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3 September 2021

Dear parents,

We have made it through the first week of the 2021/22 school year and how lovely it was to have our school filled once more with the sight and sound of your lovely sons and daughters. There was a happy atmosphere throughout school and everyone has worked hard to establish good routines and order which are the essential prerequisites to academic learning.

I thank you for your support throughout the week. We are trying to establish a good way forward which takes account of the relaxation of some Covid arrangements whilst acknowledging that some still need to be in place. We will get there.

Yesterday, 2nd September saw Dame Siobhan Keegan being sworn into office as Northern Ireland's first Lady Chief Justice. During the ceremony in the Royal Courts of Justice in Belfast she paid tribute to the education that she had received from St Clare's Convent Primary School. She stated that she hoped her appointment would 'highlight the opportunities open to all' and that it would 'offer some inspiration about what can be achieved.' As we commence our new school year, I feel that this is a very fitting message for us all to reflect upon. Education is a gift that every person in our country is lucky enough to have freely. Let us all; staff, pupils and parents work together to maximise the opportunity for each of our precious children. *The greatest aim that we can have for them is that they will reach their potential, whatever that may be and it will only happen if we all work hard TOGETHER.*

We ask St Clare, St Francis and Blessed Edmund Rice to bless and guide each and every one of us in all that we will do within our school year.

With best wishes to you all,

Mrs Monaghan