

Sacred Heart Junior School

Newsletter March / April 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's great to see the snowdrops and daffodils starting to bloom, the brighter mornings, and the stretch in the evenings. Please continue to make sure your child is in school every day between now and Easter, we have only 2 weeks until our Easter holidays and the end of Term 2

Orla McLoughlin - Principal

SCHOOL CLOSURES & HOLIDAY DATES

18th March : School closed for St. Patrick's Day

Friday 22nd March : School closed for Easter Holidays at 12.00pm

School re-opens Monday 8th April at 9.00 a.m.

Change of Phone Numbers

If you have changed your phone number lately please let Sharon know in the Office. It is your responsibility to update the school with any changes. Please check with your child's teacher or Sharon if you are unsure if the school has your correct phone number.

Sharon can also help you with Aladdin Connect or Fresh Today passwords and issues.

NEW JUNIOR INFANTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

CHILDREN MUST BE 4 YEARS ON OR BEFORE 1ST SEPT, 2024

We are still taking applications for Junior Infants. Please collect a registration form from reception and bring it with your child's birth certificate, proof of address, PPS number and any other relevant reports relating to your child. If you know of any parent /guardian in the area with a child due to start school this September, please pass on this information.

Thank you.

Attendance

As part of our school improvement DEIS plan, Attendance is the number one priority in our school.

In January we had an overall attendance rate of 84.5%. (535 school days missed)

In February the attendance rate was 86.2% (477 school days missed)

Working together we can improve this further - Attendance matters everyday!

First Holy Communion

Second class children will receive their First Holy Communion on
Friday 17th May

10.00am—Ms. Kearns' Class

11.00am - Ms. Walsh's Class

12.00pm - Ms. Hudson's Class

The school photographer will be in the school on Monday 20th May at 9.00am

Open Day for Parents/Guardians of Early Start Children for September 2024

An Open Day for parents and Guardians who have
enrolled, or are looking to enrol, their child in the

Early Start will take place on :

Friday 15th March

from 1.30 p.m. in the Early Start

Everyone is welcome—adults and children!

We look forward to seeing you there.

The Early Start Team



Lá Glas

We are having a Green day on
Friday March 15th to
celebrate St Patrick's Day.

All children may dress up, if
they wish, in their greenest
clothes!

Green Schools

We are very lucky this month to have our nature
expert Pat Hunt visit the school. The children were able to
go outside on a nature walk and look at the local birds!
Pat will visit us again in March and May so all the classes will
have an opportunity to explore our wonderful school
grounds.

These Spring days provide an opportunity for the
children to experience
biodiversity on our doorstep.

We also had a visit from Claire from An Taisce to
assess our 7th Green School Flag application—
we will hear after Easter if we have succeeded!



The mornings are
brighter, the
evenings longer. We are
a WOW school so don't
forget to

**WALK ON
WEDNESDAY**

Home / School / Community Liaison

As usual I have been busy in HSCL! Lots of things are happening at the moment and I will be visiting all the Junior Infant parents in the coming weeks to say hello.

Please contact me if you have any queries or need help/advice on any school matters. I can call out to you or meet you in the school at any time!

At the moment we have.....

- ◆ Crafts Course with Audrey
- ◆ Maths4Fun all over the school!
- ◆ Parent Only Trips
- ◆ Stay and Play
- ◆ Doodle Families in First Class

If anything specific is happening in your child's class I will let you know by note or text message via Aladdin but keep an eye on my Instagram account!

Marina Boland 087 744 3779

Instagram – sacredhearthscscl

First Confession

All the children in 2nd class will celebrate their First Confession on
Thursday 14th March at 11.00 am
in the Church.

We wish them well for their special day.

NEW EARLY START CHILDREN FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

CHILDREN MUST BE 3 YEARS ON OR BEFORE 1ST SEPT, 2024

We are still taking applications for our Early Start Preschool. Please collect a registration form from reception and bring it back with your child's birth certificate, proof of address, PPS number and any other relevant reports relating to your child .

If you know of any parent /guardian in the area with a child due to start school this September, please pass on this information.

Thank you, The Early Start Team

Please check out our Instagram page - [earlystartkids123](#)

Safety of All Our Children

In order to provide a safe environment for all our children, we ask you please:

1. *Not* to drive into the school grounds under any circumstances, at any time between 8.40a.m. and 3.00 p.m. Gates are locked at regular intervals. If you disregard this request and your car gets locked in, you will have to wait. We will not open the gate until it is due to be open.

2. *Not* to park on the footpaths outside the school gates or in front of the barriers on yard. This area must to be kept clear for emergency services.

3. *Not* to park on the zone marked with yellow zig zag lines

NB: Please use the pedestrian path and gate when entering and leaving the school grounds - do not walk through the car park with your children.

Dogs on the school yard are a danger to children and some children are frightened of dogs. If you own a dog, please ensure that it does not enter the school yard.

Time Keeping and Attendance

Good attendance and punctuality are vital for success at school. The Education Welfare Act (2000) requires schools to report on attendance. The school is obliged to return absences of 20 days or more to TUSLA (Educational Welfare Services - Child and Family Agency). Please let the school know via Aladdin or in writing if your child is absent and why.

Punctuality & Routine

Punctuality and routine are very important for children. Establish a good morning routine and have your child in at 9am. The first 20 minutes gives your child a very good start to the day. School Roll is called at 10.30am each day, after this your child will be marked absent / late.

Best wishes, & Happy St Patricks Day

Orla McLoughlin Principal