## Archdiocese of Birmingham



## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Miss H.M. Cusack M.Ed.



19th July 2017

## Dear Parent

As the circle closes on another school year, a year in which I have had the privilege to be Chair of the Governors, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude and admiration to all my fellow governors and especially the staff of St Mary's. I want to thank, particularly, Mrs Miller who after some ten years dedicated service as a governor stands down at the end of this term.

Working behind the scenes, while being fully accountable for the school, has been something of an eye opener. This position has allowed me to see first-hand the enormity of the task that besets each and every staff member. Each one has a crucial role to play, be that feeding the children's stomachs, heart or minds; all of which are equally important! The upgrade of the kitchen has been a tremendous asset to the school provision in that many more children are now taking up the offer of a nutritious and balanced midday meal. I, and other governors, have experienced school meals throughout the year and I would encourage those of you who may be unsure about this new provision to give it a go in the Autumn Term.

I am always impressed with the behaviour of our pupils in the classroom, in the playground, in the Church as well as on school trips. The children are a credit to you as their parent and to the vigilance and nurture of their teachers. I believe that we consistently see the Catholic ethos of our school in action. Here, I would like to add my thanks to Fr John and his friars who support our school masses and everyday spiritual life.

Finally, since we are an educational establishment, I cannot end this communication without mentioning the outstanding outcomes of the school, once again, this year. By the end of KS2 our children are significantly exceeding the national data. This year, while 61% of children nationally have attained the expected level of learning in reading, writing and maths, at St Mary's 94% of our children have attained this standard. This excellent achievement does not happen without the diligence and commitment of the whole staff team. I would like to stress here the inordinate amount of extra hours, unknown and unseen, that the staff give freely, making such outcomes a reality. My heartfelt thanks to Miss Cusack, Mr Blaney and the senior leadership team along with the entire staff for their unbounded dedication and professionalism towards our children.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I wish you all a safe and happy summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours sincerely,

David Collins Chair of Governors