

**Important dates for your diary:**

**Monday, 5th. October, 2020:** School planning. Children go home half day.  
**1st. Midterm break:** Bank Holiday Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October, 2020 inclusive: School closed.  
**Christmas Holidays:** School will close on Tuesday 22nd December, 2020 at 12 noon. School will reopen on Wednesday 6th January, 2021 at 9 am.  
**2nd. Midterm break:** Thursday & Friday 18th & 19th February, 2021. School closed.  
**St. Patrick's Day:** Wednesday, 17th. March, 2021. School closed.  
**Easter Holidays:** School will close on Friday 26th March, 2021 at 12 noon. School reopens on Monday 12th April, 2021 at 9 am.  
**3rd. Midterm break:** Bank Holiday Monday 3rd to Friday 7th May, 2021 inclusive. School closed.  
**Bank Holiday: Monday 7th June, 2021.** School closed.  
**Summer Holidays:** Friday 25th June, 2021 school will close at 12 noon.

**HOLY FAMILY  
SENIOR SCHOOL**

Newsletter Sept. 2020.

**Contact HSCL - Barbara Buckley/  
Shane Griffin on 0866040686**

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**Date for Confirmation:** Friday, March 5th., 2021.

**Date for 1st Holy Communion:** Saturday, April 24th., 2021.



**Monday 5th October collection times:**

**12.25pm:** Siblings and Special class.

**12.30pm:** 4th and 5th class.

**12.35pm:** 2nd and 6th class.

*A special thank you to all our parents, pupils and staff for their cooperation and support of our Covid-19 response plan. The children have settled back to school so well. It is a joy to walk through the corridors again and hear their happy voices and experience the superb teaching and learning in the school. Our senior classes have now started homework again and our junior classes are currently practicing independent learning skills before starting homework the week of the 5th October. Please read the update for parents on the back of this newsletter. Kind regards, Mrs Barnes.*

**Sport:** "While after-schools activities and sports have been postponed due to the ongoing national Covid19 guidelines, our staff have been busy providing appropriate, fun and engaging PE lessons for all our students. Through socially distanced activities and games, the students of HFSS have had a busy September practicing their fundamental movements, physical competencies and co-operative play. In addition to the physical education being carried out in classes, a number of new initiatives are being implemented to support the physical activity of our students. "The Banner Challenge" from Clare Sports Partnership is being undertaken by many classes from September 23<sup>rd</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> with the goal being to travel 10km (walking, running, cycling) in a week. Great prizes are in store for all participating classes. Additionally, Holy Family will be taking part in the FAI's "Show Racism The Red Card" initiative from October 8<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with Denis Hynes (Football Development Officer Clare). Further details of sporting activities/events and initiatives will be provided over the coming months through our newsletters and social media accounts."



**Music Generation Clare Primary Strings Programme** - We are delighted that our Strings programme is able to resume again in HFSS with our partners in music education - Music Generation Clare.

This programme will be delivered weekly to 6<sup>th</sup> class and 4<sup>th</sup> class students. 6<sup>th</sup> class will resume their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of this programme and 4<sup>th</sup> class will begin year one of the 3 year course of study in the violin. The cost of the programme is €2.50 each week, which includes the cost of the lesson, the renting of the violin and insurance for damage to the instrument. It is such a worthwhile, fun programme which we are fortunate to be able to offer to your child. Our tutors are world-class musicians in their own right - Dr. Annina Ahola, an accomplished violinist from Finland and Tara Breen, a famous traditional Irish Music Fiddle player who has toured the world and is currently a member of the infamous Irish Band, The Chieftans. **This programme will commence on Wednesday 7th. October, 2021.**

**We are able to reintroduce this programme in line and in keeping with our Covid Control Measures in place in school and strict social distancing and sanitising will be part of this class.**

**After school music tuition:** As face to face lessons and the mixing of class bubbles is not permitted at present, unfortunately our after school music lessons are on hold for the moment. However, if you are interested in your child learning an instrument by means of receiving a weekly video link in their instrument of choice to learn and practise at home please email Ms. Bridge at [jillian.bridge@hfss.ie](mailto:jillian.bridge@hfss.ie)

If and when Covid guidelines change we can revert back to face to face lessons. The good thing about the videos is that you can pause them, replay them and practise when suits. There would be a charge of approx. €4 per week for these videos. Tuition is available on drums, ukulele, guitar and concertina - Instruments will be provided.

Piano/keyboard lessons also available. Include name of child, class teachers name and the instrument you are interested in learning in the email. Please also state if they are a beginner or have done some lessons already.

**Book Rental and Sundries Payment:** We note from our records that some of your children's book rental or sundries have not been paid so far this year. We understand that families may have money pressures at present. However a lot of your child's learning is dependent on the school having resources appropriate to their needs. We therefore ask that you try to pay this amount by **30th September, 2020** or contact the school office where arrangements can be made for you to pay off the bill over the school year.





