

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



HOLY FAMILY
NATIONAL SCHOOL

MARCH
2024

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we settle in to the month of March we look forward to the brighter evenings and warmer weather to come. We have been very busy here in Holy Family NS. Our school is a hive of activity both during school hours and with the numerous after-school activities we have on offer. We are currently involved in a number of initiatives, some of which are detailed below. We also have had a number of new additions to our staff team which is included in this newsletter for your information.

Junior Infants - September 2024

Our enrolment for September 2024 is now closed and we are oversubscribed. Letters have gone out to pupils who are being offered a place this year. Please ensure that the full enrolment form is completed and returned to the school by March 22nd 2024. Places will be allocated to pupils on our waiting list if forms are not back by the closing date. If there are any queries in relation to this please do not hesitate to contact us on (066) 7124161.

AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Our after-schools programme is jam-packed this term! Huge thank you to all the staff who are so giving of their free-time to ensure our pupils get to experience so many different activities after the school day.



Creative Schools Initiative

We were delighted to be selected for the Creative Schools Programme. Huge thank you to Ms. Culloty who is our co-ordinator and is working closely with the Arts Council to put together a superb programme of events involving all pupils from Junior Infants – 6th Class. We started with Irish dancing lessons last week!



Towards Inclusion Pilot Project

We have linked up with St. Ita's & St. Joseph's Special School to take part in a national project. We were one of 20 schools selected for the Towards Inclusion Pilot Project which involves team-teaching between 5 teachers in both schools to support collaborative projects in art, design and woodwork. The purpose of this project is to establish closer links between the mainstream and special school system in Ireland. We are delighted to be linked with St. Ita's & St. Joseph's with the pupils of 4th class along with Ms. Culloty and Mr. O'Sullivan representing Holy Family NS.



Tesco Community Fund

Tesco customers were very busy wracking up a sizable total of blue tokens to help raise funds for our school. We raised a total of €996 which will go towards equipment for our school. Many thanks to all our parents and the wider community who supported this.



Upcoming Events

- 8th March–Election–School Closed.
- FAI Schools Primary 5's - 13th March
- Book Fair 13th – 20th March.
- Confirmation 14th March at 1pm in St. Brendan's Church.
- Bank Holiday - 18th March–School Closed.
- Easter Holidays - 25th March - 8th April.

Ms. Bhreathnach and the Student Council were extremely busy in the build-up to Valentine's Day. They ran a hugely successful Secret Valentine's fundraiser which raised €580. The Student Council has decided this money will go towards PE equipment for our school. We hope you all enjoyed the beautiful cupcakes!



OUR SCHOOL STAFF

We have had a number of changes to our school staff in the past few years. Please see below for details of all our mainstream class teachers, special needs assistants and special education teachers.

Special Education Teachers

Mrs. Shivaun Morrissey
Ms. Sarah Breen
Mr. Tommy Lyons
Mrs. Máiréad Mawe
Mr. Conor Shannon
Ms. Nicole Chekall
Mr. Pádraig Ó Conchúir
Mr. Anthony O'Sullivan
Mrs. Ciara Kelly
Mrs. Alice Carmody

Special Needs Assistants

Claire Walsh
Denise McGrath
Mary Kerins
Tina Lonergan
Caitriona Chester
Elsie Malova
Susie Moore
Nicola Crean
Anne-Marie Allen

Classroom Teachers

Ms. Clodagh Sheehan – Junior Infants
Ms. Treasa Murphy – Junior Infants
Mrs. Phil Moriarty – Senior Infants
Ms. Muireann McCarthy – Senior Infants
Ms. Emma Smith – 1st Class
Ms. Katie Crowe – 2nd Class
Ms. Kate O'Donnell – 3rd Class
Ms. Róisín Cronin – 3rd Class
Ms. Sinéad Bhreathnach – 4th Class
Ms. Claire Culloty – 4th Class
Ms. Aileen Twomey – 5th Class
Mr. Pádraig Griffin – 5th Class
Mr. Liam Moloney – 6th Class
Mrs. Claire Dempsey – 6th Class

School Management Team

Maria O'Regan – Principal
Ciara Kelly – Deputy Principal
Ciara Culloty – Assistant Principal
Phil Moriarty – Assistant Principal
Alice Carmody – Assistant principal
Anthony O'Sullivan – Assistant Principal
Pádraig Ó Conchúir – Assistant Principal

Ms. Ciara Culloty – HSCL – (089) 4678544



IMPORTANT



Morning Supervision: The school yard is open to receive pupils at 8:45am. No responsibility is accepted for pupils arriving before this time. School finishes at 2:40pm each day. Parents who wish to have their children escorted home should make their own arrangements to have them met at the school gate and the person to escort them should be at the school not later than 2:40pm as the school cannot accept responsibility for looking after the children after this time.

Car Park: Please note that parents are not permitted to enter the school car park under any circumstances. Our car park is already over-flowing and we have serious insurance concerns over a non-staff member entering our car park. If you need to collect a child during the school day please park outside the school gate.

Our 4th Class pupils are currently working on a drama performance with Mary Quirke, our Creative Associate. 'The Poached Eggs' is an original drama written by Mary herself. It is an Easter story about stolen Easter eggs featuring many well known characters from books and films.

We hope to perform 'The Poached Eggs' for parents in our school hall on Wednesday 20th March. Class teachers will be in touch with further details

Accelerated Reader

Our school has started the Accelerated Reader programme which is designed to encourage young readers to read more frequently and to establish lifelong patterns of daily reading.



CHESS

Huge well done to our chess team who represented our school so well at the Ficheall tournament which was held recently. *Ficheall* is the Irish word for Chess. The purpose of this tournament is to promote the playing of chess in schools for the social and cognitive benefits it has for pupils. Ms. O'Donnell and Mr. Griffin have been extremely busy over the past few months teaching our pupils how to play the game. This was our first time entering this tournament and we hope to make it an annual event.

Credit Union Quiz

We had two teams representing our school in the Credit Union Quiz which was held in Munster Technological University recently. Ms. Bhreathnach and Mr. Griffin prepared the pupils so well with regular lunch-time practices.



www.hfstralee.com

Instagram [hfstralee_](https://www.instagram.com/hfstralee_)



Holy Family School Tralee