10 May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Since I arrived at St Mary’s I have felt a strong sense of community and support. I have been very pleased that staff, governors and parents have been so positive about the calm and focused approach I bring to school improvement, and grateful for all of the encouragement I have had to date. I have worked to understand the needs of the community and the desire for quality education alongside community and care. Living, loving and learning with God does genuinely sum up what St Mary’s is about.

I feel humbled to be appointed to the post as head teacher of St Mary’s and will work with energy and focus.

I have been working in education for 30 years and have worked for CAST and the Catholic schools of Plymouth Diocese since I moved to Devon 18 years ago. I have a Master’s Degree in Education and I have completed national qualifications in leadership, including the qualification for headship. I have a passion for finding ways to encourage and develop learning in others -be they five, 10, 30 or 70 years old.

In the time I have been at St Mary’s, it has been wonderful to see the many small steps that have been made and I genuinely look forward to seeing St Mary’s blossom and grow as we all move forward together.

Mrs Burt and I will continue to work together for the rest of this term and are delighted that there will be a transition into next year to ensure our positive start continues.

Yours sincerely,

Elaine Mannix

Interim Deputy Head teacher