



St Thomas Becket

Catholic Primary School

Birchanger Road
London SE25 5BN

Headteacher
Diarmuid Skehan

Tel: (020) 8654 3006

6 January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy new year! I hope you and your children had a happy and restful Christmas break. I would like to introduce myself to you as the new headteacher of St Thomas Becket Catholic Primary School. My name is Mr Diarmuid Skehan and I feel privileged to have been chosen to be the headteacher of such an excellent school. I have known St Thomas Becket for many years through my work as headteacher of a neighbouring Croydon catholic primary school (St Aidan's), so I feel that I'm lucky to already have a good knowledge of the context of the school, which will hopefully enable me to 'hit the ground running'. On the frequent occasions when I have seen St Thomas Becket pupils participate in sporting competitions, quizzes and other enrichment activities within our Catholic cluster of schools, I am always so impressed by their ability, aptitude and most importantly, their positive attitudes. I relish the opportunity to help our pupils develop those gifts and talents even further in the coming months and years.

The staff and pupils have made me feel so welcome all week and it has been so nice to begin to meet parents informally at the school gate before and after school. I have been so impressed already by the behaviour of your children, the quality of the work that they produce and how articulate and positive they are about their learning. I am really looking forward to working with the staff team, the parish and the governing body of the school to build on the excellent work that has been done previously by Mr Campbell and his team to get the school to where it is today.

In the coming weeks I look forward to joining our large choir at the Young Voices concert at the O2, celebrating our first school mass of the year (18th Jan), and meeting more parents and carers at our spring parent/carer evenings on 9th and 16th March. I know the teachers have lots of exciting activities and trips planned for the pupils, so I also look forward to seeing pupils enjoying their learning in exciting and creative ways throughout the spring term.

I am keen that the voice of the parent/carer community is an important part of shaping the future direction of the school. I plan to be available around the playground before and after school each day going forward, so please do come and speak to me if you have a question, concern or comment or simply to say hello.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Diarmuid Skehan