

12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you had a joyful and restful Christmas with your loved ones. As we embark on a new year, it is my pleasure to welcome our students back to school for the upcoming term. I trust that the break provided a much-needed opportunity for relaxation and rejuvenation.

Whilst January 8<sup>th</sup> marked the beginning of the new term, it also marked my return as Headteacher of St Thomas More. In October 2022, I suffered quite a serious injury from a very simple accident whilst out of the country on holiday. I spent a month in hospital, undergoing two major operations before being flown back to the UK. Since then, it has been a long road to recovery involving further surgery and intensive physiotherapy. Although my injury will inevitably leave a lasting impact on me, my goal above anything else was to get myself into a position to return to work.

I am incredibly sorry that I have not been here to serve the school community for the last 14 months. This is something that weighs heavily on me, but I am committed to ensuring that we continue to focus on the recommendations made by Ofsted to improve the school rapidly so that your child receives the best possible provision at STM.

Joining me this January are two new Assistant Headteachers. The first, Miss Pimblett, joins us from St Mary's College in Chesterfield. Miss Pimblett will be responsible for Behaviour and Attitudes as well as having responsibility for Safeguarding across the school. Mrs Birch joins us from St James' in Stockport and will be responsible for Teaching and Learning. These new appointments, along with my return, considerably strengthens the SLT of St Thomas More.

I would like to thank Mrs Lancett, who returns to her role as Deputy Headteacher, and Mrs Bennett, who remains as Assistant Headteacher, for their hard work during my absence.

We are also welcoming two permanent members to the English Department. Miss Shaw has been appointed as Head of English, and Mrs Dodd appointed as Teacher of English. I am delighted to have them join us at STM. In other staffing news, Mrs Lichfield, Head of Technology moves from 3 days a week to full time.

This marks the beginning of a new chapter for St Thomas More, and I assure all parents and carers that we will be working diligently to ensure the school continues to make significant progress in the coming months.

With sincere thanks for your continued support,



Mr Redfern  
Headteacher



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NOTTINGHAM

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