





Once again the pandemic tested us and proved the resilience of NMS as well as the mettle of Deborah Livsey, our new CEO; Sarah Gillam, Head Teacher at Maple Walk School; and Claire Murdoch, Head Teacher at Faraday School



Despite a very difficult time not just dealing with the consequences of unpredictable illness within all aspects of school life but seemingly ever-changing regulations, the children, families, teachers and all the staff involved at both schools as well as NMS head office all coped amazingly well. Secondary school transfers were exemplary for our final year leavers; and no child had to leave for financial reasons. Our much-appreciated patrons have continued to be most generous to those in genuine need and the Fishmongers' Company scholarship scheme has proved an outstanding success. We are thrilled to be providing excellent education not just to families who choose it for their children, but to others whose children could really benefit, but who would be unable to do so without help. The NMS model of providing excellent education at the lowest possible cost, is backed by strong support from businesspeople on the main board, experienced educationalists on the advisory board and patrons. Their trust in our provision has been remarkable and most essentially, teachers and staff are really committed to giving a very special broad and nurturing education to the children in the NMS family.

The 2021-22 year will see new heads in both schools. After nine years at the helm as Head Teacher, Sarah Gillam will be leaving Maple Walk. She leaves Maple Walk with a national rating of excellence in all nine categories from the Independent Schools Inspectorate as well as with enormous gratitude from families, colleagues and the greater NMS team. Claire Murdoch will move to Maple Walk to take over as Head Teacher; Lucas Motion goes from being Deputy Head Teacher at Maple Walk to become Head Teacher at Faraday School.

The planning for this has been underway for some time. We wish them and both schools continued success and are extremely grateful for their significant contributions to both our schools in their current roles.

I hope that you will have time to read about the schools' year in more detail in the rest of this report.

David Jones

At the start of September and with the benefit of six months of Covid experience behind us, we braced ourselves for the certain choppy waters ahead



I am pleased to report that we have achieved a small pre-tax profit this year. With a backdrop of continuing financial uncertainty for many parents, we froze our fees for 2021 but with some careful husbandry we were also able to award our hardworking staff with a pay rise. We were also grateful for additional bursary funding from patrons, enabling us to support families whose finances were particularly badly impacted by the pandemic.

Finances aside, the schools' Senior Leadership Teams had to remain flexible readily adapting to all the changes in national guidance, including in the new year, the introduction of twice weekly testing for staff. January saw the announcement of another lockdown and the schools were closed for all but two weeks of the Spring term, except for key worker and vulnerable children. The staff at Head office and the schools worked together to facilitate this and the school staff should be proud of the full programme of online learning they delivered as well as managing to run the partially open schools at the same time. But it was tough for staff, pupils and parents alike, so it was a great relief to be able to return to near normal in the summer term.

In April we announced the senior staff changes to take place in January 2022. As Claire Murdoch moves to become head of Maple Walk, her new deputy will be Mia Santa Olalla, the current Director of Studies. I am sure they will make a dynamic team and build on the terrific legacy that Sarah Gillam leaves behind. Lucas Motion becomes Faraday's new head, supported by Alarie Drummonds, the current deputy to form an equally strong and energetic team. The fact that both Claire and Lucas will have in depth knowledge of each other's schools will mean that they can share ideas and support each other which can only be of benefit to all our NMS pupils and staff in the coming years. I am very excited to see the future development of the schools and thankful that we have hopefully weathered the storm of the pandemic and continue our journey in robust financial and physical health.

Deborah Livsey,
Chief Executive Officer

**Profit and Loss Account
(Statement of Comprehensive Income)
Year to 31 August 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
Turnover	3,141,607	3,211,006
Cost of sales	(1,937,326)	(1,883,028)
Gross profit	1,204,281	1,327,978
Administrative expenses	(1,201,308)	(1,313,160)
Operating profit	2,973	14,818
Interest receivable and similar income	5,379	9,748
Interest payable and expenses	(250)	(250)
Profit before tax	8,102	24,316
Tax on profit	(12,706)	(17,460)
Profit for the financial year	(4,604)	6,856

**Statement of Financial Position
at 31 August 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	158,199	220,829
Current assets		
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	192,069	351,500
Cash at bank and in hand	2,203,817	1,872,875
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(1,802,771)	(1,688,543)
Net current assets	593,115	535,832
Total assets less current liabilities	751,314	756,661
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(5,000)	(5,000)
Provisions for liabilities: Deferred tax	(30,664)	(31,407)
Net assets	715,650	720,254
Capital and reserves		
Called up share capital	501,057	501,057
Profit and loss account	214,593	219,197
	715,650	720,254

Directors and Advisors

Directors:

David Jones: MA (Cantab) DL (Chairman) spent 26 years at UBS/Warburg and is now a partner at the investment firm Oldfield Partners. He served as Prime Warden of the Fishmongers' Company until the end of 2020.

Deborah Livsey: LLB Hons (Exeter) (CEO) has had a 15 year career in finance internationally. She is a governor at Amesbury, a preparatory school in Hampshire, joining NMS in 2018 as its COO and became CEO in July 2020.

Robin Broadhurst: CVO, CBE. has spent over 40-years in the property industry. He currently has a range of board appointments and consultancies.

Nicholas Crean: has numerous philanthropic interests. He started his career with Saatchi & Saatchi before setting up Hesketh Crean Consultants, an award-winning corporate film and presentation training company. Buying chocolate brand "Prestat" over twenty years ago, he has successfully grown the business into an industry leader globally.

Xavier Villers: MA (Oxon) was a senior partner at Miller Insurance Services LLP and was Chairman of the Marine Executive of the London and International Insurance Brokers Association.

Advisors:

Jonathan Cubitt: BA ACA (Chairman of the Audit Committee) is Bursar of Queen's Gate School.

Andrew Ellams, MA (Oxon), (Chairman of the Teaching and Learning Committee) is Senior Deputy Head and Director of Studies at St Paul's Girls' School.

Ian Elliott (Parent Advisor) is a parent of a current and a former pupil at Maple Walk School.

Ben Fitzgerald-O'Connor (Parent Advisor) is a parent of a current and a former pupil at Faraday School.

Sally Hobbs, BA (Hons), PGCE, taught in the independent sector for over thirty years, was named Prep School Head of 2015 and has been given a TES Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jane Ritchie, (Early Years Professional (CWDC), Cert Ed in Early Childhood Education) has 40 years experience as a specialist in Early Years Education within the independent sector and was the founder/owner of The Minors Nursery School, London from 1990 to August 2005.

Justin Shaw: MA (Cantab) is an author and former Director and Deputy Chairman of NMS.



Despite lockdown our Year 6 pupils have achieved huge success in their secondary transfer and adapted quickly to online testing and interviews



January 2021 began with a second lockdown and the School began online learning using the educational platforms of Google Classroom and SeeSaw. The core subjects were delivered during the morning online with live input, followed up with small group sessions or individual sessions as necessary. The afternoon sessions were a mixture of creative subjects, science and PE. With a large group of key worker children on site the staff team worked flexibly both from home and within school. Regular parent meetings via zoom ensured that the provision was balanced and I am delighted with the excellent feedback.

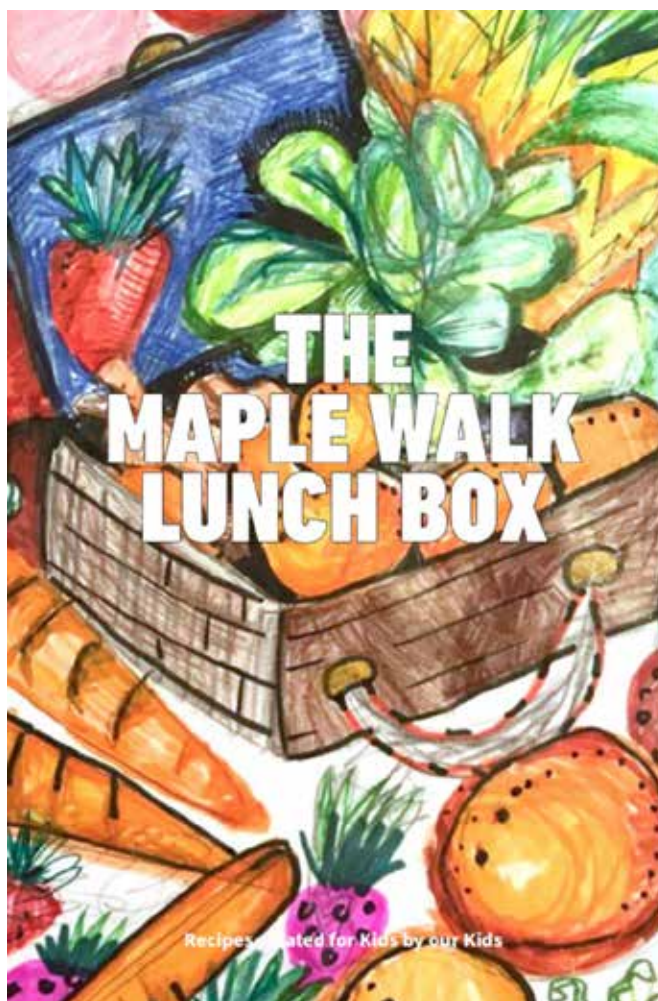
Once pupils had returned to school in March 2021 and with Covid risk measures in place, we began to restore some normality to the school day, despite: bubbles, one-way systems and masks.

As a school, we continue the development of the curriculum within the School and share latest educational practice during staff meetings. We are developing our reading culture, using guided reading and rich texts to develop writing skills. Displays around the School and the art taught has been enhanced with additional professional support. Within sport, the emphasis is on restoring a sense of enjoyment after the long months of lockdown.

As a staff team, we have been very vigilant with the pupils and their well-being, having drop in times on zoom and, once back, reiterating the pastoral support offered by our Pastoral co-ordinator and staff team. Maple Walk has always enjoyed visitors, speakers, events and workshops so this year has been strangely quiet. As Covid subsides, we are gradually opening our doors to the many opportunities and activities to enrich the curriculum thanks to the financial contribution of the Friends of Maple Walk.

Thanks to the support of the CEO and the Head Office team, I am handing over an extremely successful school that achieves academic excellence within a rich and creative environment. The whole of the staff team are dedicated to excellence and delivery of a knowledge based curriculum in a creative way. I am confident that Maple Walk will continue to be known within the local community as "outstanding".

Sarah Gillam,
December 2021



The Friends of Maple Walk is a charity made up of parents at the school. Our aim is to come together to raise money for the “extras” enjoyed by our children whilst at school which usually means author visits, experience days and workshops. Clearly due to the pandemic our usual offer was severely curtailed this year. Aside from experiences, we also raise money to give the children the best physical facilities on offer. The new stage and hall lighting provided by The Friends just before the first lockdown in March 2020 went unseen and finally, parents slowly returned to the school for events and performances during this year, as restrictions were lifted.

The Friends usually raise money through events such as the Queens Park Community Day, Christmas fairs and parent social

auctions. Our ability to raise funds in the usual way was severely impacted because of the pandemic. Undeterred, we returned to the virtual world and Christmas 2020 saw funds raised through cards, tea towels, bags and our now legendary recipe book. In spite of restrictions The Friends still raised over £3000 across the year.

The Friends of Maple Walk will be back with a bang once the pandemic allows and planning is already underway for a covid-safe Christmas Fair 2021 and a host of activities for the children to enjoy in 2022.

Ian Elliott
Chair

The academic year from 2020-2021 has been peppered with challenges and adaptations due to the ongoing Covid pandemic and it certainly kept us on our toes



We provided a successful mix of face to face and remote teaching for all age groups and continued to support our families over another interesting year. Despite the restrictions, the children performed incredibly well, and we saw excellent results to senior schools and wonderful progress across the school. Subjects such as the arts and sciences continued to flourish, as we celebrated STEM weeks and welcomed artists to visit the school.

In the summer term, we had a renewed focus on wellbeing by timetabling mindfulness, debate and collaborative learning. Each class explored a broad topic or theme each half term, with their curriculum coverage and objectives tailored to this. The topics, such as 'changes' or 'environment', enabled the children to find links between their objectives and to transfer knowledge from one subject area to another; their learning in geography then helped to build skills for English and vice versa. The children and teachers enjoyed having a thematic approach and it has enabled plenty of opportunities to improve writing and explore real-life mathematical problem solving.

Year 6 pupils have been given additional responsibilities, such as taking parent tours, organising events across the school and leading stalls at the Summer Fair. Their work on the Fiver Challenge enabled pupils to work collaboratively, stick to deadlines and communicate ideas to an audience. Trinity Buoy Wharf continues to be a wonderful resource for us, and we made more links with the creative businesses on our doorstep. The children have been on the wharf with their easels, drawing the O2 across the water and they have also been to visit an old industrial loom from the 1820's. We are also delighted the Fishmongers' have been able to support another child this year and it has been a pleasure to see them make the most of all Faraday has to offer.

Claire Murdoch,
December 2021



Friends of Faraday is a group of parents who work together to help support the great work of the school and staff by fundraising to buy extra equipment and experiences and help support the community of the school which is one of Faraday's great qualities.

Unfortunately, most of our regular events had to be cancelled through much of the year due to Covid restrictions. We did manage to run an online quiz for parents and teachers which was a great success and I'm sure we will try again. The children did also get to enjoy a "parent-free" summer fair where they got to run a toy tombola, cake sale and games.

We have recently heard of the school's change of headship and whilst this is tinged with a little sadness as we say goodbye to our amazing head, we are looking forward to Mr Motion joining us and are sure we will come up with some new, exciting ways to support the school our children thrive at. We thank Mrs Murdoch who has done so much for Faraday and worked so closely with Friends of Faraday, helping and supporting us all the way.

Nicola Fitzgerald-O'Connor
Secretary

Secondary School Transfers

At NMS we aim to prepare all pupils for their next stage academically, whether competing for a place at a highly selective independent school or joining their peers within the maintained sector. We are enormously proud of all our pupils, who leave our schools confident and with a great sense of personal accomplishment.

In 2021 we had 39 Year 6 graduates and we received offers from the following schools, including 19 scholarships/awards

Aldenham School	Maida vale
Babington House	Merchant Taylors
Belmont Mill Hill	More House
Blackheath School for Girls	Normanhurst
Cheadle Hulme School	Northbridge House
City of London School for Girls	Northbridge (Canonbury)
Colfe's	Nottinghill & Ealing High
Dulwich College	Portland Place
Ealing Fields	Queen Elizabeth Boys
Eltham College	Radnor House
Emanuel School	South Hampstead
Forest School	St Dunstan's
Francis Holland, Regents Park	St James Girls
Godolphin and Latymer	Twyford
Harrodian	University College Girls
Holland Park	UCS
John Lyon	West London Free School
Kew House	Whitgift
Latymer Upper	

In other years, pupils received offers from some of the schools listed above, and also:

Arts Educational, Bales College, Bedales, Bexley Grammar School, Berkhamsted, Camden Girls, Canary Wharf College, Channing, Cheadle Hulme School, Chigwell School, Christ's Hospital, Chigwell, Dwight, Eaton Square, East London Science School, Francis Holland Sloane Square, French Lycée, The German School, The Grey Coat Hospital School, Haberdashers, Hampstead School, Hanford (Blandford Forum), Harris Boys East Dulwich, Harrodian, Highgate, Henrietta Barnett, Hockerill College, Ibstock Place, JcoSS, King Alfred, Kingham Hill (Oxfordshire), Leweston (Sherborne), Lockers Park, The London Oratory, Marylebone Girls, Marylebone Boys, Monmouthshire School for Girls, Queens Gate, Queens College, The Quay Radnor House, St Augustine's, St Christopher Letchworth, St Benedicts, St Dunstan's College, St James Senior Boys', St Paul's Girls' School, St Paul's Boys, Thames Christian College, Thorpe Hall, Upton Court Grammar School, Westminster School, Wetherby School, Wilmington Boys School.

Our vision

To provide a first class education at the lowest sustainable cost:

This means:

- Setting high expectations for each child's individual learning and development
- Using a knowledge-based approach in preparing children both for public examinations and for the rest of their life.
- Providing inspirational teaching by enthusiastic and high-achieving teachers across a wide range of academic subjects and extra-curricular activities.
- Using a not for profit ethos and a model for running schools which makes us as affordable as we can be to as many people as possible.



Our values

Our community

- Our values derive from a broadly Christian ethos, with obligations of courtesy, helpfulness and openness.

Our work

- Starting with strong foundations in literacy and numeracy, to instill a love of learning in children through an inspiring and broad curriculum.

Our goals

- To teach pupils in a way that allows them to fulfil their potential and to grow towards maturity and self-confidence.
- To instill habits of effective learning and good behaviour at an early age. To deliver value for money and maintain strong links with our parent body.
- To nurture and inspire.



Farewell To Sarah Gillam Head Of Maple Walk



In December 2021 we will be saying farewell to Sarah Gillam who is leaving after nine years as Head of Maple Walk.

Joining the school as Head Teacher in September 2012, Sarah has been the beating heart of Maple Walk ever since. Her energy and commitment has been extraordinary. She is always the first person in school very early in the morning preparing for the day ahead. Despite the many balls that have to be juggled on any given day Sarah remains calm, measured and seemingly unflappable. During the past nine years Sarah has twice acted as Executive Head in de facto charge of both Maple Walk and Faraday, supporting the then acting head at Faraday, she took on that extra responsibility at difficult times and NMS is very grateful to her for stepping into the breach.

Under her leadership in March 2020 Maple Walk was judged "Excellent in all areas" by the Independent Schools Inspectorate and there can be no better professional accolade for her and her team than that.

The onset of the pandemic also in March 2020, showed Sarah at her best. With utmost dedication, she absolutely rose to the challenge of lockdown and the partial closure of the school, demonstrating her leadership and problem solving skills. Nothing fazed her despite the ever changing situation.

All of Sarah's commitment as a highly regarded educationalist and ISI inspector, has borne fruit in the happy, confident, curious children who have been pupils at the school over the years. Maple Walk is a cheerful, upbeat and well run school reflecting the qualities of its Head and provides the perfect environment for the children to flourish.

Sarah leaves with the very best wishes and grateful thanks of staff, parents, pupils and the Directors and Advisors. She will become the new Head of Hawkesdown House School and we wish her every success, they are very lucky to have her.



MAPLE WALK AND FARADAY PREP SCHOOLS



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