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## Dear Parent/Carer

## **HM Inspection Report: St Thomas' Primary School**

As you may be aware, St Thomas' Primary School was inspected by HM Inspectorate (HMI) in September 2015 as part of the national inspection programme.

As a result of the very good performance, the strong record of improvement and the effective leadership of the establishment, HM Inspectors advised that they did not intend to make any further visits or reports in relation to this inspection. Therefore, an action plan was prepared by the school, and Glasgow City Council's Education Services were asked to report on progress.

The following provides a summary of the progress made in relation to each recommendation in the action plan:

## **Action Point**

'Continue to develop the curriculum in line with Curriculum for Excellence in order to further raise attainment and achievement of children'

Teachers in St Thomas' Primary continue to provide a wide range of interesting learning experiences for children. They have taken forward their plans to enhance the curriculum further. To support the development of reading, for example, children are benefitting from additional resources which have been purchased for classrooms and libraries. There are increased opportunities to celebrate reading through World Book Day activities and authors regularly visit to meet with the learners. Children continue to have high quality learning experiences through which they develop reading skills and a feature of this is their engagement in literacy circles. Additional learning experiences have been developed with activities on film literacy and digital literacy. Children's reading understanding continues to improve and this can be seen through ongoing teacher assessment.

The school has taken forward the priorities of Glasgow's Improvement Challenge and has ensured that there is a clear focus on equipping children with a range of strategies to ensure the balance between mental maths and written maths. Staff have engaged with professional learning through "Glasgow Counts" and effective strategies are fully embedded across all classes. The school has demonstrated consistently strong attainment in maths.

Children receive full entitlement to a modern language. Twelve members of staff are now trained in Italian and a programme of study is in place throughout the school. The school has worked closely with the associated secondary school to provide additional opportunities for modern language learning. There have been 3 successful exchange visits and these provided opportunities for the children to develop their language skills further.

High quality learning experiences and opportunities for a wide range of achievements are provided for all children and attainment has risen consistently over time

To ensure continued Parental Engagement, St Thomas' has enhanced their offer to parents and carers across a wide range of activities that support children's learning. There are a number of opportunities for parents to be involved in after school activities and clubs, such as the Homework Club, Playing with Sounds and Play Along Maths. Parents and carers have reported that their understanding of their child's learning has increased. More recently, parents and carers have been invited to 'Saturday School' for sport and music.

Overall, St Thomas' Primary School has made very good progress in meeting the main points for action identified. Education Services will therefore not provide any further report in connection with the original report of September 2015, but will continue to monitor and support the establishment as part of our commitment to ensuring the highest quality of education for all.

Yours sincerely

**MAUREEN McKENNA** 

Executive Director of Education

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cc Gerry Lyons, Head of Service Samir Sharma, Quality Improvement Officer Geraldine Parkinson, Headteacher, St Thomas' Primary School