



St Mary's R C Primary School, Clive Road, Failsworth, Manchester M35 0NW

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Head Teacher: Ms M Garvey

September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school. I hope that you have all enjoyed a lovely summer break. The children have returned to school with smiles on their faces and are looking very smart in their new school uniforms.

We welcome our Nursery children to our school community. I have to say how incredibly impressed I have been with how quickly the children in our Early Years have settled into school. The children really are a credit to their families!

School Inspection

The new school year got off to a flying start with a visit from Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools. She could not help but be impressed with the children and was very complimentary about our school. The full report will be published very shortly. Thank you to everybody for your warm wishes and support; it was greatly appreciated.

Mass

On Friday we celebrated Mass for the start of the new school year. The children were asked to think about things that they were looking forward to this coming year and these were offered up as thanksgiving.

It was a pleasure to be invited to the Year 7 welcome Mass at Newman College last week. It was lovely to see the children looking so grown up in their blazers! We had a chance to catch up at the end of the Mass. I was delighted to see so many former pupils continuing their education through our catholic family of schools.

Applying for Secondary School Places

May I remind all parents in Year 6 to complete an application using the online application system available on the Oldham Council website. Applying on line is the only form of application as Oldham Council no longer provides paper application forms. The online system opened on **1 August 2018** and closes at **5pm on 31 October 2018**. If you don't have access to the internet, there are computers in all Oldham's libraries. You will need an email address, these are very easy to set up and staff at the library will be happy to help.

Newman College are holding a VIP admissions meeting for children from the eleven Catholic feeder schools on Thursday, 20th September, 7-8pm at Newman College. Feedback from parents attending this meeting last year was very positive.

Safeguarding

In order to ensure our safeguarding procedures are robust and effective, can I please ask that the data collection sheet sent out last week be returned as soon as possible to ensure we are able to contact you quickly that in the event of an emergency.

Pupil Leadership

This week the teachers will be talking to the children about British Values including democracy and the rule of law prior to elections for Class Councillor. Secret ballots will take place and the successful candidates will be announced in assembly at the end of the week. Mrs Faulkner will also be talking to the children about the role of Pupil Chaplains and in Year 6 Mrs Bushi and Mrs Gorman will be explaining the role of Head Boy and Head Girl and House Captains.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you as always for your continued support in making St Mary's a very special community.

Ms M. Garvey

Stay With Us Lord On Our Journey

Diary dates:

20 th Sept	Newman College VIP admissions meeting 6-7pm
8 th -12 th Oct	Book Fair - after school
18 th Oct	Parents' Day/Evening - appointments to follow
11 th Oct	Year 3 Sacramental celebration Mass at Newman College
26 th Oct	School Closes
Mon 5 th Nov	School Closed - Staff INSET Day
Tues 6 th Nov	School Opens