

St. Anne's Primary School

St. Anne's Early Learning and Childcare Class
Park Drive, Park Mains, Erskine, PA8 7AL
Tel: 0300 300 0157

Head Teacher: Mrs Nuala Boyd

Depute Head Teacher: Mr Paul Welsh

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**Renfrewshire
Council**

Children's Services

Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn

Friday 21st April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Staffing update

Dear Parent or Carer,

We write to inform you that Mr Paul Welsh, Depute Head Teacher, will be leaving St. Anne's Primary School and ELC Class this term, following success at a recent interview for employment opportunity out with Renfrewshire Council. Mr Welsh's last working day will be on Monday 29th May – as this is the May holiday weekend, in effect this means that Mr Welsh's last day in St. Anne's Primary School and ELC Class will be Thursday 25th May 2023.

We are deeply saddened to be losing Mr Welsh from our school and ELC Class community, as we are sure you and our children will be too. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the significant impact and contribution Mr Welsh has had made during his time in our community.

Mr Welsh joined St. Anne's Primary School and (at that time) Nursery Class as Class Teacher in February 2016 and very quickly established himself as a teacher of immense credibility and professionalism. In addition to providing very high-quality learning and teaching for children in his care, Mr Welsh also played a significant role in the development of learning and teaching in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in our school and ELC Class. In this STEM curriculum leadership role (which Mr Welsh has continued to undertake since 2016), he led the review and refresh of our Science curriculum both in our school and with cluster colleagues, and was pivotal in the organisation of our annual STEM Week and promotion and development of further STEM learning opportunities for children and staff. Mr Welsh also undertook an additional role as our school football coach, giving of his own time each week to provide extra-curricular activity for our senior pupils, as well as providing much valued collegiate support to staff both during formal and informal staff development opportunities and activities.

Mr Welsh was promoted to Acting Depute Head Teacher in 2018 followed by substantive Depute Head Teacher post in January 2019. During his time as Depute Head Teacher, Mr Welsh has very successfully led learning, teaching and assessment across Early Level (ELC Class -P1), including leadership of the implementation of Scottish Government's 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare which saw our nursery class move from term time to extended day/year provision over 52 weeks – this was no mean feat in itself, but to do so at a time of immense challenge in education during a global pandemic demonstrates the outstanding leadership qualities which Mr Welsh possesses. In addition to ELC Class leadership, Mr

Welsh has been the strategic lead for the development of play pedagogy in our school, and for additional support for learning across the ELC Class and school, which has resulted in very positive outcomes for our children.

Mr Welsh's contribution to our school and ELC Class has been, quite simply, outstanding, and he will very much be missed by us all. Mr Welsh's teaching career began in St. John Bosco Primary School – St. John Bosco was known as a "Loving teacher and loyal friend", and we can think of no other more fitting words which would describe Mr Welsh, our Depute Head Teacher. We wish him every success and blessing as he moves on to a new and exciting chapter in his life, and thank him most sincerely for his dedication to, and love for, the children, families and staff of St. Anne's Primary School and ELC Class community.

Mr Welsh's leaving means that we will have vacancy for Depute Head Teacher post – this post has been advertised for and we hope to hold interviews for this post in May 2023. We will, of course, keep you updated as to progress within this recruitment process but please be assured of our work and commitment to fill this vacancy as soon as possible.

As Mr Welsh has class teaching commitment on a Monday and Tuesday in our Primary 1 class, we are working hard with our local authority to secure supply cover for this during the month of June, and will inform our Primary 1 parents as to identified personnel as soon as we have information on this.

As always, if we can be of any further help or assistance in relation to the above, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school or ELC Class office.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nuala Boyd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Nuala Boyd
Head Teacher