

**St Mary’s Catholic Primary School**

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Headteacher: Samantha Griffiths

Assistant Headteacher: Helen Lambie

School Business Manager: Suzanne Evans

Thursday 20th June 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with enormous pleasure that I write to share the fantastic news that our school has once again been rated ‘Good’ by Ofsted and behaviour has been described as ‘Outstanding’.

This fantastic news follows a two-day intensive Ofsted inspection, which as you know took place at the end of May.

I am delighted that Ofsted has recognised all the excellent work going on here at St Mary’s Catholic Primary School and has recognised it to as a place where pupils feel safe, valued and engage well in their learning.

The inspectors noted how we have maintained a good quality education for our children and have continued to drive rapid improvement across our school since our last inspection in June 2014.

We could not have achieved this without your support and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you, your fantastic children and our dedicated staff for their incredible hard work and commitment, which has helped to make St Mary’s such an amazing place to learn, work and succeed.

The report highlights many key strengths of our school. It is exceptionally positive throughout but there are some evaluative statements that make us feel particularly proud:

* The behaviour of pupils is outstanding.
* Work in books and the school’s own assessment information indicate that most pupils make good progress across a range of subjects, including English and mathematics.
* Work in pupils’ mathematics books and school records show that most pupils are making good progress. Pupils’ knowledge and skills are improving and they are developing a deeper understanding of the calculation processes.
* Parents and carers are very positive about the school and feel their children are happy at school. One parent who responded to the free-text service said: ‘The teachers are all very caring and, as a parent, I feel the children’s needs are always a priority.’ Parents overwhelmingly would recommend the school to other families.
* The school has a strong culture of safeguarding and all members of the community share in this commitment to keep children safe.
* Pupils read with appropriate fluency and comprehension, considering their age and ability. They use their knowledge of phonics to read unfamiliar words well. They read widely and are developing a real enjoyment of learning.
* Staff’s views about the effectiveness of the school are positive and they are confident about the vision to move the school forward. They believe that leaders are incredibly supportive of them, while ensuring that they are all working to get the very best outcomes for pupils.
* Pupils conduct themselves well in lessons, around school, in the dining hall and on the playground. They greet visitors in a friendly way and remember to stand aside and hold doors open for adults.

I am extremely proud of everything that we have been able to achieve here at St Mary’s and with your help, as always. I look forward to our school continuing on its strong upward path, as we work towards becoming an outstanding school. We pledge to continue to help all our children to fulfil their potential.

**We have Catholic Inspectors coming to school soon and they have asked if parents can complete the attached questionnaire and return it to school by Monday 24th June. Many thanks for your anticipated support with this.**

As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With very best wishes,

Samantha Griffiths

Headteacher