



Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic Primary School

Headteacher's Report to Association of Parents and Friends AGM

Wednesday 8th October 2025

Mission Statement

“Our Parish School of Our Lady of Lourdes welcomes everyone in the community, to share with us the joys of our Catholic Faith.

We worship, learn and play together in the love of Jesus, helping one another to become the people that God has created us to be.”

This year, we bid farewell to a number of APF committee members who have stood for many years on the committee and worked incredibly hard, giving unstintingly of their time (along with blood, sweat and tears!) with the sole purpose of raising funds and supporting the community of OLOL. A **HUGE THANK YOU** to: Mr & Mrs Staffiero, Ms Linnane, Mr & Mrs Hicks, Ms Szarcsahazi and Mrs Coules - you leave very large shoes to fill and we will miss you and your families very much, you have left many memories at OLOL and your legacy will live on for many years to come.

Our long-standing Chair, Mrs Cleary, is also stepping down after many loyal years of service. The APF have achieved so much under her leadership and she will be greatly missed. We are sincerely grateful for all she has done for the APF and positive impact her work has had on the school, with huge benefits for many children over the years. **THANK YOU**, Mrs Cleary!

As in precious years, schools continue to rely on community fundraising more than ever before, budgets are under ever increasing pressure and there doesn't seem to be any sign of this improving in the future. I have never known school budgets to be under such strain, with more and more

schools predicting deficit budgets. Our school has a very tight budget and so all support is gratefully received.

Over the past year, APF funds have paid for a range of items/events including the following:

- Books/resources for whole school (relating to the new phonics scheme)
- Classroom resources for every year group (£100 per class)
- Whole school music tuition (tin whistle, ukulele, recorders)
- Various educational apps/subscriptions (used in classes by teachers)
- Christmas crackers/cloths/hats/decorations for Christmas dinner day
- Christmas Pantomime for the children
- Leaving gifts for Y6 and for First Holy Communion children
- Printing of school calendars for families
- Welcome Party for new reception class families
- Workshops for whole school
- Cultural Day activities

The above list is not exhaustive as a number of other costs have also been covered directly by APF funds, please refer to the APF accounts information for further details.

We are delighted to welcome the new committee members to the APF this year and look forward to working with them. No doubt they will bring new ideas and fresh eyes and we will do all we can to support their work and help to ensure that the APF continues to go from strength the strength, benefitting both the children and the wider community.

If you are new to the school or feel that you have something that you can offer to the APF, please do make yourself known to the committee or a member of school staff - we welcome all volunteers and the more, the



Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic Primary School

better! A willingness and an offer of time (no matter how much) is all that is needed, no special qualifications required!

As always, I am keen to work closely with the APF and I value all that you do greatly, if you have ideas about how this relationship can be improved or developed further, please do come and have a chat with me. I strive to support you in all you do.

In the meantime, a heartfelt thank you for giving up your time so willingly to make Our Lady of Lourdes such a special school; for contributing so positively to our community and for your dedication and hard work, it is a privilege to work with you all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'G. Hood'.

Mrs Gillian Hood (Headteacher)