

Frassati Catholic Academy Trust

Newsletter

February 2019



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Since their establishment in 2013, the schools within Frassati Catholic Academy Trust (FCAT) have evolved to a successful family of five schools and preschools.

Each school has a clear vision and strong catholic ethos within their own communities, providing an exciting and rich education so that children achieve excellent outcomes and are well prepared for the next step beyond primary school.

The Board of Directors are very proud of all our schools:

- St Edmund Campion Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Maidenhead
- St Francis Catholic Primary School, Ascot
- St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School, Bracknell
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Maidenhead
- St Mary's Catholic Preschool, Maidenhead
- St Teresa's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Wokingham

The future direction of Frassti Catholic Academy Trust:

The directors of FCAT recognised the positive work and collaborative approach that the schools within the trust had established within the Portsmouth Diocese network of Catholic Schools. Where the wider catholic community within education are all striving to build '*A learning community, celebrating Christ in all, building a kingdom of love, hope and joy.*'

However they had a vision for the trust to become a beacon of excellence within this community, where the children, staff and parents and local parishes work even more closely in partnership and benefit from the positive relationships and experiences that this can bring.

A Strategy day was held last term, where the directors, leadership teams and members of the Local Governing Bodies collaborated to ascertain a clear vision for the future of the trust as a whole, where every individual is recognised, respected and supported by

Faith, Community, Achieving Together

This is underpinned by aims that will be delivered within each setting.

- ▶ We aim to provide a safe, joyful and welcoming learning environment committed to excellence.
- ▶ Everyone is respected, valued and developed within a supportive Catholic Community.
- ▶ We aim to nurture closer ties with our communities, families and associated parishes, grounded in the Gospel model of Jesus surrounded by his disciples.
- ▶ Everyone is challenged to be their best, and as a result develop confidence and resilience at each stage of their learning adventure within Frassati Catholic Academy trust.

Who was BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI?

Patron of the Young People of the Diocese of Portsmouth.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, born in Turin, Italy in 1901, was so ordinary he was quite extraordinary. He came from a wealthy family, his mother being an artist and his father, the founder and owner of La Stampa the Italian daily newspaper. Neither of his parents were particularly religious and both were unhappily married. He had a younger sister Luciana with whom he was very close. Pier Giorgio grew up to be a young man of film-star looks with a lively personality. A daredevil athlete, he loved skiing, swimming, horse-riding and above all, climbing mountains. He pinned to his bedroom door: Mountains, mountains, mountains, I love you! As a university student, he was the life and soul of a group of close friends, an association he founded called the Typi Loschi (the "Shady Ones"). He smoked, enjoyed a drink, played practical jokes, debated politics and fell in love. But what made him extraordinary was his intense faith. A member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, secretly in the slums, he gave away his wealth and much of his spare time serving the poor: I see a special light around the sick, the poor, the less fortunate, a light we do not possess he said. And early every morning, he went to Mass: Jesus comes to me each day in Holy Communion and I return the visit by going to serve the poor. He often took part in nocturnal Eucharistic Adoration. People saw in his face, his joy, his



This painting by Alberto Fichetti is used with the permission of Associazione Pier Giorgio Frassati

Appointments across the Frassati Catholic Academy Trust:

We are pleased to announce the following appointments to the central team:

Mrs Kate Foreman: Chief Financial Officer (September 2018)

Mrs Liz Bosch: Clerk to the Board of Directors (December 2018)

Mrs Jacqueline LeMaitre: Chief Executive Officer (April 2019)

FCAT policies:

The Directors are developing centralised policies to support the educational and organisational requirements of the Trust and Schools within it.

These are available via the Trust website www.frassati-cat.com

Or via each schools website.



Spotlight on Safeguarding

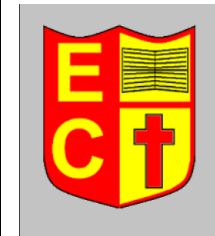
Frassati Catholic Academy Trust (FCAT) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The Policy is followed by

FCAT and each school to safeguard and promote the welfare of our children. Everyone employed by Frassati Catholic Academy Trust has a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in their care.

Each school will fulfil their statutory safeguarding responsibilities as referenced in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE 2018) and the FCAT Safeguarding Policy. (Available from the school website or in hard copy in the school office)

Every school will endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. All FCAT staff are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice.

Should you have concerns about the welfare of a child within your school then please refer this to a member of your school's safeguarding team.



purity, a radiance. His personal-passionate love for Jesus in the Eucharist was correlative to His intense love for Jesus in the poor. It was in the slums, or more probably in his hospital work, that he caught polio and died after an agonising illness of just six days. He was 24 years old. To the amazement of his family, who knew little of his inner life, great crowds of the poor turned out for his funeral. John Paul II, who made him a Patron of World Youth Day, called him The Man of the Beatitudes.

Blessed Pier Giorgio was a genuine missionary-disciple of Christ. He was never without his Rosary, which he always carried in his pocket. I place all the clergy and people of the Diocese of Portsmouth, especially all our young people and those who educate them in our schools, under his intercession that he might present us all to the Blessed Virgin Mary through the prayers of the Rosary. For if we are safe in Her hands, we know we are intimately united with our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. To Him be glory and praise per omnia saecula saeculorum.

Bishop Philip Egan
Eighth Bishop of Portsmouth

Watch this space:

We are looking forward to sharing more news with you, celebrating the achievements within each school and learning about the amazing children, inspiring teachers, supportive adults and caring communities that we all belong to.