

December 2024

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 **9:30am on Wednesday the 11th December**.
-  Parents and guardians of **Senior Infant pupils** are invited to the hall to hear the children sing their songs at **9:30am on Tuesday the 10th December**.
-  Parents and guardians of **First Class pupils** are invited to the hall to hear the children sing their songs at **2.15pm on Tuesday the 10th 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 share photos or videos on social media of your child's performance for GDPR reasons.** We will share pictures of each concert on Facebook for you to enjoy. **Thank you in advance for your co-operation 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.



Late Late Toy Show



The annual Late Late Toy Show takes place this Friday the 6th 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. **You are welcome to donate €1 to Holy Family Schools Parents' Association.**

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

As part of our Green Schools programme, two green elves visit the classrooms during the month of December. 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 learning from the elves will be to remind pupils of how best to look after the environment. Chat to your child about the elves. They enjoy 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.



News from Darryl and Orla (HSCL teachers)

Our 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

- **Jewellery Class** – Thursday 12th December 2024 9am – 11.30am. Please contact Darryl (086 6040686) or Orla (086 1529211) to reserve a place, as places are limited.

School Garden

- **There are five allotments still available.** 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 Darryl (086 6040686) or Orla (086 1529211).



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.

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 20th December 2024.

Christmas Holidays: 12 o'clock Friday the 20th of December 2024

Back to school: Monday the 6th of January 2025

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



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

