

Monday 27th March 2023

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HEAD TEACHER LETTER- OUTSTANDING DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the Governing body, I am thrilled to share with you the fantastic news that our school has received an **outstanding judgement** in the recent Denominational Inspection conducted under the new framework. This is an outstanding achievement for our school and true reflection of the dedication and hard work of our staff, pupils and the entire school community.

The new Denominational Inspection framework has been developed to provide a more rigorous assessment of how schools promote Catholic values and help pupils develop their faith. It also evaluates the effectiveness of Religious Education, Collective Worship and the Catholic life of the school. Throughout the 2 days, we had three inspectors on site, with a fourth inspector for the quality assurance of all judgements made. The inspectors carefully looked at the school environment, observed lessons, looked through children's books, interviewed leaders, staff and pupils and scrutinised policies, documents and procedures.

The inspection team praised the strong leadership and management of our school, which has resulted in a clear Catholic ethos being evident in all aspects of school life. The team also commended the quality of teaching and learning and the professionalism of our staff, who have worked tirelessly to ensure that our pupils receive the best possible education and guidance. They commented on the positive and joyous learning environment that we have created and spoke about the 'humbling welcome' the inspectors themselves received during their time with us.

One of the many strengths of the inspection included how our Catholic identity is evident in every aspect of school life, from the way we treat each other to the curriculum we deliver. They were particularly impressed with our school's nurturing, inclusive and welcoming Catholic ethos that promotes dignity and respect of every individual. The report highlights the exemplary behaviour of our children, the relationship between our staff, pupils and families, and the high level of support we provide to our children. The team also commended our school's exemplary links with the Parish and wider community.

















I want to take this opportunity to thank Governors, RE subject leaders- Mrs. Harding and Mrs. Orr, Senior Leaders and all staff for their hard work and dedication in achieving this outstanding result. I am blessed to work with such an incredible team.

I want to thank our wonderful pupils for their excellent behaviour, positive attitude and commitment to their work. They are the reason we do what we do. Finally, I want to thank our parents and families for your ongoing support, feedback and involvement in our school community, this means so much to us.

Moving forward, we will continue to build on our strengths and strive for excellence in everything we do. We will take the recommendations of the inspection team on board and use them to guide our future development.

If you would like to read the full inspection report please go to dojo. Alternatively, please visit our school website, or contact the school office for a printed copy.

Once again, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped to make this outstanding inspection judgement possible. Together, we have demonstrated that St. Mary's is a truly exceptional place to be.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Wright

Head Teacher