

ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL (SJF)

Governors' Newsletter – Spring Term 2024



Welcome

Dear pupils, staff, parents, carers and members of our community, Happy New year! The governing body of SJF welcome you to another positive term. We hope you all had a restful holiday during the festive period.

You will be pleased to know that governors are working closely with the leadership team of the school, to continue to maintain a safe environment for our pupils and staff during this term. We will continue to monitor the implementation of all health and safety measures presently in place. Everyone is expected to please adhere to these mandatory measures. For clarity, kindly visit the school's website to familiarise and update yourself on this policy.

Governing Board Focus

As governors, our main priorities remain to,

1. Ensure that learning and behaviour standards are outstanding and attainable by the children.
2. Ensure that the pastoral care of the pupils is outstanding.
3. Support the school in achieving its set aims and objectives.
4. Ensure best practices across board in the school.
5. Support periodic review of existing policies and set targets.
6. Ensure that new policies are in place and in line with regulatory requirement.
7. Be a critical friend to the head teacher and management staff.
8. Through active communication with governors and staff, share improvement ideas and solve problems.
9. Encourage on-going training for teachers, parents/carers and governors.
10. Promote equality, inclusion and safeguarding of pupils and staff.

Additionally, we will work seamlessly with SJF's leadership team to ensure that everyone complies with the school's health and safety policies.

Training

Governors have continued to access on-line trainings to keep abreast of relevant regulatory and statutory policies.

What we ask of you is to regularly visit the school's website, to update yourselves with information on statutory policies and school activities. You can also follow the school's activities on twitter [@stjohnfishercps](https://twitter.com/stjohnfishercps).

Meetings held by the governing board.

In the last term, we held a general governing board meeting. Our Curriculum and Resources committees also held their meetings. These meetings will continue to be held as scheduled.

Link Governors

Link governors will continue to work proactively with the school's key staff in the following areas:

- Safeguarding
- Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Pupil premium
- Health and Safety
- Training

School Activities

One of the great highlights for us at St John Fisher is our Black History Celebrations during the month of October. During Black History Celebration Week, all of the learning focused Inspirational Black people who have impacted our daily lives. We ended our celebration week with a performance from all of the year groups. Everyone performed exceptionally well. It was wonderful to see some of the parent's sharing stories and poems.

As you all know that every November, we celebrate Harvest through various activities We were also able to watch the Harvest Festival celebrations led by Years 3 and 4. We continued to support the St John Fisher Food Bank by donating food and paying £1 on 'Wear your own clothes day'. Through all the donations we raised over £350.00. At the celebration the food was displayed and blessed by Sister Kathlene. All of the food was delivered to the Sister's house by Year 5 and 6.

During Remembrance Day the children remembered all of the soldiers who kept us safe by fighting in the war. Everyone came into school wearing red and all money raised was donated to the Royal British Legion – we raised £504.00 WELL DONE ALL.

The school sleepover also took place during this term, Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 attended and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

We came together to watch the splendour of the Nativity called 'Rock the Baby' retold by Year 2, Year 1 and Reception. What a show it was! The children put on a fantastic performance and we are very proud of them all.

The last week of term was fun filled with many activities such as Christmas Jumper Day, Times Tables and Spelling Kings and Queens. Christmas party and end of term Mass Advent Celebration

This term we also gave a warm welcome to our new Parent Governor Margaret Akpovwa.

Punctuality/Attendance

Our school's aim is to achieve 100% attendance and punctuality. As governors, we remain resolute in working with the school to achieve this. We encourage parents and carers to work in partnership with us to ensure that their child(ren) come to school daily and are *punctual*.

Parking

Governors continue to closely monitor the parking situation outside our school gates. We advise parents/carers to comply with the parking regulations. Please park in a safe place that does not obstruct other cars, zig zags, garages and other motorists. This is for the safety of our children as well as members of our community. We also encourage our pupils to walk to school where possible.

Remember, we are role models for our children.

Best regards,

Esther Phillips
Chair of Governors