

A Tribute to Mrs Tina McKenna

Mrs. Tina McKenna, an esteemed member of our teaching staff, is retiring at the end of this school year after giving 37 years of dedicated service to St. Louis GNS. Tina began her teaching career some 39 years ago in the village of Collon, not far from her native, Stabannon, Co. Louth. Marriage soon saw her move to Glaslough and in December 1985, she took up a teaching position in our school.

Tina worked initially as a mainstream 3rd and 4th class teacher, later moving to 2nd class where she spent many happy years preparing our girls for the sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion. Tina has always been a most enthusiastic teacher, brimming with energy and driven by an innate work ethic that is second to none.

With the arrival of our international families, Tina transitioned into the role of Support Teacher for pupils learning English as an Additional language (EAL). She has excelled in this area and really developed and expanded the role. Noted for her caring, compassionate nature, Tina has catered for the children's pastoral needs as ably as for their academic ones.

Tina has been a member of the school's Middle Management Team for many years where she has acted as library coordinator and staff safety nominee. She has also taken responsibility for the staff social kitty and with typical efficiency, no staff engagement, wedding, birth or special occasion went unmarked!

Renowned for her warm, sunny personality and cheerful demeanour, Tina is extremely popular with both staff and pupils and will be greatly missed by all. Not one to rest on her laurels, she will no doubt continue to keep herself very busy in her retirement. We want to thank her for her immense contribution to our school and for being such a wonderful friend and colleague. We wish her many, many years of good health and happiness with her husband and family.