



January/February Newsletter 2023



Dear Parents / Carers,

Although very belated, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of us all, to wish you a Happy New Year and, although a distant memory, we hope you had a lovely Christmas, managed to relax and had a lovely time with friends and family. It is hard to believe that we are nearly at the middle of this academic year but I have to say your children are nothing but a credit to you. We are certainly very proud of all our children who are simply brilliant in every way! This would not be possible without your support – as always, thank you for your continued support in all we do for the children, here's to another good term at Holy Child – it will be half term before we know it! Attendance levels the past couple of weeks at school are good – it is our ambition to keep these levels of engagement high. If your child is sick and cannot attend school, you must inform us of a reason for absence, to do this, please contact the school office before 9:30am each morning of absence. Also, thank you for your continued support with not signing children out of school early. Everyday, valuable learning had been lost with children being signed out early and also it was terribly disruptive for the class teacher, so I am delighted to see that this has now stopped. Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Mrs Concannon



PRIMARY 1 APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

The EA online portal for Nursery and Primary 1 Applications for September 2023 is live, to make an application simply click on the link on the homepage of our website or go directly to the EA website. The application process itself is straightforward. There will most likely be a heavy demand on the EA website in the days ahead and previously some parents have experienced difficulties. However, do not worry, if you need help we are here to support you fill in the online application.



GRANDPARENTS' DAY 2023

Grandparents are the family's greatest treasure, the founders of a loving legacy, the greatest storytellers, and the keepers of tradition.

To cherish this bond between Grandparents and Grandchildren, the pupils of Holy Child Primary School will celebrate 'Grandparents Day' on Wednesday 1st February with great pomp and show.

The nursery children will invite their grandparents in to nursery from 9:15am– 10:30am for a play session, music and movement with Jo Jingles and some tea and buns!

Grandparents of P1 and P2 children are invited in to their classrooms from 9:00am – 10:30am for a play session and some art and craft activities.

Grandparents of P3 children are invited in to school from 10:30am– 12:00pm for a quilting session, sharing a story with my grandparent and tea and cakes.

P4, P5 and P6 pupils invite their grandparents to St Mary's Church for a special 10am mass to thank God for the gift of our grandparents. After mass the children and their grandparents are invited to the community room for afternoon tea.

P7 pupils invite their grandparents into school at 1:40pm –3pm for a pamper and games afternoon. Then afternoon tea will be served.

Next week in school we will celebrate Catholic Schools week. All classes will participate in a range of activities with an emphasis on a school community that is kind and caring.

It is a week where we will celebrate our school, a place where we can learn and grow in confidence. A place where we learn to believe in ourselves and in others around us. We thank you the parents, and local community for all that you do to help our Children and our school.

The 2023 theme for Catholic Schools Week is Walking Together in Faith and Love.

MONDAY

Walking Together in Faith

TUESDAY

Walking Together in Love

WEDNESDAY

Walking Together to Celebrate
(Grandparents Day)

THURSDAY

Walking Together to Transform our World

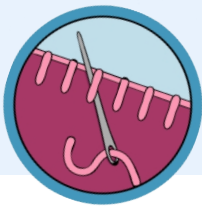
FRIDAY

Walking Together in Hope



Afterschool Clubs

We are a delighted to offer a wide range of extra curricular activities again this term with over 25 clubs running on a weekly basis. I want to thank the school staff for giving their time after school to provide these wonderful clubs including Cookery, Art, Football, Coding, Ipad, Drama, Netball, Music, Dance, Relax Kids, Gaelic, Lego, Fit kid, Science, Sewing, Mathletics, Homework Club, Reading Rockets, Connect 4 tournament, Board Game club, Breakfast club, Booster clubs and Sibling clubs.



Wraparound Care Programme 2022-23



Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.15am – 8.55am	RISE & SHINE CLUB Free Breakfast Club Reading Rockets Mathletics Club	RISE & SHINE CLUB Free Breakfast Club Reading Rockets Mathletics Club	RISE & SHINE CLUB Free Breakfast Club Reading Rockets Mathletics Club Jo Jingles Nursery	RISE & SHINE CLUB Free Breakfast Club Reading Rockets Mathletics Club	RISE & SHINE CLUB Free Breakfast Club Reading Rockets Mathletics Club
1pm – 2pm	Jo Jingles P1 & P2		Maiden City Soccer – P1	Maiden City Soccer – P2	Ryan Mc Bride Football P6
2.10pm – 2.55pm	FOUNDATION CLUBS Lego - Kay iPad – Caroline Cookery – Catherine GAA – Rachel Music – Aine Dance – Aimee	Sibling Club P1&2	FOUNDATION CLUBS Music - Aine Dance – Aimee Lego – Kay iPad – Caroline Science – Nicole Cookery – Catherine Art – Deirdre	Sibling Club P1&2	Ryan Mc Bride Football P5 Mrs Baxter Sibling Club P1&2
3.00pm – 4.00pm	Key stage 1 Clubs Relax Kids	Key stage 1 Clubs Football Science Sewing Homework Club	Key stage 1 Clubs Homework Club	Key stage 1 Clubs Dance Art Coding Homework Club	
	Key Stage 2 Clubs Relax Kids Football	Key Stage 2 Clubs Art Drama Gaelic Homework Club	Key Stage 2 Clubs P6 Booster Club P7 Booster Club Homework Club	Key Stage 2 Clubs Dance Cookery iPad Science Homework Club	



Starting 20th February, children in Primary 2 will stay in school every day until 2:50pm.

Save the Date



**Monday 13th
February.
8:30pm**



Tickets £3

Please support our school on Monday 13th February at our Fundraising Charity night at 8.30pm, in Bishop's of Creggan.

Thank you to our friends of Holy Child for organising this event. We hope to see you all there.



SACRAMENTAL DATES



The Sacramental dates for children in P4 and P7

The Sacrament of penance will be celebrated on the 15th March For Mr O' Donnell's class and 22nd March Mrs Mc Menamin's class.

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 14th May. Mr O Donnell's class will be celebrated at 10:30am and Mrs Mc Menamin's class will be celebrated at 12:15am.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated for both P7 classes on Friday 10th March at 1:30pm.

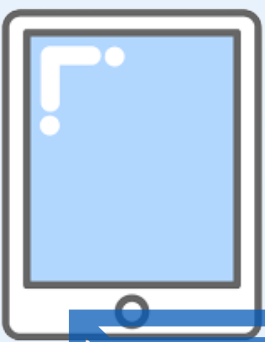
One Sunday of the month Children in Primary Four are encourage to attend the First Communion preparation mass. The next two 'Do This In Memory Of Me' masses takes place on Sunday 12th February and 12th March @10:30am St Mary's Chapel, Creggan.

A Confirmation Preparation mass for P7 pupils and their parents will be celebrated by the Bishop on Thursday 23rd February at 10am in St. Mary's Church, Creggan.



HAPPY HEART DAY: 10TH FEBRUARY

Friday 10th February is our annual Happy Heart Day. This is a non-uniform day and on this day children are invited to wear red or pink. On this day children complete activities focusing on a happy heart, body and mind. This is a half day for all pupils, however, all pupils will receive lunch in school. Pupils in nursery P1, P2, P3 will finish at 12:00pm P4, P5, P6 and P7 will finish after lunch @12:15pm.



SAFER INTERNET DAY, TUESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

Safer Internet Day is on Tuesday 8th February. Mrs Nelson has organised some internet safety workshops for all pupils. Other classes will learn about how to stay safe online and take precautions. The NSPCC have published advice to families on setting parental controls on mobile, tablets and computers.

All mobiles, tablets and computers have parental control settings, which can differ between devices, these include:

- allowing or disallowing in-game or in-app purchases
- settings such as location settings and what information your child is sharing
- wellbeing settings to help with limiting screen time.

You can get more advice about setting up controls on different devices from your mobile provider and the UK Safer Internet Centre.



National Online Safety®

We would like to remind you that Holy Child is a National Online Safety Certified School. This means our parents and staff have a huge range of advice and resources to help you have a better understanding of how to support your child use technology safely. To sign up use the link:

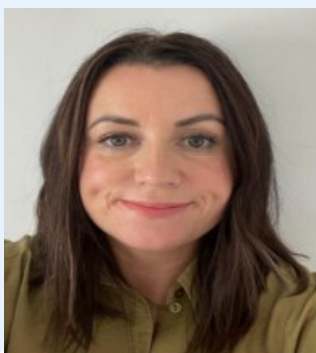
<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/holy-child-primary-school-1>

There are lots of helpful guides available to download.

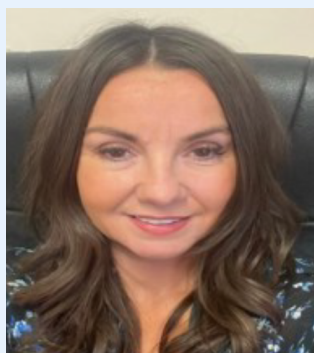


OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

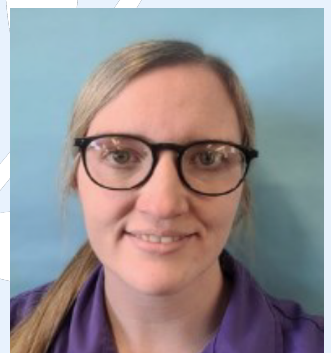
DESIGNATED GOVERNOR: LINDA KELLY
IF ANY PARENT / CARER HAS ANY CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON 02871 261263 AND ASK TO SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM.



DESIGNATED TEACHER:
MRS O CONNOR
[VICE PRINCIPAL]



DEPUTY DESIGNATED TEACHER
: MRS CONCANNON
[PRINCIPAL]



DEPUTY DESIGNATED TEACHER :
MRS NELSON
[TEACHER]