



April 2022

Dear Parent and Carers,

Yet another term has flown by, and the children at St Francis have been working incredibly hard with many achievements to celebrate.

In addition to the efforts of the children, the Staff and Local Governors Body have also been hard at work maintaining a focus on the quality of teaching and learning across the school.

This term has allowed Governors to complete more in person visits to the school, which has been wonderful.

During this half term these visits have been to look at a range of areas, including:

- Pupil numbers for September 2022
- The effectiveness of our reward and sanctions systems
- Visit to observe pupils in class, looking at pupils' behaviour for learning. During this Learning Walk with the Head Teacher, some really interesting lessons were seen using imaginative approaches to the curriculum, which were clearly engaging the children
- How subject curriculum plans are monitored by the Senior Leadership Team and to identify any areas for development. This work also included Governors receiving monitoring reports from all subject leads
- The annual Safeguarding Audit and monitoring report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the school
- Catholic Life in the school, which continues to show strong elements, in particular the wide range of opportunities for pupils to worship during Lent

Our monitoring visits have shown many areas of strengths, but, naturally, areas we wish to develop further. These have been discussed at full governor body meetings and development plans put in place.

In addition, the governors have completed the following training this term:

- Equality awareness training
- Looking at cyber security
- Prevent and safeguarding training
- Exclusions

At the end of every term I sit down to share some of the work of the school and governors with you . There is always some good news to share, something to celebrate, someone to be proud of and I am sure we all feel a great sense of pride to be part of such a happy and caring school, with staff who strive to provide all our children with what they need to develop their full potential.

Now this term is coming to an end and we will shortly enter Holy Week.

Easter is about new life, an empty tomb, the resurrection of Jesus and forgiveness. And this year there seems to be a renewed sense of life in our school, as we work our way out of the events of the last 2 years. So, as we prepare to celebrate this great festival, we thank God for our risen Saviour and for bringing us safely to this point.

On behalf of the Governing Body may I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Happy and Holy Easter

*Helen Webb*

Chair of the Local Governing Body

