

Friday 10th May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to inform you of some very exciting changes that have taken place in preparation for our final term of this academic year.

With the sad departure of Mr & Mrs McHale, who have returned to Ireland as a family move, the Governors and I have taken the opportunity to expand the Senior Leadership in the school. This decision was taken due to the rapid increase of pupil numbers and also to ensure that our school continues its journey of excellence. The structure of our new Senior Leadership Team is shown in the diagram below.

Head teacher Mrs RA Ridley

Deputy Head teacher

ACADEMIC Mr K McGuinness

Assistant Head teacher

T&L/CPD/KS3 Mr R Rooney

Senior Leader
Attendance & Behaviour
Mr C Bartel

Deputy Head teacher

PASTORAL Mr A Bazen

Assistant Head teacher

PP/EAL/HA Mrs F Nobis

Senior Leader

Attendance & Behaviour
Mr O Ford

Throughout the term, you will have the opportunity to meet the new staff and I am certain that you will agree; we have an exceptionally talented and experienced staff who will support both myself and the Governors in continuing to provide an outstanding education for all pupils in our care.

All of the team have prepared a brief resume of their experience and background, which you can find on our school website.

http://www.sjcs.org.uk/Our-School/Our-Leadership-Team/

Additionally, we have recently appointed Mrs K Lowe as our designated SENCO. Mrs Lowe has recently achieved a 'Distinction' in her recent national training and is an outstanding practitioner. She will, without hesitation further enhance the work Mr Bazen has been doing this academic year. Mr Bazen will now line manage Mrs Lowe and will be responsible for the strategic direction of the SEND Department. These structural changes are purely to enhance the educational experience your child/children will receive within our Catholic community. You may well have seen in the local press, on our website or via the DfE Performance Tables website that GCSE results in the summer were phenomenal and, whilst we were exceptionally pleased with these, we want to continue to strive even further to ensure the very best outcomes for all our pupils.

If you are not already aware of our successes last year, I have bullet pointed some of the key areas below for you:

- The overall Progress 8 (+0.21) score puts St Joseph's in the top 15.8% nationally and the best non-selective school in the area.
- Our Pupil Premium Progress 8 (+0.19) puts the school in the top 3% nationally.
- The High Ability pupils under our care, with a Progress 8 score of +0.10, performed better than any other non-selective school in the area.
- For the 2nd year, running our English results beat all targets. With a Progress 8 score of +0.56, this places us in the top 7.3% nationally and 4th in the whole of Wiltshire.
- Mathematics, again had a superb Progress 8 score of +0.15, placing the school 8th in Wiltshire.

Please do click on the link below for more details:

http://www.sjcs.org.uk/cms-data/depot/OurExamResultsFileStore/2018-Wiltshire-Comparisons.pdf

If you have any further questions or require any clarification on the changes explained, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to work together, this is what makes St Joseph's Catholic School a very special place to both work and learn.

Yours sincerely

Mrs RA Ridley

Head teacher