

Punctuality

Please ensure that your child is in school every day and on time. School opens at 9.00am. The first 20 minutes provide great opportunities for the children's routine, to settle in class, to play, make friendships, socialise, chat to the teacher and revise work learned early through literacy and maths games.

This reception time each morning is very important in your child's school life and over the week nearly equals 2 hours of fun.

Dates for your Diary

23rd/24th/27th/28th November - Book Fair

27th / 29th November - Maths4Fun 2nd Class 2pm

27th - 1st December - Friendship Week

29th - Advent Service 1 - 11am

4th / 6th December - Maths4Fun 2nd Class 2pm

6th - Advent Service 2 - 11am

12th - Parents Coffee morning and Raffle - 9.20am

13th - Advent Service 3 - 11am

14th - The Den trip to North Pole Experience

14th - Parent and Child Christmas crafts - Junior Infants

18th - Parent and Child Christmas crafts - Senior Infants

19th - Advent Service 4 - 11am in the Church

22nd - School closes at 12.00 for Christmas holidays

Wishing you all a wonderful and peaceful Christmas and a very happy new year,

Orla McLoughlin - Príncipal



Scoil an Chroí Ró Naofa Sois *Sacred Heart Junior National School* *November / December Newsletter 2023*

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We have 4 busy weeks ahead until Christmas. The staff and I look forward to your continued support during these weeks especially with your child's attendance, punctuality and homework. Thank you to all those who attended the Parent / Teacher meetings last week, it was great to see so many of you there!

Parent / Teacher Meetings

Thank you very much to those who attended our recent parent / teacher meetings. It was a wonderful opportunity for you and the teacher to share information in your child's best interests.

If you were unable to attend, please ring Sharon to arrange another suitable time with your child's teacher as soon as possible.

www.sacredheartjns.ie

You can log on to our school website on www.sacredheartjns.ie where you will get up to date information - newsletters, events coming up and what's happening in the different class groupings.

Check out our Instagram accounts -
@sacredheartshcl
@earlystartkids123

Advent Services

Advent Services will take place on Wednesday 29th November, Wednesday 6th December and Wednesday 13th December. Services take place in the PE hall at 11am for the whole school.

Carol Service

The Carol service will take place in the Church on Tuesday 19th December at 11.00am. This service is led by our 2nd Classes.

You are very welcome to join us at any or all of our services. They are a real insight to the true meaning of Christmas.

Aladdin Connect

If you don't already have the Aladdin app please get in touch with Sharon in the Office and she can help set you up. Aladdin Connect allows for easier communication between parents and the school.

Book Fair

The annual school book fair will be on in the school hall from Thursday 23rd to Tuesday 28th November

*The Book Fair will be open each morning from 9:00 until 9:30am
Parents are welcome to come in and visit the Fair.*

Home School Community Liaison Instagram @sacredhearthscl

We have lots going on at the moment in Home/School!

- * First Class children and parents took part in Doodle Families on Tuesdays after school—we had great fun each week with the games and activities.
- * First Class children also took part in Doodle STEAM each Tuesday morning —a LOT of fun was had by all each week. The group who took part will enjoy a Doodle STEAM trip to the Big Picture on December 11th.
- * Maths for Fun will take place in Second Class on the following dates at 2pm each day—November 27th and 29th, December 4th and 6th.
- * Junior Infants Parent and child Christmas Crafts - 14th December (Thursday)
- * Senior Infants Parent and child Christmas Crafts - 18th December (Monday)
- * Coffee Morning and Christmas Raffle—Tuesday December 12th

Marina Boland, HSCL Teacher 0877443779

Attendance

Improving attendance continues to be our number one priority in our school. While we are aware that children can miss school for a variety of reasons it is also important to highlight the issue that attendance has become in our school. Being in school is important to your child's educational achievement, emotional and social wellbeing, and overall personal development.

Since 31st August, 16 children out of 205 have missed 0 days in school.

Girls attendance is 89.2% Boys attendance is 85.2%

Overall attendance this year is **87.3%** which means 1,180 days missed to date. Pre covid in 2019, this figure was **92.8%**. We would love to work together to get back to this number and improve attendance in our school

HEALTH & SAFETY CONCERNS - TRAFFIC

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Board of Management have asked me to draw your attention to and request your assistance with regard to parking in, around, and outside the school.

- (a) In the interest of every child's safety - cars, vans, motorbikes, pushbikes are not allowed in the school gates between 8.45am and 3.00pm.
Please do not park on the yellow lines and zigzag lines outside the gates
Please do not park on the footpath as this hampers visibility for staff members entering /leaving the school.
- (b) The Board of Management of the Senior School have requested that Parents/Guardians do not park in their grounds or parking area.

Here in the Junior School over 200 children come to school each day. With the dark mornings and evenings now we need to be more aware of the safety of everyone in our community. We need to ensure a safe, happy environment for all the children and the school staff.

Entering the School Grounds

Please use the small gate and pedestrian path to bring your child to school. Please do not walk through the car park as cars can be entering and leaving the school and small children cannot be easily seen.

Christmas Present Ideas

Board games are wonderful value for money as they are easy to store, can be played by almost all family members young and old and give great entertainment and fun. They teach children about fairness, sharing, turn taking, obeying rules, improve problem solving skills, reasoning, memory and vocabulary, and many of them strengthen reading and number skills

Available Board Games suitable for our children:

Snakes & Ladders, Operation, Bingo, Ludo, Connect 4, Shopping List, Head Bandz, Guess Who, Mouse Trap, Charades for Kids, Boggle, Five Second Rule, Pop Up Pirate, Scrabble Junior, Don't wake Dad, Frustration, Jenga, Monopoly, Pictionary Junior, Game of Life, Chess and Checkers!