Ysgol Gynradd Gatholig Pedr Sant
St. Peter's R.C. Primary School
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8th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Rejoice! I am delighted to share the news that today Estyn has removed St. Peter's School from Special Measures. This means that Her Majesty's Chief Inspector for Wales is satisfied that the school has made sufficient progress with all of the recommendations from the last inspection of October 2018. Mr. Michael Howells, our Chair of Governors, received a letter stating that Estyn will make no further follow up visits related to the 2018 inspection and that 'real improvements' have been made at the school.

This achievement is a result of the efforts of the entire school community, and I wish to thank you for your contributions to your child's learning, especially over the past 14 months of the pandemic. It is testament to the resilience and hard work of the children and our staff members that despite the challenges presented by COVID-19, the school has continued to make significant progress throughout this time.

Estyn has published a report today, which we have made available on our website: https://bit.ly/3jTE9uI

The report is extremely positive and it is clear just how much progress has been made with each recommendation. These are some of the many highlights:

- The school has addressed all shortcomings in safeguarding and health and safety following the core inspection.
- Leaders have improved the interior of the building, supported by significant funding from parent groups and the local authority. As a result, most classrooms and communal areas are thoughtfully resourced to enhance learning and improve pupil and staff wellbeing.
- The leadership team has benefitted greatly from the headteacher's experience and his modelling of leadership behaviours. The headteacher's willingness to listen to other members of the senior leadership team, take on board their views and work through them to secure the necessary improvements has engendered trust across the team.
- Pupils have an increasingly strong voice across the school. They talk enthusiastically about their Senedd groups and how they have influenced the wider work of the school.
- Communication between members of the school's leadership team, staff and governors is effective and based on a relationship of professionalism, trust and respect.
- The school has a well-defined long-term vision and strategy that is focussed upon its current status and future priorities. The senior leadership, led by the headteacher, have a clear plan to build on the recent improvements in teaching, pedagogy and curriculum.
- High-quality professional development has supported the school's wider leadership team to acquire a better understanding and knowledge about how children learn and effective pedagogy.
- There is a clear vision for teaching in the school and a strong sense of teamwork and collaboration. Staff benefit from a wide range of professional learning opportunities to develop their understanding of effective teaching and how pupils learn.
- There is a strong focus on improving Welsh language provision and raising pupils' standards.
- Leaders are effective in developing thoughtful and appropriate approaches for using ICT across the school.
- There is a very strong culture of reflection, support and professional learning throughout the school.

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We are very happy that Estyn have recognised many of the improvements made in the school since the last inspection and will continue our journey of improvement with renewed vigour and dedication in the new school year. Our aim is to provide the very best education for your child by working with you to develop them in mind, body and spirit. If you would like to hear more information about how we are doing this, please visit the St. Peter's TV part of our school website and watch the videos of our curriculum meetings for parents and carers.

The governing body met last night, and governors were thrilled with the news that the school has been removed from Special Measures. The governors play a very important part in supporting the school and in holding leaders to account for their work. Each governor is a volunteer and I wish to thank them for the many hours they put in to their role at the school each month to ensure that your child is safe, secure, happy, and successful in their learning.

At St. Peter's, we are fortunate to have a talented and knowledgeable staff team that works tirelessly to provide pupils with the best possible learning experiences. I wish to thank every teacher and teaching assistant, the administrators, midday supervisors, the caretaker, and cleaning staff for their efforts in making St. Peter's School such a lovely and successful school where our children thrive. Your feedback in the recent questionnaires about end of year reports and the annual survey has been extremely positive and it is great for staff members to know just how much you appreciate their work. Thank you for taking the time to provide this valuable feedback.

I look forward to working with you next year on our continuous improvement journey and look forward to sharing further information with you about how we are working to make St. Peter's a leading school in Wales!

Yours sincerely,

Gareth Rein

Gareth Rein
Headteacher