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Executive
Headteacher
Clare McFlynn

Head of School
Angela Noronha

8th July 2021

Dear Parents and Staff,

A second academic year disrupted by Covid-19 is now coming to an end.

As a school we have faced successfully the challenges that came our way over these past twelve months, including two further lockdowns. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the governors, to thank the staff for all their efforts in supporting our young children during this time of remote learning and also in settling them back into school life. Teaching our children in a safe environment and enabling them to deal with the stress caused by the pandemic have been our priorities throughout the last two years; and particular thanks are due to Miss McFlynn and Mrs Noronha for all their work in ensuring that this remains the case and for bringing together and leading an extremely effective and hard-working team of teaching and non-teaching staff.

During the lockdowns, we as governors were for the most part unable to visit the school in person. Rather than become detached from what was happening, we had the opportunity to be regularly updated by the staff on a weekly basis with a zoom meeting on different aspects of school life and different subject areas, such as phonics and modern foreign languages. The presentations given by different members of staff were very impressive and gave us a clear idea of different aspects of life at the school and of how the children really enjoy their learning experience at St. Joseph's.

We look forward to another successful year for St. Joseph's. Next year should see the creation of our new Multi Skills pitch on the lower junior playground and an additional classroom. We also want to provide all our children with the most diverse and enriching curriculum to inspire and enthuse them. St. Joseph's never stands still!

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. I was able to attend a farewell celebration for our senior staff who were moving on at the end of this term. It was great to hear them reminisce about their time at the school and share the memories they will take with them. We extend a warm welcome to the staff joining us in September, in particular Mrs Halpin (whom we are welcoming back) and Mrs Roberts, each of whom will occupy the post of Assistant Head. It is always sad to say goodbye when our Year 6 children leave as they make their way to their secondary school in September. We thank them for being a part of our school for 7 years and wish them every success in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents for your continued support throughout another difficult year. We look forward to seeing more of you in the coming months and getting our parent/governor morning meetings back on track. I wish you all a lovely Summer break with your families.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Lasok'.

Dr Paul Lasok, Chair of Governors
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School