

## **We See Jesus In Everything We Do**

**St Edward's Catholic First School**, Parsonage Lane, Windsor SL4 5EN

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### **Governors School Building Fund**

Most parents decide to send their children to a Catholic school because they know that their child will be educated in a Catholic environment and because they know that the school will provide an excellent education.

The quality of Catholic schools (and other foundation schools) has also been recognised by the Government and they have granted many of them 'voluntary aided' status. What this means is that although the schools are in the state system, we can retain our traditions and organise the school on the basis of the teachings of the Church. But, in return, we are required by law to raise 10% of the cost of developing and maintaining the school buildings.

So, as a voluntary aided school, if we need to improve the school, undertake basic repairs or add additional facilities, we need to find 10% of the cost ourselves. We meet this responsibility by contributing to the Diocesan Schools Building Fund. All the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Portsmouth contribute to this fund, based on the number of children in their school. All the parishes in the Diocese then match-fund the schools' contribution which means that whenever we need work done, we have access to funds to do it.

The Diocesan Fund has recently paid for us to have the entire roof of the old school building replaced and it has also funded the recent replacement of the school boiler and central heating system.

The Governors therefore ask the families with children at the school to make a voluntary contribution of at least £10 per child, per term (£30 a year) to the Governors' Fund so that we can continue to provide the best possible teaching and learning environment for all our children whilst also maintaining our Catholic identity.

Building and maintenance is an ongoing factor in the life of a School and to meet our obligations we ask all parents to voluntarily contribute to the Governors' Building Fund. At the moment, this contribution is a recommended £30 per child, per year although a smaller amount would be equally gratefully received if you are unable to meet the full contribution. These voluntary payments can be made monthly, termly or annually by standing order or cheque.

### **If you are a UK taxpayer and your contribution can be "Gift Aided"**

This is at no additional cost to you and means that the school will receive an additional £9 from the government each year. This can be done easily via your Scopy account.

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Sarah Matthews

Headteacher