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Dear St Bartholomew's families and wider community,

We wish to update you on some important school matters.

For several months, the Governors of St. Bartholomew's C. E. Primary School, have investigated joining a local Multi-Academy Trust to further strengthen and continue improving our wonderful school. At the beginning of the summer term, several Governors and staff met with representatives of The Moorlands Primary Federation. This primary school Trust includes a number of schools local to us including Hollinsclough C E Academy, Manifold C E Academy in Warslow and St. Werburgh's C E Primary School in Kingsley. The majority of their schools are Anglican, like ourselves; many of their schools are smaller than average with mixed-aged classes, like ourselves; and most of the schools are rural, village schools, again, like ourselves. We also believe their vision and values very much align with our own and we see ourselves benefitting from membership of their Trust, and also to contributing to their Trust.

Our Governing Body has been given permission by Staffordshire Local Authority and the Lichfield Diocese to join The Moorlands Primary Federation and we are now in the process of seeking permission from the Department for Education. As you can imagine, the process of converting to an academy and joining a Multi-Academy Trust is complex and takes time.

As part of the conversion process, we wish to seek your views and feedback. We plan to do this via a meeting in school on **Wednesday 2nd October 2024 at 3:20pm.**

This will be an opportunity to meet with the representatives of The Moorlands Primary Federation to ask any questions you may have. If you are unable to attend this meeting, you are most welcome to submit written questions via the office email and they will be asked at meeting. We have already established that there will not be significant changes to our school, such as the name or uniform. The Trust are keen to celebrate and promote the uniqueness of our wonderful school and support us in our continued improvement.

If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like to submit any feedback or have any questions, please email office@st-bartholmews.staffs.sch.uk

We will continue to keep you updated with how the conversion process is developing, in the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Miss Mellor in the school office.

Mrs Kate Brown

Chair of Governors