



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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



21st December 2018

Dear Parent

As the first term of this academic year draws to a close I, on behalf of the Governing Body, would like to thank the children and staff for their hard work as well as give you, the parent and learning partner, my very best wishes.

Outcomes

As I am sure many of you will have read in various publications, St Mary's continues to rank as one the highest achieving schools in the country. The Sunday Times list ranked St Mary's as the 49th school in the country, which staff, parents and pupils alike should be very proud of. The 2017/18 outcomes at St Mary's are significantly higher than the local and national averages. In early years (Reception), children attaining a Good Level of Development at St Mary's is 10% higher than Harborne Ward schools and 14% above the national average. In KS1, children at St Mary's working at least at the expected level is 33% higher than Harborne Ward schools and 24% higher than the national average. Finally, in KS2 our children working at least at the expected level is 28% higher than both the Harborne Ward schools and the national average.

Parent Survey

Thank you to those of you who participated in this year's parent survey. As I hope you have seen, the results on the whole are very pleasing with the vast majority of parents recognising St Mary's as a safe, nurturing environment that teaches its children in faith and love as well as the curriculum. At the last Governing Body meeting we reviewed and discussed the survey results in detail. We were however disappointed that 5% of the respondents felt they could not recommend our school to another family. Whilst we appreciate that these parents still have children at the school, they clearly are unhappy in some ways and therefore, in order to further improve the perceptions of our school, I invite those particular parents to meet with me, if they wish, to discuss how, in their view, things could be better for their children. An appointment can be made by emailing the school office at enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk to arrange one.

School hall floor and PTA

I would like to thank the officers and members of the PTA for all the hard work they have done and continue to do. From 'Strictly' to 'Party in the Playground', the events continue to be fun and fresh, which is not easy to do.

These events have raised a significant amount of money that will contribute to the replacement of the school hall floor. This project was delayed slightly due to conflicting recommendations from contractors around refurbishment or replacement. After further consultation, it is decided that the floor will be replaced and the work will more than likely take place next summer.

Parking

Governors would like to reinforce the considerable correspondence from the Headteacher regarding reckless, selfish and illegal parking outside school. There is no excuse for this behaviour, all parents need to get to school on time and being late is not an acceptable reason for parking in an unsafe and selfish manner. These actions endanger the safety of the whole school community. We are in touch with the authorities; staff and governors will take photographs of illegally parked vehicles which will be forwarded to the police and City Council.

On behalf of the Governors, I would like to thank Ms Cusack and the staff for their dedication to the children. We have witnessed some beautiful and spiritual presentations from the children over the last week or so, which are a fine example of the commitment from staff, parents and pupils. Finally, I wish you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Collins
Chair of Governors