



**Unlocking Potential Together
in Faith and Love.**

The Cathedral Catholic Primary School
Balmoral Road, Lancaster, LA1 3BT
Tel: 01524 64686
www.cathedral.lancs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs N Holt

December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sure the children are all excited and getting ready for Christmas day and the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

It was as always, a joy to watch the Christmas story told by our youngest children last week in our beautiful Cathedral. All the children were brilliant and what is so special about our Catholic school is that every child is included and takes their part very seriously.

The story telling and singing was outstanding you should be so proud of your children they were amazing.

We are blessed as a school to have such dedicated staff at the Cathedral, and I have said this before but it was evident to see again that the staff get the best out of every child by unlocking their potential together in faith and love.

I was also lucky in November to join year 5 at their celebration of Christ the King held at Our Lady's High School. It was great to see the way your children embraced the celebration with the enthusiasm but what was so lovely, as we left to walk back to school were the comments I received personally from the team at Our Lady's. They commented on how impeccable the behaviour and manners were of the children from the Cathedral Catholic Primary School. Well done Year 5 you are simply the best.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteer parents, carers and friends of the Cathedral that make the trips outside of school possible, without you we would struggle to give the children these experiences which we know they benefit from hugely.

As always, I must repeat my thanks to our Senior Leadership team and our all our staff who work tirelessly to make our school the success that it is.

I am sure as parents and carers you will agree that keeping our building looking clean and tidy, is not an easy task but I am sure you will note it has made such a difference having Liam on board to take on this job and to look after the building for the children. Also you will be aware of all the tasty food that our children are provided from Anetta and the team in our school kitchen. They provide such lovely food! The Governors are grateful for their work at our school and wish all these teams a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

In respect of the Governor's meetings, we held our Autumn term meeting virtually on Teams but will revert to in person meetings in the new year.



Mrs Sharma, one of our parent Governors has reached the end of her term of office. I would like to thank Mrs Sharma for all her dedication and hard work on the Governing Body, she will be missed. We will of course need to elect a new parent governor in the new year. Please look out in the newsletter for the information in respect of becoming a parent governor.

You will recall in the summer term Governors attended a day's training. Since then we continue with further training including Diocesan training which was particularly interesting as we learnt in more detail about the new Religious Education Directory (RED) and how we will deliver religious education throughout school in much more structured way. Our Religious Education nominated governor Mrs Branscombe has already been into school to assess how RED is being delivered in school and is pleased to see the implementation going really well.

At this training day Governors also learnt more about the changes taking place in the Diocese in respect of Academies which you will be invited to learn more about this in the coming year.

Our link governor Mary Smith continues to assess all our skills so we can analyse any gaps and put our skill sets to best use in the various committees that we hold for the benefit of the school.

Governors will be attending parents evening in the Spring Terms to give you the opportunity to meet us in person and ask any questions you may have of the Governing Body. I have once again attached the details of the Governing Body and their roles.

Once again the Governing body would like to thank the PTA for all their hard work over this last term, the children benefit greatly from all the events organised and the Christmas Fair was a real treat for me to attend. The money raised from all the events goes back to benefitting the children. All parents and carers are of course members of the PTA so if you would like to be more involved please let Duncan know I am sure he will be grateful for more active help and involvement from parents.

Before I close, I would just like to say how lovely it would be to see you all at the Cathedral on Christmas morning. The Masses for Christmas at St Thomas More and the Cathedral are on the school newsletter and the Cathedral web site. Please join us to celebrate this most Holy Day - everyone is most welcome. You may also be aware that the Cathedral in particular, have invited any children that are interested and have made their First Communion to join the altar servers. Training will be given for anyone wishing to become an altar server. Please speak to Father Steve for more information.

I would like to close by wishing each one of you your families and most of all your amazing children a happy peaceful, blessed Christmas, and hope that 2024 is a great year for you all.

Thank you all again for everything you do to make our school the welcoming school that it is and one that unlocks potential together in faith and love
Clare – Chair of governors



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The Cathedral Catholic Primary School – Governing Body Roles

Chair of Governors – Mrs Clare Nolan-Barnes
Vice Chair of Governors – Mrs Jim Mann

Finance Premises Health and safety

Father S Pearson (Chair)
Ms M Smith
Mrs C Nolan-Barnes
Mrs Holt

Faith, Community and Curriculum

Mr P Mitchell
Mrs B Teasdale
Mrs S Aravinth
Mrs C Branscombe
Mrs Holt

Standards and Effectiveness

Mrs J Mann
Mr S Mc Mahon
Mrs N Holt
Mrs Dickinson

Nominated Governors

HRE/PSHE – Mrs B Teasdale
Inclusion/SEN – Ms M Smith
Training Link – Ms M Smith
EYFS – Mrs J Mann
Safeguarding – Mrs S Aravinth
English – Mrs J Mann
Catholic Life and RE – Mrs C Branscombe
Health and safety – Mrs C Nolan-Barnes
Maths – Mr P Mitchell