

Tribute Mrs Nicola Wright

16 December 2022

Nicola / Mrs Wright began her teaching career at Our Lady of Compassion School in September 1991. Here she taught a number of classes across the school.

She joined Saint George & St Teresa Catholic Primary School in September 2000 as Deputy Head Teacher and took on a variety of roles including, English Lead, RE Lead, Assessment Lead and Key Stage Two Phase Leader. She supported the Head teacher Mr Foxon as well as teaching and support staff in implementing changes and improvements across the curriculum and life of the school including working as a Lead Moderator in English for the Local Authority. She was at the heart of projects such as Building Learning Power and Creativity (Resilience, Reciprocity (working together), Resourcefulness, Reflective thinking). Nicola took on extending this approach to RE.

Mrs Wright had/ has a great love for our school and our children. Her daughter Hattie joined us in Nursery and stayed with us until she joined St Peter's Secondary School. This love also nourished a great commitment from her own parents and Mr & Mrs Grosvenor supported numerous residential visits, school visits, gardening clubs and D and T projects over many years.

Alongside her Deputy Head Role, Mrs Wright also worked in Year 1, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. For many years she diligently prepared children to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation ensuring each child achieved the very best they could not only in their SATs but in all that they did. Her mantra of children aspiring 'to be the very best person God is calling you to be,' was constantly referred to and held with deep conviction.

Mrs Wright was also a great believer in the positive impact of an inspirational curriculum and educational visits were a huge part of this. Residential visits were particularly valued by her and she often led and later supported the Year 6 visit to Treginnis. Likewise, she would pop in to visit children at Borretan Park PGL, Alton Castle and Dunfield House.

Undoubtedly, her enduring love and care for our children enabled them to grow as young people supporting them to make positive transitions to their secondary school. She took enormous pleasure in hearing of the many successes of our children and more recently to welcome back ex pupils as prospective parents.

In April 2019 Mrs Wright became the Head teacher of St George & St Teresa Catholic School. Once again her commitment, dedication and insight were unquestionable. Indeed, her love, care and concern for each and every child and their family, has always been at the centre of her work. Her presence in classrooms, on the gate in the morning and evening, on the playground or in the hall at lunch times confirms this. She knows her children really well and is always prepared to do whatever was in the best interests of each and every child.

Alongside Governors, in April 2021 she led our school through the conversion to a MAC and we joined with 12 other schools in Birmingham Archdiocese.

Then an extraordinary event occurred – The pandemic. During this time, she led the school with compassion and determination to keep our children, staff and parents safe whilst providing the best possible education for our children.

As always she has continued to move the school forward. With the support of our Parents Association and Mr Westley, the school has seen a number of class refurbishments and most recently a spectacular new library.

Undoubtedly, throughout her years of service, Mrs Wright has shown huge dedication, commitment and resolve to St George and St Teresa School, we thank her for this and we will be eternally grateful to her for this.

As Parish Priest and Chair of Governors for 17/18 years, I have been deeply grateful to have such a school (close to and supporting the parish); Governors who gave time and expertise; parents who believed in the school; its leadership and staff. Her family can be proud of Nicola: she has given over and beyond.

If the Diocese/the MAC is wise it will seek ways to continue to draw on her experience. The Local Authority and other schools in the area looked to her to build their capacity – we should do the same. If we don't someone else will and that is our loss!

Nicola we thank you. Be proud of all you achieved in this school and for the Church. There are few who can match you.

Mgr Daniel McHugh

Parish Priest and Chair of Governors

2001 - 2018