



5th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all of our pupils as they return after the summer break. We particularly welcome those who are just starting in Year 7 and those who are new to the school. St Peter and St Paul's Catholic Voluntary Academy is a very special place and we know that our young people will grow academically, emotionally and spiritually over this next year. As the pupils arrived this morning, they were enthusiastic and smiling, as well as being ready to learn and fulfil their own mission, in line with the Academy's mission statement, 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full' (John 10:10)

September is a time for new beginnings in education; a new term, a new school year, new uniform, new books and new teachers. We encourage our pupils to think about their aims and goals for the next year and to look at how they can achieve them, no matter how great or small. We recall the words of Isaiah 'See, I am doing a new thing' (Isaiah 43:19) as we focus about the new opportunities which will be presented to us over the coming months.

Catholic education is unique in its ability to allow young people to grow in their faith, whilst also accessing a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum. We have a strong focus on virtues at the Academy; virtues which will encourage pupils to be rounded individuals who will thrive in the world away from school.

Over the last academic year, the Academy made great progress in working more closely with our local parishes and community. We were able to showcase the work of our young people and celebrate the many successes and achievements of individuals, groups and the whole school. Our work with the primary schools allowed us to share liturgies, as well as creating valuable links for transition.

The year ahead is exciting. We are having some building work done to create a new pastoral hub within school, which will focus on wellbeing, interventions and positive behaviour choices; this is also coupled with a new chapel, something which the Academy values highly and will ensure that we are able to provide spiritual care and guidance to an even higher level. Finally, we will be having a new Sixth Form centre for our post 16 students, a space for them to have both social and study time. All of these are much needed additions to the resources in school and we will be updating you on progress over the coming months.

We will be able to keep in more regular contact with our new SSPP bulletin which will be issued every few weeks; it will be full of important and helpful information, as well as news. We hope you find it a helpful form of communication.



As always, we focus on our faith and ask God to guide and strengthen us over the coming year.
Please keep our school community in your prayers.

I wish you all the best.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C F Hewerdine
(Headteacher)