



St Nicholas Catholic High School

A Business and Enterprise College

Headteacher: Mr R. Woods, BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Under the Trusteeship of the
R.C. Diocese of Shrewsbury

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5th June 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin this second half term of the Pentecost term there is much to celebrate from the five weeks together at school since Easter.

We have marked milestones for both our Year 11 and Year 13 students. Fr Paul celebrated our Year 11 Leavers Mass on the evening of 11th May and it was a truly wonderful occasion with parents, carers, students and staff gathering together to give thanks for all that has been achieved through hard work, determination and dedication.

Similarly, Year 13 enjoyed a morning of celebrations with an awards presentation led by Mr Bradley, Mass led by Fr Peter and tributes offered by staff and students alike. Sincere thanks to our Year 13 students who have continued to be ambassadors for the St Nicholas community – we wish you every blessing as the next chapter in your lives unfolds, please come back and tell us how you are getting on!

We were also visited on 18th May by Mr John McCann, a Section 48 Inspector from the Shrewsbury Diocese who spent the day visiting assemblies, RE lessons, talking with students, staff and governors. I am delighted to share the wonderful news that he agreed with our own self-evaluation that St Nicholas' overall effectiveness as a Catholic school remains outstanding.

There are many areas of celebration within the report and I would like to take the opportunity to share here a few of the highlights:

- *There is unequivocal and explicit evidence that the Catholic mission of the school is a priority, along with opportunities for spiritual and moral development and collective worship.*
- *This is most clearly evidenced through the appointment of an effective dedicated lay chaplain whose impact is acknowledged throughout the school at all levels.*
- *The standard pupils achieve at GCSE RE are consistently well above national average and girls' performance at the highest levels is in line with the outstanding standards achieved in other core subjects.*
- *Staff are overwhelmingly proud to be members of the school, and believe the school to be well led and managed.*
- *St. Nicholas lives its mission statement. Outcomes for pupils are good, the provision for Catholic Education, leadership and management in the development of the Catholic life of the school are confirmed by this inspection as outstanding.*





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There is of course always work to be done, and we look forward to deepening and strengthening even further, our work as a Catholic community over the months and years ahead. I have attached a copy of the official report with my letter for you to read.

The terrible events in Manchester just before the half term break and more recently in London, serve to remind us all of our shared humanity and the need for peace and reconciliation in our homes, school and society. The St Nicholas community has joined all around the world in offering prayers for the victims and their families, in giving practical and emotional support to members of our school who were personally affected by the tragedy and by sharing in a minute's silence together.

This half term has also seen St Nicholas achieve athletics success across a number of track and field events, with the following students becoming Mid-Cheshire Champions at Warrington's Victoria Park: 200m-Elissa Jennings, 100m-Ben Evans, 200m-Tom Loftus, 800m-Luke Chambers, Discus-Daniel McQuade and Connie Seiler. Elissa, Connie, Sam Dutton & Otilie Chambers were also successful as the Inter Girls Relay Team and Luke, Ben, Gabriel De Olim-Gaul, and Nathan Stapleton were successful as the Junior Boys Relay Team and also won the Inter Schools Competition.

Finally, I would like to offer a personal thank you for the warm welcome that I have received from you all since taking up post. I have enjoyed meeting many of you at the Year 9 Parents' Evening, the PTFA meeting prior to the Year 11 Prom, the Year 11 and 13 celebrations as well as the 'Meet the Headteacher' evening in April. Thanks for your many messages of support and your suggestions for continued success as we move forward together. We look forward to another half term full of positive learning and success for all.

Yours sincerely

Richard Woods
Headteacher

