 *July 2023*

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

This year has certainly been a very busy year for St Wilfrid’s School, and its hard to believe that we are already into our final few days of the Summer term, with so much from the year to celebrate and still more to look forward to! before school closes for Summer on Wednesday this week.

It doesn’t seem possible that it is a whole year ago that we were looking back on last year’s highlights, and now here we are looking back at the end of what has been an amazing year at St Wilfrid’s School. Each year as a Governing Body we look back and think “surely Mrs McEniff, Mrs Harkness and Staff at St Wilfrid’s can’t top the previous years achievements and activities” and each year they do.

So, I would like to take this opportunity to ***“Congratulate and Thank”*** Mrs McEniff, Mrs Harkness the SLT team and all teaching staff for their enthusiasm,commitment and hard work that they have shown throughout this last academic year in teaching the children to such a high standard.

Also, we need to remember the non teaching staff within the school who work tirelessly behind the scenes, I would like to say *“****Thank you****”* to each and everyone of you for your input during this last year.

We are also delighted with all the hard work and determination that each child has shown this year, I am sure that you as Parents and Carers are all justifiably proud of all your wonderful children! we certainly are. So working together and growing together,we can remember together that we are a family of God, a family of love and most importanly for us all a family of Learners.

The Governing Body has been extremely busy throughout the year giving up their time on a purely voluntary basis to fulfil and monitor the School Development Plan and carry out various other roles. Our main objective is to be a critical friend to the school and to ensure that StWilfrid’continues to provide an outstanding education to all the children in our care and in fact, to strive to continually improve that provision.

Due to on going workcomitments Mrs Whiston who was elected as a Parent Governor in September 2022 has resigned from the Governing Body with immediate effect. We will in the autumn term begin the process of electing a new Parent Govenor to be part of the governing body to represent the parents and carers of our school community.

St Wilfrid’s Governing Body is delighted to annonuce that from September 2023 Mrs Alderton who is a parishioner in the parish of St John Vianney has been appointed as a Foundation Governor. The Governing Body wishes Mrs Alderton every success as she begins her new role at St Wilfrid’s School.

I would like to thank personally the members of the Governing Body for all their support and commitment that they have all given to St Wilfrid’s School during this last academic year.

****

Sadly we have to bid “***Farewell and Goodbye***” to Mrs Smith who sadly will be retiring in July to spend more time with her family. Mrs Smith began working at St Wilfrid’s on 4th May 2005 as a teaching assistant, Mrs Smith later qualified as a HLTA a role that she continues in todate. Mrs Smith has also helped with countless displays for specific events either at fund raising events, Masses and specific religious celebrations I can certainly say that Mrs Smith is a lady with many talents and a loft full of such amazing material and what she creates every year never ceases to astound me. I would like to take this opportunity to ***“wish Mrs Smith a Happy and Healthy retirement****”* with her family.

Retirement comes to us all but I know that Mrs Smith will look back on her time at St Wilfrid’s with a great sense of achievement and pride. St Wilfrid’s School will miss you so we do hope you will come back and visit us from time to time.



The Children, Staff, Governors and Parents would all like to say and to wish you a long and Happy Retirement.

Mr Thomas who has been teaching this year in Year 1 since September 2022 is also leaving at the end of this term to take up a new teaching position. We would like to take this opportunity of ***“thanking”*** Mr Thomas for all his in input into school during this last year especially in achieving the Gold Mark for sports and PE. I would like to wish him well for the future.



Sadly, it is also that time of the year again when we say farewell to a very special group of children our Year 6 pupils and their families. Our Year 6 who have all either individually or collectively have achieved so much. Their level of personal development, alongside their academic achievement has been excellent. Your end of year production was amazing I was so proud of each and everyone of you and your many talents.

Year 6 have been wonderful ambassadors for the school. First impressions are important and, this year, our Year 6 children have been a great asset and one that we are all very proud of!!

So, Year 6 we will miss you all, but we know that you are ready for a new challenge. Good Luck in Year 7. The entire school community of St Wilfrid’s Catholic Primary School are **“Immensely proud of you and we wish you all the best for the future**

**and thank you for the memories!!!”,**



Last but not least we bid a fond farewell to all our families who will be leaving us this week for the final time*.* ***“Thank you”*** for all support that each one of you has given to the school during you time with us, we will miss you all.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our Volunteers who come into school on on a regular basis and freely give of their time, in either the classrooms to provide extra support to the class teacher, or with the children in out of school clubs.

In particular thanks must go to Mrs Robertson, Mrs O’Hara and Sister Phyllis for organising and guiding the children who attend St Wilfrid’s “Minnie Vinnies” This group is now a well established part of St Wilfrid’s School Community and throughout the year all the children have been actively involved at many different events both within School and the wider Parish community. Just recently they held a sponsored walk to raise funds for our new prayer garden and over £400 was raised. The Minnie Vinnies decided that the prayer garden should be sited in maddie’s garden and on Monday 10th of July, Mrs Robertson with the help of the Minnie Vinnie’s, Deacon David and Fr Paul conducted a short service to bless the garden it was such a lovely ocassion. The mosaics looked absolutley amazing glinting in the sunshine and it felt the right place for them to be. So I would like to congratulate all those involved in bringing this project to life but especially the Minnie Vinnies who have all worked so hard as a team and should now feel very proud of what they have achieved. As this prayer garden will be used and treasured for many years to come so**“thank you all”**

Finally, Mrs Robertson will sadly be leaving the Minnie Vinnie’s group at the end of this term as her daughter will be starting at St Nicholas in September. Mrs Robertson was the driving force in helping to establish our Minnie Vinnies at St Wilfrid’s several years ago. So we would like to say thanks and to wish her well for the future and please remember that there will always a warm welcome for you here at St Wilfrid’s School.

St Wilfrid’s School is also very grateful to all the PTFA Committee who during the course of this year. The members of the PTFA put in a great deal of hard work into fund raising and the recent Summer Fair which was a lovely evening and amazingly over £3,000.00 was raised which is a wonderful total given how small the PTFA committee is. It was such a lovely event and it was wonderful to see so many of you and your families supporting this evening. This is an example of what the PTFA do well. So on behalf of everyone at St Wilfrid’s School ***“Thank You”***to each one of you for all your hard work and effort that I know went in to making this event such a wonderful success.

However as Chair of Governors I now need to make a plea on behalf of the PTFA to each and everyone of you that St Wilfrid’s PTFA is now in desperate need for more parents to join this wonderful group to help organise the several fund raising events held throughout the academic year. As sadly in September the PTFA committee wil be down to just **five parents. Please, please** think about joining our school PTFA this coming school academic year and by doing so you will be making a difference for your child/children as the money raised as you all know goes to provide all the extra’s that we as a school don’t have the budget for. I know the existing PTFA would be delighted if more parents were able to volunteer to share the load so come on what are you waiting for!!!!

Finally it only leaves me to ***“thank you our Parents and Carers”****,* once again for your support throughout theyear. It is clear that we have a wonderful community here at St Wilfrid’s and by working together as one community, inspiring and fostering a love of learning and endeavouring to follow our gospel values, we have seen our children flourish academically, spiritually and morally.

As St Wilfrid’s prepares for the summer holidays. Let’s thank God for our school community. With the support of the Church, the family and the school all working in harmony the faith will be passed on.



May God’s blessings go with us today

As we begin our School Holidays

Give your peace and joy to every child at St Wilfrid’s School

Help all our teachers enjoy their holiday

May God’s blessings await us

To embrace each new challenge without fear

Fill our school with love

And guide our hearts from above

Full of Faith, Full of Hope

Full of Joy, Full of Love.

Amen

I would like to wish you all a safe and happy summer and hope that you all come back rested and refreshed ready for the next set of challenges in September.

With all good wishes

***Mrs Morrissey***

Chair of Governors