



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Educate Protect Love Serve

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21st October 2021

Dear parent/carer,

Wow, where has that half term gone!

I just wanted to send you an update whilst also celebrating our amazing 'outcome' for the Section 48/Canonical inspection.

Inspection

Overall our grading is Good for our school. We are really pleased that we have also achieved 'Outstanding' in 4 out of the 9 areas. There were some amazing aspects from our inspection report, these include:

- *There is a strong sense of community at all levels and this is evident in the high quality of relationships throughout the school.*
- *St Mary's provides the highest levels of pastoral care to all pupils and their families, and there is an explicit and concrete commitment to the most vulnerable and needy in both policy and practice.*
- *The school has strategies for engaging with the majority of parents to the benefit of pupils, including those who might traditionally find working with the school difficult. The headteacher's vision, along with the pastoral worker is central to ensuring this.*
- *Parents have a good understanding of the school's mission and are supportive of it. In the recent survey one parent commented, 'They always go above and beyond for every student and parent.' Many parents referred to the values of the school, links with the parish and that it is a Catholic school.*
- *Prayer is central to the life of the school for all pupils, whatever their faith background, and forms the heart of every school celebration.*
- *The Gospel values sit at the heart of this school. The pupils were keen to share how everyone works hard to live out the Gospel values, with weekly celebration of pupils who are living the values.*

As you can imagine we are very pleased with the outcome. Our inspector was overwhelmed by the sheer volume of returned parent surveys that she received. She did say it was the most she had received from any school in her time as an inspector. Thank you to you all for providing such amazing feedback, it has been greatly received.

As you know we lose dear Mrs Landry at the end of this term and I would like to say, on behalf of everyone, thank you ever so much for all that you have done for St Mary's. I know the pastoral vision for St Mary's, that both Mrs Landry and myself have, will continue to be at the heart of everything we do as we move forwards. Mrs Breslin is stepping into the fold whilst we continue to find our new parent support advisor or pastoral lead. It is this pastoral provision that is at the core of everything we do, as seen in our inspection report, to ensure that your lives are made easier on a daily basis. This will not go away, we are here for you always. We wish Shelley all the



very best and hope that she pops back from time to time to see the children and the team and of course yourselves.

Thank you

I would like to say a huge thank you to you all, these times continue to be challenging for everyone but I can say with a full heart that it is truly wonderful when the school gets recognised for the work that the team and our whole community do to make St Mary's amazing!

As always thank you for your continued support; the team and I really appreciate all of your support.

With very best wishes,

Alison McDonald
Executive Headteacher

