


## ***ST FRANCIS' PRIMARY SCHOOL***

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Dear Parents/ Guardians,

13/6/24

The school management and Board of Governors would like to keep parents updated with regard to teaching arrangements for next year. We are delighted to pass on our congratulations to Miss McNally, Mrs Cochrane and Mrs McKeown on their good news and wish them the very best on their maternity leave.

We would also like to wish Mrs Macauley and Mrs Murphy the very best for their retirement after many years of dedicated service and care to our pupils and their colleagues. They have enriched our pupil's learning through their nurturing approaches and have brought so very much to their lives, beyond supporting them with their learning and spiritual development. They have embodied the spirit of what we want for our pupils as valued members of staff at St. Francis' PS and our pupils will treasure memories of what they have learned from them both over the years.

We understand that our families will be keen to know who will be teaching their children next year so we would like to update you of the arrangements as they currently stand:

P1 will be taught by Miss O'Brien

P2 will be taught by Mrs Trainor and a principal release teacher: this position has not yet been appointed. When an appointment is made, we will arrange for the new principal release teacher to meet the P2 class before they take up the post.

P3 will be taught by Mrs McKeown and Mrs Cochrane until their maternity leave begins, Miss Scappaticci will then take over this role mid-October. Our current P2 class have met Miss Scappaticci to help prepare them for this change and ensure they know who will be teaching them.

The teaching role for P4 for 24/25 has not yet been appointed and we are currently considering appropriate candidates. When the appointment is made, we will issue a letter of introduction for you to share with the P4 pupils.

P5 will be taught by Mr McCartan who is well-known to our pupils as he has worked in the school as the former P7 principal release teacher and P5 cover in May and June this year.

P6 will be taught by Mr O'Malley.

P7 will be taught by Mrs Woods.

Whilst Mrs McKeown is on maternity leave, Mrs Trainor will take on the role of acting Principal and we will be appointing an acting VP internally.

Whilst this represents a change to our teaching arrangements for the year, the management and Governors are taking this opportunity to engage teachers whose experience and skill sets match the needs of our pupils and who will offer them a wonderful year's teaching whilst capitalising on the existing knowledge and experience of our permanent teaching staff. Our approaches to learning and teaching will remain consistent, applying the policies we have consistently had in place, and we have already begun a process of handover to ensure that the new teaching staff are fully appraised of our pupils' skills, knowledge and any additional educational or pastoral needs they may have. This is an essential part of the work our teaching staff do on the annual August Staff Development days, a process which begins when the staff analyse the assessment data in June, using this to inform further planning for the following year.

Please contact the school if you have any questions.

We hope that you have found this update useful and would like to thank our families for their continued support.

Sincerely,

M. O'Neill

Chairperson of St. Francis' Board of Governors.