

Dear Sixth Class,

I am enormously proud of our 6th Class of 2020. I have witnessed each 6th Class girl work so hard towards realizing her full potential. I have seen each of you persevere and overcome challenges. I have seen you blossom and grow into fabulous, opinionated, strong young women. I truly hope you have enjoyed your time in St. Mary's. We have certainly enjoyed you being a key part of our school. You have brought so much energy, joy, and enthusiasm to all you have undertaken.

As a staff we have witnessed you embracing the many opportunities provided to you while in St. Mary's. Be it singing with the choir, working as a team for the Credit Union quiz, organising Seachtain na Gaeilge as part of the Comhairle Spraoi, planning and maintaining the library as a member of the Library Committee, promoting positive wellbeing as a member of the Amber Flag Committee, speaking at Open Evenings, welcoming special visitors, performing your socks off at Christmas concerts, voicing your opinions when debating, representing your school on a Sciath na Scol team, performing at Feis Maitiu, to making decisions and taking action as a member of the Student Council and so much more, as a group, you have grasped every opportunity afforded to you with gusto. You have developed so many life skills that, I have no doubt, will stand you in good stead as you progress to the next exciting stage of your life.

As you complete your primary school years, it must also be acknowledged that you would not have reached this stage without the tremendous support, encouragement and willingness of your parents and guardians. Whether it be getting your uniform ready for school, making your lunch, listening to and talking through your problems, to helping you with your homework, they have been there for you, supporting and guiding you, every step of the way. Make sure you thank them! Your finishing primary school is as much a milestone for them as it is for you. They are so very proud of you.

I too would like to thank your parents and guardians. They have supported every school endeavour and initiative and have trusted us with their most prized possession, you! Thank you most sincerely parents and guardians.

You have been blessed with wonderful staff who have worked with you over the past eight years. They have shared their talents and skills with you. They have helped and guided you. Each of them has played their part in ensuring that you are ready for the next stage of your life. Each of them is proud of you have become and is excited for your future.

Your primary school years have come to an end. Soon, you will, once again, become the small fish in a big pond. It is time to look forward to the future and for all the good things to come. Secondary school will bring challenges but it will also bring opportunities. Continue to embrace every opportunity that comes your way. And remember above all else, show respect, show courage and be kind to others and to yourself.

I wish all our 6th class girls the very best for the future

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Fiona O'Callaghan

Príomhoide