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5th September 2025

Dear parents, carers and the St Patrick's school community,

I am delighted to write to you as the new Headteacher of both St Patrick's and St Edmund's schools. I would like to begin by thanking all those I have already met for the warmth of your welcome and the encouragement you have shown me. From my very first visit to St Patrick's, I was struck by the friendliness of staff, pupils and parents, and it has been a privilege to experience the strong sense of community that is so clearly at the heart of the school. I very much look forward to getting to know you all better in the coming weeks.

I want to express my gratitude to Mrs. Clinton and Mrs. Kennedy for their dedication and commitment to St Patrick's over many years. Their contribution to the life of the school has been immense, and I am grateful for the support they have shown me during this time of transition. Alongside Miss Loughrey, as Assistant Headteacher, and the dedicated staff team, I am excited to continue building on the many strengths of St Patrick's. We will ensure it remains a place where, in every sense, *great things happen*.

Although I have served as a Headteacher before, this is my first opportunity to work within the city of Manchester. St Patrick's has played an important role in Manchester's story, and I am determined that we will continue to shape its future. From my first tour with pupils, the aspiration to be *proud, Catholic Mancunians* shone through. I want every child here to grow in faith, confidence and ambition so that they become the future leaders and innovators of this great city. With a rich curriculum already in place, and with the support of Emmaus as part of a wider Catholic family of schools, we are well positioned to prepare our children for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Over the next few weeks, I will be in classrooms, on the playground and at the school gates. as much as I am able to be. If I haven't already met you, please do come and say hello. It is important to me that we work in genuine partnership. By listening to your views and working closely together, I believe we can continue to create a school where your children flourish, where their faith is nurtured, where staff feel valued and supported, and where our whole community can truly say: *great things happen here*.

Thank you for the trust you place in us as a school. I am excited to begin this journey with you and I look forward to all that lies ahead.

God bless,

Mr. P. McMahon
Headteacher