

Little acts, great love, big difference



St Catharine's
Chipping Campden



St Joseph's
Nympsfield



Catholic School of St Gregory The
Great, Cheltenham



St Peter's
Gloucester



The Rosary
Stroud



St Thomas More
Cheltenham

A welcome back and some information about our Trust.....

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well as we embark upon another exciting school year. Welcome back to all children and families of our schools but especially to those who are new to our school communities—we hope you soon feel at home—we are pleased you're with us.

You are receiving this newsletter as a parent or carer of a family within the Little Way Catholic Educational Trust (LWCET). Your child's school is a founding member of this Multi-Academy Trust (launched in January 2024) which currently has six Catholic primary schools in Gloucestershire who work together as a family of schools to share ideas, support one another and celebrate together, following in the footsteps of St Therese of Lisieux who followed the 'Little Way' by doing LITTLE ACTS with GREAT LOVE to make a BIG DIFFERENCE to everyone she met.

The role of a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) may not always be visible in the day-to-day experience of school life. Put simply, a Trust is a group of schools working together to share expertise, resources and support—so that every school, and every pupil, benefits. At its core, The LWCET is united by a shared vision: to provide a high-quality Catholic education that prepares our pupils for life's challenges and opportunities and that enables every pupil and staff member to flourish.

Each school in the Trust maintains its own identity and leadership, but we are joined by our common vision and Catholic mission. For most families, the work of the Trust may not always be visible, and that is how it should be. Much of our work happens behind the scenes—through the provision of essential shared services such as finance, governance, HR and school improvement. These services enable school leaders and teachers to focus on what matters most: teaching and learning and ensuring our children experience school life through a Catholic lens.

Last year, as a new Trust, we focused largely on setting up systems to support our schools and governors with streamlining their administrative functions. There were opportunities for staff to build relationships across the schools and our chaplaincy teams worked closely together to build relationships between our children. School improvement work took place alongside each of the school leadership teams to develop the curriculum across a number of subjects and to ensure staff received training in the changing needs of the children and families in our schools.

Looking ahead, this academic year we will be specifically focusing on strengthening collaboration between schools within the Trust. This includes expanding opportunities for staff professional development and enhancing our approach to school improvement with a focus on Early Years and Inclusion as well as developing stronger links between home and school. We are also excited to start working closer with our nearest Catholic Secondary School: St Peter's High & Sixth Form Centre in Gloucester. These initiatives are designed to bring direct benefits to every school community and every child within the Trust.

I look forward to continuing to work closely with the Headteachers and staff across all our schools. It is a genuine privilege to serve our Catholic school communities. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Charlotte Blanch
LWCET CEO





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Some information and an important offer of support for all Y5 and Y6 parents and carers from LWCET....

While we are welcoming those new to our schools, I also recognise that our Y6 parents (and quite probably our Y5 parents too) will be considering next steps for their children, into secondary school.

Times of transition can be difficult for all involved because we leave what we have always known and need to navigate a new path....once we've chosen that path! Some parents may have older children who have already managed this transition but there will be many who have not.

I would therefore like to extend an invitation to all Year 5 and Year 6 parents to attend an online meeting with me next week, prior to the start of secondary open evenings, so that I can try to take the worry out of the transition process for you and smooth the way. This is a new opportunity for parents across the Trust and has been very successful in one of our Trust schools previously.

At the meeting I will give information and top tips on:

- 1) Choosing a secondary school: what to look for and what questions to ask.
- 2) Attending open evenings and open days.
- 3) The secondary application process including grammar school process.
- 4) Possible support for parents wishing for their child to continue their Catholic education at a Catholic secondary school.
- 5) Insights from a secondary school headteacher.

Details for the meeting can be found here:

Date: **Tuesday 16th September 2025**

Time: **7-8pm** (you are welcome to have your Y5/6 child present)

Venue: Click on [THIS LINK](#) Using the following information: **Meeting ID: 3175384804671** **Passcode: nd7M5g6u**

Upon entry to the online meeting, your camera and microphone will be switched off to enable participation of a large number of people. There will opportunity to ask questions through the chat facility as the meeting progresses. The meeting will be recorded for safeguarding reasons.

Open Week for Prospective Students Y7 Admission September 2026

Monday 22nd September 2025 to Thursday 25th September 2025
9:30am to 10:30am



Guided tour of the
school by our
students

See our teachers and
classrooms in action

Talk in our Chapel
from our Principal

Have you considered St Peter's RC High School as your Secondary School choice?

St Peter's is our local Catholic High School and a natural progression from our Catholic Primary Schools.

St Peter's are holding four Open Days on 22nd – 25th September and further information about the school can be found on their [SCHOOL WEBSITE](#).

St Peter's take immense pride in fostering a nurturing and inclusive environment rooted in the principles of Catholic education which goes beyond academic excellence. Their aim is to develop confident, happy students who progress spiritually, academically and socially - to educate the whole person. Their commitment is for their students to know that they are unique, know their own worth and are kind, charitable, empathetic and aware.

If your child is a baptised Catholic and is eligible for Free School Meals, they may be entitled to receive a free bus pass if they live more than three miles away from the school.

To book an Open Week tour, please [REGISTER HERE](#).