

A Tribute to Mrs Bernie Farrell

Mrs. Bernie Farrell, our much -loved School Principal, retires at the end of this academic year, following a teaching career that began 38 years ago. 37 of those years have been spent here in St. Louis Girls' School. Bernie began her career in St. Louis in September 1985, where she took on the role of third class teacher. In the intervening years, Bernie has taught at various class levels, and in more recent years, was involved in the preparation of many 6th class girls for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Bernie looked for, and saw, the true potential of each and every child in front of her and she went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that she did her utmost to help each of these children achieve just that.

Following the retirement of Sr. Maire in 2012, Bernie stepped into the role of Deputy Principal, a role she undertook with determination, efficiency and dedication, before taking on the role of Principal in 2015, following Mrs. Rooney's secondment to the Centre for School Leadership..

Bernie embraced the challenges of leadership as she embraced all challenges: calmly and confidently. She steered St. Louis Girls' School through the completely uncharted territory of Covid19 and she left no stone unturned to ensure that the school was as safe as it could possibly be for children and adults alike. She ensured that remote learning in some form was made available to each and every child.

Bernie will be remembered by her many past pupils for her high academic standards, but most importantly, she will be remembered for the kindness, empathy and compassion that she showed to the whole school community; and for the warm, welcoming culture that she created within the school environment.

Many tributes have been made to Bernie by many different people, and many lovely words have been used to describe her, both by the adults and by the children. Bernie deserves all this and more. Bernie, on behalf of all the Staff of St. Louis Girls' School, thank you. We wish you joy and happiness in your retirement. We hope you enjoy many fun- filled, relaxed and happy days with your husband and family and that you enjoy the retirement you so richly deserve.