



ST PAUL'S C of E COMBINED SCHOOL

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Governors' End of Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

As it has been a busy end to a busy term we'll keep this short, as I'm sure everyone's minds are already turning to holiday plans and Easter egg hunts.

We've had some amazing activities and events over this term including, to name but a few, numerous school trips and class assemblies, the Firecrests and Owls music concert, Finches at Energize at the Wycombe Swan, and of course the continuation of all the excellent after-school clubs. A huge thank you to all the staff for their time and effort in arranging these, and to parents for coming along and engaging with a number of these activities.

Obviously, this term has also been a challenging one for staff, as we have had to go through a reorganisation process that has resulted in five valued colleagues set to leave the school at the end of this academic year. We are very lucky to have them for the rest of this year and there will of course be an opportunity to say a proper thank you and goodbye nearer the time. Once again, we'd like to thank the staff for their absolute professionalism, which has meant that this process has had as little impact on the wider school community as possible.

We do however realise that parents and carers may have an understandable concern about the impact that this process will have on the school moving forward. We want to reassure you that throughout the process we have worked closely with Mrs Dennis to ensure that she is confident that she will have the people and resources she needs following the reorganisation, to enable the school to continue to provide a great education for our children.

Governor Changes

We are delighted to welcome Sue Palmer to the governing board as the new Diocesan governor. Sue has a professional background in local government and brings a wealth of experience to the role and we very much look forward to working with her!

This term also sees Laura Willis step down as a governor and Co-chair of governors. Laura has served on the governing board since 2019 and with me as co-chair since October 2024, having very kindly extended her tenure as a governor in order to support us as we welcomed a number of new governors into the team. We're hugely grateful to the time and expertise Laura has given to the role over the years.

Laura's departure leaves a vacancy on the governing board for a Local Authority governor. Therefore, if you or anyone you know might be interested in becoming a school governor, please do contact us and we'd be very happy to discuss the role with you.

It's lovely to be ending the term with such beautiful weather and we hope you all manage to have some rest, relaxation and chocolate before we see you all again for the summer term!

Ed Arnold, Chair of Governors

Parents' and Carers' Giving, and the School Development Fund

We are aware that a number of parents and carers have expressed a keenness to help out through donations, in light of the financial pressures that the school is under. We want to reassure you that these financial pressures are not unique to the school, and that Mrs Dennis and her team are doing everything they can to minimise the impact on the children of any cost-saving measures. However, any financial support parents and carers are able to give is of course hugely appreciated and will certainly help the school to provide a more enriched learning environment. If you are able and would like to contribute, then we would encourage you to do so by giving to the School Development Fund, details of which can be found [here](#) and via the attached form. The fund provides the most cost-efficient and effective way of giving, as it means that all funds received can be spent on what the school needs most at any particular time. The fund also has charitable status, meaning the school is able to claim gift aid on donations made to it, which significantly increases the value of your donations.

Thank you again for all the generosity that has already been shown, and for your continued support.

John Walton, Chair of the Finance, Premises, Health and Safety Committee.