



St John Fisher News

15 March 2010

SPECIAL EDITION

“In accordance with section 13(4) of the Education Act 2005, Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector is of the opinion that the school no longer requires special measures.”

I am delighted to announce that the latest monitoring visit by inspectors, on 3rd and 4th March, was turned into a full inspection. The Overall Effectiveness judgement was Satisfactory and so the school was removed from Special Measures. This is a tremendous achievement, not least because we were not expected to reach this stage until next term.

The full inspection report contains 30 grades for different aspects of the school and an impressive 12 of these are Good, including the grade for Capacity For Sustained Improvement. This recognizes the ability that Ofsted now feel exists in the school management to ensure that progress continues in the future. One inadequate grade remains and that is for Attainment. This is because Ofsted base this on raw results without taking into account the ability or prior attainment of the students. However, the grade for Progress recognises that students are now progressing as they should and this ensures that the overall judgement for Achievement is Satisfactory.

Inspectors were again impressed by the students and their approach to their education, including their pride in the school and willingness to talk about it. Teaching was judged to have improved noticeably over the last eighteen months with half of the lessons observed assessed as Good. Governors and the Local Authority are acknowledged to be doing a good job to support the school, and there are good judgements for leadership and management.

The full report will be available from the end of the week on the Ofsted website, a link to which can be found on our school website. Paper copies are being made available to parents who wish to receive one: please ask your child to collect one for you from Student Services. They are also available from the front reception desk. The lead inspector has written a letter to the students and that appears overleaf.

My congratulations go to the staff, students and governors and my thanks to the seconded staff, local authority, Diocese, Parent Champion, partner schools and anyone else that has played a part in helping us to reach this position. Finally, I would like to thank the parents who have supported us and trusted that we can do it.

As Bishop Michael says in his message on the right, forward and upward!

Sean Hayes

Warmest congratulations on this important step forward, and my thanks for all you have achieved with and for the staff and the whole school community. Forward and upward!
Bishop Michael

Well done everyone!
Councillor John Holdich

Fabulous news! Well done to everyone! Nice to know that our prayers are heard and answered.
St Thomas More
Primary School

Great news - well done!
Sacred Heart
Primary School

We are so glad - many congratulations to all!!
All Saints Primary School

Many congratulations on the wonderful news that is much deserved after all the hard work by you and your staff. We look forward to watching your continued successes.
St Augustine’s Stamford

Well done to you all at St John Fisher. You thoroughly deserve all the plaudits that will come your way.
Dr David Lee, NC Advisor

4 March 2010

Dear Pupils

Inspection of St John Fisher Catholic High School, Peterborough, PE1 5JN

Congratulations! Your school no longer requires special measures.

As you know, I have been visiting your school each term for nearly two years, and each time I have been able to see some progress. This time, it was clear that the school is now satisfactory. Senior leaders and teachers have been successful in improving the quality of teaching, and far more of your lessons are now good. This is enabling you to make much better progress. Two things which you told us had particularly helped are knowing your end of year and key stage targets and the level you are currently working at, and having your books regularly marked with 'www' and 'ebi'.

You clearly get on with each other well, and it is good to see how you celebrate your different cultures and languages, for example through the Lithuanian week, Polish and Portuguese Masses, and the Eid party. We also noted how much more responsibility you now have in the school, through the school council, the 'reading buddies' and the sixth form's 'Change the World' campaign. Those of you in the sixth form also take pride in contributing to school life as prefects and by helping younger pupils in the school with reading.

Mr Hayes, your teachers and other adults in school, know what needs to happen next to make your school even better. Inspectors and senior staff agree that to build upon the many improvements already made the school needs to:

- **Help you to achieve even more** in lessons and exams by making sure that all lessons are suitable for you; making sure that you have plenty of opportunities to explain your thinking fully; and supporting the development of your spoken English, including key subject vocabulary.
- **Enabling you to take more responsibility for improving your own learning by** making sure you understand what you are doing well and what you need to do to improve; making sure that all teachers use 'www' and 'ebi' well; and checking progress against your target with you in each lesson.

Again, well done. You have played a very important part in helping the school to improve. I wish you the very best for the future.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S. Morris-King, Her Majesty's Inspector