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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to share with you the final report from our recent Ofsted inspection and, most importantly, to say a huge thank you to our whole school community.

This was one of the first inspections carried out under Ofsted's completely new framework, which has received considerable national attention because of its breadth and intensity. Schools no longer receive a single overall judgement of Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement or Inadequate. Instead, different aspects of the school are evaluated separately against a much more detailed set of standards.

It is important to understand how high the bar has been set. Expected Standard means that a school is meeting the standard expected of it. Strong Standard means going beyond this, and Ofsted describes it as a school where "leaders are working above the standard expected of them."

I am therefore incredibly proud that St Anthony's was judged Strong in six of the seven areas inspected, with safeguarding standards also met.

The report contains so much of which we should be proud. Inspectors found that "all pupils achieve very well", described behaviour in every classroom as "excellent" and recognised the calm, respectful and caring culture of our school. They also found that "at the heart of this school is a culture of inclusion" and recognised the very high expectations we have for every child.

Our outcomes reinforce this. Over the last three years, 73% of pupils achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics combined, compared with 61% nationally. For disadvantaged pupils, the figure was 76%, compared with 46% nationally.

Ofsted spent two days with us, but we do not do what we do for Ofsted. We do it, day in and day out, for our children. You do not achieve judgements like these because of two days in June; they reflect the consistent work, care and commitment that takes place throughout the year.

This report is therefore a testament to our whole school community: our dedicated staff, our governors, our parents and carers and, most importantly, our wonderful children. Inspectors recognised that our pupils are proud to attend St Anthony's, feel safe and included, and that children with SEND and those who are disadvantaged "thrive academically and personally."

I want to say a particularly sincere thank you to you, our parents and carers, for your continued support of the school. The partnership between home and school is incredibly important to us, and Ofsted specifically recognised the strong relationships between leaders, parents and carers and the positive difference this makes to children.

For now, however, I hope our whole community will take a moment to be proud of what this report says about St Anthony's and, above all, our children.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mr Flaherty

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Flaherty'.

Headteacher



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