 St Matthew’s Primary School

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 Principal: Mrs AM Kealey BA Hons in ED. PQHNI

Dear Parent(s)

Many of you will be aware that St. Matthew’s P.S is flourishing and our enrolment is on the rise and will continue to rise over the next few years. Consequently, the junior end of the school (Foundation Stage) is more heavily subscribed which has necessitated a change in how our classes will be split for the coming academic school year. We now propose to have composite classes as follows:

 **P1/2, P2/3, P4/5, and P6/7.**

This will allow for an equitable split of children in all classes and ensure that the workload is evenly spread amongst all teaching staff. This arrangement, will of course, be reviewed annually and will inevitably have to change in subsequent years as our intake increases and our school continues to grow!

The process for introducing composite classes is set out in the school’s Composite Class Policy based on guidance from the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools. This policy can be viewed on the school website. In line with this policy, new Primary 1 pupils in September 2020 will be joined by the youngest 7 pupils from next year’s Primary 2. The 8 oldest pupils from next year’s Primary 2 will join with next year’s Primary 3 pupils.

This approach is child-centred and all pupils will be supported in reaching their full potential at St. Matthew’s P.S. Teacher planning will ensure that all our pupils will always have opportunities to come together whenever possible, e.g. shared play, sports and extra-curricular activities.

Therefore, classes for the school year 2020/2021 are as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| P1/2  | Miss Begley will cover for Mrs Vail who will be off on maternity leave |
| P2/3 | Mrs Mc Gurk |
| P4/5 | Mrs Knox |
| P6/P7 | Mrs Kealey and Miss Mallon |

Many thanks for your continued support.

We look forward to hopefully welcoming all our pupils back to school in September.

Stay safe and keep well everyone.

Mrs AM Kealey

Principal