

Dear All

May 2016

Retirement of Peter Spillane and Appointment of Executive Headteacher from September 2016

As some of you may know Peter Spillane is 65 this year and he has decided to retire from the end of the Summer term.

The Governors would like to say on behalf of everyone a big thank you to Mr Spillane for all he has done for us for over 25 years. He has certainly earned his retirement and we wish him well for the future. We will be arranging a celebration.

The Governors have been discussing, with the Diocese of Leeds, the best way forward bearing in mind all the changes that are taking place in education at this time. After careful thought we have decided to appoint an Executive Headteacher to be responsible for St Columba's and St Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools.

Accordingly, we are very pleased to announce that Mrs Catherine Markham will be joining us as Executive Headteacher from September 2016. Mrs Markham is currently Headteacher of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and is an experienced, confident and capable school leader. Her role will be to provide direction, guidance and advice for both schools. Mrs Markham will spend part of every week in each school.

Miss Emmott, our Deputy Headteacher will become Head of School. She will be the point of contact for any school or child issue. Miss Emmott will be responsible for the day-to-day management of school, ensuring that the children learn to their full potential.

Mrs Markham will use her experience and knowledge to guide and support our school and, with Miss Emmott, they will work together to create the best learning environment for all our children and staff.

This is an exciting opportunity for us all. We will have a good Leadership team in place to enable us to provide an excellent education for our children. The Governors are confident that you will welcome Mrs Markham into our school family and provide her with the invaluable support that is essential for every child to be nurtured in a happy and successful environment.

Best wishes



Bob Burton
Chair of Governors