

The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School



Kingsland Gardens, Kingsthorpe, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN2 7BH



HEAD TEACHER Mrs Carmel Dodds **DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER** Miss Dominique Smith

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Friday, 18 July 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of Our School Community,

As we reach the end of another school year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been an extraordinary and joy-filled journey for our school community.

This year, we have been richly blessed – not only with academic success, but also with a vibrant and broad curriculum that has enabled our children to flourish spiritually, creatively, and intellectually. From exciting educational visits and engaging themed days, to sporting achievements and our beautiful acts of collective worship, the year has been filled with memorable moments that have allowed every child to shine in their God-given talents. A particular highlight was our celebration of the school's 50th year, marked by a special Mass led by Bishop David and Father Simon – a truly joyful and unifying occasion for our school community.

We are especially proud to share that, after many years of continued dedication and development, our school has been graded GOOD in all areas in our recent Ofsted inspection. This result is a testament to the unwavering commitment of our staff, the support of our families, and the hard work of our wonderful children.

Academically, we have much to celebrate. Our Phonics results exceeded the national average, and at Key Stage 2, both Reading and Writing outcomes were above national expectations. In particular, Mathematics showed a remarkable 12% increase in outcomes, reflecting our targeted focus and collective effort to raise standards.

None of this would be possible without the tireless support of our whole community. I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to:

- Our parents and carers, for your encouragement, partnership and prayers.
- Our PTA, for going above and beyond in organising events, fundraising and creating joyful experiences for our children.
- Our Local Academy Committee, for your guidance, wisdom and stewardship throughout the year.
- The OLICAT Trust, for your leadership and for enabling us to grow as part of a wider Catholic family.
- And the Diocese, for your pastoral support and unwavering belief in our mission.

Together, we are building something very special – a place where Christ is at the centre, and every child is nurtured to grow in faith, love and learning.



Website

www.olicatschools.org

Strategic Executive Lead

Mr Tony Bishop

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To our Year 6 pupils, we send you off with pride and prayers as you begin your next chapter. Always remember the values you have learned here, and carry them with courage and kindness into the world.

We look forward to hearing all about Miss Smith's adventures, we know she has a wonderful wedding day to look forward to before she sets off on her year of adventures!

We also say goodbye to our Trust CEO, Tony Bishop who has provided outstanding leadership and support. As he retires this summer, we thank him for his dedication and wish him all the very best for the future.

To all our children and families – have a safe, restful and joyful summer. We look forward to welcoming you back on 2nd September 2025, refreshed and ready for another exciting year.

With warmest wishes and every blessing,

Mrs Carmel Dodds

Headteacher

