



25<sup>th</sup> September 2023



# NUAHT NA CROISE NAOFA

## Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment Review

The Board of Management of Holy Cross School would like to inform all parents and members of the Holy Cross School community that the annual review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the most recent Board of Management meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The review was conducted in accordance with the Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement published on the Department of Education website - gov.ie. Many thanks to all parents who took part in our recent parental survey on child safeguarding measures in Holy Cross. It is reassuring to receive such positive feedback on the matter. Our updated Child Safeguarding Policy can be viewed on our school's website - [www.holycrossschool.ie](http://www.holycrossschool.ie)

The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) in Holy Cross School is the Principal, John McGrath. The DLP acts as contact in the case of Child Protection Concern you may have about your child or another child in the school. In his absence please contact the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL), Mr. Eoin Fitzgerald.



## PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



We are so proud of our Junior Girls Team who had their first match last week. The skill, determination and teamwork on show was fantastic! We look forward to supporting these young Dub stars for years to come!



## Voluntary Contributions

Dear Parents / Guardians,

It is at this time of the year that we usually ask parents who can, to make a voluntary contribution to the school. You will remember that we decided not to ask parents for this voluntary contribution for the last number of years as we felt families had enough on their plate with the pressures caused by Covid 19 and various cost of living increases. Another factor in our decision was the news last year that all schools would be receiving an increase to their capitation grant. The capitation grant is an amount paid to schools each year which is to be used to cover the cost of running the school and is based on the number of children attending. In reality this grant came in the form of a "once-off" cost of living grant for schools. This very welcome increase to school funding helped account for significant increases to energy and other associated running costs but did not adequately fund all of our schools' curriculum development activities. As of this moment schools do not have any information on whether this grant will be paid again this year.

As a result, this year, we are again asking for a voluntary contribution which will help us to provide the extras for our school curriculum development. Your generosity has a direct impact on the teaching and learning in our school.

As with previous years, we suggest an amount of €70 per child or a maximum of €120 per family if there is more than one child attending the school. This amount has not risen over the past ten years. If parents would like to donate more please bear in mind that a contribution of €250 or more also enables the school to claim the tax back on the donation. **We also remind parents that this donation is voluntary and is not obligatory.** We understand that all families are facing more difficult financial times and so would like parents to know that if they would prefer to make smaller contributions than the figures above, or make the contribution in instalments throughout the year, that option is available through the Aladdin link which Carina will be sending out to all parents later today. If parents would rather, they can of course pay by cheque or cash.

We count ourselves very lucky that we have such supportive families in Holy Cross. I wish to particularly thank our Parents' Association for their fundraising support which is so important to the running and development of our school.

On behalf of the Board of Management of Holy Cross School I would like to thank you sincerely for your ongoing support.

Míle Buíochas,  
John McGrath



## GAA Arrangements this week

Thankfully local pitches are once again deemed playable and so we see a return to the playing fields for some of our teams this week. For all of the below matches, the teachers will let the players know who is selected to travel in advance of the games.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> - Junior Boys Match vs Gaelscoil na Fuinseoige in Notre Dame at 3pm.** The boys will walk down from the school and walk back to Holy Cross after the match for collection at 4:15pm.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> - Senior Girls Match vs Gaelscoil na Fuinseoige in Deerpark at 3pm.** The girls will return to Holy Cross for collection at 4:15pm.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> - Senior Boys Match vs Good Counsel, Johnstown in Deerpark at 2:30pm.** The boys will return to the school for collection at 3:45pm.

Unfortunately, after the wonderful success our first ever Girls Junior Team had last week, their fixture this week has been cancelled due to opposition being unable to field. Mr. Fitz is determined to find more opportunities to get our Junior Girls back out on the pitch very soon. To confirm, there will be no Junior girls fixture this week.

**There will be no GAA training for any team this week.**

## Spanish Lessons for Rang 5 & Rang 6



Rang 5 and Rang 6 began Spanish lessons last Thursday with Marta! These lessons, which focus on familiarising pupils with the language through enjoyable games and activities is a great opportunity for our senior students before they head off to secondary school. Many thanks to our wonderful Parents Association for supplementing the cost of these lessons each year.