HOLY FAMILY SENIOR SCHOOL

Newsletter - October 2024



School Email: info@hfss.ie
School Website: www.holyfamilyseniorschool.com
HSCL Teachers: Darryl Eade and Orla Gannon
HSCL Phone: 0866040686

Halloween at Holy Family Senior

Halloween is always a fun time at HFSS for both parents and pupils!

We would like to invite parents to come and decorate our reception area again this year with our Halloween decorations. If you are available and interested please contact Darryl at 0866040686 for further details.

We look forward to seeing all the wonderfully decorated pumpkins on Thursday 24th with the winning designs being chosen on Friday 25th.

The children with the winning pumpkins get to display them in the windows of the Old Ground Hotel, and will be treated to milk and cookies in the hotel by owner Allen Flynn.

Cinema tickets are the prizes for this year's winning pumpkins.

Halloween Fancy dress takes place on Friday 25th October.

So start planning and getting creative now!



Parents Association Meeting

With lots of fun activities and events on the horizon, we look forward to meeting lots of new parents at our Parents' Association meetings. Whether you want to join the committee or just volunteer yourself for a once off activity - you are welcome.

The PA is a great way to meet other parents, make new friends and work together to make Holy Family Schools a better place for your children.

Your views, opinions and input are vitally important for our schools to thrive.



Roadworks on Friars Walk

Our Safe Routes to School project is well underway with the hope that this project will be completed by midterm break. The gate at Friar's Walk will be closed until works are complete. This has been advised by Clare County Council for Health and Safety reasons. Fence painting, flashing school signs, beacons on pedestrian crossing, banners and ramps have yet to be completed. Night-time works will follow to construct a raised pedestrian crossing, ramps and line/road markings. We are certain that when finished, not alone will it make the approach to our school much safer, but it will look really nice too!



Sacraments - 2025 - 2nd class.

20/10/24 - Enrolment mass Cathedral @ 9.30am or 11.30am.

27/02/25 - Sacrament of Reconciliation Cathedral @ 6pm.

10/05/25 - First Holy Communion Cathedral @ 11am.

Sacraments - 2025 - 6th class.

20/10/24 - Enrolment Mass Cathedral @ 9.30am or 11.30am.

11/03/25 - Ceremony of Light Cathedral @ 8pm 14/03/25 - Confirmation Cathedral @ 11am.



Holy Family School Garden Allotments





Would you like your very own Garden Patch in our School?





Secondary School Open Days and Applications

It is vitally important that parents and students visit the secondary schools in advance of applying so you and your 6th class child are fully informed before making your choice.

Application forms will be out on Nov 4th and as always HSCL will be on hand to assist with completion of the forms



Parent Teacher Meetings 2024 take place on Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th November, 2024. Booking will be via Aladdin Connect. Children will go home at 2:30 pm on 26/11 to facilitate these meetings. Further information re: bookings and times closer to the date.

Our School Garden

Are you interested in gardening? Would you like to grow your own fruits and vegetables? Holy Family School are looking for interested gardeners in our school community to rent and maintain a garden bed. Limited beds available. They will be offered on a first come first served basis. If you are interested text/phone/email HSCL Darry Eade on 0866040686/darryl.eade@hfss.ie
Our School Garden is a wonderful space where we grow fruits, vegetables, flowers and plants. Each Tuesday we open up our garden space to the whole school community with our Parent and Child gardening time @ 9am. Keep an eye on Facebook to find out when your child's year group's slot will

POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS OPEN DAYS 2024

COLAISTE MUIRE, ENNIS
SATURDAY, 5TH OCT
9AM-1PM
*TICKETED EVENT

ENNIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUESDAY 15TH OCT 7PM (SCHOOL HALL)

> GAELCHOLÁISTE, ENNIS TUESDAY 15TH OCT

ST. FLANNAN'S COLLEGE, ENNIS FRIDAY, 18TH OCT 9AM-1PM

> RICE COLLEGE, ENNIS WEDNESDAY, 23RD OCT 7PM-9PM



Peace Proms Rehearsal for choir in Limerick: Friday, November 15th. Full details regarding rehearsal will be sent to all parents via Aladdin.

Peace Proms Concert: Saturday March 1st 2025 @ 8pm.

Ticket Presale for parent audience tickets: Friday November 8th @ 10am. www.tickettailor.com/events/peaceproms Presale Access Code: LIMSAT1ST8PM



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are making huge efforts in our school to improve punctuality and school attendance this year. Please ensure your child is in school every day at 9am so they don't miss out on important learning. If there is a particular reason your child will be late or absent from school, please fill in the Aladdin app accurately. If you are having specific difficulties with getting your child to school, contact our home school links teacher Darryl on (086)6040686 or contact Antoinette Loftus at antoinette.loftus@hfss.ie. We are happy to support in any way we can. "Attend today, and achieve tomorrow"

Holy Family School Uniform.

The school jumper is now back in stock at McCannon's shop in the market.

Please ensure that your child wears the correct school uniform to school.

It consists of:

- The blue crested jumper that can be bought in McCannon's Shop, Market Place, Ennis.
- White polo shirt
- Navy tracksuit bottoms/shorts (fine weather)

The tracksuit bottoms, shorts and polo shirt can be bought in Dunnes/Pennys/F and F/Next/M and S etc.

Black leggings/cycling shorts/logos on tracksuit bottoms are not part of the uniform and are not allowed.



Green Code

As a Green School, we are currently exploring the theme of Global Citizenship – Energy. As part of this theme, we are learning how to save energy in our school and in our homes and we will be looking at energy issues globally. One of the steps in the Green Schools flag journey is to come up with a Green Code for our school. A Green Code is a slogan that outlines the objectives of our school in committing to



environmentally friendly actions. This year's Green Code will be related to the theme of Energy and how we can save energy. We are inviting all children to partake in a competition to compose a slogan (just a sentence or two, preferably that rhyme) that we could use as our Green Code. The Green Schools Committee will vote on the entries and a slogan will be chosen as our school's Green Code. The child who writes the winning slogan will receive a prize and will have his/her slogan displayed on our Green Schools notice board. We hope that everyone will join in and get their

thinking caps on to come up with a catchy Green Code for our school.

Picker Pals.

Mrs Leahy and Mrs Crowley's classes are getting involved in an exciting environmental initiative called Picker Pals. Picker Pals is a programme that raises awareness about the global waste crisis and gives young people the tools and positive motivation to take responsibility for caring for their local environments. Picker Pals engages children through a colourful character-led world of activity books,

environmental readers, songs and storytelling. By taking part, we hope to empower action. The classes involved will receive child-friendly litter-picking equipment that the children will take turns in bringing home. Then the children will be invited to share their experiences with the whole class and engage in online Picker Pals events. We hope that the children will enjoy this experience and further develop a sense of responsibility for the environment around them.







Boys Gaelic Football.

On Wednesday 9th October, the 5th and 6th class boys proudly represented HFSS in a football blitz hosted in Eire Óg. They played five games in total against Stonehall/Ballycar NS, Broadford, Ennis Educate Together, Scoil Chríost Rí and St Aidan's of Shannon. They played their hearts out but unfortunately narrowly missed out on the next stage of the competition.

Girls Gaelic Football.

Our Ladies Football team will be taking part in their first competition of the year in Gurteen on Wednesday October 16th. They will be up against Clooney NS, Doora NS and St. Senan's Shannon. We wish them the best of luck!



3rd & 4th Class Fun Gaelic Football Blitz.

Classes in 3rd and 4th visited the Fairgreen on Thursday October 10th to take part in a fun non-competitive blitz organised by Clare GAA. With Scoil Chriost Rí, Ennis Educate Together, the Gaeilscoil and CBS all taking part, there were over 400 students in attendance. Our children had a wonderful time practising the skills of gaelic football and making new friends from our neighbouring schools. Thanks to Mark O'Donnell and Clare GAA for organising.

Calendar 2024-2025

Mid-term break:	Mon 28th Oct to Fri 1st Nov 2024 inclusive School reopens on Mon 4th Nov @ 9am.
Christmas Holidays:	Mon 23rd Dec 2024 to Fri 3rd Jan 2025 inclusive School reopens on Mon 6th Jan 2025 @ 9am.
St. Brigid's Day Weekend:	Mon 3rd Feb 2025—school closed.
Mid-term break:	Thurs 20th Feb to Fri 21st Feb inclusive—school closed.
St. Patrick's Day Weekend:	Mon 17th Mar to Tues 18th March 2025 inclusive –school closed.
Easter Holidays:	Mon 14th Apr to Fri 25th Apr 2025 inclusive. School reopens on Mon 28th Apr 2025 @ 9am.
Primary Maths Curriculum Closure:	Mon 28th Apr 2025—school closed.
May Bank Holiday:	Mon 5th May to Tues 6th May 2025 inclusive—school closed.
June Bank Holiday:	Mon 2nd June to Tues 3rd June 2025 inclusive—school closed.
Summer Holidays:	School closes at 12pm on Wed 25th June 2025.