



# St. Julie's Catholic High School

Headteacher: Mr. T. Alderman

*"Serve the good God well with much liberty of spirit"*

28 April 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

I am very pleased to be able to report to you that the substantial building work for the new school at St Julie's has finally started. I would like to start by thanking parents/carers, students and staff who have supported the school over the last four years, which is how long the plans for a new school have been negotiated.

You may recall that there was an initial plan to relocate St Julie's on Beaconsfield Road and a new school was designed all the way through to the planning stage. This plan was then withdrawn in June 2014 and since then the plans for the new school here at St Julie's have been drawn up, presented for planning, agreed and are now being brought to fruition. Since the beginning of April, much work has taken place, including demolition of the sports Hall, RE block, and part of MFL. The underground drainage tank has been constructed on the front of the field adjoining Speke Road. Ground works have started on the site where the three pavilions will be built, and the sandstone wall has been carefully taken down as approximately 60% of the wall will be reinstated. I can confirm that there has been no disruption to lessons, and noise levels remain low on site.

You may recall that before Easter we had a visit from Ofsted. As usual, Ofsted have recognised many significant and positive

aspects of life at St Julie's whilst also providing us with areas they believe we can improve further. Once again, our students, your daughters and sons, were given the full recognition they deserve with a very positive report. Inspectors spoke highly of the students' personal development and welfare and their behaviour, declaring that "*They are polite to staff and to visitors and they wear their uniform smartly*". Indeed, Inspectors gave the students no areas in which they could improve. You may recall that at our last inspection in 2012, Inspectors asked us to focus on developing our Sixth Form provision. I can confirm that Ofsted were very pleased with the Sixth Form and highlighted all the improvements that have been made since the last inspection, resulting in excellent outcomes for the students and judging that the Sixth Form is good. Again, they gave no areas for development in Sixth Form. In terms of overall areas that require improvement, inspectors have asked us to develop the following areas –

Firstly, the Inspectors would like us to review the way in which Performance Management of teachers is conducted. Secondly, Inspectors have asked us to ensure that all our action plans have measurable success criteria so we can improve further. Thirdly, that we should focus on certain aspects of teaching, such as improving the quality of questioning, the quality of written feedback to students in marking and to ensure that students are challenged even more in the work that they are given.

I am confident that the students will respond accordingly to the increased level of challenge that Inspectors have asked us to give them. I will of course update you later in the summer term with how the school is developing these areas that Inspectors have asked us to focus on. Finally, on this matter, I would also like to thank the Governors of the school for their continued

support and hard work as volunteers, and to congratulate them on the recognition they were given in the report for the significant work that they do. The Governors and the role they play in the life of the school is recognised as a significant strength of the school.

Ofsted Inspectors also recognised “*There is an extensive range of extra-curricular activities that broaden pupils’ experiences at St Julie’s*” and I would just like to share some of these with you:

### **Commendation for Year 12 Engineers**

The year 12 engineering team have been to the University of Liverpool and have been working on a project for the Engineering Education Scheme. The team were given a special commendation at the graduation ceremony for the unbelievable amount of work completed and their well delivered presentation. Well done Lois, Lucy, Catherine and Katy.

### **Undergraduate Science Scholarship from The Ogden Trust**

Due to hard work and natural flair in the subject Annie Dunn has been awarded an Undergraduate Science Scholarship from The Ogden Trust and will go on to study Physics at the University of Liverpool in September.

### **Athenaeum Young Writers competition**

Catherine McGonigal was runner up in the Athenaeum Young Writers competition. Catherine submitted an initial piece and then a further piece once she had progressed through the ‘rounds’ so to speak. The judges said the standard was the highest ever.

## **Community Award**

We are delighted to congratulate Sixth Form student, Hannah McClellan, on being presented this week with the 'Community Superstar Award', as part of Everton in the Community's 'Liverpool Young Achievers' celebration.

Later in the term, as we say goodbye to some of our Sixth Form students, who will be leaving us to go on to University, Employment and further Training, we also look forward to welcoming our new intake of Year 7 students for September 2016. Indeed we have been significantly oversubscribed this year and appeals for places at St Julie's have been scheduled for several days in June 2016.

Alongside all the staff, who are supporting your daughters and sons at this time, I would like to wish all those students who are doing public exams this summer every success and look forward to hearing about their excellent results in August 2016.

Kind regards.

Yours faithfully

**Mr T Alderman**  
**Headteacher**