

Wednesday 15th July 2009

Dear Parents,

So many of us have remarked on how this past academic year has flown by. It really has been what seems like an incredibly quick year, probably due to the fact that once again it has been such a full and rewarding one.

We have once again enjoyed some remarkable achievements this year including an outstanding diocesan RE review and we were delighted to hear the news that the school has achieved the ICT Mark this term.

During the course of the year we have welcomed two new members onto the Governing Body, Mrs Tracey Hayes and Mrs Andrea Pajak, both of whom have quickly settled into their roles and bring great enthusiasm and a wealth of experience through their professional qualifications.

Recently, we were honored to be able to welcome Sir Robert Balchin and his wife to our school. Sir Robert was knighted for his services to education and it was a real privilege to enjoy his company for the day. In fact, Sir Robert was so impressed with our school that he wrote a wonderful letter to Miss McFlynn extolling the many virtues of St. Josephs.

This, along with all our other successes, has led to a record number of families now on the waiting list to join our School. More and more of you are spreading the word clearly!!

As Governors we have been involved in a very exciting (and incredibly time-consuming!) project called the Financial Management Standard In Schools (FMSIS) award. This award recognizes excellence in financial management. We are the first and only Primary school in Hertfordshire so far to achieve the award.

As always, the end of a school year always brings transition. We say farewell to the children in Year 6 who have made a marvelous contribution to the school this year in a wide variety of ways including their 'Buddy' roles and the various responsibilities/roles that they hold within the school. We wish each and every one of them continued success in their new schools. We also bid adieu to two members of staff,

Miss Spence and Mrs Fenlon. We wish them good fortune in their future careers and thank them for the wonderful work that they have done with our children in their time at St. Joseph's.

As you know, a school does not 'run itself', and therefore we extend our gratitude to the Senior Leadership Team and their dedicated team of Teachers and Teaching Assistants. Each staff member continues to work tirelessly to provide all members of the school community with a stimulating and exciting working environment which promotes well-being and enjoyment. Our children are truly blessed to come to such a fabulous school.

And finally, a very big "thank you" to you, the parents, for your part in making St. Joseph's such a wonderful school. Once again, your contribution, both financially and in terms of your continued support, have proved essential in enabling St. Joseph's to maintain the very high standards of which we are rightly proud. The PFA deserve particular praise for their efforts in organising a wide variety of events that raise a great deal of money to fund additional projects in school which would otherwise not materialize. Many thanks to those parents who are involved in the PFA....your efforts are not taken for granted!

In the blink of an eye it will be September and the year ahead shows no sign of being any quieter!

So, to conclude, I wish you all a very happy and fun-filled Summer Holiday and look forward to seeing you all tanned and invigorated for another outstanding year at St Joseph's!

Yours sincerely,

Mr C Quinn

(Chair of Governors)