

Holy Family Senior School

January 2016.

www.hfss.org

Check the website regularly to find out what is happening in school.



Important Dates:

Do This in Memory Mass for 1st. Holy Communion Children & Parents: Saturday January 23rd @ 6:30 pm in the Cathedral.
Parent/Teacher Meetings: Monday 15th February from 3:00 - 5 pm & Tuesday February 16th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.
Mid term Break: Thursday & Friday 18th & 19th February, 2016. School Closed.
Wednesday, March 16th.: School closes @ 12 noon.
Thursday, March 17th: St. Patrick's Day. School Closed.
Easter Holidays: Friday, 18th March - Friday, April 1st. inclusive. School reopens on Monday April 4th. at 9 am.
Ceremony of Light for Confirmation: Tuesday 12th April @ 6 pm in the Cathedral.
Confirmation: Saturday 16th April, 2016 at 11am in the Cathedral.
Confession for Communion Children: Wednesday April 27th @ 6 pm in the Cathedral.
Communion: Saturday, May 21st. @ 11 am in the Cathedral.
Midterm 3rd Term: 2nd-6th May, 2016 inclusive. School closed.
Bank Holiday: School closed on Friday 3rd & Monday 6th. June, 2016.
Summer Holidays: Thursday 30th June, 2016 @ 12 noon.

Home School Liaison

Firstly can we begin by wishing you all a very happy New Year. This new year will hopefully bring lots of joy and happiness, but it may also provide you with many obstacles and difficulties. With this in mind please know that we, the HSCL teachers, are available to you to offer support if needed.

Here in the **Parents' Room** we will be continuing with our classes. Cookery Class will start on Thursday 28th January from 9-11am. This is a very popular class as it focuses on dishes from around the world.

Our English Classes are continuing this term. One of our classes has made great progress at Level 1 and are now moving on to Level 2. We have another beginner's class which is on every Tuesday in the Parents' Room (located in the Senior School) from 9-11am. This is a wonderful opportunity to improve your English and to be in a better position to help your child as they progress through the school. I encourage you to try these classes. There is always something new to learn and most importantly, your children will thank you for it later.

Just to remind parents of **6th class pupils that the deadline for applications to Post Primary Schools is January 22nd**. We would encourage parents to apply to all schools as you are not guaranteed to get the school of your choice. If any parent needs support in the application process please do not hesitate to contact us or call into the Parents Room any morning.

We look forward to working with you all throughout the year and again if you would like to set up a meeting with us or discuss anything with us please do not hesitate to contact us on the number below.

Breege Hamel & Stacey Ryan, **Home School Liaison Teachers (HSCL)**. 086-6040686.

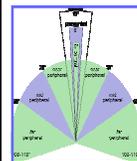


6th Class Get Scientific

Ms Faherty's classroom has been a hive of activity in preparation for the RDS Primary Science Fair. We were delighted to be chosen to present our investigation of peripheral vision at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick on Friday 15th January. Our 6th class has spent the past few months researching, investigating and presenting findings.

We designed and made a vision protractor so that we could test the peripheral vision of a number of groups in our school. Peripheral vision, or side vision, is the ability to see objects that are not located directly in front of the eye. It is very important for everyday activities such as driving, cycling, crossing the road or playing various sports. We also learned about different parts of the eye and their functions, as well as how to organise data and draw conclusions from it.

This project has been an enjoyable and worthwhile experience for the whole class and we look forward to presenting our findings at the science fair on Friday.



Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves

Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves is a musical that our school performed on the 16th and 17th December, 2015. After midterm, our main parts took to the stage and practiced their acting skills and about three weeks later we started practicing in front of the school. That's how we gained confidence. The whole school took part in this event and it was a lot of fun not having to do any class work! We rehearsed a lot and everybody got to go on stage and practice their part each day. The week before the show Clare FM came to do an interview. We sang two songs, "This is the Time" and "Desert Rock Boogie". Afterwards the main parts were interviewed by Clare FM and we had a lot of fun. We felt like celebrities. The recording went out on air on Tuesday December 15th., the same day we performed for the junior school. The following day all the children were very excited. We practiced one last time and it went very smoothly. We performed for our parents, family and friends that evening and we had a fantastic night. The next evening we performed again and had an even better night. About 350 children were involved in the play. Everybody enjoyed doing the play and had a brilliant time rehearsing and performing. By Emilie Hamel.



Junior Entrepreneur Programme



The Junior Entrepreneur Programme (JEP) is an entrepreneurial education programme for primary school pupils. It was developed in Ireland and works hand and hand with the Primary School Curriculum and utilises an integrated teaching and project-based approach to teach many strands of the curriculum.

The aim of this programme is to open the minds of primary school pupils to the joy of entrepreneurship at a time in their lives when they are full of imagination and open to new possibilities. This year two of our sixth classes are undertaking the Junior Entrepreneur Programme which is financed by Donal Slattery, CEO of the Clare People newspaper. The children are currently finding it to be a very worthwhile experience and hopefully the entrepreneurial ideas that they will learn will help them to become entrepreneurs when they are adults.

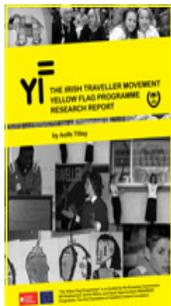
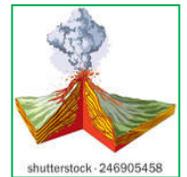
This helps the pupils to develop a number of skills including literacy, writing, presentation, drawing, technology, research skills, numeracy, finance, customer awareness, storytelling, listening skills, creative thinking, problem solving, team building and collaboration skills.

News from 4th. Class—Room 5. This week students in Room 5 learned all about different rock types. There are three of these: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. We carried out some experiments to make these rocks using chocolate. We made igneous rock by melting cooking chocolate and pouring it into a tray (like lava!). When it cooled, it looked like a perfect example!!

Sedimentary rocks were a little tougher; these are rocks made from little pieces of other rocks stuck together. To make this, we broke up white and dark chocolate bars, bits of marshmallow and coco pops (the sediments) and wrapped them together in cling film. Then we squashed them all together as one - a sedimentary rock!!!

Finally we made metamorphic rocks, these are also known as changed rocks. These are igneous and sedimentary rocks that have been squashed up in enormous heat and then changed into new rocks. We made these by putting our cling-film sedimentary rocks into boiling water. This made the chocolate melt and mix together, changing what it looked like. We then let the melted chocolate rock cool in the fridge over the weekend.

We learned so much about rock types but our favourite part of all was eating the delicious chocolate rocks we had made!!!



Yellow Flag:

As part of the school's yellow flag initiative we are currently carrying out an intercultural review among students. This involves a questionnaire which every child in the school has to fill out. The questionnaire asks the children about how welcome they feel in Holy Family, what multi-cultural events they would like to see in Holy Family and whether or not they have experience of racism in the school. The Yellow Flag committee are currently assessing the data which will be presented at the next yellow flag meeting in February. In the meantime, a parents questionnaire will be sent out in the next two weeks to find out similar information from the parents!!!



The Girls Football Final

The girls' football team made it into the final before Christmas. On the morning of the game we left school at half ten to play Kilnamona in Wolf Tones' Grounds in Shannon. Our captain for the day was Aoife Haran. We had a titanic battle against the opposing team. We were winning for the first ten minutes from a great three points from Roisin Mahony. By half time we had sadly conceded a goal but we fought back and won a goal and scored two points from Roisin again. We unfortunately lost with a score of 1-05 to 3-04. Clare FM were there and were filming us live and the captain of the opposing team got to have an interview with Clare FM. After the match we kept our heads high and we got to go to McDonalds thanks to Mrs Barnes. The panel for the day included Sammie, Evelyn, Aoife, Gabriela, Jessica, Zara, Wiktoria, Sarah, Emma, Roisin, Emilie, Natalia, Nora, Nina, Vesta, Emily and Keelin. We would like to say a big thank you to our coaches, Mr Brennan, Ms Kennedy, Ms Kilbane and Ms Frawley. By Roisin Mahony & Emilie Hamel.

After School Activities from January - March, 2016.

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| Monday | Girls' Camogie (2 nd - 6 th class) 2:45 - 3:30 pm (Ms Kennedy, Ms Frawley, Ms Kilbane) |
| Tuesday | No after school activities Teachers' meeting times |
| | Basketball - 5th & 6th Class Girls in the Hall at lunchtime. |
| Wednesday | Boys' Hurling (2 nd - 6 th class) 2:45 - 3:30 pm (Mr Bell, Mr Brennan, Mr Cooney) |
| | Basketball—5th & 6th Class Boys in the Hall at lunchtime. |
| Thursday | Quiz 2:45 - 3:30 pm Ms. Browne & Ms. Hamel Soccer (4 th - 6 th class Boys & Girls) 2:45 - 3:30pm Mr Eade, Mr Cooney, Ms Kilbane |
| Friday | Hurling - Boys & Girls 2:45 - 3:30pm (up to mid-term only). Ronan Keane (GAA coach), Ms Frawley, Mr Corbett, Mr Brennan, Mr Bell |

Choir and Music News:



Music Generation Clare:

Concertina lessons and Guitar lessons have resumed and will continue on Tuesday afternoons until Easter.

Ten weeks costing €50.00 or €5.00 per lesson. **€5 fees** for lessons to be paid to Ms Bridge in Room 21. You may pay on a weekly basis, for a few weeks together or the full amount.

Pádraig Rynne, our concertina teacher will not be in school next Tuesday, 19th January - so lessons are cancelled that day.

Violin classes will resume next week for 5th class. Please ensure instruments are brought to school.

Graham Keane will recommence work with HFSS Rock Band on Friday 22nd January, 2016.

Choir News:

Choir has also recommenced following our very busy Christmas Season. With upcoming sacraments, it is very important that all members attend weekly rehearsals in the hall. Further details will follow as dates for performances approach.

Reminder:

Parent Teacher Meetings: on Monday February 15th from 3 - 5 pm & Tuesday from 6 - 8 pm February 16th. A letter will be sent home to all parents to organise these meetings.

Inservice Meeting: 1/2 in 1/2 out Inservice meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th. January, 2016. Students to go home at 1 pm.

Enrolment for School Year 2016/17: Applications for enrolment into 2nd Class in Holy Family Senior School will be open from 17th January, closing date for receipt of application forms will be February 4th @ 3 pm. Forms will be sent home with 1st Class Children from the Junior School or will be available from Holy Family Senior School office.