

April 2019

Dear Fellow Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the St Olave's Parents' Association



I'm Laura Covill, a parent of two boys in Year 12 and current Chair of the Parents' Association.

It's my great pleasure to welcome you to the Olavian School Community, and in particular to the Parents' Association, which has a long and successful track record supporting the School.

Over the past five years, the PA has raised the extraordinary sum of over £250,000 – funds which have been invested to broaden and enhance the education and life chances of our children. We have funded specialist equipment and services that the school's budget cannot normally cover – to the benefit of all academic departments, sport, music, DT and extra-curricular activities.

Our funding has enabled the School to purchase specialist science lab equipment, Apple TV boxes and iPads for several departments, table-tennis tables, keyboards for class music teaching, as well as entry and equipment fees for the 4x4 Land Rover vehicle-building challenge and the VEX Robotics competition (a few examples from a long list). Most recently we pledged £30,000 for the complete refurbishment of the Small Hall which is used daily by all boys in Years 7 to 11.

This level of support is made possible, year after year, by our fantastic community of dedicated and loyal parents, who give their time, efforts and skills to improve the student experience at our wonderful school.

Beyond financial support, we also organize social events, offer careers advice to students, serve refreshments at school events - and much more.

As an Olave's parent, you will become a member of the PA automatically and will receive regular updates from us. Turn the page to learn more about the PA and how you can get involved.

So what does the Parents' Association do?

The PA helps you, your son or daughter and the School in so many ways:

- **Enhancing the School community** by bringing parents/carers together.
- **Raising funds** for equipment, facilities and services that could not otherwise be covered by the School's budget.
- Operating a network of **Class Reps**.
- Running the **Summer Fun Day** and other community events.
- Offering **careers advice** to students, particularly at the forthcoming Careers Fair.
- **Serving refreshments** at more than 20 School events throughout the year.

How to get involved

Join our volunteer database to help out, just the once or regularly, either during the day or in the evenings or weekends. You could serve refreshments, act as an invigilator for the mock tests, give careers advice, or man a stall at the Summer Fun Day.

Come along to a PA meeting to find out more about what we do.

Become a Class Rep by collecting feedback from parents/carers for onward dissemination to the PA and the School, and, in turn, relaying information back to all the parents in your son's class.

We'll give you more details when your son starts in September.

Matched funding

As a registered charity, we can benefit from matched funding - a simple way of maximising the fundraising efforts of our PA volunteers. Companies pledge a sum of money relating to the amount their employees raise for, or donate to, a charity of their choice. Please check to see if your company offers this benefit.

In the meantime, there's no need to wait until September to get involved. Come to our Summer Fun Day in July. We look forward to meeting you soon.

Best wishes from us all

Laura Covill
PA Chair

Rachael Peek
PA Secretary

Amit Singh
PA Treasurer

Mark McBennett
PA Vice Chair

Sudhir Pandey
PA Assistant Secretary