



*St Francis of Assisi  
Church of England Primary School*

*“Live, love and learn together in the light of Christ.”*

Governor Information for Parents

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sure that many of you will already know, but Father Clay is leaving the parish to take on a new role in Lincolnshire. He has done so much for the local community as well as being Chair of Governors for our school. The school has benefitted from Father Clay's knowledge, support and clear vision for the school and he has worked continuously with the children, staff and families from the school both past and present.

Father Clay was in post since before I started working at the school and has been a fantastic guide and support for me as Head Teacher. He has worked within the school developing children's knowledge of the Christian faith, practices and the church, and the children love participating in Father Clay's regular worship (especially when he plays the guitar!). Even through the pandemic and school closure, Father Clay has always found ways to engage the school and community in the life of the church. We will all miss him greatly.

Please see below, a message from Father Clay.

*I have been in Teesside for the last 18 years, first in Yarm, then Ingleby Barwick. It's been our home, and we've made many friends. This parish has so much going for it and hopefully it won't take long to appoint a new vicar for the community. Please keep us in your prayers as we make the move to Grantham just after Easter – it will be such a wrench leaving behind the best Church of England Primary School in the land, St Francis of Assisi Primary! I know that I am leaving it in good hands. Thanks for allowing me to serve as your Chair of Governors which has been a great privilege. I hope all of you will continue to explore faith and will keep closely connected to your parish church. Nothing else makes such an impact on our lives like the virtues of faith, hope, and love; remember that these are God given, and he gives us nothing but the best. I do hope you'll keep in touch; I'll keep an eye on how things develop in our community and in our lovely school. If you are ever passing by on the A1, do stop in and see us our new home! May God bless you and keep you, may he fill your lives with the likeness of Christ.*

We are finding a way to say goodbye to Father Clay during the last week of term, but I am sure that you will join with me now by wishing him lots of happiness and positivity for his future.

The Trust Board has appointed Mr Haleem Ghafoor as interim Chair of Governors until September. He will be supported by the staff and governors of the school in this role.

Kind regards.

Louise Proberts  
(Head Teacher)

W: [www.stfrancis.dalesmat.org](http://www.stfrancis.dalesmat.org) E: [admin@stfrancispri.dalesmat.org](mailto:admin@stfrancispri.dalesmat.org) T: 01642 769942

St Francis of Assisi C of E Primary School | Lowfields Avenue | Ingleby Barwick | Stockton-on-Tees | TS17 5GA

St Francis of Assisi C of E Primary School is a member of the Dales Academies Trust. Dales Academies Trust is an exempt charity regulated by the Secretary of State for Education. It is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales, company number 08372064, whose registered office is at Blair Avenue, Ingleby Barwick, Stockton On Tees, TS17 5BL

