



WISHING MAUZE ALL THE BEST

After thirty seven years of dedicated service at St Malachy's School Edenhope, Maureen Payne (or Mauze as she is dearly known) has decided to put away her pens, paper and spreadsheets to enter into retirement. We all know that Mauze does not like being made a fuss of, so we had to disguise Grandparent's Day along with Book Week to get her to turn up at school for a farewell. This day, August 22, was to be her last official day at the school.

After we had our Book Week Parade and celebrations, it was time to celebrate the wonderful grandparents we have in our school community, of whom Mauze is one; her grand-daughter is currently in Year 6. After our prayers and thanks for grandparents, we asked Mauze to come forward as a "special grandparent" at our school.

Students presented Mauze with a book about her "super powers" and we had a PowerPoint presentation of the many photos taken of Mauze over the years. There were also 'thank you' messages from staff, parents and grandparents. Staff collected all their ideas about Mauze and these were collated by Tim Rokebrand and put together as a very entertaining poem. (Read below) Students then farewelled her with the hymn by Andrew Chinn, "May God Be With You". Later that same day after Mauze had attended a funeral, current and past staff surprised her with another farewell at the local Golf Club where more Mauze stories and presentations were held. Current and past parents had the opportunity to farewell her at an afternoon tea at the school on Tuesday, September 3.

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Mauze and we thank her for her warm and welcoming approach to everyone. Her ability to make everyone feel loved was her most memorable quality. Her outstanding contributions to our school community in so many different ways will be remembered for many, many years to come. We now wish her all the very best in her retirement so that she can enjoy more time with her family and friends and some pampering time for herself.



Angela Kealy – Principal

***Now this is the story of the 'Rock' of St Mals,
that one great constant in the life of her pals.
Cos 'Mauzie' or 'Mauze' as she's often known
has been at this school for as long as we've known.***

***'twas in '82 she took on the position,
for 37 years has been our office magician.
But then going back much further it seems,***

*to 1956 and a little girl's dreams.
Cos that's when she started, 63 years ago
at St Malachy's school, as a student you know.*

*And then there's her kids that attended as well,
a lifelong commitment and a job done so well.
Principals, teachers and students passed through,
while Mauzie, dear Mauzie, has always stayed true.*

*When teachers had questions on finance or pay,
they knew that old Mauzie could answer away.
No matter how complex or confusing, they trusted,
that faithful old Mauze would never get flustered.*

*"Just keep your receipts Darl" was all she requested,
"or my patience you know, may well be tested."
She called us all "Darl", first names were not tendered,
so we all felt quite special, her favourite, befriended.*

*With her huge book of notes that would sink a small ship,
She kept tabs on us all and gave horseracing tips.
Her horseracing trainer could often be seen,
dropping into the office and informing "The Queen",
how her horses were going and what they should do
to make them run faster and win one or two.*

*And then there's the scones she provided so often,
to make sure that the staff would not be forgotten.
Unless we unwittingly had done something wrong,
then the scones were cut off, for a period prolonged.*

*And kids were receivers of her favours too,
In the depths of her drawer, she kept something to chew.*

*So, 'tis not by chance or random or maybe,
to the kids she was known as "The Lolly Lady" .
And if a child was missing or lost or something,
the first place to look was beneath Mauzie's wing.*

*Although early mornings were not Mauze's taste,
you never saw her with her hair out of place.
She always took trouble to make her cheeks crimson
And do up her hair like the lovely Marj Simpson.*

*Now I am quite relieved to have Microsoft word
And I don't have to handwrite this 'preciative blurb
Cos I'm sure I would buckle with pressure and heat
just trying to match Mauzie's writing. SO NEAT !!*

*We could go on for days with our stories of Mauze,
but we're relative newcomers to St Malachy's cause.
Compared to Maureen whose work and promotions
been felt by so many through years of devotion.*

*Mauzie, it's time to move on and spend time on yourself.
to start doing those things that were put on the shelf.
So, go tend your horses and make some new pals,
And we thank you so much for your years at St Mals.*