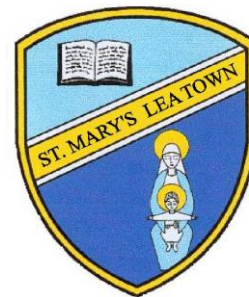


Head Teacher - Mrs A M Brogden
e-mail: head@lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School
Darkinson Lane
Lea Town
Preston
PR4 0RJ
Tel: 01772 729881
www.lea-st-marys.lancs.sch.uk



*'Happy are those who hear the word of
God and keep it' Luke 11.28*

Monday 7th June 2021

Chair of Governors Note

Dear Parents,

As Chair of Governor's for St Mary's, I wanted to advise you of some forthcoming changes to the Governing Board at St Mary's.

Following the recent elections, I'd first like to pay sincere thanks to our outgoing Parent Governors, Mrs Kellie Helme and Mrs Clare Kennedy. Both have provided unstinting support to the school over the years they have served, not just on the Governing Board and its sub-committees, but also supporting the many events at school and through the Friends of St Mary's.

To take over the reins, you should already be aware that Mr Andrew Nelson & Mr Nicholas Williams have recently been voted in as our new Parent Governors - I am really pleased to welcome them both to the Governing Board and sure they will make a valuable contribution to the school in the years ahead.

After over 20 years of service as a Foundation Governor, Mrs Kath Taylor will be stepping down as Vice Chair this summer. I have worked with Mrs Taylor for many years and can vouch for her tireless hard work, dedication and commitment. She has used her considerable experience and expertise to move the school forward through some very difficult times in the past and I know that all the Governors will miss her warmth, enthusiasm and wise counsel.

To take over as Vice Chair, I am extremely pleased to report that another of our experienced Foundation Governors, Mrs Jackie Fitzpatrick, has agreed to take over the role. Mrs Fitzpatrick has served on the Governing Board already for a number of years and brings with her enormous experience from her years in teaching in Primary schools, especially in Early Years.

I too will be leaving as Chair of the Governing Board also this summer. It has been a privilege to serve in the capacity both as a Foundation Governor, since my own children were in Reception (and long since left), and as Chair for a number of years now. I will miss the school enormously. St Mary's is a special place, having a strong Catholic ethos and unique, almost intangible spirit probably best exemplified by the way the children look after each other – many a time I have seen the older children pick up and care for one of the younger ones that may have fallen over!

Going forward, I am extremely happy to report that Reverend Deacon John Cliffe, who has likewise been on the Board for a number of years has agreed to take over as Chair. Deacon Cliffe has considerable experience and I depart the school knowing that the Governing Board for St Mary's is in strong, capable leadership. Formal transition will take place at the next Governing Board in a few week's and further announcements will be made in due course regarding new Foundation Governors.

We are extremely lucky at St Mary's in having a very strong, capable, experienced and diverse set of Governors to support the school – not all schools are as fortunate as ourselves. I am extremely confident that the Governing Board along with Mrs Brogden and the rest of the staff will continue to drive St Mary's forward to the benefit of all the children.

If you have any questions regarding these changes please contact Mrs Brogden who I am sure can assist.

Yours faithfully

Gerard Oakes