

Mrs M Standing  
**Consultant Headteacher**

Wensley Road, Coley Park, Reading, RG1 6DU  
t: 0118 901 5545  
w: st-maryallsaints.reading.sch.uk  
e: admin@st-maryallsaints.reading.sch.uk



14<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

I write with a progress update following the parents meeting at the school two weeks ago.

It has been a turbulent year for our school. My priority as chair of the Strategic Management Board is to provide stability and support for the headteacher, staff and pupils. It takes time to build strong foundations, but we are making steady progress that will improve your children's experience and education.

### **Communications**

We have heard loud and clear that communication with parents and carers needs to be much better than it has been.

The new website is now online. The site provides more information than before and allows parents and carers to post comments. If you have given us permission to contact you by text, we will let you know that there is new information available on the site.

I have also heard from several people who attended the parents meeting and are keen to be more involved. I am looking at the right mechanism for this and a meeting will be organised next term to share initial thinking and a further progress update. In the meantime, if you would like to become more involved in the life of the school and haven't yet been in touch with me, then please email or write to me at the address below.

### **Leadership**

From 1st February, Candida Hutchinson will be joining the team as Head designate. Candida is an experienced Head from the White Horse Federation, a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) and she is seconded to the school until the end of the year.

During January, Gill Gooch will be acting head of school. She will be supported by Marion Standing 2 days a week, with a further 3 days a week support from a teacher from one of our supporting schools.



Mrs M Standing  
**Consultant Headteacher**

Wensley Road, Coley Park, Reading, RG1 6DU  
t: 0118 901 5545  
w: st-maryallsaints.reading.sch.uk  
e: admin@st-maryallsaints.reading.sch.uk



White Horse Federation are lending us Candida as a supportive measure to the school to provide some much needed stability. This support comes without any strings attached to possible academisation. Of course, during the year Candida is with us, there will be an opportunity for the federation and the school to get to know each other better.

Nick Capstick, the Chief Executive of White Horse Federation will be joining us at the parents meeting next term where you will have an opportunity to ask him questions. In the meantime, you can find out about the work of the Trust and the schools they are involved with here: <https://thewhitehorsefederation.org.uk/>

#### **Find out more**

Please take a moment to visit the website to see all that's going on at the school and please let me know if you think the site can be improved further.

It only remains for me to wish you all a very happy Christmas and I look forward to the next stage of the SMAS journey when we come back to school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

Yours sincerely

Kirsteen Roberts, Chair Strategic Management Board SMAS