



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
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“To live, love and learn in a caring Christian Community”

10th September 2020

Dear Parents,

School Building Fund Contribution

Welcome back to you and your children. I am writing to give you an update on our new school building and to ask for your help. You will have seen the building is externally nearly complete and we are thankful that the building team are a little ahead of schedule despite lockdown. The aim is for contents of our present school to be moved into the new building over the Christmas holidays and after Christmas the children will move into their new school.

The majority of the funding to build the new school has come from our successful application under the Department for Education's Priority School Building Program. The Local Authority has provided the funds to increase the school size so that we will be a 2 form intake each year. After all of the negotiations, we were left in a situation where there were no funds to include a Nursery class in the new building. The Governors approached the Diocese and we were given a loan of £286,000 to pay for this and other necessary items not included within the standard design. This loan has to be paid back over the next 5 years. This means that every month we have to find £5,000 out of school funds to give to the Diocese. Currently we have a shortfall of £100,000 of the loan repayment and therefore need to raise additional funds. The first part of this is our parental contributions to the School Premises Fund.

A majority of you make a monthly contribution to the School Premises Fund by standing order. We ask this of you when your children start here. The suggested amount is £5 per child and this amount has not changed over the past 20 years. I am asking now if you can start a standing order if you have not done so already. If you have more than one child in the school, can you check that you are contributing £5 for each child. If not, please use the form to increase your standing order. Some parents voluntarily contribute more than the suggested £5 per child and if you possibly can afford this then I ask that you consider increasing your standing order now to help with our repayment of this loan.

I am attaching a form to complete the set up or increase your standing order. Many of you will be used to setting up your own standing orders online. If you chose to do this please write on this page to let us know. We need to know who the funds are coming from as we need you also to complete the Gift Aid declaration if you pay any income or capital gains tax. The Gift Aid is vitally important to us each year.

Thank you so much for your support of the school.

Suzanne Fitzgerald
Chair of Governors



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