



### Message from the Principal.

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. Our school website [www.holyfamilyseniorschool.com](http://www.holyfamilyseniorschool.com) provides all the essential information you need regarding our school and includes newsletters, calendar, school supplies list to name a few.

**School starts at 9:00am and finishes at 2:45pm.** Please see details on next page 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.) and paid the fees for school requisites via Aladdin or in office. Easy pay options are available.

If you have any queries please email [info@hfss.ie](mailto:info@hfss.ie) or contact the school office on 065-6828893.

I very much look forward to the exciting new school year ahead and working with you and your children.

With best regards, Jillian Bridge, Principal.



### Attendance

We cannot stress enough the importance of regular school attendance.

Every school day matters. Good attendance helps children develop the routines and responsibilities that will support them throughout their lives. Even a small number of days missed can add up to significant gaps in learning. We encourage families to prioritise regular attendance and to only keep children home when they are sick or when absolutely necessary. Working together, we can give every child the best chance to thrive. We love to award children on good attendance and improvements in attendance patterns too at our assemblies.

**Remember if you're missing school—you're missing out!**

### Punctuality

Arriving on time each morning is very important. School starts at 9am. We encourage children to be in school by 8:55am at the latest. A prompt 9am start allows children to settle calmly, hear important messages and begin learning without disruption. When children arrive late, they can feel unsettled, miss important teaching and learning and it can interrupt the flow of the class. By aiming to be on time every day, you are helping your child to start the day confidently and positively.



### Ongoing Boiler Replacement Works

Works at the back of our Café Building are due to be completed mid-September. The bulk of the work is done but until they are fully finished pedestrian access at the back of the café is off limits - please walk via main school yard instead of the back of the café.



Year Group	Teacher 25/26	Room	Previous Teacher ( 24/25)	Entrance and Exit point to the school
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mr. Feargal Kearney	Cafeteria Classroom	Ms. Eustace/Ms. McNamara	Front entrance by Old Ground Line up outside café classroom door.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs. Sharon Crowley	Room 4	Ms. Shaughnessy/ Ms. McNamara	Front entrance by Old Ground Line up on yard outside Room 4.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ms. Joanne Kennedy	Room 5.	Ms. Ferriter/ Ms. McNamara	Front entrance by Old Ground Line up on yard outside Room 5.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mr. Joe Ryan	Room 6.	Mrs. Crowley	Entrance at Dunnes Stores. Line up on yard outside Room 6.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ms. Aisling Frawley	Room 2	Mr. Brennan	Entrance at Dunnes Stores Line up on yard outside Room 2.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ms. Máire O'Neill	Room 3	Mr. Kearney	Entrance at Dunnes Stores Line up on yard outside Room 3.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Ms. Siobhán Commene	Room 13	Mr. Ryan	Front Entrance by Old Ground Line up outside the school Reception.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Kevin Brennan	Room 1	Ms. O'Neill	Front Entrance by Old Ground Line up outside Room 1.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Brian Cooney	Room 15	Ms. Frawley	Front Entrance by Old Ground Line up outside the school Reception.
5 <sup>th</sup>	Ms. Barbara Gill	Room 19	Ms. Boland	Entrance at Dunnes Stores Line up between garden gate and Dunnes end of school.
5 <sup>th</sup>	Ms. Sinead Finn	Room 20	Mr. Corbett	Entrance at Dunnes Stores Line up between garden gate and Dunnes end of school.
5 <sup>th</sup>	Ms. Brenda Ford	Room 18	Mr. Cooney	Entrance at Dunnes Stores Line up between garden gate and Dunnes end of school.
6 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Niamh Neylon	Room 17	Ms. Gill	Front Entrance by Old Ground Line up by the Old Ground wall beside garden.
6 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. Declan Bell	Room 16	Ms. Finn	Front Entrance by Old Ground Line up between garden gate at Dunnes end of school.
Autism Class	Mrs. Helen Whyatt	Room 10	Mrs. Whyatt	Front Entrance by Old Ground/ Buses at shed.
Reading Class	Mrs. Joanne Leahy	Room 23.	Mrs. Leahy	Front entrance by Old Ground/ Buses at shed.

**Please take note of the entrance, exit points and lining up area for your child.**

**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.**

**We also encourage Park and Stride from Glór carpark. Parking at Glór is available free of charge at school start and finish times and Glór is only a 5 minute walk from the school.**

**Parking/drop offs down Dunnes Lane is unsafe and not allowed.**

### **Medical/Care Plans.**

**A Reminder:**

Please inform Deputy Principal, Mrs. Antoinette Loftus of any medical conditions, care needs or allergies your child has in advance of beginning the new school year. She will be happy to work with you in creating a care plan for your child.

**You can email Antoinette at: [antoinette.loftus@hfss.ie](mailto:antoinette.loftus@hfss.ie)**



## Holy Family School Uniform.

The correct wearing of our school uniform is very important to us at HFSS and we are very proud of it, especially as you, the parents and our students, helped to review and inform our new uniform.

It consists of;

- The blue crested jumper that can be bought in McCanon's Shop, Market Place, Ennis.
- White polo shirt
- Navy tracksuit bottoms/navy 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.**



## School Meals



We are committed to healthy eating in HFSS. Please ensure you edit your child's order weekly on the Carambola App. (by Friday midnight).

There are so many delicious, healthy options to choose from. The App is simple and easy to use.

When the children return to school, hot lunches will be served daily. This is in keeping with the Government initiative to provide hot healthy lunches to all school children.

Please ensure you edit your App regularly otherwise the same lunch will be delivered each day.

Please continue to provide a bottle of water daily to your child.

If you are providing a home-made lunch, please see our suggestions below that are in line with our healthy eating policy at school.



## Here's what should go in a healthy lunchbox



Below options if NOT getting a school-provided lunch:

### Wholemeal cereals and breads, potatoes, pasta and rice

One portion from the bread and cereals group which would be...



- 2 thin slices of wholemeal bread
- 1 small bread roll
- 1 tortilla wrap
- 1 pitta bread
- 4 to 6 crackers or breadsticks
- 1 cup of cooked rice or pasta or couscous
- 1 small bagel

### Meat, poultry, fish, eggs, beans and nuts

One portion from the meat and meat alternatives food group...



- 2 slices of cooked meat
- 1 to 2 hardboiled eggs
- Small can of tuna, salmon, sardines or mackerel
- 4 tablespoons of hummus

### Vegetables, salad and fruit

At least one portion from the fruit and vegetables food group...



- 1 medium apple, orange, banana, pear or similar size fruit
- 2 small fruits - plums, kiwis or similar size fruit.
- Half a tin of fruit in its own juice
- Handful of dried fruit
- 1 small bunch of grapes
- Chopped vegetables, e.g. cucumber, carrot, celery

### Milk, yoghurt and cheese

One portion from the dairy products food group...



- 1 pot of yogurt or custard
- 2 cheese triangles
- 2 thumbs of cheese





## School Books and Supplies

School will provide your child with all textbooks, workbooks and copybooks for the new year ahead. You will, however have a list of school supplies to purchase. This list was sent home in the schoolbags in June and is also on our website [www.holyfamilyseniorschool.com](http://www.holyfamilyseniorschool.com) for each year group.

Please ensure your child has these items on their return to school and check their pencil case regularly during the year to ensure they have everything they need as these items are not provided in school.

Money for swimming, arts and crafts materials, school requisites etc. can be paid via Aladdin or directly at the office. We also have a Sumup machine to take card payments. Easy Pay Plans available on request.

This money (€50 per child) helps maintain and enhance the quality of education and facilities we provide.



## After-School Music Lessons and Sports Programme

We hope to again offer after-school music lessons in piano, drums, guitar, concertina and ukulele. We will be in touch in September advertising lessons.

Keep a close eye on Aladdin for notifications and for notes in the school bag. Lessons are offered on a first come,

first served basis and places fill up quickly. The time-table of Term 1 After-School Sports will be communicated to you via Aladdin and our website by the 2nd week back to school. Notifications re Swimming will happen in advance of your child's block of lessons via a letter sent home in the school bags.



## Aladdin Connect

Aladdin Connect is the main channel for communication, payments, reports, attendance updates and important information. Please ensure you have the app downloaded in advance of school reopening.

New families will receive an invitation email or text with a one-time code and instructions to download the app and activate your account. Lucy our secretary and Darryl/Orla our HSCL teachers are more than happy to help if you are having difficulties with the app.



## Holy Family Senior School Website

You will find all the information you need about our school on our school website

[www.holyfamilyseniorschool.com](http://www.holyfamilyseniorschool.com)

**Go and take a visit.**

- ◆ Newsletters
- ◆ Calendar
- ◆ School supplies lists
- ◆ After-school activities
- ◆ Enrolment forms

- ◆ Timetables
- ◆ Policies
- ◆ Booklists
- ◆ Links to other websites
- ◆ and much more.....

# Holy Family Senior School

## Calendar 2025 - 2026.



<b>Re-opening:</b>	<b>Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> August 2025</b>
<b>Mid-term break:</b>	<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025 inclusive</b>
<b>Christmas Holidays:</b> School closes on 19th Dec @12pm	<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026 inclusive</b>
<b>St. Brigid's Day Weekend:</b>	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026</b>
<b>Mid-term break:</b>	<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026 inclusive</b>
<b>School closure for teacher training in Primary Curriculum Framework Day 1</b>	<b>Friday 13th March 2026</b>
<b>St Patrick's Day Weekend:</b>	<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March to Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 inclusive</b>
<b>Easter Holidays:</b> School closes on 27th March @12pm	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026 inclusive</b>
<b>May Bank Holiday:</b>	<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026 inclusive</b>
<b>June Bank Holiday:</b>	<b>Monday 1st June 2026</b>
<b>School closure for teacher training in Primary Curriculum Framework Day 2</b>	<b>Friday 5th June 2026</b>
<b>Summer Holidays:</b> School closes @12pm	<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>

