

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form

A Youth Sport Trust Lead School for Inclusion

Addison Road, Banbury
Oxfordshire
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www.bgn.oxon.sch.uk

Compassion
Respect
Truth
Service
Forgiveness



17 November 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to let you know that on 1 January 2021, with the agreement of both Boards of Directors, the Pope Francis Multi-Academy Company (PFMAC), to which Blessed George Napier belongs, is merging with the Dominic Barberi Multi-Academy Company (DBMAC). The DBMAC family of schools is made up of St Gregory the Great Catholic Secondary School in Oxford, along with Catholic primary schools in Oxford, Thame, Kidlington and Witney. The new enlarged academy will have eleven schools spread across the County and will retain the name of the Pope Francis Multi-Academy Company. It will have a new Board of Directors drawn from the existing Directors of the two Academies.

This is a very positive development for the PFMAC schools. The merger offers great opportunities for collaboration, sharing of good practice between schools and the opportunity to achieve the Directors' Vision of the Academy as 'a beacon for excellence in Catholic education'. To turn that vision into a reality, the Directors of the new Academy, after a full recruitment process, have appointed Fraser Long to be the Catholic Senior Executive Leader for the PFMAC. This is a new full-time executive position with responsibility for developing excellence across all areas of the enlarged PFMAC. Fraser is currently the Principal at Blessed George Napier Catholic School, but has been working with the schools in both MACs over a number of years and is therefore well suited to the opportunities and challenges the merger presents.

However, what is good news for Catholic education in Oxfordshire will cause sadness at Blessed George Napier. As Fraser takes on his new responsibilities he will no longer be able to continue as our Principal. I would like to thank Fraser for all his hard work in the school since he took up the position of Head of BGN in January 2012.

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Principal: **Mr Fraser Long, B.Eng (Hons), MA.** headteacher@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

An academy within The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company which is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity registered in England and Wales with company number 9113542 and registered address Addison Road, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 9DG.

"The school's contribution to pupils' personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exemplary. Pupils go out of their way to do good things. They act as positive role models for younger children." *Ofsted, June 2017*

Work is taking place to ensure we have an effective organisational structure in place to deliver the benefits of an enlarged Academy. Every effort will be made to keep you all informed as we move towards 1 January deadline. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on: PF-DB-MACmerger@bgn.oxon.sch.uk. There will also be a separate tab on the PFMAC website (<https://www.popefrancisacademy.com>) to give up-to-date information on the merger.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Waters', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Adrian Waters
Chair of Governors

Principal: **Mr Fraser Long, B.Eng (Hons), MA.** *headteacher@bgn.oxon.sch.uk*

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