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Executive  
Headteacher  
Clare McFlynn

Head of School  
Angela Noronha

13<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a year! Last autumn we had an RE inspection that gave St. Joseph's a tremendous "Outstanding" rating and we all felt that the rest of the year would be just as outstanding. And then we faced a new and unprecedented challenge in the form of the Covid-19 virus. I would like to thank all staff, the children and parents for the different ways in which they stepped up to that challenge. It has been very difficult; but we have carried on teaching (albeit largely on a remote basis) and kept everyone safe and secure.

The Senior Leadership Team are currently planning how St. Joseph's will organise teaching in the forthcoming school year, starting in September. However, we have to bear in mind that any plans made now may have to change in the light of any fluctuations in the behaviour of the virus and its impact on the country: The Government's guidance to schools has already changed several times since the start of the lockdown and could well do so again in the coming months. On that point, I would like to reassure all of you that St. Joseph's consistently follows the Government's guidance and has as its priority the safety of children, staff and the families of children at the School. St. Joseph's has close links with Camden and Islington Public Health and with Islington Council and has access to the advice and resources that it needs to keep everyone as safe as possible. Some parents have suggested that St. Joseph's should give parents better notice of changes resulting from Covid-19; but we learn of changes in Government guidance only when they are published and we are not able to inform parents of developments more quickly than we currently do.

Due to the impact of Covid-19, we cannot celebrate the usual achievements that are made in a normal school year. However, there is one thing that I cannot resist mentioning to you, although it may seem a rather odd choice: the new Foundation Stage toilets for Nursery and Reception children. Why mention toilets? Well, when you have the opportunity, go and see them and you will understand why they are worth mentioning. They are a really impressive addition to the facilities that St. Joseph's offers. That is not all. Our plans for a new multi-use games pitch and a multi-purpose building near the school library are progressing and their realisation is now on the

horizon. We are still fund-raising for that project. We all know that the times are very difficult for everyone; but any contribution, however small, is welcome.

The end of every school year brings changes in staff and this school year is no exception. Our thanks and best wishes go to the staff who are leaving us; and we extend a warm welcome to the staff joining us in September. Mrs Moore will be away from us on secondment in the autumn term this year because she will be working as the temporary Head of School at St. Albans and St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School in St. Albans.

I wish you all the best for the summer. Keep safe!

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Lasok', written in a cursive style.

Paul Lasok  
(Chair of Governors)