There have been too many highlights of the term to mention them all, but stand out activities have been the Christmas productions, the whole school trip to watch the Robinson Crusoe panto, the Year 5 visit to Yenworthy, the Years 4 and 6 trip to the London Aquarium, Computer Xplorer coming in to school to run a music workshop with Years 2 and 4, and the DBMAC and Parish carols. It has also been lovely to share all of the children's work in assemblies and open afternoon.

We are also thankful to the Friends Committee for organising the fantastic Family Bingo, Christmas Fayre and Christmas Disco, and of course the Dinner Dance organised alongside Breckon and Breckon. Thanks to them generously funding the entire evening, all profits were received by the Friends.

Thank you to parents who have volunteered with activities this term. We are always very grateful for your time.

Changes to the committee this term

There have been a number of changes to the Representative Committee this term: Judith Schmidt was elected as Chair replacing Clare McGrane. We thank Clare for her work whilst serving on the committee, latterly as Chair and wish her the best for the future.

Mike Holland was elected as a Parent Representative and joins Mrs Deborah Smith on the committee. Mike's son Freddie is in the Foundation Stage.

Mrs Maureen Banks and Mr Jeremy Taylor were appointed as Foundation Representatives and join Mrs Joanne Browne, Mrs Madeline Drew, Mrs Judith Schmidt, Mrs Sophie Smith and Father Pat on the committee.

Meetings

At our Full Governing Body meeting in November, we looked at the School Strategic Plan and how it will be monitored, the Pupil Premium Funding Strategy, the Sports Premium spending plan and Safeguarding in our school (these are all available on the school website). We heard from Mrs Walker about how assessment will be carried out in school, following recent changes implemented by DBMAC. The analysis of the last three years shows a pleasingly upward trend and we are expecting that trend to continue.

Parent Involvement this term

Parents have attended many activities and events this term, including:

- Open afternoons
- Parents Evening. In addition, following the questionnaire distributed at the Parents Evening, the school held a Homework focus group
- Maths Parents session; the resources are on the website if you were unable to attend
- Guided reading with your child session; the PowerPoint presentation is on the website if you were unable to attend
- Curriculum sessions
- Internet safety session
- Supporting the vast number of sporting events the children take part in

Your Views

Thank you to those parents who completed a questionnaire at Parents Evening earlier this term. Full results are available if you would like to read them.

In addition, if you would like to raise any issue with the Representative Committee please contact Mike Holland at mikejholland@outlook.com

Wishing you a happy Christmas!