



*"We learn together, we play together, we pray together,  
we grow together in the love of God"*

## Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you on my first day as the new Chair of Governors of St Theresa's after being elected by the Governing Body last night. I am honoured to serve St Theresa's as we move into the next school year with a significantly new Senior Leadership Team. As we end the Summer term, I would like to begin by expressing our gratitude to Miss Kelly. She has been instrumental in leading St Theresa's forward in the last five years and has worked tirelessly to ensure high standards are maintained and that the children are always placed at the heart of the school. The school has made significant improvements as a result of Miss Kelly's vision and leadership. Her presence will be sorely missed but we wish her continued success in her career at St Catherine's and hope that St Theresa's continue to benefit from her expertise through the partnerships enjoyed by our local Catholic primary schools.

I would also like to thank the other members of staff who are also leaving us this term:

First to Mrs O'Brien, our Inclusion leader who is leaving us to be Assistant Head at St Gildas'. She has been with us for two years and in that time she has made a great impact with all the children in her care. We wish her well in her new role.

Miss Glackin, our Reception Teaching Assistant, is also leaving us to be a legal secretary. We will miss her enthusiasm and the care she showed our children.

Last but not least, Chantal, one of our meal time supervisors, is leaving to enjoy a new stage of her life.

We thank them all for the care, hard work and love they have brought to the school. I am aware from discussions in school with various teachers and pupils, that all will be greatly missed.

At this point we would like to introduce our new leadership structure for the coming year:

Mrs Pears, Headteacher of Blessed Dominic, will be joining the school as our new Executive Head. She brings a wealth of experience which will be invaluable as she supports our new Leadership team over the next year.

Mrs O'Melia takes up the position of Interim Head and will be supported by Mr Troy as Interim Deputy Head. Miss Johnson continues in her valued position of Assistant Head and Mrs Holland completes the Senior Leadership Team as our new SENCo and Inclusion Leader for three days a week.

With this change in position, Miss Davidson, an experienced teacher, will be teaching Year 6 for three days a week allowing Mr Troy to fulfil his Deputy Head responsibilities.

As mentioned previously, I am now undertaking the role of Chair of Governors and would like to thank Peter Carroll for his dedication to the role over the past two years. He has worked in partnership with Miss Kelly and seen the school through and out of some tough times. I had the benefit of working alongside Peter for 6 months and can say with confidence that his substantial, diligent and thorough work, has left St Theresa's in a better place.

We would like thank all the staff for their hard work this year. Yet again St Theresa's has attained high standards, which the school and greater community should be immensely proud.

Finally to our year 6 pupils, we all wish you good luck in your new secondary schools. We hope you continue to be enthusiastic, thoughtful and reliable; components in life we all benefit from on a daily basis.

It's worth stating there are uncertainties for education in the coming year, and possibly for years to come. It remains to be seen how the UK's political future and its relationship with the EU may affect decisions about schools across the country. Fortunately, St Theresa's has a cohesive and strong Governing Body, with a wide range of skills, and one that understands very well its role in determining and steering a strategic future for the school. I confirm that the Governors will continue to do the very best for the school, along with the interim head teacher, the senior leadership team, and all the staff.

Next year is our Golden Jubilee. The 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 is the date for our celebration, and I hope to see you all at the school event, which is sure to be a most enjoyable day for everyone. I hope you and your children all have a wonderful summer break, and look forward to seeing you again in September. God Bless,

Alan Crossan- **Chair of Governors**

### Your School Governors are...

**Chair of Governors:** Alan Crossan (Parent Governor)

**Vice Chair of Governors:** Ony Ogodazi (Parent Governor)

**Foundation Governors:** Margaret Cronin, Fr John Dermody, Gerry Costello and Sheena Varnava

**Local Authority Governor:** Tony Shotton

**Staff Governors:** Linda O'Melia and James Troy

**Associate members:** Joe Brohan, Christine Fleming and Jean-Marc Evans

### How to contact us.....

If you would like to contact the Chair of Governors please do so in writing via the school office. Envelopes should be addressed to the Chair of Governors.

**Further details can be found at:**

[www.st-theresas.barnet.sch.uk](http://www.st-theresas.barnet.sch.uk)