

In the past few years the Parent Council at St Augustine's has been able to welcome families whose children are transitioning to S1 by providing pizza, sandwiches and coffee at the Parents Welcome Evening in June. Unfortunately this year we are not able to welcome you in that way or in person at all but what has not changed is the fact that we do want to welcome you and your family to St Augustine's RC High School.

As Parents/Guardians we play a hugely important role in the life of the school, in the obvious way, through the support we provide to our children but the Parent Council who represents the 'voice' of the Parents plays a valuable role too, our input is important so that the school gets to hear what the views of Parents/Guardians are when plans and decisions are being made.

That is why we need a Parent Council that is diverse and active so that we can ensure all voices are heard. I want to invite you to help with this. I know that not everyone can or even wants to join the Parent Council but if you are interested please do come along to our meetings. We have around 5 or 6 meetings a year, they are held on Thursday evenings at 6pm in the school. The dates of the meetings will appear on the school website and they will be published on the St Augustine's RC Parent Council Facebook Page as soon as they are announced.

This forthcoming year will be my last as a Parent at the School, it will be my 8<sup>th</sup> year on the Parent Council, I am proud of the contribution we have made to school decisions like changes to timetable, school uniform, recommendations on school exams, feedback on the school improvement plan, and campaigning, fund raising and most recently providing input to HM Inspector of Schools Inspection. On a personal note, I have also made friends with other parents and additionally got to hear the views of parents that are different from mine and gained an appreciation of the different challenges faced by Parents and Guardians when their children are going through the various stages of High School. Please, if you can, take the opportunity to join us. We currently have around 10 members who regularly attend meeting, there are also some members who can only attend occasionally and that is ok too so don't be put off joining if you think you can't attend all the meetings! If you want to know more information please message me directly on the St Augustine's RC Parent Council Facebook page.

For those who are not able to join please always take part in the school, come to events and support the school in whatever way you can.

Best wishes to you all, I hope you are all safe and well and that your child will enjoy the move to St Augustine's RC High School.

Jill Jackson

Parent Council Chairperson