

**Important Dates: Midterm break:** Monday 21st - Friday 25th February, 2022 inclusive.

School reopens on Monday 28th February @ 9 am.

**St. Patrick's Day & Bank Holiday:** School Closed on Thursday March 17th and Friday 18th March, 2022.

**Easter Holidays:** School will close on Friday 8th April, 2022 @ 12 noon. School will reopen on Monday 25th April, 2022 @ 9 am.

**Bank Holiday:** Monday 2nd May, 2022. School closed.

**Bank Holiday:** Monday 6th June, 2022. School closed.

**Summer Holidays:** Thursday 30th June @ 12 noon.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation for 2nd Class Children:** Tuesday 8th March at 6 pm in the Cathedral.

**Ceremony of Light for 6th Class Students:**

Tuesday 29th March at 8.15 pm in the Cathedral.

**Confirmation Date:** Friday 1st April, 2022.



**HOLY FAMILY SENIOR SCHOOL**

February 2022

[www.hfss.org](http://www.hfss.org)

Principal - Sarah Barnes

**Contact details:**

School email: [info@hfss.ie](mailto:info@hfss.ie)

School phones : (086 4167518

(065 )6828893

**HSCL - Marina Mulqueen or Orla Gannon - 0866040686**

Click on the website regularly to find out what is happening in-school.

[www.facebook.com/hfssennis](http://www.facebook.com/hfssennis)



**HSCL** Hello everybody! Spring is here and our Tuesdays in the garden are busier than ever.

It is lovely to see parents and guardians on the Tuesdays (9 to 10 am) as we make the final preparations so that the beds are ready for planting by the children! English classes continue at the moment. We hope that we'll have lots more classes very soon.

After the midterm we'll be in touch to ask you about courses/activities that you might be interested in. The Parents Association plan to have a meeting in early March. They also hope to organise some fun activities too. Keep an eye out on Aladdin for further details. In the meantime, see you on the yard, morning and evening. Marina and Orla.



## Creative Schools.

The 3rd class pupils in Mr. Ryan's and Mr. Brennan's class have been busy working with Ana Colomer (Artist) since December with the Creative Schools Project. Creative Schools is a flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme to enable the creative potential of every child. To date we have made creative posters so the school community are aware of our involvement in the project. We have also established a Creative Schools Committee to help guide our future workshops. On Ana's most recent visit the children envisaged themselves in their grown up selves and created puppets to relocate this. We then had a zoom puppet show presenting our puppets to the other classes. It was mighty fun. We are looking forward to Ana's next visit already.



## Sacraments 2022.

*Details of our upcoming Sacraments for our 2nd and 6th class children are below. Further details will be issued closer to the dates*

- **Sacrament of Reconciliation for 2nd class children** Tuesday 8th March @ 6pm in the Cathedral. For this ceremony children will sit with their family in the church and wear their school uniform.
- **Ceremony of Light for 6th class children**, Tuesday 29th March @ 8:15pm in the Cathedral. Children will sit with their family in the church. Children to wear school uniform. Bring baptismal candle.
- **Confirmation for 6th class children**, Friday 1st April @ 11am in the Cathedral. Children to wear school uniform and Confirmation Name Card. Children sit with their sponsor in the church. A pew will be assigned for all other family members attending.
- **First Holy Communion for 2nd class children**, Saturday 21st May @ 11am in the Cathedral. Girls to wear white dress; Boys to wear uniform with white shirt or their own clothes (smart casual/suit). Children will sit with their classmates in assigned seats and family members attending will be assigned a pew.



**Badminton.** Every morning the 6<sup>th</sup> class badminton team are working the courts. All their hard work will be put to the test over the next few weeks as they compete on many different fronts. This Saturday, eight of our top players will play in the Clare Under 15 championships in Gurteen. We wish them all the best!

On Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 16 of our students hope to travel to Baldoyle, Dublin, where they will take part in the National Primary Schools Tournament. Towards the end of March, 24 badminton players from the senior classes will also play in the Ennis Primary Schools finals held in the Ennis National School. Exciting times for all the Holy Family!



**Music News:** Limited slots have become available in our after-school music tuition programme. These lessons are open to children from 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class and cost €5 per lesson payable via Aladdin/directly to Lucy in the office on a weekly basis. If you would like your child to avail of a lesson, please email [jillian.bridge@hfss.ie](mailto:jillian.bridge@hfss.ie) with your child's name, class, instrument and a time slot that would suit. Places are very limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis.

**Piano with Karine** Tues 3:45 - 4:15

**Concertina with Fiana** Tues 3:15 - 3:45

**Drums with Graham** Tues 3:45 - 4:15



### IT Update:

Due to sourcing of extra grants and saving of income over a number of years we have been very fortunate in Holy Family Senior School to be able to upgrade our IT equipment throughout the school. The upstairs classrooms were all fitted with new Clevertouch interactive panels and a new PC. The downstairs classrooms will be upgraded with the same equipment over this midterm break in February. We have also purchased 30 laptops which are being used in a variety of ways to enhance teaching and learning in our school. Pupils are engaging in a number of educational programmes and fun activities online. Last week was Safer Internet Week. Children had the opportunity in every classroom to learn about how to stay safe online.



**Webwise - Internet Safety.** Webwise offer free information, advice and resources to help parents, teachers and students address internet safety issues. [www.webwise.ie](http://www.webwise.ie)



### Sports Update February 2022:

Since returning in January, there has been a massive uptake in afterschool's activities with up to 90 students attending each week. The children are really enjoying their Gaelic Football, Basketball and Badminton sessions with the volunteering teachers. In addition, we have great support from our visiting coaches Cian, Gerry, Ollie (GAA & Fundamental Movements) and Ben (Tag Rugby). With the possible easing of restrictions in the coming weeks, we are hopeful of sports competitions returning and look forward to organising different school teams. Finally, this is the time of year when a lot of sports clubs return to action. If your child(ren) are interested in joining a local sports team, please contact your class teacher for details and we will try to help. We would love for as many of our active after-school's students to be part of clubs and teams as these are a great way to make new friends and learn new skills.

### Band:

The school Trad band has resumed this term. We were delighted to welcome our new band members in January. This year's band plays a range of instruments: tin whistle, violin, concertina, guitar and keyboard. We have learnt two new tunes already and are looking forward to some exciting performances in the future.



### Whole School Science Interactive workshop:

HFSS are delighted to announce that all the boys and girls in the classes will be taking part in a very exciting, 2 day Science interactive workshop after the Midterm break. Exploration Dome is a mobile, interactive science workshop that invites children to join them within their mobile Planetarium dome, where they will be introduced to the amazing world of Astronomy. Each class will be part of a 30-minute interactive show inside the planetarium, where the students have the opportunity to ask questions and enjoy an alternative approach to studying Science. Further details to follow soon.

