

## HOW DOES THE GB RAISE THE MONEY IT NEEDS?

- A current annual contribution of £2000 from St Mary's Church.
- Specific voluntary donations to the Bursary Fund.
- In the past by having an appeal for a specific project such as the 21st Century appeal for the roof refurbishment.

The GB is seeking to establish a regular income from sponsors within the local community; both businesses and individuals. Without this the GB will not be able to access the money provided by the Government to sustain and improve the School.

## WHAT ABOUT MONEY THE FRIENDS RAISE?

- The Friends of St Mary's School (PTA) raise money to support the education of the children. They provide many of the "extras" such as the new projector/sound system in the school Hall, new blinds for classrooms, etc.
- It is not within the Friends' constitution to raise money to assist the GB with its capital responsibilities.
- However, in a major project the Friends may contribute by providing the furnishings or new equipment needed to enhance a structural project.

## CATEGORIES OF GOVERNOR AT ST MARY'S SCHOOL

### FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

- There are 3 Governors appointed by the Diocese of Guildford.
- There are 4 Governors appointed by the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary's Church.
- The Rector of St. Mary's Church is a governor in an ex-officio capacity .

Foundation Governors are required to preserve and develop the Christian character of the School.

Three of the Foundation Governors must at the time of their appointment be eligible for election or appointment as Parent Governors to meet the requirement that parents comprise one third of GB.

### PARENT GOVERNORS

- Two elected Parent Governors.

### LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNOR

- One Local Authority appointed Governor.

### STAFF GOVERNORS

- Headteacher, one elected teacher and one elected member of support staff.

For further information please contact the Chairman of Governors c/o St Mary's School

St Mary's Church of England  
(Aided) Primary School  
Petworth Road  
Chiddingfold  
Surrey GU8 4 UF

## WHAT IS A VOLUNTARY AIDED SCHOOL?

**Some answers to this frequently asked question and more .....**

A Voluntary Aided (VA) school is one such as St. Mary's where the responsibilities placed on the Governing Body (GB) makes it different from other types of school. 28% of Surrey schools for 4-11 yr olds are Voluntary Aided.

The majority of Governors in a VA school are appointed directly by the Foundation named in their School Trust Deed.

The Foundation at St Mary's School is the Diocese of Guildford and by association, St Mary's Church, Chiddingfold.

The specific responsibilities of St. Mary's School GB as a VA school are

#### ◆ **ADMISSIONS**

The GB is the School's admissions authority.

It decides the admissions criteria by which pupils are admitted.

#### ◆ **STAFF**

All the staff in the school are directly employed by the GB.

#### ◆ **PREMISES**

As the school buildings and the land on which they are built are held on trust the GB is directly responsible for all capital building or improvement projects over £2000 in value.

The GB is responsible for casual letting of the School premises although it is unable to grant leases and licenses.

#### ◆ **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education in a VA school is determined by the GB. At St. Mary's we follow the Diocese of Guildford guidelines.

#### ◆ **FINANCES**

The Government devolves funding for capital building projects and improvements (over £2K in value) to the GB.

In order to access the devolved funding the GB needs to raise 10% of the cost of each project.

The GB has to pay to insure 100% of the value of the buildings as it would have to find this amount on the occurrence of fire, etc..

As the employer the GB also has to pay public liability insurance.

There is no statutory income to the GB from the Foundation.

The GB receives income from lettings once direct costs have been paid to the school budget.

The GB has charitable status..

The GB money is held in the "St Mary's School VA Fund".

If contributions to the VA Fund are voluntary the GB can reclaim Income tax on Gift Aid donations.

### **ST MARY'S SCHOOL VA FUND**

At present, the VA Fund (also known as the Governors Fund) has three elements:-

- **General -**  
Income from voluntary contributions and lettings is banked here.  
Insurance premiums and the GB 10% contributions (except for the Pinckard Building - see below) are paid from here.
- **Buildings -**  
This element of the fund is the residue of monies raised during the 21st Century roof appeal in 1999. The appeal pledge was that any money left in the appeal fund following the roof works on the Pinckard Building was to be spent only on the upkeep or improvement of the Pinckard Building. This fund is almost exhausted.
- **Bursary Fund -**  
This part of the fund is financed by bank interest earned by the VA Fund and by any specific donations received. Grants are made to support children going on school residential trips who might otherwise not be able to afford to participate. Applications are made to the GB via the Headteacher.