Chapel Lane • Armagh • BT61 7EG • Tel: 028 3752 3847 • Fax: 028 3752 8830 • Principal: Mr Paul Duggan

www.stmalachysprimary.org

5 September 2018

**Dear Parents** 

Welcome back to school and we are looking forward to another successful school year.

A particular welcome to Mrs Cathy Connolly who joins the teaching staff as Mrs Goodwin's replacement. Mrs Connolly is an experienced teacher and we are delighted to have her in St Malachy's.

Please bear in mind that applications for Free School Meals are on an annual basis. Application forms are available in school. Our future funding is partly dependent on our Free School Meals percentage. If you are entitled to receive Free School Meals please make the application to the Education Authority as soon as possible. The September dinner menu is on the school website.

We are acutely aware of GDPR (Data Protection) implications which came into force in May 2018. We do hold data on children and staff members. This data is protected and will be used according to GDPR guidelines under the instruction of EA. To this effect, please complete the attached permission form and return it to school.

We would like to remind you that we are now a designated nut free school so please ensure that any snacks are nut free. Thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

Our after school activities for this term will commence the week beginning Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Further information will be available next week.

Breakfast club is open from 8 am at a cost of £2 per child and our wraparound After School's Service is available from 2 pm -5.30 pm daily. Both services are open to all children. It is not necessary to pre-book either service.

Please ensure that names are on all items of uniform, coats and lunchboxes.

The project board to facilitate the new school build meets every month. Currently we are deciding on the final option. The new school will be sited here towards the back of the property. The next scheduled meeting is September 24<sup>th</sup>. This is an exciting time for the school community and the parish as a whole. As soon as the final option has been chosen there will be a press release.

We would ask that parents wait in the yard at home time and do not enter the school building. This is for child protection regulations and we would remind parents whilst in the school environs that conduct and language should be appropriate.

We would appeal for new members of our PTA. This body of parents provides invaluable support throughout the year for our school community and every child benefits. If you wish to become a member please let us know.

During this school year staff members will be availing of training and development with a particular emphasis on I.T. thanks to a grant from Erasmus Plus. This training will take place throughout the school years 2018-2020.

We would respectfully ask you not to park on the right hand side of Chapel Lane as you come down the hill as it causes great inconvenience for neighbours.

Yours sincerely

Paul Jugger

PAUL DUGGAN

Principal