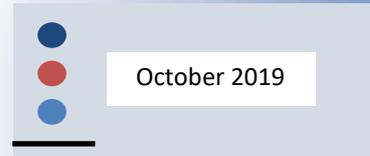




# **Holy Family** **Senior National School** **NEWSLETTER**



## Thank You

- ◆ Thank you to the outgoing Board of Management for their commitment to and work for the school over the past four years. A huge thank you to Paul Martin, the outgoing chairperson - Paul has been a member of the Board of Management for 25 years and his contribution and service to the school community is unparalleled. Our thanks also to Aine Delaney (Community Nominee); Gerry O'Reilly (parent Nominee); Fr. Des Doyle ( Patron Nominee); Linda O'Reilly (Parent Nominee); Gavin Callan (Community Nominee) and Brendan Desmond (Teacher Nominee). A new Board of Management will be in place on the 1st December 2019.
- ◆ Thank you to the Parents' Association for all their work in organising and coordinating the Virtual Cycle event. It was a tremendous success. And thank you to all of you for supporting this event with your sponsorship. They children had a great time cycling their designated part of the route. At the Parents' Association A.G.M. the Parents' Association gave the school 12,000 euro from their fundraising last year. We will keep you informed as to how the money is spent.
- ◆ Our thanks to Jonathan Smartt and Think P.M. for providing the wonderful signage outside the school and also a super map of the world in our foyer.
- ◆ Thank you to LSS Electrical Contractors for their very generous donation to buy new jerseys for the school teams.
- ◆ Thank you to Siobhan Leonard (one of our SNA team) who produces the school newsletter every two months.

### Did You Know.....

- ◆ The school Basketball teams have been doing very well in their league and they will be participating in finals in the national Basketball Arena in November. Details will follow nearer the time. Thank you to our teachers, Mairead Parker and Shauna Flynn for training the teams and bringing them to matches.
- ◆ During the week of the 2nd December the school will participate in the RSA Street Smart Programme on Road Safety.
- ◆ On Monday 21st October, the children had a talk in the hall from representatives from Dublin Bus, the DSPCA and Dublin Fire Brigade. The talk was about safety at Halloween. Please discuss this with your child.
- ◆ On Friday 25th October, the Community Gardai will visit the 5th classes to talk about keeping safe.

**Mid-Term Break**

October Midterm: School closed Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October  
to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019

## School Community Committee



The school community committee consists of four teachers, three parents, five students and two community representatives. We are currently starting our third year of the committee.

Our latest project is developing the entrance area of our school. The area has been recently decorated with new signage (sponsored by Think P.M.), a world map and has been repainted by volunteer parents from our school.



We plan on building a lego wall in our entrance with space for each child to place a figure into the wall. We will be placing a lego bucket outside the office and asking for your help and support by donating any old lego bricks. All children within the school will get the opportunity to create their own unique figure to place in the wall. The figures will then be displayed on our lego wall.

## Student Council

This year Holy Family SNS established its first student representative council.

The Student Council affords pupils the opportunity to make a valuable contribution to school life. The Student Council is looking forward to discussing and debating any issues brought to them by the student body.

The following students have been voted for the student council for the first half of the year; Jessica Geraghty, Jemma Melinn Lynch and Troy Byrne from 6<sup>th</sup> class, Erika Hyland, Cara Murray, James Ryan and Jack Ryan from 5<sup>th</sup> class, TJ Blair, Sophie Earley and Alanah Duffy from 4<sup>th</sup> class and Ethan Earley, Lucy Murray and Lauren Kinlan from 3<sup>rd</sup> class and Amy Mc Gee from Mr. White's class.



Our new Student Council in our wonderful new outdoor classroom.



PlayWorks has begun again this year and is in full swing on the 3rd, 4th and 5th class yards. Over 100 eager 6th class pupils have been trained to organise and run yard games. This affords them the opportunity to learn problems solving, interpersonal and leadership skills, as well as being great role models for the younger year groups and having lots of fun during yard time!

**PLAYWORKS** We are very grateful for our 'ceannairí' (6th class pupils) and know that they will do a super job this year!

## Road Safety and the One Way System



With the cold, wet, dark mornings ahead, it is now more important than ever to ensure that all parents adhere to the one way system on the road outside the school and that all students cross the road with the assistance of our traffic wardens.

The one way system, (which runs from the direction of the church toward the school) helps with the traffic flow and supports your children in entering and leaving the school safely. The

clearway outside the school is NOT a drop off area. On wet mornings it is acceptable for children to arrive at school at 9am.

For the sake of all children, please follow the One Way System. Thank you.



## Cycling course

### for parents and children



Mr Duffy is a Cycle Right Ireland instructor and has organised a free cycle training programme for all 6th class children in our school for the past 28 years. Our annual trip last June saw fifty four, sixth class children, cycle to the Naul, accompanied by An Garda Síochána.

For the past two years, Mr Duffy has organised a free cycle training session for parents and children together. He is offering parents the opportunity once again to partake of this training which is organised in conjunction with Cycle Ireland and the Road Safety Authority.

This will take place on Thursday 24th October, 4pm to 5:30pm in the school yard. This training will also include a session of cycling on the road with your child. It covers rules of the road and practical tips when cycling with your child on public roads. This course is limited to ten adults and their cycling children. Places available on a first come basis. Please text Mr Duffy (0860611656) if you would like a place on this course.

# Our Outdoor Classroom

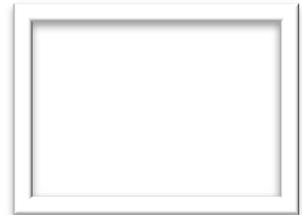


Have you seen our new outdoor classroom?

Local pharmaceutical company SK Biotek Ireland chose Holy Family SNS for a community project. We had the pleasure of hosting over 50 volunteers from the company who cleaned, painted and rejuvenated a small garden area. They also installed a fantastic bench so whole classes can use the area as a space to learn.

As you can see from our before and after pictures, they did a fantastic job.

Thank you SK



## Shoebox Appeal

Holy Family SNS, in conjunction with Team Hope, will be collecting shoeboxes again this year.

The annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal sends thousands of gift-filled shoeboxes to children in Africa and Eastern Europe.

Getting involved is simple. All you need to do is find an old shoebox and fill it with gifts for boys or girls between the ages of 2 and 14. Details of suitable gifts are listed on the leaflets or on the website. [www.teamhope.ie](http://www.teamhope.ie)

Leaflets are available in the school.

All shoeboxes can be brought to Ms. Fitzsimons' room or dropped into the office by Tuesday 19th November.

Thank you.

Ms. Fitzsimons



**Green  
Schools  
Flag**

The green team have been working hard on setting up and getting things running again this year. Our registration with Green Schools Ireland has been accepted and our next step is to establish our Green Schools Committee. This will be central to the success of our campaign. We feel it is vital to include all areas of our school community. Committee meetings will be held termly. If you are interested or able to help out in any way please contact Ms Quinn by email at [jquinn@holyfamilysns.ie](mailto:jquinn@holyfamilysns.ie)

Thank you.

# Sports News



Hard luck to the **senior girls** gaelic football team who lost out in the Cumann na mBunscoil league. They put in a great effort and we can hopefully look forward to more good things later on this year  
Ms Fitzsimons Ms O'Donnell

The **senior boys** gaelic football team have had a productive six weeks since returning in September. A loss in their first game against Belgrove Boys NS was followed up with a great win against Scoil Fhiachra, Beaumont. A quarter final place was reached last week. This game was played in St. Brigid's GAA grounds in Blanchardstown. Holy Family prevailed on a score line of 3-3 to 0-4 in what was a fantastic team performance. Unfortunately that was the end of the road for the team as they were beaten in the semi final by Ballyroan BNS in Ballyboden on Friday October 11th.

The **Junior boys** have had a frustrating start to their campaign with a lot of games being postponed. They were beaten in their only game so far in what was a very tough match against St. Brigids from Killester. They have shown great potential and we are hopeful that they will have a successful campaign. A huge thank you to all the boys for their hard work throughout the campaign.  
Mr. White Mr O'Connor Mr McCann



## Basketball

There was a huge turnout for the boys and girls senior basketball trials this year.

The interest, skills and talent were brilliant to see. Thank you to everyone for their support, energy and enthusiasm.

The senior teams have played three matches so far this year. Our first game was against St. Helens NS in Portmarnock. We then played against Swords Educate Together and our final match was against Rush NS. The children should be really proud of themselves. All of the schools have been very complimentary about the teamwork, excellent sporting nature and good manners during each games. It has been brilliant to see the children develop their skills and knowledge of the game on a weekly basis. We are looking forward to playing many more games as the year progresses.  
Ms Parker Ms Flynn

## Cross Country



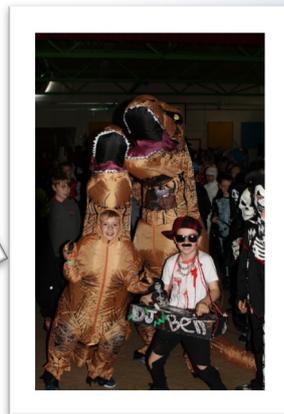
Our cross country training began in the first week in September. We had separate training days for third class as this was their first time to experience cross-country training and what would be required of them. Towards the end of September, we held trials for each of the class groups and we brought around fifty children to Porterstown for the first round of the Fingal League. The second round will take place on Thursday 24th of October and another fifty children will be brought to Newbridge House to compete.

We also competed in the North County Dublin Cross Country Championships where we had two individuals to finish in the top three but unfortunately we only had one team to bring home the medals from the team events. After Halloween we will take part in the children's marathon run in Santry Stadium. This is an event which encourages children to look at how healthy their lifestyles are. This is a non-competitive event as all competitors will receive a participant's medal. We will then take a break from training and resume again in February. Thank you to all the students who give up their yard time to train and represent the school at these events.  
Mr Mc Donald Mr Lynch Mr Mc Donagh

Halloween dress up winners and runners up.



# Halloween



Our  
Halloween  
Dis-

