

11th May 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are enjoying the longer Spring days and gradual lifting of lockdown restrictions. It is wonderful that we can slowly begin to mix with others and return to our normal activities. In keeping with this theme of looking forwards and a return to normality, I am writing to you with updates about staffing and governance for the next academic year, starting in September 2021.

Leadership at Phoenix St Peter

I am sure that many of you have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Roberts - albeit from a distance of 2 metres! I for one, think that he has done a fantastic job of navigating the school through some really tricky times since January and would like to take this opportunity to thank him publicly for his continued hard work and determination. Given the sterling job that Mr. Roberts has done, it gives me great pleasure in announcing that Mr. Roberts will be continuing in post for the academic year 2021/22. This of course means that Mr. McLean, who was appointed as substantive Headteacher, will no longer be joining the team.

Staffing for 2021/22

The classes for next year will be arranged in a slightly different manner. One of the benefits of this structure is that it enables teachers to better plan for learning that has been missed during the lockdown period. More information about which class your child will be in will be shared soon and moreover, how we intend to organise classes over the next academic year.

Governance at Phoenix St Peter

To replace a Local Governing Body (LGB), Phoenix St Peter currently has an Intervention Board (IB). The IB was put into place as a temporary measure. This measure has served the school well to allow us to make timely decisions to secure high quality staff, bring about stability and improve educational performance. As the school is now in a much stronger position, I feel that it is time to return to a LGB and have already taken steps in this direction by appointing a Chair of Governors, Dr Avieson.

Dr Avieson is a well-respected, local educationalist who will bring a bank of knowledge, expertise and experience to the role. Dr Avieson will, of course, be writing to you in due course to introduce himself in more detail. As part of the move back to a LGB, I am asking any parents who are interested in becoming a parent governor to register their interest at the school office and make an appointment to meet Mr Roberts for an informal discussion about this.

Exciting times are on the horizon for Phoenix St Peter. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Very Best Wishes,

Mrs. Nicola Richards

Deputy Director of Education