OMAGH INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL, NURSERY & PRE-SCHOOL

72 Crevenagh Road, Omagh. Co. Tyrone, BT79 0GW

Principal Mr Gavin Gallagher B.Ed., P. Q. H (N.I) **Vice Principal** Mrs Siobhan Taggart. B.A. Hons., P.Q.H. (N.I)



OMAGH INTEGRATED PRE SCHOOL FACILITY OFFICIALLY OPENED

Omagh Integrated PS & Nursery is delighted to officially announce the opening of its new brand new Pre-School facility, housed within the existing, state of the art building first opened in June 2018.

The school currently has 26 Nursery places funded by DE. With the addition of this new facility, the school is now able to welcome a further 24 Nursery age pupils through its doors and this is thanks to funding secured over the next few years through IEF (Integrated Education Fund).

Speaking at the official opening of the Pre School, Claire Carlin from IEF commented,

The Integrated Education Fund is delighted to support the development of pre-school education at Omagh Integrated Primary School, and such support has only been possible thanks to the generosity of a number of donors.

Firstly, John Fitzpatrick, an Irish hotelier and philanthropist, committed \$100,000 towards the building of the new Children's Centre, where the Playgroup is located. The funding comes from the Eithne and Paddy Fitzpatrick Memorial Fund, which was set up in honour of his late parents. John came to visit the Children's Centre last year with the IEF's Campaign Chair, Baroness May Blood. His arrival, by helicopter, certainly created a huge buzz at the primary school and the neighbouring Drumragh Integrated College, which allowed him the opportunity to see at first -hand the difference the new facility would make.

In addition, the Magheramourne Foundation, who have been long standing supporters of integrated education, are assisting with the cost of providing the additional Pre School places needed at the primary school to meet parental demand. It is anticipated that 24 children will benefit from their generosity this year.

The new provision, renamed Omagh Integrated Pre-School is registered with Social Services and has membership of Early Years. It caters for children in their Pre School year and who are eligible to start compulsory education and join Year 1 in September 2021 (the following year).

Principal Gavin Gallagher is delighted with the facility...

In recent years, with 26 Nursery places, parents keen to have their children educated in an integrated setting have been unable to gain a place as we have been regularly oversubscribed. We are excited about the prospect of being able to meet this demand this year and into the future and look forward to welcoming more pupils through the doors of our Nursery and Pre School for many years to come.

Our newly appointed staff have enjoyed a fantastic start to the year with the pupils that have enrolled and work closely with our Nursery staff to meet the needs of all of our youngest pupils.

Mrs Kim Law who leads the Pre School added,

We are delighted to say how well our children have settled and adapted into their new facility. We hope to continue to develop the pre-school and build on its success for future years to come.

The new facility is almost full but there are a limited number of places available for the current academic year.

If interested, please contact the school on 028 82 242008 or email <u>info@integratedprimary.omagh.ni.sch.uk</u> for further information on availability

Tel: 02882 242008

Email: info@integratedprimary.omagh.ni.sch.uk

Website: <u>www.omaghintegratedps.com</u>

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