



St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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3rd September 2025

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you have had a lovely summer and that children are looking forward to starting the new school year, reconnecting with and meeting friends and staff, and that they are excited to learn and enjoy all that St Mary and All Saints CE primary school (SMAS) has to offer. A particularly warm welcome to our new Reception children, and families that are new to our school community. We very much look forward to getting to know you better and you becoming part of SMAS.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I am delighted to welcome Mr O'Brien to SMAS as our new Headteacher. After a rigorous appointment process and taking time to find the right candidate for our school, we are delighted that Mr O'Brien will be leading SMAS. Mr O'Brien brings with him a wealth of experience, having previously led two primary schools, as well as acted as a Deputy and an Assistant Headteacher. He is a current Ofsted inspector too, meaning we will benefit from his knowledge of current best practise in education. His experience means that he has a deep understanding not only of what makes a school successful, but also of the steps needed to ensure every child thrives and is happy. Mr O'Brien is committed to fostering an innovative, high-achieving learning environment alongside a kind, inclusive ethos in school.

Since his appointment in the Spring, Mr O'Brien has taken the time to get to know the school and staff better, despite only officially starting on Monday, September 1st! He has worked tirelessly over the summer to prepare for the year ahead and has already met individually with all our teaching staff and begun developing plans to build on the school's many strengths, while identifying opportunities for further development. I would like to extend my thanks to him for the commitment he has already shown to the school.

The Governing Body was particularly impressed by Mr O'Brien's clear vision for providing a nurturing, ambitious and inspiring education for all pupils. We are confident that he will lead our school with energy, openness and care, and that he has the leadership skills to address any challenges ahead.

Over the coming weeks, there will be opportunities for you to meet Mr O'Brien in person including in the school playground each morning and afternoon. I know he is looking forward to working in partnership with you to support your children.

Please join me in warmly welcoming Mr O'Brien to St Mary and All Saints.

Yours faithfully,

Caroline Davis-King (Chair of Governors) and the Governors of SMAS

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