



## **All Saints RC Secondary School**

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**Head Teacher**  
Mr Brian McDermott

Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Today marks the end of an incredible school year, a year like no other. Nothing could have prepared us for the challenges we have overcome as a school community this session, with the ever-changing circumstances around Covid-19, trying to ensure everyone is safe whilst maintaining our focus on learning, and preparing our Senior Phase young people for the Alternative Certification Model in the absence of a normal exam diet, whilst managing the multiple mitigations required. What a year!

The positivity, resilience and commitment of all in our community has been absolutely first class, and I want to thank you for the very significant role you have played as parents and carers – we quite simply could not have managed this year without your support. Thank you.

The staff in All Saints' have worked tirelessly throughout this year to do all they can to support our young people and to ensure that school life has been as 'normal' as possible – to make sure all young people have had the opportunity to learn, to grow and to enjoy school. I am very proud of the way the staff have pulled together in these challenging times and I am very grateful to them for all of their incredible work.

There's also a tint of sadness about the end of term today because we are saying goodbye to two All Saints' stalwarts – Mrs Rafferty and Mrs McKenna – who are retiring today. Combined, they have over 70 years of service in our school and the impact they have had on literally thousands of young people over this time is incredible. As a community, we wish them a happy, healthy retirement.

I want to finish by emphasising once again how proud I am of the young people in All Saints'. Ours really is a special community and our young people are an absolute credit. Their 'can do' attitude, their positivity, their attitude to learning and their ability

to have great fun despite hard times, has been amazing and so humbling. It is a privilege to be the Head Teacher of such a wonderful school and these fantastic young people make my job an absolute joy each and every day.

I will write to you again before the beginning of the new school year. The first day for pupils is Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> August. Until then, please have a brilliant summer.

Thanks again for everything.

Brian McDermott  
Head Teacher  
All Saints' RC Secondary