

MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER

Holy Family Junior School
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Book Week

We are celebrating Book Week this week, with lots of different fun activities to encourage our pupils to enjoy books. We would ask that you make a special effort with reading at home so together we can foster a lifelong love of books. Thursday the 6th of March is World Book Day. The children can dress up coming to school as their favourite book character and bring a favourite book to school. Some other planned activities for Book Week included:

- Reading lots and lots of great stories
- A Book Quiz based on the big books and fairy tales that the children have been reading in class
- Designing a bookmark or designing/redesigning a book cover
- A visit from book author Claire Keating
- Book Fair
- and more...



Keep an eye on Facebook and our school website to see what we got up to!

Come to our Book Fair!

Where? Reception in Holy Family Junior School.

When? March 5th -11th

Opening times:

	8.50pm - 9.15pm	1.35pm -2.00pm	2.35pm -3.00pm
Wednesday March 5th	_____	✓	✓
Thursday March 6th	✓	✓	✓
Friday March 7th	✓	✓	✓
Monday March 10th	✓	✓	✓
Tuesday March 11th	✓	✓	✓



We need parent volunteers to help us with the book fair. If you are available at the any of the times above please get in touch with Darryl (086 6040686) or Orla (086 1529211), our HSCL teachers, if you are available.

Headlice

We have had some cases of headlice in the school in recent weeks. Anyone can get headlice but it is particularly easy for young children to catch them as they spread by direct head to head contact. **Please regularly check all family member's hair.** Lotions and shampoos to treat headlice are available at your local pharmacy. Headlice is a community problem. It is nothing to be embarrassed about. We can all help to keep head lice under control. For more information click here: <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/head-lice-nits/>

Seachtain na Gaeilge

We will celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge from the 10th to the 14th of March. During this time we will all try our best to speak lots of Irish. Please make an extra special effort to help your child with Frásaí na Seachtaine. If you need any help with the phrases, feel free to ask the principal or Home School Liaison Teacher in the yard in the morning!



On **Friday 14th March**, we will have a Lá Glas (**Green Day**), when we will celebrate being Irish. The children can dress in anything green on that day. **There is no need to buy anything new!!!** If you don't have something green at home, please let us know. We have plenty of green hats etc. On that day, we are asking parents to donate €1 to help to buy resources for the school.

A special text will be sent to you about Seachtain na Gaeilge at the end of this week.

Absences from School

If your child misses time from school, please record the reason for his or her absence through our Aladdin Connect app. Thank you for bringing your child to school every day (except when he or she is sick). Regular attendance helps children to be more secure and happy at school.

School Uniform

A gentle reminder: Pupils should wear their school uniform to school every day. The uniform consists of

- a navy tracksuit bottoms
- a blue tracksuit top with crest
- a white polo shirt

Black or Navy leggings are not part of the school uniform and are not to be worn.



Green Schools

WALK ON WEDNESDAYS

We have re-commenced our WALK on WEDNESDAY initiative. On Wednesdays we will be encouraging the children to walk some or all the way to school. A Golden Boot will be awarded to the class who makes the most effort each week.



Home – School Links

Valentines Day Cake Sale

We are delighted to say we raised a whopping €845 at our Cake Sale on Valentine's morning! We hope to use some of this money raised for Garden Play Equipment. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who baked, bought or donated cakes – We hope you enjoyed them. A special word of thanks to the parents who helped out this morning. We cannot fundraise without your help.

English Classes

Fun English classes take place every Wednesday in the Parent's Room beside the café. New parents always welcome. Tea and coffee will be served as we focus on simple conversation through English.

Call in at 9.00am to say hello.



Garden & Parents

Many parents have taken a plot in our school garden. They take full control over their garden patch and are preparing for spring. Our gardening expert Veerle will join us every Tuesday morning at 9am to help the team. The weather is improving and we still have allotments for any of you that would like a nice activity of a Tuesday morning

Guided Tour of Ennis

In February our Parent Association arranged a guided tour of the beautiful town of Ennis. We had lots of fun and learned a lot about the local history.

We will organise another Friday adventure in April and then again in June.

Please contact Darryl or Orla if you would like to join us.

Latin Dance Class

Last Friday morning the Parent Association ran an amazing Latin Dance class. This was fun, active and enjoyable for all. It went so well we are exploring the option of running it on a regular basis.

Parenting Plus Program

This 6 week course will start after the Easter Holidays. This course will help you

- develop good attachments and relationships with your children
- understand and manage tantrums and meltdowns
- build your children's communication and learning
- problem-solve challenges as they arise
- reduce your own stress as parents
- promote your children's self-esteem and well-being
- establish positive daily routines for your family

More details to follow.

Feel free to come along and help at any of our events. If you would like to add your name to our list of volunteers please email darryl.eade@hfss.ie or orla.gannon@hfss.ie.

Calendar for Term 2



Staff meeting	Tuesday 4 th March 2025	Half day for pupils at 12.30pm
St Patrick's Day Weekend	Monday 17 th March to Tuesday 18 th 2025 inclusive	School closed
Bí Cinealta (Be Kind) Staff Training Day (Preventing and addressing bullying behaviour)	Friday 4 th April 2025	Half day for pupils at 12.00pm
Easter Holidays	Monday 14 th April to Friday 25 th April 2025 inclusive	School closed at 12pm on Friday 11 th April
New Primary Maths Curriculum Training Day for staff	Monday 28 th April 2025	School closed

Term 3

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