



29th September 2025



NUACHT NA CROISE NAOFA

Enrolment in Junior Infants 2026/2027

It is that time of the year again in Holy Cross! From Wednesday 1st October, we will be accepting applications for Junior Infants who will start in Holy Cross in September 2026.

October is the month for applications and our online application form is available on our school website <https://www.holycrossschool.ie/>.

You will also be able to find our Admissions Policy and Annual Admissions Notice on our school website under "Admissions" in the Information for Parents section.

PHOTOS OF THE WEEK

This week's photos are of some lovely Autumn Art in Ms. Hegarty's Junior Infants





Voluntary Contribution

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. Last year, your voluntary contributions allowed us to complete a very exciting overhaul of one of our schoolyards, the benefits of which are clear for all to see. Such an ambitious project was only possible thanks to your generous support, prudent financial planning on the part of the Board of Management and the work of our very supportive Parents Association led by the Parents Committee - **thank you**.

Schools are funded through a number of Government grants each year, particularly the school capitation grant. This grant increased slightly last year but it still does not adequately fund the day to day running costs of the school (for example almost two thirds of this grant was spent on our electricity and heating bills last year). Schools also received a cost of living grant last year. Current information indicates that this grant will not be paid to schools this year.

You will remember that last year we increased the suggested contribution amount to €100 per child (or €150 per family) due to the scale of the funding required to complete the yard project. This year, as promised, we are reverting back to the usual suggested amount of €70 per child or €120 per family. With the exception of last year, this amount has not risen over the past ten years. 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 very much welcome initiatives like the free school books scheme and the upcoming free hot lunches programme for primary schools. We would also 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 Miriam 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

Second Hand Uniform and Halloween Costume / Christmas Jumper Sale



We would like to thank all of the families who have dropped in pre-loved uniform items for the sale. If you have uniform items in good condition please feel free to drop them into Miriam in the office.



As well as the very popular Halloween Costume Sale, our Parents Association are also including pre-loved Christmas Jumpers to the sale this year. If you have any Halloween costumes or Christmas jumpers that you would like to donate, they can also be dropped into the office at any time.



Sales of all items will take place on the same day - **Friday, 10th October.**

We will have further information on times etc. for the uniform sale in next week's Nuachtlitir.



On a related topic, we are receiving a large amount of lost jumpers and jackets into the office that are not labelled. This takes up a huge amount of time for Miriam and staff and is easily avoided if uniforms are clearly labelled. Please check your child's jackets, jumpers and tracksuits and label appropriately. Many thanks!



Family Mass Team in Holy Cross Church

The Holy Cross Family Mass team is gearing up again after the Summer break. The Family Mass takes place every Sunday at 10:30am in Holy Cross Church. All children, parents/guardians and grandparents are welcome to come along. The Family Mass team would love to have more parents/guardians and children involved each week. If you and/or your child would like to get involved in reading, bringing up symbols or becoming an altar server, please email holycrossfamilymass@gmail.com or the Parish Office for more information. Please note that children must be at least 7 years old to become an altar server but no other age requirement exists for the other roles.

Fr. Paul will be doing a blessing of animals outside the Church on Sunday 5 October at 3pm to mark the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi - all families are welcome to bring along their pets!

GAA Arrangements this week



Well done to our Girls Senior team who had their final game of the season on Wednesday of last week. The girls showed fantastic heart, skill and determination throughout earning a well deserved victory - maith sibh!



Our Junior Team's season continues and they play Star of the Sea, Sandymount in Deerpark on Tuesday at 2:15pm. They will return to the school for collection at 3:45pm.

Our Senior Boys team have no match this week ahead of their Quarter Final next week. They will train at 8:20am in the school yard this Thursday morning in preparation.