



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are delighted to welcome back to school all of our pupils and staff and very much look forward to welcoming our new pupils and new staff members as we begin this new academic year. Our school team is here as always to support you as parents. You are our partners in your child's education and we look forward to working together to ensure that your children flourish and learn to be the best they can be during their time with us.

While your child may be excited to return to school, we appreciate that they may feel a little anxious too. Our class teachers and support teachers will be there as always to support, reassure and to help your child to settle back into school life. Please see our Facebook Page for updates, information and snapshots of all the wonderful learning experiences your child will have during the year. Unfortunately our website was hacked last May and is down at present but we are working on our new and improved website which should be up and running soon.

**School starts at 9:00am and finishes at 2:45pm.** Please see details below of where your child's classroom is and your drop off and collection points. **Siblings enter and exit at the eldest sibling's point.** Your child will receive their new books and copies from their class teachers as they require them and please ensure that you have provided your child with the items specified on the list they received in June (pencils, pens etc.)

If you have any queries please **email info@hfss.ie** or **contact the school office on 065-6828893.**

I very much look forward to the exciting new school year ahead. With best regards, Jillian Bridge, Principal.

**Parents/Guardians of new children to our school, please come with your child to the front foyer reception area of our school at 8:50am, where members of our team will meet you and show your child to their new class and new teacher.**

| Year Group      | Teacher 23/24           | Room                | Previous Teacher ( 22/23) | Entrance and Exit point to the school  |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Mrs. Crowley            | Cafeteria Classroom | Ms Power                  | Front entrance by Old Ground<br>Line up outside café classroom door.               |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Mrs. Buckley/ Ms. Canny | Room 4.             | Ms Shaughnessy            | Front entrance by Old Ground<br>Line up on yard outside Room 4.                    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Mr. Brennan             | Room 5.             | Ms. Eustace               | Front entrance by Old Ground<br>Line up on yard outside Room 5.                    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Mr. Ryan                | Room 6.             | Mrs. Buckley              | Entrance at Dunnes Stores.<br>Line up on yard outside Room 6.                      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Ms. Frawley             | Room 2.             | Mr. Brennan               | Entrance at Dunnes Stores<br>Line up on yard outside Room 2.                       |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Ms. O'Neill             | Room 3.             | Mrs. Crowley              | Entrance at Dunnes Stores<br>Line up on yard outside Room 3.                       |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Mr Corbett              | Room 13.            | Ms. McMahon               | Front Entrance by Old Ground<br>Line up outside the school reception.              |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Ms. Twomey              | Room 1.             | Mr. Ryan                  | Front Entrance by Old Ground<br>Line up outside Room 1.                            |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | Ms. Gill                | Room 19.            | Mixed                     | Entrance at Dunnes Stores<br>Line up between garden gate and Dunnes end of school. |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | Ms. Finn                | Room 20.            | Mixed                     | Entrance at Dunnes Stores<br>Line up between garden gate and Dunnes end of school. |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | Mr. Kearney             | Room 18.            | Mixed                     | Entrance at Dunnes Stores<br>Line up between garden gate and Dunnes end of school. |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | Ms Ford/Mrs Neylon      | Room 17.            | Mr. Bell                  | Front Entrance by Old Ground<br>Line up at the Old Ground Wall.                    |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | Mr Cooney               | Room 15.            | Ms. Twomey                | Front Entrance by Old Ground<br>Line up at the Old Ground Wall.                    |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | Mr. Bell/Ms. Boland     | Room 16.            | Ms. Finn                  | Front Entrance by Old Ground<br>Line up at the Old Ground Wall.                    |
| ASD Class       | Mrs. Whyatt             | Room 10.            | Mrs. Whyatt/<br>Ms Waters | Front Entrance by Old Ground/<br>Buses.  |
| Reading Class   | Mrs. Leahy              | Room 23.            | Mrs. Hickey               | Front entrance by Old Ground/Buses.  |

Please take note of the entrance, exit points and lining up area for your child on page one. We ask that all parents and children follow this system. Where children have brothers and sisters in school the family enter and exit through the entrance of the eldest sibling.

### **PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE**

With a new year ahead of us, with new books, copies and endless possibilities, we stress the importance of being in school every day and on time.

Remember **If you're Missing School, you're Missing Out!**

So students of HFSS lets be a **HERO**

**H** HERE

**E** EVERYDAY

**R** READY (with all our books/copies/pencils/pens etc.)

**O** ON TIME



### **FREE BREAKFAST, SNACKS AND LUNCHES.**

Children who have their login details from last year and would like to order a specific lunch can order their packed lunches by midnight **Friday 25th August**. New children including 2nd class will be given a standard snack and lunch on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and their login details for choosing will be set up next week. There will be free hot lunches again in the canteen from Monday 4th September for all pupils. Linda Coughlan will be manager of the canteen again this year and will be in contact next week regarding ordering hot lunches. Breakfast Club will resume on Wednesday 30th of August at 8.40am in the school canteen.

**UNIFORM** – We ask that all parents and children make a big effort this year to adhere to our Uniform Policy. Our uniform will continue to be under review this year but in the meantime,

**CHILDREN MUST WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM AT ALL TIMES.**  
**(as per photo)**

Plain navy track suit bottoms and a **white** polo shirt with school crested blue sweatshirt top. Tracksuit bottoms and white polo shirt are available in a variety of shops. The blue crested sweatshirt is available at McCanons.

Tracksuits with logos, legging and cycling shorts are not allowed.

**Please ensure your child wears comfortable, sensible shoes and we advise against the wearing of jewellery with the exception of stud earrings and a watch for safety reasons.**

**Contact the Parents Association Chairperson Karine Hegarty, HSCL Darryl/Orla or School Completion Programme (SCP) if you need to purchase a recycled uniform. There may be some stock left over from our uniform sale in June.**



**MEDICAL** – Please email Mrs. Loftus - [antoinette.loftus@hfss.ie](mailto:antoinette.loftus@hfss.ie) or call office **0656828893** to speak with her if your child has a health/medical/allergy issue that the school needs to know about. Mrs. Loftus will circulate letters re: Asthma care needs on return to school, so please hold off on contacting her re: asthma needs until you receive the letter.

## **ALADDIN**

Please ensure that your Aladdin Connect app is working properly after the Summer break. Sometimes it may require you having to enter your log in details again. If you do not have it, we strongly urge you to download the app and our HSCL Darryl and Orla, school secretary, Lucy or your child's class teacher can assist you if you are having difficulties. We heavily rely on Aladdin for communicating with you and do not want any family to miss out on important notifications.

## **CHECK SCHOOL BAGS AND JOURNAL**

With the start of a new school year, there will be many letters/forms regarding medical issues, music lessons, after-school activities etc. that will require a rapid response, please check bags/journal each evening.

## **Sports.**

As per last year, after-school's sport will be available to all interested pupils – this will recommence on the week of **Sept 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>**. Details regarding after-schools will be provided closer to the time, but we are excited to offer diverse sporting experiences in both our national games (hurling/football) and others (soccer/basketball/athletics/badminton/chess etc.)

**Swimming** for all classes will return for 2023/24 starting **Thursday 7th September**. Each class will get 5 trips to the pool for lessons with qualified instructors. Total cost for this **compulsory 5-week experience is €25 and payment can be made directly to class teachers or through the office.**

## **SUNDRIES.**

Lists of stationery required for each class level are available from the school office. Sundries must be paid through **e-payments or to your class teacher on or before Friday 15th September**.

A special payment instalment system can be set up through the school office. Contact Mrs. Finn - [lucy.finn@hfss.ie](mailto:lucy.finn@hfss.ie) to set this up.

## **A FEW REMINDERS:**

- \* **CHILDREN SHOULD NOT ENTER THE PLAYGROUND OR BE DROPPED TO SCHOOL BEFORE 8:45AM.**
- \* **LATE ARRIVALS AND EARLY LEAVERS MUST BE SIGNED IN/SIGNED OUT AT RECEPTION.**
- \* **IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO THE CLASSTEACHER, PLEASE MAKE AN APPOINTMENT VIA OFFICE.**
- \* **IF YOU HAVE AN ISSUE/CONCERN/PROBLEM REGARDING YOUR CHILD, THE CLASSTEACHER IS YOUR FIRST PERSON TO CONTACT.**

## **Music**

We look forward to a wonderful year of music with our choir resuming following auditions in the coming week or so. As always, we are thrilled to work alongside our fabulous music tutors who will return with their after school instrumental classes in piano, guitar, ukulele, drums and an exciting new class offering bodhrán! Watch out for a letter inviting those who are interested to sign up for these lessons. **Weekly fee per after-schools' class will be €8 and as always this can be paid to Lucy in the School Office or online through Aladdin.**

**Our Strings programme** in partnership with Music Generation continues for our 6<sup>th</sup> class students and our 4<sup>th</sup> class students begin their exciting journey discovering the joys of violin.

**Weekly fee for our String Programme is €3.00 per student and this can be paid to the Class Teacher.**

Our Strings programme and all after-school's music lessons will **resume on the week starting September 18<sup>th</sup>**. Any musical queries can be emailed to Mrs. Hickey at [fiona.hickey@hfss.ie](mailto:fiona.hickey@hfss.ie). Further details regarding music tuition and choir will follow in early September, so keep an eye out in the school bags and on Aladdin!



# Holy Family Senior School



## Calendar 2023 – 2024

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|   |  |
| <b>Re-opening:</b>                          | <b>Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> August 2023.</b>  |
| <b>Half day for Term 1 - Staff Meeting:</b> | <b>Tuesday, October 3rd @ 12:30pm</b>  |
| <b>Mid-term break:</b>                      | <b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 inclusive.</b> |
| <b>Christmas Holidays:</b>                  | <b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023 to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024 inclusive.</b> |
| <b>St. Brigid's Day Weekend:</b>            | <b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.</b>  |
| <b>Mid-term break:</b>                      | <b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024 inclusive.</b>  |
| <b>St Patrick's Day Weekend:</b>            | <b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 inclusive.</b>          |
| <b>Easter Holidays:</b>                     | <b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024 inclusive.</b>           |
| <b>May Bank Holiday:</b>                    | <b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May to Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 inclusive.</b>               |
| <b>June Bank Holiday:</b>                   | <b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June to Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 inclusive.</b>             |
| <b>School closing for Summer Holidays:</b>  | <b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024 (12pm)</b>  |