



Holy Family Junior School
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Christmas at Holy Family Junior School

Christmas celebrations have already started in Holy Family Junior School. Pupils are learning Christmas songs and poems. Their Christmas art and crafts are on display all over the school, creating a wonderful Christmas atmosphere.

Last week Mrs. Power and Fr. David led us in a lovely Christmas prayer service. This week children are listening to Christmas stories beside our Christmas tree, decorated with decorations made by the children themselves. Next week classes will visit Candy Cane Lane, a Winter Wonderland created by parents and pupils in our school garden. It will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to engage in a safe, COVID-friendly Christmas event with their class bubble.

We hope that Santa might even drop into the school grounds for a quick visit before the holidays! *If you do not wish your child to receive a present from Santa Claus, please inform the principal.*

Christmas Presents

As Christmas draws near, we are aware that sometimes families feel pressurised to give a present to the teacher. While we are very appreciative of your thoughtfulness, we would like you to know that there is no need for presents for staff members this year! Thank you for your co-operation.

Green Schools

We are now working on our seventh green flag, *Global Citizenship - Energy*, while also continuing the actions for all our other flags. This week two green elves were spotted in classrooms. The good green elf (Gloria) was making sure that we kept up our good practice as a Green School. The silly green elf (Glen), was causing trouble, throwing litter about and wasting energy. The elves may reappear in the lead up to Christmas, reminding pupils of how best to look after the environment. Chat to your child about the elves. They are enjoying the fun that the elves create!



A Message from our Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) Teachers

Hello everybody,

Thank you for your welcome, commitment and help during our first term as Home School teachers in Holy Family School. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to meet with you as much as usual due to the ongoing safety advice.

Hopefully this will begin to change soon, and we'll be back to arranging more fun filled activities and garden/doorstep visits in the new year. We do look forward to working together again.

Until then keep safe!

Marina (086 6040686) and Orla (086 1529211) are always available to chat on the phone with you. Please get in touch if you have any queries. They will be very happy to help you.

Supporting the Safe Provision of Schooling

Our school inspector visited the school on Thursday the 25th of November to conduct a *Supporting the Safe Provision of Schooling* (SSPS) inspection. The inspector was very happy with our approach to keeping our school safe and the caring, unified approach that helps us to look after the wellbeing of our whole school community.

Safe Collection of Children

Children should be dropped and collected to and from school each day by an adult who is over 18 years of age. Classroom doors open at 8.55am each day. Please wait with your child until the teacher welcomes him/her into the classroom. Likewise, please ensure that you, or a designated adult collects your child from his/her classroom door. The safety and welfare of our pupils is of the utmost importance. Thank you for your co-operation on this.



Cold Weather

As the weather gets colder pupils may wear their uniform, or tracksuit, or a combination of both to school. Children could also wear an extra layer or two under their uniform, if they feel cold. The school is centrally heated and we do our very best to ensure that the classrooms are warm but we must also keep windows open to ensure good ventilation throughout the school.

Antigen Testing

If your child tests positive for Covid 19, please let the school know. While we will not share any personal information relating to your child, we can help parents and guardians of other pupils in your child's class to access free antigen tests.

Aladdin Connect App

Thank you for downloading and using Aladdin Connect for school communication. Please check your app regularly for messages from the school. If you get a new phone, please download the app again and call into Ita at reception to receive a new activation code.

Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form

Please continue to fill in a **Return to Educational Facility Declaration Form** when your child returns to school after **any absence**. This form can be accessed by clicking - <https://holyfamilyjuniorschool.com/return-to-school-form/>

Calendar for remainder of term

Dress up in a Christmas jumper or wear some red and green (no need to buy anything new): Tuesday 21st December

€1 euro donation to the great work of our Parents' Council

Christmas Holidays: 12 o'clock Wednesday the 22nd of December

Back to school: Thursday the 6th of January 2021



To see our calendar for the school year 2021-2022 please click here: <https://holyfamilyjuniorschool.com/calendar/>

*We wish you all
a Happy and Safe Christmas!*

