



SEPTEMBER 2024



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

Settling back to school

We are very proud of all the children. They are settling into their school routine extremely well. It is lovely to meet you all in the mornings on the yard and to greet your lovely children as they start a new school day. Thank you for ensuring that your child is at school every day and that he/she is dropped and collected on time. Your efforts with this are greatly appreciated.

MMR and 4 in 1 Vaccinations Forms

MMR and 4 in 1 Vaccination forms will be handed out to Junior Infant and new pupils in other classes next week. Please return these forms by Friday the 20th September 2024.

Home Time for Junior Infants

Junior Infants will start their longer school day from this Monday the 16th of September. All Junior and Senior Infant pupils should be collected at 1.45pm.

School Supplies

Please ensure that you have bought the required school supplies for your child as he/she will be using them everyday at school. A list for each year group can be found here: <https://holyfamilyjuniorschool.com/book-lists/#2024-25-book-lists-school-supplies>

Arts and Craft Money

Thank you to those who have already paid €40 for art and ICT expenses. If you are having difficulty paying it on Aladdin, please contact Ita at reception.

Nut Free School

Some pupils in our school have a severe allergic reaction to nuts. To minimise risk to these children, Holy Family Junior School is now a NUT FREE SCHOOL. This means nuts, seeds, bars containing nuts or seeds, nutella and peanut butter are not allowed at school.

Healthy food at School

Snacks and lunches are provided for your child at school. Junior Infants will also receive a school lunch from this Monday the 16th of September. Please log in to Carambola regularly to change your child's menu so that he/she doesn't tire of the same food each day. Children are not allowed to have fizzy drinks, crisps, bars, sweets, or gum at school.

Use of pedestrian entrances



Our school campus is very busy with cars, buses and people coming and going all the time. Safety is always our main priority. Thank you for using **only** the pedestrian entrances and walkways.

Park and Stride

You can now **PARK AND STRIDE** every day to and from school by parking your car in the GLÓR car park for 30 minutes free of charge, while you accompany the children to school.



Safe Routes to School

Reminder: Works on a new School Zone along Friars Walk will begin on **Monday 9th of September**. This will result in **some disruption along Friars Walk**. Traffic Management will be in place when required. This may involve the operation of a one-way system on Friars Walk. When this is in operation, traffic will move in the direction of Dunnea Stores only, access will not be possible from Friars Walk onto Station Road/Old Gaol Rd. The scheme will have an approx. works programme of 5 – 6 weeks.

Safe 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, 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. If there are any changes regarding the collection of your child during the year, please let us know immediately. Thank you for your co-operation. **Children must be dropped to school and collected by an adult who is over 18 years of age.**

Early Collection of Children

To ensure the safety of all our pupils, when you need to collect your child from school before home time, we ask you to:

1. If possible, inform the teacher that morning that you are collecting your child early.
2. When you come to collect your child, please go to reception. Your child will be brought to you.
3. Sign your child out in our sign out book. This will be in reception.
4. On your return, please bring your child back to reception. Please sign the book again.
5. He/she will be taken back to class.

Rainy days

As Autumn moves in, please ensure that your child has a coat when coming to school, as he/she may need it while playing outside. Also, please be aware that children are welcomed into school at 9am each morning. On a morning that it is raining try to arrive at this time so that you don't get wet waiting in the rain.



Pupil Personal Accident Insurance

If you wish, you can still avail of Pupil Personal Accident Insurance for your child. The cost of €9 insures your child 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, while €6 insures your child for school activities only. Just fill in the form and send it into your child's class teacher with the money.

Maths at Home

Each month we will send you home a sheet of 'Maths at Home' ideas for you to share with your child. This is a fun and practical way for your child to learn more about Maths in everyday life.

Frasaí na Seachtaine

Each month we will also share with you some simple Irish phrases that your child is learning at school. You could practice them together or use one or two each day with you child.

A message from our Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) Teachers Darryl and Orla



Hello everybody! Welcome back!

Parent Association Meeting:

Our first Parent's association of the school year meeting takes place on Friday September the 13th in the Parent's Room. Parents show their children that they, the Parents, are interested not only in their academic progress at school but in their development as well. Parents will know more about the school, the teachers, and any extracurricular activities that are taking place. All parents are welcome to attend.

Gardening:

Our garden is a space we take great pride in. We meet every Tuesday morning from 9 – 10am. New faces always welcome.

'English for Beginners':

We will be soon starting an 'English for Beginners' course. This will take place in the Parent's Room. We will release more information regarding this course in the near future.

The Parent's room is located next to the canteen. If you need any support please call in to say hello. You will also find us on the yard every day before and after school.

Kind regards,
Darryl (086 6040686) & Orla (086 6040686) - here to support the parents

Aladdin Connect



We use the Aladdin Connect app to communicate with you about what is happening at school. If you are having difficulty in downloading the app or validating it on your phone or other device, please ask Ita, our school secretary.

G.A.A. Football Skills



Next week First Class pupils started G.A.A. football training on Tuesdays with coach Gerry Fox. A big thank you to coach Gerry for his dedication to our pupils.

Birthday parties and invitations

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 – September and October

Staff meeting	Tuesday October 1 st	Half Day – children to be collected at 12.30pm
Midterm Break	Monday 28th October 2024 to Friday 1st November 2024 inclusive	School closed

To see our calendar for the school year 2024-2025 please click here: <https://holyfamilyjuniorschool.com/calendar/>