



Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June

Dear Current pupils, parents, alumnae and friends who have signed the letter to PGHS, Mrs Kempster has passed your letter to me as Chairman of the Board of Governors and I have considered it very carefully.

The Governors take this matter very seriously as does Mrs Kempster, demonstrated by the initiatives already undertaken by her and Miss Lucas. PGHS is committed to equality for all its pupils and has always welcomed girls from any race or religion. As Governors, we welcome feedback and as such are always willing to learn how to make the School a better place.

The Board of Governors works in close partnership with Mrs Kempster and her team and there are several sub committees with special responsibility for particular areas. Going forward, I shall ensure that the need to tackle racial injustices and inequalities appears on the agendas for appropriate Governor's meetings.

I was delighted that Pemiwa joined Mrs Kempster and Miss Lucas in a Zoom meeting this week to learn of her experiences as a black pupil at PGHS and even more pleased that she has agreed to work with us going forward. The steps you suggest to tackle injustices are clearly noted and changes will be made but as Mrs Kempster says the building blocks of that change must come from the pupils as well as staff. This cannot be rushed because right decisions must be made and to do this we have to listen to all staff and pupils.

PGHS has always been a happy and nurturing School with an emphasis on improving the lives of all our pupils. However, we must not be complacent and we will take on board the need for change to ensure an even greater focus in this area.

**Dermot Lewis**

**Chairman of the Board of Governors**