

HOLY FAMILY SENIOR SCHOOL

Student Council Newsletter (Easter Edition)



Introduction:

Hello and welcome to the Holy Family Senior School newsletter. We are so excited to show you what we have been up to since Christmas.

Mark your Calendar

March 22nd - School closes for Easter

March 29th - Good Friday

March 31st - Clocks go forward one hour

March 31st - Easter Sunday

April 1st - April Fools' Day

April 2nd - World Autism Awareness Day

April 8th - Return to school

April 22nd - Earth Day

May 4th - Star Wars Day

May 6th - Midterm week

May 9th - Europe Day

May 18th - International Museum Day



Wellness Week in HFSS (6th - 9th Feb)

(By Livia Brainard)

Marvellous Monday: On Monday the 3rd classes did dancing with Ms. Kinsella, and the 6th classes did yoga with Ms. Walsh.

Thoughtful Tuesday: On Tuesday there was more dancing and yoga and 5th had a cyber safety talk with Paula.

Walk in my shoes Wednesday: On Wednesday we had 'Walk in my shoes Wednesday' and lots of amazing and unique shoes were worn. Students made all kinds of crazy shoes with bizarre designs.

Terrific Thursday: On Thursday shoes were back to normal and 4th class had table tennis.

Feel good Friday: On Feel good Friday 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th had an assembly run by the Student Council. There were 2 assemblies split into 3rd and 4th, and 5th and 6th. Student council did an amazing job at the assembly and Orla and Gabi did a cyber safety quiz. A big thank you to Ms. L. Brennan and all the staff who made it a terrific week for all.

Student Council Buddies (By the Student's Council)

Our Student Council buddies continued their weekly visits to all of the classes. We really enjoyed visiting the classes and hearing what they have been up to. Here's what's been happening around the school since our last newsletter.

Eimear and Aoife's STAR classes

The STAR classes have been really busy! They have been loving mindfulness with Chris as well as doing Karate classes with John every Friday. They have been using the balance bikes too. Aoife's and Eimear's classes went on a trip on the train to Dublin and visited the History museum -they had a great day. Baking treats every Friday continues. McKenzie has been making necklaces for her class to raise money for Dogs for Autism. What a great idea!

3rd and 4th Class Activities

- All of the 3rd classes have been enjoying their French classes with Ms. Duff.
- The 3rd classes love dancing and continue it each week on Mondays with their new teacher Lia.
- Ms. Donegan's and Ms. Cahill's classes did a music assembly for all the 4th classes.
- The 4th classes are really enjoying playing football on Fridays.
- Ms. Sheehan's class have just finished coding.
- The 3rd and 4th classes made posters for the "Water for peace" competition.
- An art teacher visited Ms. Sherlock's class and made a movie with art - Stop Motion.
- All the green school members from the 3rd and 4th classes went on a carbon walk.
- Ms. Walsh's class have been extremely busy with art these past few weeks. They did Papier Mache, clay pots, mindful weaving and they made St. Brigid's crosses.

5th and 6th Class Activities

- The 6th classes have been busy swimming.
- Hurling and football is in full swing and all of our teams have been playing really well.
- The 5th classes have been doing tag rugby with Brian.
- Mr. O'Shea and Ms. Whelan's classes attended Science blast in RDS where they showcased their amazing science experiments.
- Mr. Malone's quiz team took part in the first ever Laois Today's School Quizcast.
- We celebrated Seachtain na Gaeilge with lots of music, singing, Gaeilge, quizzes and more. Mr. Finn played some lovely music for a school ceolchoirm.
- There was some amazing art for Mother's Day and Easter done by the 5th and 6th classes.
- The 5th classes had visits from students from Portlaoise College who did lessons based on "healthy eating".

School Debating news (By Max Kane)

The school debate team is made up of six members. Zoe, Sam, Kate, Milly, Leah and Max. They got up to the 3rd round (Regional semi-final).

Round 1: The first debate was nerve-wracking even for the people not speaking. There are three people speaking on the day while behind the camera we have two debaters looking for rebuttals and one debater being the time keeper. The motion of the first round was "Should homework be a thing of the past?" We were opposing the motion. The speakers were Kate (Captain) Max (S2) Leah (S3). It was a stressful debate against Timahoe but we came out on top and won!

Round 2: The second debate Max, Kate and Leah were speaking again even though we already had our first debate and knew what it was like we were still very nervous. The motion was "Why does sport ALWAYS bring communities together?" we were opposing again. It was a tough debate but we won and were through to the next round.

Round 3: This time we were really nervous because it was the regional semi-final so it was a big deal. This time Milly spoke instead of Max and Kate and Leah stayed the same. We went against a strong team called Ballyadams and we proposed the motion that Electric cars are the best way for countries to reduce their emissions. It was the scariest debate by far. Unfortunately, we came up short and lost and were out of the debating league. We all were very disappointed and sad, but at the end of the day there had to be a winner.

Jokes (By Aoife McEvoy & Mya Dunne)

What do you call an Irish spider? Paddy long legs.

What did the leprechaun say to his neighbour on the 17 of March? Irish you a happy St. Patrick's Day.

What type of bow can't be tied? A rainbow.

What does a leprechaun order at a coffee shop? A green tea.

What rocks are never underwater?
Dry ones

What's an egg's favorite type of coffee?
An eggs-presso!

What type of shoes do artists wear?
Sketchers!

Riddles

1. What is at the end of the rainbow ?
2. I have skin, more eyes then one, I can be very nice when I am done what am I?
3. Where are you guaranteed to find gold on St. Patrick's Day?

Confirmation 2024 (By Jade O'Brien)

When we arrived to the church, we went into the room behind the altar and got our name tags. We then had our names called out and we all stood when we heard our names. Some of our students even did some readings. They did very well. We all then went in a circle around the altar while our sponsor was behind us. Bishop Denis put a cross on our forehead with the oil of Chrism. Bishop Denis read out some of the letters we wrote to him a couple weeks before hand about ourselves and what we enjoy, as well as our confirmation name and why we picked it. After the ceremony, we went outside for pictures. We all had a fantastic day. Congratulations to everyone!

HOLY FAMILY SENIOR SCHOOL TOTALLY ROCKED IN NATIONAL TIMES TABLES COMPETITION

We are incredibly excited to announce that HFSS came 12th place in Rest of the World Rocks - a times tables competition run by the internationally renowned, award-winning app and learning platform, Times Tables Rock Stars.

Rest of the World Rocks required children to correctly answer as many multiplication and division questions as possible, to give their class and school the best chance of winning.

The competition was fierce with questions answered pupils from more than 345 schools and 3,788 classes around the country!

Our school stats were astonishing too. Ms. Dooley's and Ms. Redmond's class placed in the top 50 in the world! Ms. Dooley's class came out top in our school and placed 32nd out of all the classes worldwide. Well done to all the students who took part especially Evan Branagan who was our school's top scorer!



Laois Vs London in O'Moore Park

(By Orla Holohan)

HFSS were lucky enough to be picked to sing "Amhrán na bhFiann" at a recent Laois football match. There were try outs in school where a very talented 4 girls were picked to sing before the match. Below is an account by one of the girls chosen, Orla, about the match.

- Went to O'Moore park and went into the LOEBT cafeteria and had drinks and food. We also got free hats.
- Had a couple of practices and vocal warmups. We got flags for the match.
- Relaxed for 15 mins then went out and did another couple of vocal warmups.
- Niall announced our names then we went up the steps to the control room and sang "Amhrán na bhFiann".
- Afterwards some of us watched the match then went home, Laois won and it was an amazing win.



Riddle answers!

1. The letter "w"
2. A potato
3. A dictionary

Thanks to all of our contributors from the Student's Council who made this issue possible.