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July 21, 2022
St. Lawrence of Brindisi

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the new school year, there is a great deal to be excited about. We will officially open next month with two homerooms of each grade, preschool-4 through grade 8, and we will, for the first time, have a full-time, three-year-old preschool program. My thanks, again, to each of you who referred a family to us!

Please help me to welcome the following teachers and staff to Saint Peter's come the new school year!

Our new Preschool-4 class will be led by **Ms. Ann Whittles**, who holds Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education from Mount Saint Mary's University, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Ms. Whittles has taught kindergarten at St. John's Episcopal School and for more than a decade, taught kindergarten in the Montgomery County Public School system. Ms. Whittles is Preschool – Grade 6 certified in the state of Maryland.

Mrs. Kimberly Lee-Mott will assume the responsibilities of our new first grade teacher. Mrs. Lee-Mott has spent the last two years teaching first grade at Washington Episcopal School and from 2005 – 2020, Mrs. Lee-Mott taught first grade at Mother of God School in Gaithersburg. Mrs. Lee-Mott holds a Bachelor of Science in Family Studies from the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, as well as Preschool – Grade 6 certification from the state of Maryland.

Ms. Samantha Deoudes joins our faculty as our new fifth grade teacher. Ms. Deoudes, who holds her teaching certification from the state of Maryland, Preschool – Grade 6, comes to us from St. Elizabeth School, Rockville, Maryland, where she has been a grade 2 and 3 teacher as well as the Primary School Department Chair. Prior to St. Elizabeth, Ms. Deoudes taught grade 3 at Candlewood Elementary School in Montgomery County from 1993 – 2000. Ms. Deoudes earned her Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, and her Master of Education with administrative certification, Level I, for the state of Maryland.

Mrs. Kathryn McGowan will assume the role of middle school Language Arts teacher. Mrs. McGowan comes to us from St. Jude Regional Catholic School, Rockville, Maryland, where she served as the middle school Language Arts and eighth grade homeroom teacher. From 2002 to 2020, Mrs. McGowan served as a teacher in the Diocese of Wilmington, Delaware, as well as in public schools in Delaware. In addition to her certification in Elementary Education, Mrs. McGowan holds a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Wilmington University, Wilmington, Delaware.

Mrs. Jennifer McDonough will assume the position of school librarian after serving twelve years on the faculty of St. Elizabeth School. Throughout Mrs. McDonough's tenure at St. Elizabeth, she taught grades



2, 4, and 5 as well as middle school science. She currently serves at the school's librarian. Prior to coming on board at St. Elizabeth, Mrs. McDonough was a preschool-3 teacher at St. Raphael School from 2005 – 2009. Mrs. McDonough holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri.

I'm also honored to welcome the following professionals to our support staff at Saint Peter's School:

Mrs. Erica Thompson is a familiar face in our school community and will make a terrific addition as a teaching assistant in our preschool-4 program. Two of Mrs. Thompson's sons are currently enrolled at Saint Peter's School. Mrs. Thompson, holds a Bachelor of Psychology from James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia, and a Master of Arts in Elementary Education from Johns Hopkins University, Rockville, Maryland. From 2001 – 2016, Mrs. Thompson was a first grade teacher in the Montgomery County Public School System. She also served as her department's team leader.

Mrs. Kathleen Hartwick, a long-standing member of our Saint Peter's School and Church community, will join our first grade team as a teaching assistant. All four of Mrs. Hartwick's children are graduates of our school. Mrs. Hartwick, holds a Master of Counseling and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Loyola College, Baltimore, Maryland.

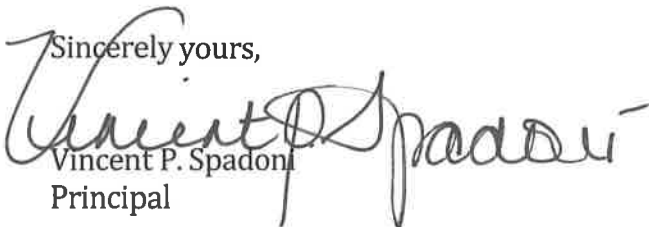
Mrs. Kelly Wieland joins our staff as our third grade teaching assistant and lunch coordinator. Mrs. Wieland, who has assisted us this year as substitute and Open House ambassador, has three children currently enrolled at Saint Peter's. Mrs. Wieland holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Mrs. Cynthia Canary comes to us from St. Elizabeth School, Rockville, Maryland, where she has served as the school's Mass coordinator and as a classroom assistant since 2014. She will join our first grade team as a teaching assistant. Mrs. Canary holds a Bachelor of English from Trinity University, Washington, DC.

Please help me thank Mrs. Gunn for her many years of faithful service to Saint Peter's School. I would also like to thank Mrs. Cron for her service and wish her well as she begins her new ministry at Our Lady of Good Counsel High School in Olney, Maryland. Congratulations to Ms. Martinez on her new position at the parish rectory and Mrs. Riley on the occasion of her retirement.

We are blessed to welcome so many devoted and talented educators to our faculty and staff this upcoming school year. I know I can count on you for a warm Saint Peter's welcome to each and every one of these men and women.

Sincerely yours,


Vincent P. Spadoni
Principal