



16<sup>th</sup> October 23



# NUAHT NA CROISE NAOFA



## Junior Infants Enrolment 2024



**Reminder:** Applications are now being accepted for next year's Junior Infant Class. The last day for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

## Goal Jersey Day

Many thanks to all of our children and staff for taking part in our GOAL jersey day last Friday - we raised an impressive €466.50 in total and had great fun along the way. It was lovely to see the colour and variety of jerseys at our Tionól on Friday morning. These funds, along with any money raised from our Halloween Costume sale this Friday, will go directly to GOAL. Please note, if you have any old Halloween costumes you would like to donate, please drop them into Carina in the office.

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



We had great fun in last week's Tionól with lots of colour on show for GOAL Jersey Day!

## Maths Week 2023



Today is the first day of Maths Week in Holy Cross, there will be lots of activities for all the children to participate in. As you can see, Ms. Hegarty has arranged lots of fun activities and resources for the classes to enjoy this week.

This year's theme is 'Maths for All', we will be focusing on how maths is all around us in everything we do.

We want as many families as possible involved in Maths Week at home too! Your family can take part in Maths Week by uploading a photograph on X of you completing a maths challenge using #HCDundrum #MathsWeek2023 #IUseMaths. You can find out more info on Maths Weeks at <https://www.mathsweek.ie/2023/>

We will have a daily maths riddle to solve and there will be lots of fun challenges going on in the classes each day.

Thank you to our parent speakers Matthew and James for offering to come in to speak to 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class about their jobs in maths and science.

### Below are some ideas for Maths Week at home;

- Complete a Sudoku puzzle.
- Colour or paint some pattern art.
- Build a 3D robot using recycled material.
- Make a World Cup Rugby Chart with match dates, times and scores.
- Play a game of Bingo using numbers 1-100.
- Work on your tables using UNO cards.
- Build a Marble Run with old cardboard.
- Take photographs of 'maths all around us'. A great website to use for some inspiration is <https://haveyougotmathseyes.com/>



## Holy Cross Parents Cyber Smart Charter

Many thanks to all parents who provided feedback to the proposed voluntary parents' charter on smart phone, social media and online gaming usage over the last number of weeks. The support for the proposal was very positive and your feedback has informed the next steps of the process.

### A summary of the feedback is as follows

- 96% of respondents approved of the charter.
- Parents requested educational supports to enable further conversations with their children at home.
- Parents requested that the school provide further education for the children in school on the reasoning behind the charter.

Following the positive response, the Parents Association, supported by the Board of Management and Staff of Holy Cross School are proud to launch the

## Holy Cross Parents' Cyber Smart Charter

### Aims of the Cyber Smart Charter

- Families agree not to purchase smartphones for children while they are in primary school.
- Families agree not to allow children to engage in social media while they are in primary school.
- Families agree to respect age limits on computer and online games.

### Other important information

- This is a voluntary charter for the parents in Holy Cross School.
- This charter acknowledges that parents have the right to opt in completely, or adopt whichever of the aims work for their family, without judgement and with respect for each family's individual circumstances.
- This charter is separate to [Holy Cross School's Mobile Phone Policy](#) which states clearly that children are not permitted to use mobile phones in school.

### Next Steps

- Each family will be supplied with a copy of the Cyber Smart Charter.
- Promotional posters will be displayed in the school (see images on the next page).
- Rang 2 to Rang 6 will have age appropriate lessons in school on internet safety and behaviour online. This will supplement lessons already delivered each year in school on online safety and behaviour as part of the SPHE Curriculum.
- Parents can engage with the below resources on online safety and use this information, along with the Cyber Smart Charter, to inform conversations about smart phone usage, social media and online gaming with their children at home.

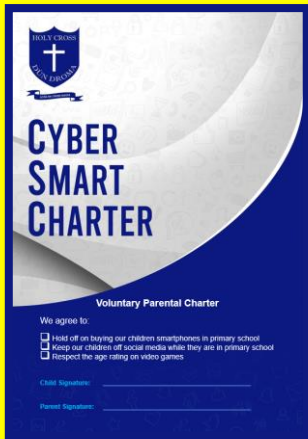
### Resources for Parents (click the links to access the resources)

[Parents' Guide to a Better Internet](#)

[Online safety Webinar with Dr. Colman Noctor](#)

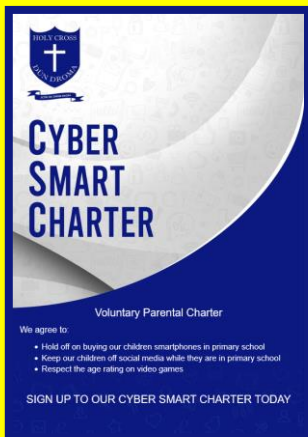
[Cybersafe Kids Annual Report](#)

[Cybersafe Kids - Cyber Academy \(short, child friendly videos\)](#)



## Cyber Smart Charter contd.

A copy of the Cyber Smart Charter will be distributed to each family in the coming days. We hope that, with the resources listed on the previous page, this will assist parents when discussing smartphone and social media usage in your home.



This Friday also sees Cybersafe Kids' CyberBreak taking place. CyberBreak seeks to raise awareness about the importance of having a happy and healthy balance between our online and offline lives. CyberBreak is a fun filled family break where you turn off your smart devices (mobiles, laptops, iPads, computers, gaming consoles) for 24-hours. More info can be found on [www.cybersafekids.ie/cyberbreak](http://www.cybersafekids.ie/cyberbreak)

## Board of Management Nominees

Boards of Management of primary schools are appointed for a four-year term. The Board manages the school on behalf of the Patron and is accountable to the Patron and the Minister for Education. The Board of Management of all primary schools in the country will reach the end of their term, 2019-2023, on 30th November 2023. Processes for the formation of new Board of Managements (2023-2027) are currently ongoing. Part of the make up of each Board of Management is two Parent Nominees. One mother and one father will be elected to the Board. If you would like to nominate yourself for one of these positions, please email Board of Management Chairperson, Ms. Hilary Roche, at [chairpersonholycross@gmail.com](mailto:chairpersonholycross@gmail.com). Please note: a ballot will be held if more than one nomination is received for either position.

## Capital Credit Union School savings Scheme



The School Saving Scheme has been very successful in encouraging primary school children to learn how to save from a young age.

The way it works is:

- Children must save 5 times between now and May 2024 to complete a Savers Reward Card
- Children who complete a Savers Reward Card are entered into a draw in May 2024
- We will be giving away a €100 Smyths Voucher in each branch to one lucky child
- €10 will be donated to the school for each Savers Reward Card - minimum of 10 cards, up to a max of €1,000

This is a great opportunity for children to create positive saving habits which will hopefully last a lifetime! Interested families can contact their local Capital Credit Union branch for more information on setting up an account.



### Cathal Holden Visit

Last Friday, We were fortunate enough to have poet, Cathal Holden visit the school. He did a poetry workshop with Rang 5 & Rang 6 and entertained Rang 3 & Rang 4 in the halla after Tionól!

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Class trip to Seamus Heaney exhibition

Both Ms. Faulkner and Mr. Kelly's Rang 3 classes will be taking a trip to town on Wednesday of this week to visit the Seamus Heaney exhibit in the National Library. They will travel to the city centre on the Luas and return before the end of the school day.