



# St Catherine's School Newsletter

Summer Term - 12

09/07/2021



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## A MESSAGE FROM MRS WALLIS

We have continued considering how we can look after ourselves in this week's assemblies and on Monday, we particularly thought about healthy eating. Children were surprised to learn about how many teaspoons of sugar and fat were contained in an 'unhealthy' packed lunch and learned about simple switches that can be made to ensure we all benefit from a balanced, nutritious diet.

Today's assembly was a very special one as one member of our staff team had an important question to answer – in front of the whole year group. Miss Taylor's partner requested permission to 'pop the question' and we were delighted (and somewhat relieved) when she responded with a definite 'YES'! Congratulations to Miss Taylor and her new fiancé.

## ENGLAND V ITALY SUNDAY EVENING

As we anticipate what is an historic event on Sunday (England reaching the finals of the European Championship), we realise that many children may want to stay up a little later than usual to watch the match. In response to this, registers will close at 10:00 on Monday morning and those arriving at school up to that time will not have a 'late' mark in the register. **Please make sure you have booked school dinners before this time as it will be too late to book after 9.30!**

## NEW CLASSES AND TRANSITION DAY

Yesterday's transition day enabled all children (apart from Y6) to spend some time with their new class in a classroom that is new to them and mostly, with a different teacher. The day went very smoothly – children seemed to settle quickly into the day and were very positive about what September will bring for them.

Thank you for encouraging your children to overcome any disappointments about not being with everyone they asked for, it's been good to hear of resilience being strengthened and new friendships being formed already.

## STAFF NEWS

**Mrs Hasell** will be leaving us temporarily at the end of this term as she is due to have a baby in August – we wish her well as she welcomes a brand new member into her family.

**Mrs Altoft** will also be leaving us at the end of term. We would like to thank her for the time and care she has given to her role in supporting our pupils and wish her every success for the future.

We bid a fond farewell to **Mrs Hyjazy** at the end of term as she has decided to embark on an entirely new career path in social work. Mrs Hyjazy has been with St Catherine's since 2012 and we will miss her drive, enthusiasm, beaming smile, beautiful singing voice and commitment to all of the children she comes into contact with. I wish her every success in her new venture and sincerely believe the social work profession will benefit enormously from having her as part of their team.

## NEW CLASSES AND TRANSITION DAY

As you know, last week was our sports week and all children took part in a range of track and field events whilst scoring points for their houses. Each day, the scores were totted up by Mrs Hasell and the results were announced in today's assembly. Well done to everyone for showing such great sportsmanship throughout the whole week.

**St. Andrew = 339 points 1st place**

**St. George = 280 points 2nd place**

**St. Patrick = 266 points 3rd place**

**St. David = 243 points 4th place**

## CO-OPTED GOVERNOR VACANCY

At St. Catherine's School we currently have three vacancies for co-opted governors. Would you be interested in becoming a co-opted governor? These are the things you need to know: -

All school governors contribute to the work of the governing board in ensuring high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the school by: -

- Setting the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

In addition to being responsible for the overseeing the School's vision, accountability and financial performance, the governing board appreciates the need to demonstrate diversity and inclusivity in its own membership, and to scrutinise its own composition and operations from an equality perspective. The need for the board to reflect the community which it serves is acknowledged, together with the benefits that such diversity brings in leading to a more robust, more informed and ultimately more effective governing body.

A co-opted governor is a person appointed by the governing board and who, in the opinion of the governing board, has the skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. As a co-opted governor, you may have an area of specialist knowledge or experience or bring a wide range of skills and experience to your role as a governor. As a co-opted governor, you act in the best interests of the school and wider community and cannot be mandated to take a particular stance on issues. As an effective Co-opted governor, you:

- support the aims of your school;
- visit and get to know your school;
- work in partnership with the headteacher, senior leadership team and other governors to raise standards and improve outcomes for all children;
- prepare for meetings by reading papers beforehand;
- take responsibility for your own learning and development as a governor including attending training;
- attend full governing body and relevant committee meetings promptly, regularly, and for the full time;
- read briefings and newsletters for governors;
- be loyal to the decisions made by the governing body;
- respect the confidentiality of governing body affairs;
- declare an interest and withdraw from any meeting where you, a partner or close relative or associate stands to gain, or where you are so close to a matter discussed it is difficult to be impartial;
- have regard to the broader responsibilities as a governor of a public institution in regard to promoting accountability for the actions and performance of the governing body.

## CO-OPTED GOVERNOR VACANCY CONTINUED

As a co-opted governor you will be expected to take on some specific responsibilities and commit allocated time for meetings on the following basis:

- Attend 4 Full Governing Body Meetings (FGB) each year; one meeting per term (including an additional, Budget meeting, in the summer term). Meetings will be 1 hour 30 minutes to 2 hours in length.
- Join the Resources Committee or School Improvement Committee. These meet once each term for 1 hour to 1 hour 30 minutes.
- Take on a Link Governor role. Link governors meet with school staff, at least once per term, to monitor an aspect of the curriculum or school management.

If you are interested in becoming a co-opted governor at St. Catherine's School you can find out more by contacting the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors via [admin@stcaths.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stcaths.herts.sch.uk)

Regards

P. Falconbridge

Chair of the Governing Board.



**19.09.21**  
**SIGN UP NOW!**

