



# NOVEMBER 2024

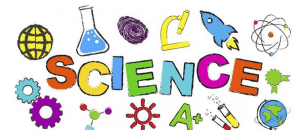


Holy Family Junior School  
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*How quickly the year is passing by. The children have settled back to school so well after the mid-term break and are fully engaging in all the wonderful learning experiences prepared and organised for them. Parents and guardians, you are so supportive in this process by bringing your child to school every day, by helping him/her out with homework and by engaging so positively with school staff. Thanks to those of you who have been working with us on Maths trails, our Halloween pumpkin competition, and by your attendance at classes and courses. Children do better at school when they see the adults in their lives engaging positively in their education. Ms. Lowe*

### Science Week

This week is Science Week. In addition to the wonderful Science learning that the children experience throughout the year, pupils will enjoy fun filled experiments this week, inspiring them to be active learners, creative thinkers, and problem solvers.



### Sensory and Movement Fun in Holy Family Junior School


We are delighted to let you know our main school corridor and central area in Scoil na nOg have been transformed into a fun-filled sensory and movement zone for all our pupils. A sincere thank you to the support of the Social & Cultural Fund from St Francis Credit Union, Ennis, in enabling this to happen.

### Pompoms in the jar!



From Monday 18th November for two weeks, we will be promoting attendance. Each day your child is in school they will get a pompom and put it in a jar. When the jar is full the children will get a treat! Our hope is that every child (who is well!) will come to school, get a pom pom and fill the jar!

### New Gates and Railings

 As you will have noticed, new railings and gates have been installed around the campus, to further improve safety for our children at school. 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. **Please do not walk through the car park behind the Junior School.**

### Safety of Children



REMINDER: Children must be dropped and collected to and from school each day by you or an **adult who is over 18 years of age**, nominated by you and listed on our class collection sheet.

### Our School Uniform

The children look so smart in our school uniform. Thank you for ensuring that they wear a clean navy tracksuit bottom (not leggings), a blue top with crest and a white polo shirt to school every day.



### Reminder- No Nuts at School



As you know, some pupils in our school have a severe allergic reaction to nuts. To minimise risk to these children, nuts, seeds, bars containing nuts or seeds, nutella and peanut butter are not allowed at school.

### Fun Fridays

Everyday in school is a fun day. For the month of November, our Fridays will be extra fun. We look forward to creating an extra special day on Fridays with your child.



### Safe Routes to School



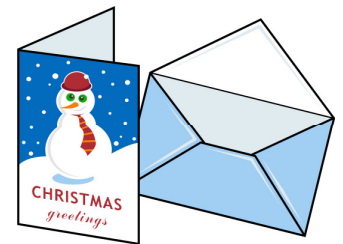
The Friar's Walk safe routes to school road works is almost complete. Clare County Council has notified us that the Friar's Walk pedestrian entrance can be reopened again from Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

### Child Protection Annual Review

We will have an annual review of our Child Safeguarding Statement at our next Board of Management meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024. As part of this review, we like to hear what parents and guardians think about child safety too. Please click on this link <https://forms.office.com/e/Sqv6HHYSSm> to participate in a parent/guardian child safeguarding questionnaire. There will be a notifications on our website to inform you when the review has been completed and you will be able to read the updated Child Safeguarding Statement at: <https://holymfamilyjuniorschool.com/resources-policies/#school-policies>. If you have any queries, please contact the principal.

### Design a Card

Our special holiday fundraising initiative in partnership with Design A Card is coming soon! The participating children have designed their own Christmas card, which will be professionally printed and made available for families to order and purchase from the week of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November. These beautiful cards can then be sent to loved ones this Christmas season. It has been a wonderful way for the children to express their creativity and purchase of the cards will support the school.



### Late Late Toy Show



The annual Late Late Toy Show takes place on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 9.30pm on RTE television. In preparation for the boys and girls watching the toy show on that Friday evening (or over the weekend on the player, if the 9.30pm show is too late), we invite the children to dress up in a Christmas jumper or wear some red and green (no need to buy anything new) to school that day.

### Junior Infant Parent Teacher Meetings

Junior Infant parent teacher meetings will take place from the 25<sup>th</sup> November – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Teachers of Junior Infant pupils will be contacting parents to arrange a time. Parent teacher meetings for other classes will take place in term two.

### Talking to Teacher

If you have a worry or concern about your child at school, please arrange to speak to his/her class teacher or Special Education Teacher. You can do this by asking the teacher at the door for an appointment, or you can call to Ita at reception, and she will organise a meeting time for you and the teacher.



### School Lunches from Carambola

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. If you are having any difficulty logging on to your personal account to up-date their lunch weekly please get in touch with **ITA AT RECEPTION**. She is more than happy to help you. Otherwise, you can contact a member of the Carambola Team at 061 500 200 ext 1. Reminder: Holy Family Junior School has a healthy lunch policy. Children are not allowed to have fizzy drinks, crisps, bars, sweets or gum at school.

### Rainy days

As Winter moves in, please ensure that your child has a coat when coming to school, as he/she will need it while playing outside. Also, please be aware that children are welcomed by their teachers into the school from 9.00am 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.

### Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) Teachers

Darryl (086 6040686) and Orla (086 1529211), our HSCL teachers, are always available to chat with and to support parents and guardians. Please get in touch if you have any queries. They will be very happy to help you.



### Holy Family School Garden Allotments

Would you like your own garden patch in our school? Are you interested in gardening? We are looking for parents/guardians who are interested gardeners, to maintain a garden bed in our school garden. First come, first served. Please contact Orla on 086 1529211 or Ita at reception for more information.

### Parents' Association Meeting

The next parents' association meeting will take place this Thursday, the 14<sup>th</sup> of November at 9am in the parents' room.

### Calendar – Term 1



General Election	<b><u>Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024</u></b>	<b><u>School closed</u></b>
Christmas Holidays	Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025 inclusive	School closing on Friday the 20 <sup>th</sup> December at 12pm. School reopening on Monday the 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025.
To see our calendar for the school year 2024-2025 please click here: <a href="https://holyfamilyjuniorschool.com/calendar/">https://holyfamilyjuniorschool.com/calendar/</a>		