



ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Executive Headteacher: Mr Martin Tissot, MA, MBA, NPQH

Dear Year 8 Pupil,

June 2020

As I am sure you are aware, Mrs Rowland and I are retiring this summer. I am very disappointed that I have not had the chance to speak to you all personally as I would have done at the St Thomas More Feast Day mass. Sadly, with the lockdown and this pandemic, a letter to you is all I am able to do at present. I hope that I may be able to return to the school sometime in the next academic year, to speak to you all personally, when the lockdown and the current pandemic allows.

I have taught at the school for 34 years and have been Head of School for the last seven years. Like you, I started my secondary education at St Thomas More School, back in 1974.

You have now completed your second year at St Thomas More School, although the last couple of months have been very different, and difficult at times I am sure. What is so important for you all is to ensure that you are laying good foundations for your education. This year you were expecting to decide how your education would progress by choosing your key stage 4 subjects. With changes to the curriculum and expectations from the Government, that changed before this 'lockdown'. This sometimes happen for a reason and this now gives you more time to prepare for those very important decisions you will make in Year 9. If a builder does not spend the time and the effort to make good and strong foundations, as they build the house, it will be at risk of falling down. As you start in Year 9 in September, it will be even more important for you to strengthen your educational foundations to make the right choices about your future educational path. In preparation for this, you should continue your studies during the summer so you are ready to go in September. Always remember that education is a gift that should never be taken for granted. You should love to learn new things every day; yes, work towards exams, but most importantly as you grow, investigate why, when and how everything connects. I can assure you learning never stops; it is something I am always doing and will continue to do.

The only other reminder I would like to give is that in this busy world, and even more so at the moment, don't forget that God is always with you. Give those few minutes each day to turn to God in prayer and say thank you, for your life, your family, your friends, and all those who help you and all you meet.

Mr Rosen will be the new Head of School to ensure that St Thomas More School continues to be a great school. I am confident that you will give him the respect you have given me and ensure that St Thomas More continues to be the envy of all the schools around. 'Tommy More' will continue in my heart, even when I have left. I look forward to hearing about how it goes from strength to strength in the future.

You will always be in my prayers.

God Bless,

Mr Rowland



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Head of School: Mr M A Rowland, BSc, NPQH

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