12th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Improvement

You will have seen the letter on Wednesday from Cath Smith about the industrial action. We wanted to write to express our deep disappointment that the NEU members have taken this action. This action can only set the school back in its steps to improve the outcomes for all children at the school. We are hearing really positive feedback from students and parents about the strong start to the term and the optimism about school improvement. We know that Cath is working hard with her team to minimise the impact of the strike action on your child’s schooling, and urge your support in this.

We have not provided any updates on the academisation process this term and we know that many of you are keen to understand the timing for conversion. The legal agreements that are required will take a number of weeks to complete. The plans that have been shared with us recently target the start of term in January 2019. The Department for Education is confident that this is a realistic date based on its experience of undertaking many other conversions of schools in similar circumstances. We hope to provide a more complete update in the next two weeks.

I am writing also to share some sad news about the new Chair of the Governing Body, Jill Todd. Two weeks ago, Jill was taken very seriously ill and will be unable to continue in the role, at least in the near term. As Vice Chair, I have stepped into the role in the interim, with very strong support from Jo Franklin as the other Vice Chair. We are both Parent Governors. As a reminder of who we are, we have shared below the personal statements we made for the Parent Governor elections.

Given Jo's professional background, she has taken on the role of Chair of the Governors' Learning and Achievement Committee. This group supports and monitors the school's progress against the Post-Ofsted Action Plan. We know from your feedback that this is an area of our work you have a huge interest in and so Jo will write to you each half term to keep you informed of our progress.

If you have any questions on any of the above please do not hesitate to contact Jo or me through the Governors' email address: governors@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk.

Our personal statements.

David Skinner
With four children, either in or approaching The John Roan, I am a long term supporter of the school and I am genuinely excited about the opportunity to help the school more directly. As a product of a state comprehensive and Cambridge University, I share the school’s ambition to have high expectations and aspirations for all children. I have over twenty years’ professional experience in finance, driving change in large organisations. I believe my experience applying critical but supportive challenge, identifying what works well and having difficult conversations to identify better outcomes, would be valuable to the school.

EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER: Cath Smith
Maze Hill, London, SE3 7UD
www.thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk

EMAIL: info@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk TELEPHONE: 020 8516 7555
Jo Franklin
I am:
- An experienced serving Headteacher at two primary schools (one of which is a national teaching school) and a part-time OFSTED inspector.
- A proud Greenwich resident and mum to 2 girls.
- Passionate about local schools serving local communities and a comprehensive education system where all students thrive.
- Excited about what the future might hold for The John Roan Secondary School.
- A huge fan of my John Roan 6th Form babysitters.
- Friendly, reliable and restlessly ambitious for the things I believe in.

With very best regards,

[Signature]

David Skinner
Interim Chair of Governors