



**Archdiocese of Birmingham**  
**St. Mary's Catholic Academy**  
**Principal: Mrs S Rathbone BA (Hons) NPQH,**  
Ford Green Road, Norton-le-Moors, Stoke on Trent, ST6 8EZ  
Telephone 01782 234820 Fax 01782 236523  
Email: [office@stmarysnewman.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarysnewman.co.uk)  
www. [www.stmarysstoke.co.uk](http://www.stmarysstoke.co.uk).

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September

Dear parents/carers

**RE: Welcome back**

We hope you had a relaxing summer break. It has been wonderful to welcome our children and families back to school today. The children look so smart in their uniforms, and the atmosphere around the school has been filled with excitement about the year ahead. Their behaviour has been excellent, and we want to thank all our families for following our uniform policy.

Within your child's diary (pages 3-7) You will find the home school agreement. Please take the time to read it carefully and discuss it with your child. Both parents and pupils need to sign it by Friday, 13th September.

During the summer term, our school reviewed its mission statement. After consulting with children, parents, and staff, we have revised it. The new mission statement is:

*"Many hearts, one accord: In God's love, we grow and learn together to build the kingdom of God."*

Over the coming weeks, we will be thinking carefully about how we can each play our part in living out this mission!

I look forward to the year ahead and all the successes it will bring. Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Your Sincerely

Mrs Rathbone  
Principal



At mass on Sunday we celebrate the 176<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 'Education Sunday'. This day offers an opportunity for us to pray to Almighty God for all people involved in Catholic education, to celebrate the achievements of the past and to ask Our Lord to bless the work of the year ahead. Please join us in prayer this weekend.



Education Sunday  
8<sup>th</sup> September  
2024



Dear Lord,

Thank you for the gift of Catholic schools. Thank you for all those who have given their talents to educating our young people. Through the challenges they encounter each day, lead them to an ever-deeper appreciation of the sacred duty to which you have called them.

Thank you for all those who contribute to the efficient running of our schools; support staff, kitchen staff, maintenance staff, governors and chaplains. We thank them for their hard work and dedication.

Thank you for all those who lead our Catholic schools. May they be people of integrity so that they can be witnesses as well as teachers. We pray that the schools they lead will become places where our young people can experience your love in their lives. Thank you for our pupils. May your love strengthen and nurture them through the influence and example of those who care for them. We pray that through their time at school they will flourish and grow to discover who you have called them to be.

We make this prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ, our teacher and our Lord,

Amen

