

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NORTHAMPTON



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Wednesday, 16 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Local Academy Committee would like to take an opportunity to wish our school communities a happy and holy Christmas.

This is a time for us to reflect on the year that is coming to a close and to look ahead to the new year that awaits our return next term.

It was a challenging year for us all in so many different ways and we thank the staff, the parents, our pupils and our local communities that have all pulled together with patience and understanding; love and compassion; generosity and effort, managing to find hope and joy in times of great adversity.

Earlier in the year we left the Northampton schools' trust (St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Academies Trust) and merged with schools across Northamptonshire and Bedford to form Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Academies Trust (OLICAT). Almost a year on and we are now embedded in the Trust family and we draw strength from our unity and shared vision of improving our schools for the children's educational and spiritual journey.

Our teachers have taken on an unenviable journey in remodelling the classroom and learning experience due to the Covid – 19 outbreak and subsequent restrictions and we applaud them for their courage, determination and creativity. Our schools continue to thrive due to their energy and commitment. We also have to acknowledge the hard work of the staff behind the scenes that work tirelessly in their efforts to keep the schools functioning, improving provision and looking after the well-being of our community.

Our pupils have responded so well and shown such high levels of resilience with the dramatic changes that the pandemic has required them to adjust to. They have continued to learn and strive to be the best that they can be whilst maintaining our school values and are a credit to their families and teachers. The amazing creative displays I have seen this past term as well as the wonderful attitude to learning shows what superstars they all are!

And to our parents, the backbone of our schools – your commitment, endurance, kindness, gifts, generosity, care, consideration, understanding, effort, flexibility and perseverance has been inspirational this year and you all deserve recognition and praise. Thank you.

Let us come together now to welcome into our hearts the light of Jesus Christ, a gift for us all that brings peace, joy and love into our lives. May we continue to walk in his light and allow him to illuminate the path to our fulfilment.

We wish peace and joy to you all this Christmas and blessings for a hope filled New Year.

Our Lady Immaculate – pray for us

Nicola O'Neill

Chair of Joint LAC St Mary's & St Gregory's primary schools

**OUR LADY
IMMACULATE**
CATHOLIC ACADEMIES TRUST

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Academies Trust, c/o St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School, Tyne Crescent, Bedford, MK41 7UL
Company Number: [09436283](https://www.gov.uk/company-information/check-by-number/09436283)