



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 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 our new changes to access the school.

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 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.

Dunnes Gate Closed for Pupil and Parent Pedestrian Access

For health and safety reasons, the Boards of Management of Holy Family Schools have made the decision to close the Dunnes gate. This gate will no longer be open for pupil/parent pedestrian access to the school. It will be open for staff vehicle access only in the mornings and evenings. Please use Friars' Walk/ Station Road Entrances/ exits instead. We ask for your cooperation on this important safety matter.



No pedestrian access



Attendance

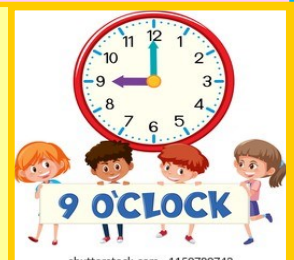
We cannot stress enough the importance of regular school attendance.

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, avoid term-time holidays 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. Please avoid early collections in so far as possible as they disrupt the day for your child.

By aiming to be on time every day, you are helping your child to start the day confidently and positively.



Year Group	New Teacher 26/27	Room	Previous Teacher (25/26)	Line up point
2 nd	Mr. Feargal Kearney	Cafeteria Classroom	Ms. Eustace/Ms. Hynes	Line up outside café classroom door
2 nd	Mrs. Sharon Crowley	Room 4	Ms. McNamara/ Ms. Hynes	Line up on yard outside Room 4
3 rd	Mr. Joe Ryan	Room 6.	Ms. Sweeney	Line up on yard outside Room 6
3 rd	Ms. Aisling Frawley	Room 2	Mr. Kearney	Line up on yard outside Room 2
3 rd	Ms. Máire O'Neill	Room 3	Mrs. Crowley	Line up on yard outside Room 3
4 th	Ms. Siobhán Commane	Room 13	Mr. Ryan	Line up outside the school reception window
4 th	Mr. Kevin Brennan	Room 1	Ms. O'Neill	Line up outside Room 1
4 th	Mr. Brian Cooney	Room 5	Ms. Frawley	Line up outside Room 5
5 th	Ms. Barbara Gill	Room 19	Mr. Brennan	Line up by garden gate at Dunnes Gate end of school
5 th	Ms. Rachelle Robbins	Room 20	Ms. Commane	Line up by garden gate at Dunnes Gate end of school
5 th	Ms. Brenda Ford	Room 18	Mr. Cooney	Line up by garden gate at Dunnes Gate end of school
6 th	Ms. Alannah Sweeney	Room 17	Ms. Finn	Line up by the Old Ground wall beside garden opposite reception door
6 th	Mr. Declan Bell	Room 16	Ms. Gill	Line up by the Old Ground wall beside garden opposite reception door
6 th	Ms. Sinead Finn	Room 15	Ms. Ford	Line up by the Old Ground wall beside garden opposite reception door
Autism Class	Mrs. Helen Whyatt	Room 10	Mrs. Whyatt	Children will be met from buses/taxis by the sheds
Reading Class	Mrs. Joanne Leahy	Room 23.	Mrs. Leahy	Children will be met from buses/taxis by the sheds/ go directly to mainstream class

From 27th August the gate at Dunnes Stores Lane will no longer be open for pupil/parent access to the school for health and safety reasons.

Access to and from Holy Family Senior School will be from Friar's Walk and Station Road only - both routes have pedestrian crossings and a lollipop person there for safety.

The main pedestrian gate in front of Holy Family Junior School Reception is open ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

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.

Medical and 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 medical plan and/or care plan for your child. Please email antoinette.loftus@hfss.ie or call the school office on 0656828893.



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 Manix Menswear, 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 as water is not provided at school.

If you are providing a home-made lunch, please ensure the contents are healthy and in line with our Healthy Eating Policy.



Holy Family Senior School Website

You will find all the information you need about our school on our school website. It is updated regularly and has all the information you need.

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.....



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 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. A letter re Swimming will be issued in advance of your child's block of lessons. Please check schoolbags for letters regularly.



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 our HSCL teacher are more than happy to help if you are having difficulties with the app.

No Mobile Phones Allowed at School

Holy Family Senior School has a strict mobile phone and internet enabled electronic devices policy which states that: **Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones,** ipads, ipods, smart watches, smart glasses and any device that has a camera and/or recording abilities or internet enabled electronic device into school. This policy is in place to ensure child safety in school.

Parents may make contact with their child through the school office phone.

We appreciate your support on this matter.



A Reminder:

Your child's class teacher is your first point of contact if something arises that you need to discuss. If you need to speak with him/her, please call the school office and we will be happy to arrange an appointment for you.

Holy Family Senior School Calendar 2026-2027



Re-opening:	Thursday 27 th August 2026
Staff Training Day	Friday 25th September 2026
Closures	Friday 16th October 2026
Halloween Break	Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October inclusive
Christmas Holidays	School closes Tuesday, 22nd December @ 12pm Wednesday 23rd December to Tuesday 5th January 2027 inclusive
St Brigid's Day Closure	Monday, 1st February 2027
February Mid-Term Break	Thursday 18th and Friday 19th February 2027
St Patrick's Day Closure	Wednesday 17th March 2027
Easter Holidays:	School closes on Friday 19th March @12pm Monday 22nd March to Friday 2nd April 2027 inclusive
May Bank Holiday:	Monday 3rd May to Friday 7th May 2027 inclusive
June Bank Holiday:	Monday 7th June 2027
Summer Holidays:	School closes Fri 25th June 2027@12pm

Please Note:

Our School Office will close between **1:15pm and 2pm** daily for this academic year. Please arrange and schedule your phone-calls, collections, drop-offs etc. for before 1:15pm and after 2pm.





Label Everything

Help keep our lost and found empty

Backpacks

Lunch Boxes

Water Bottles

Clothing

School Supplies

HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!

Be accountable

think positive

GIVE THANKS

courage counts

play nice work hard

stay kind find JOY

accept responsibility

TAKE OWNERSHIP

DREAM BIG

YOU'RE UNIQUE

IT'S OKAY

practice more

nobody's perfect

MAGIC HAPPENS

laugh loudly

IT'S OKAY

practice more

nobody's perfect

MAGIC HAPPENS

laugh loudly



TITLEMAX

“A new school year, a new chapter, a new adventure.”

Important Information re Opening and Closing Times of School Gates

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please see below opening and closing times of gates around our school campus:

- The Dunnes Stores pedestrian gate will **no longer be open for pupil /parent access** to the school for health and safety reasons.
- The main pedestrian gate in front of Holy Family Junior School reception is open ALL DAY, EVERY DAY.
- Our side gate (blue) at Friar's Walk, and pedestrian crossing gate on Station Rd (in front of HFJS/ Lollipop Man) will be open and closed as follows—see below:
- Late arrivals and early leavers during school time to use the main pedestrian front gate on Station Rd. for picking-up/ dropping off children.
- Please use pedestrian walkways and refrain from walking through car parks.

We thank you for your support on this matter.

The Principals of Holy Family Junior and Senior Schools

<u>Time</u>	<u>Gates</u>	
9:15am	Dunnes Gate	Permanently closed for pupil access HFSS Staff cars only
	Friar's Walk Gate	This gate will be closed at 9:15am. Please use main front gate on Station Rd in front of Junior School Reception.
	Pedestrian Crossing Gate Station Rd	This gate will be closed at 9:15am. Please use main front gate on Station Rd in front of Junior School Reception.
11:45am- 12:15pm	Dunnes Gate	Permanently closed for pupil access
	Friar's Walk Gate	Gates will be opened at 11:45am to allow collection from Ms. Grainne's Montessori and closed at 12:15pm
1.30pm – 2.00pm	Friar's Walk Gate	Gate will be opened at 1.30pm to allow collection of Junior and Senior Infants and closed again at 2:00pm
	Pedestrian Crossing Gate Station Rd	Gate will be opened at 1.30pm to allow collection of Junior and Senior Infant children.
2:30pm- 4:30pm	Dunnes Gate	Permanently closed for pupil access HFSS Staff cars only
	Friar's Walk Gate	Friar's Walk gate open at 2:30pm and close at 4:45pm