



Holy Family Junior School  
Station Road  
Ennis  
County Clare  
065 6829808  
Info.hfj@gmail.com

## Welcome back!

Welcome back to all the children, staff and parents for the start of a new school year. We welcome especially our new Junior Infant children and hope that everyone is settling in well and that we will all have a great year together! Junior Infants will continue to go home at 12.25 until Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September. By then they will be well able for the longer day and from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September they will finish at 1.45. They will be extremely tired for the month of September and will need to go to bed early!! They are settling in very well but if you have any worries, please feel free to speak with the teacher or the principal.

## Healthy Lunches and Green Schools



As part of our Green Schools' Initiative, we ask you to provide your child with a reusable lunch box and drink container. We discourage the use of tinfoil and Clingfilm as these products are not environmentally friendly. Children can recycle clean plastic and paper each day. They can compost fruit and vegetable waste at school, but any non recyclable waste will go home in your child's lunchbox.

We would like to remind you that we have a Healthy Lunch Policy in the school. Children are not allowed fizzy drinks, crisps, bars, sweets or gum. Thanks to a government initiative, we are able to provide the pupils with a healthy snack at **small break** each day.

*Feel free to speak with the principal if you have any*

## Personal Insurance and Medical Conditions

You have received information about personal insurance from the school's insurance company, Allianz. If you are interested, please return the form and money as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Phillips, Deputy Principal. If your child has any serious ongoing medical condition, please inform your class teacher **immediately**.

## Collection of children

The safety and welfare of our pupils is of the utmost importance. To ensure the safe handover of each child at home time, please fill in the collection form and return to the school by **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September**. If there are any changes regarding the collection of your child during the year, please let us know immediately. Your child will only be handed over to you or a named person on the collection sheet. Please send in a note or make a call if there is going to be someone different picking up your child. Thank you for your co-operation.



## Text-a-parent

You have received a letter, asking you to return the details of **one** mobile phone number for our text-a-parent messaging service. This will be used to send messages, reminders etc. to you. **It is also vitally important to have this up-to-date number in case of an emergency.**

### Labelling of uniforms

As all uniforms are the same, we would ask you to ensure that your child's **name is clearly marked on jackets, jumpers and cardigans**. They can become mixed up very easily!

### Attendance

Regular attendance is important for effective learning. If a child is absent from school you must inform the school in writing, on return to school. Students who are absent for 20 school days must, by law, be reported to the Education Welfare Board.

### Uniforms and tracksuits

Pupils are expected to wear their school uniform to school every day. Tracksuits are worn on the days that they have PE. Please check with your class teacher when PE days are.

### Home School Community Liaison Teachers

We welcome back our Home School Liaison Teachers, Barbara Buckley and Shane Griffin, who are looking forward to working with you over the coming year. You can arrange to meet with them at school or they can visit you in your home.

You will be invited to participate in lots of fun activities and to get involved with other parents on various projects. We also have a very active Parents Association and always welcome new members to the team. Barbara and Shane can be contacted at ~~096 4040696~~

***Please feel free to call into the office if you have any queries.***

### Walk to school on Wednesdays (WOW)

Three years ago, we began the very successful Walk to School on Wednesday (WOW) campaign as part of our Green Flag initiative.

How can you and your children become involved?

- **If you live close to the school, leave the car behind on Wednesday and walk to school!**
- **If not, park in a nearby car park and walk to school!**

### Walking On Wednesday (WOW)

- Is fun!
- It's great exercise!
- It saves petrol money!!
- It's environmentally friendly as it reduces emissions!
- It reduces traffic congestion!

**So...come along and Walk On Wednesday!!**

### Calendar for September

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September:** Closing date for ordering hurleys (first classes)

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September half day for Staff Meeting:** All children to be collected at 12.25