



Holy Family Junior School  
Station Road  
Ennis  
County Clare  
065 6829808  
office@hfjs.ie



### An Invitation to hear some Christmas Songs at Holy Family Junior School



Christmas celebrations have already started in Holy Family Junior School. Pupils are learning Christmas songs and poems and they'd love you to come and hear them sing.

- Parents and guardians of **Junior Infant pupils** are invited to the hall to hear the children sing their songs at **1.15pm on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> December**.
- Parents and guardians of **Senior Infant pupils** are invited to the hall to hear the children sing their songs at **1.15pm on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> December**.
- Parents and guardians of **First Class pupils** are invited to the hall to hear the children sing their songs at **2.15pm on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> December**.

**On the day that your child is performing in the hall, he/she can wear colourful clothes, a winter hat or santa hat to school.** If you do not want your child to take part in our Christmas Recital please let his/her teacher know.

We ask you **NOT to take photos or videos during your child's performance** for GDPR reasons. We will share pictures of each concert on Face Book for you to enjoy. **Thank you in advance for your cooperation on this.**

### Other Christmas activities at school

The children's Christmas art and craft is on display all over the school, creating a wonderful Christmas atmosphere. They have really enjoyed working on the art and are very proud of it. Keep an eye on Facebook to see their work <https://www.facebook.com/hfssennis>. This week children are listening to Christmas stories beside the tree, decorated with decorations made by the children themselves.

Next week Mrs. Power will lead us in a lovely Christmas prayer service.

There will be other fun surprises happening at school before the holidays. We hope that Santa might even drop into the school grounds for a quick visit! ***If you do not wish your child to receive a present from Santa Claus, please inform the class teacher.***



### Christmas Annuals

Christmas Annuals for Junior Infant, Senior Infant and First classes are available to buy in our school now. The annuals are full of stories, puzzles, counting, matching and much more! The cost is €4. The annuals will be available up to the 13th of December.

### Advice on Winter Viral Infections

**If your child is unwell, the advice from the HSE is to keep him or her at home from school.**



### 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 eight green flag, *Global Citizenship - Marine*, while also continuing the actions for all our other flags. This week two green elves are visiting the classrooms. The good green elf (Gloria) is making sure that we kept up our good practice as a Green School. The silly green elf (Glen), is 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!



### Advice on Winter Viral Infections

If your child is unwell, the advice from the HSE is to keep him or her at home from school.



### Coming to School on time

The school day starts at 9am. Please try to take your child to school on time. Children are happier and more secure when they start the day at the same time as their classmates. It helps them to settle quickly and learn more. We understand that occasionally a child can be late. Please sign your child in at reception where they will be welcomed and dropped down to their classroom, reducing interruption to teaching and learning of the other children.

### Parking outside the School

When dropping and collecting children to and from school, please adhere to parking regulations and only park in a legal parking space. This ensures a smoother flow of traffic and improved safety for pedestrians and other vehicles on the roads around our school.



### News from Darryl and Orla (HSCL teachers)

*Our new Parent's Room is located at the back of the Café. The door is always open, and we are happy to help and support you whenever possible.*

### **Parent Courses**

- *Our Beauty & Make-Up course has ended. We would like to thank our wonderful tutor Joan for all her guidance.*
- *Both English classes are now full and run every week until the end of June. Please contact us if you would like to put your name on the reserve list.*
- *We have a team of wonderful parents that meet every Thursday morning for tea, a chat and some school related projects. At the moment we are busy creating Christmas tree decorations for a Christmas Tree festival. Thanks to Magda for all her artistic guidance.*
- *This Christmas we held a Wreath Making Workshop. 14 students joined their parents for this enriching experience.*

### **School Garden**

- Parents from both schools have been busy in the garden this Winter. We meet at garden gates at 9am every Tuesday morning.
- In January any parent that helps can invite their child from the classroom to help also.

### **Parent Association**

Thanks to all the parents for all their time in preparing for this week's Toy Sale. Don't forget to call into the school Hall this Friday between 8.30 and 9.30am or 1.30 - 3.30pm. We have a great selection of toys available for €1, €3, €5, and €8. Have a lovely Christmas, Darryl & Orla

### **Cold Weather**

As the weather gets colder pupils could also wear an extra layer or two under their uniform, if they feel cold. Please ensure that your child wears a coat to school everyday.



### **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.

### **Birthday parties and invitations Reminder**

Birthday parties are great fun and a very important celebration in your child's life. However, we are not in a position here at school to distribute birthday invitations or to share out cakes and sweets on your child's birthday. While your generosity is much appreciated, parties are best celebrated outside school time. Don't worry though! We will ensure that your child's birthday is celebrated in a school friendly way!

### **Calendar for remainder of term**

**Dress up in a Christmas jumper or wear some red and green (no need to buy anything new): Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023.**

**Christmas Holidays: 12 o'clock Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December 2023**

**Back to school: Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2024**

To see our calendar for the school year 2023-2024 please click here:

<https://holyfamilyjuniorschool.com/calendar/>



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

