

**MULLAVILLY PRIMARY SCHOOL**



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**Principal (Acting):** Mr P Ritchie (BSc, MEd, PGCE)

19 December 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

**End of Term 1**

I write to you today to mark the end of a busy and successful first Term in Mullavilly Primary School, to provide some key updates and to look ahead to term 2. The newsletter for term 1, sent out yesterday via the app and Facebook, gives you a flavour of everything that has happened in school so far this year. Please make sure you read through it if you haven't already done so.

We recently held a very successful Open Day. The turnout was excellent and with a good number of siblings due to start P1 next year, we are well placed to have another strong intake into P1. We have been oversubscribed for the last two years and if you look closely at other local schools intake last year, we very much went against local trends. Most other schools were undersubscribed.

Since taking over as acting principal, I have been consistent in my belief that you as parents need to be kept informed on what your fundraising efforts are being spent on. I am delighted to inform you that we have recently received one of the most significant purchases in our recent history. We spent £9000 on purchasing 30 new Chrome Books and a storage trolley that also acts as a charging port and allows us to move them around the school with ease. This will quite simply revolutionise the teaching of ICT in our school.

It has always angered me that just because we are a small school we don't have the same level of access to ICT as other schools. My own children's school have their own ICT suite while we are working on 2 or 3 laptops at the back of each classroom. I must ask the Department of Education, why is that the case? After your amazing fundraising efforts over the last year, we are finally able to do something about it. When teaching ICT, each child will now have access to their own Chrome Book. It will also make things like assessment week so much easier to manage. I thank you for your contribution to this – it will make such a huge difference.

I am also pleased to be able to confirm that Mrs Hall will begin her role as principal of Mullavilly on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March. I thank the Board of Governors for their work in this appointment and commend them on their decision. I am genuinely thrilled with Mrs Hall's appointment and am confident she will continue to transform and develop our school positively in the months and years ahead. She was the outstanding candidate.

The end of this term also marks the end of one full year since I took up the position of Acting Principal for the third time. I hope the last year has been one we can all look back on fondly and you feel the school is in a stronger position now than when I took over. When we return after Christmas, I will have 10 more weeks to lead this wonderful school before Mrs Hall begins.

Finally, I will never apologise or waver in my public support and praise of the staff of Mullavilly Primary School. It has been by distinct pleasure to lead them for the last year. I thank them for their unwavering support of me, their dedication to our school and the care they show each child every single day. We are very blessed to have such an outstanding team.

I wish every member of our school community a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'P. Ritchie'.

P Ritchie (Acting Principal)