



# Holy Family JNS

River Valley Swords

River Valley, Swords, Co. Dublin, Charity Number 20119300



## December 2022



### Principal's Welcome

Welcome to our Term 1 Newsletter. Thanks to Ms Ginty for coordinating and producing this newsletter. We had a great start to this school year as we returned to school with no restrictions for the first time in two years. A special welcome to our Junior Infants who settled in very well.

We have had a very busy 1st term which included National Tree Day, Trick or Treat, Maths Week and the Shoe Box Appeal. We had our Book Fair which raised €7740.

Our Christmas celebrations have been very eventful with our carol services, a visit from Santa, Helix Panto and a trip to the cinema. I would like to acknowledge the contributions and support of staff, parents and children of HFJNS throughout this year. Wishing you all a very 'happy and peaceful Christmas and best wishes for 2023.

Mary Mc Nally

### Junior Infant Photos

County Photos were here on the 29th September to take the Junior Infants photos. The infants were turned out in style and smiled all the way through!



### Return of Face to Face Meetings

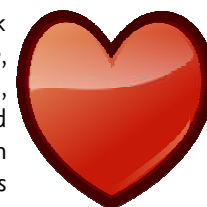
Teachers and Parents alike were happy to see the return of face to face meetings being permitted in the school. The Junior Infant Information Talks and Parent Teacher meetings were a great success taking place in October and November respectively.

### National Tree Day



Many classes enjoyed our new QR Code Tree Trail to celebrate National Tree Day on October 6<sup>th</sup>. The school grounds are home to many varieties of Native Irish Trees. These have been planted over the past 40 years. Many thanks to Ms. McCabe and Ms. Corr for setting this up. Please visit Recent News on website for more and avail of the QR codes in the grounds when you are passing!

We wish our former colleagues who have left the school in recent years the very best in their new endeavours and thank them for all their years teaching here in HFJNS – Ms. Burke, Ms. Coughlin, Ms. Deegan, Ms. Dolan, Ms. Glennon, Ms. A Kelly, Ms. C Kelly, Ms. Murphy, Ms. McGrath and Ms. O'Connell. We are sure that you will join the BOM in thanking our former principal, Mr. Declan Power, for his excellent service to the school and wish him a happy, healthy and enjoyable retirement.



Our annual fundraiser Trick or Treat for Temple Street raised €1090. This was held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup>

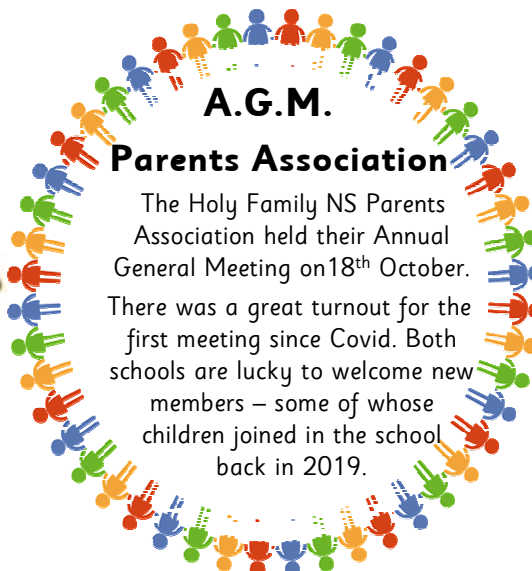
October just before our midterm break. The children enjoyed the day dressed up in spooky costumes and dancing in the PE hall. Many thanks to Ms. Coen for driving this each year. Visit our website for photos!

### A.G.M.

#### Parents Association

The Holy Family NS Parents Association held their Annual General Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> October.

There was a great turnout for the first meeting since Covid. Both schools are lucky to welcome new members – some of whose children joined in the school back in 2019.





Maths helps us to learn and think creatively and critically. Maths Week brings numbers to life and promotes a positive attitude towards numeracy. Maths Week Ireland is an annual all-Island celebration of mathematical thinking. HFJNS celebrated Maths week from 15<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October.



Each class engaged in fun and imaginative Maths activities. Infants paired with the first and second classes to engage in Maths activities.

We had Maths Week competitions with plenty of delighted and well deserved winners.

Rinne na páistí Tóráíocht Mata leis an téama Oíche Shamhna. Bhí orthu rudai a bhaineann le hOíche Shamhna a lorg agus a comhair. Bhain na páistí an taitneamh as. Well done to all the pupils for taking part. Thank you to Ms. Coen, Maths Co-ordinator and Ms. Ginty, Gaeilge Co-ordinator. Visit [holyfamijns.ie](http://holyfamijns.ie) for photos!



## Santa Visits HFJNS



Who took a break from his very busy schedule last Friday? None other than Santa!

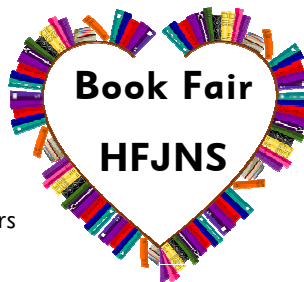
He has confirmed that all children are on the Nice list and he checked it twice! The children were surprised to hear his sleigh bells and were on their best behaviour as he visited each class.

Many thanks to our Board Of Management for their wonderful support through the year and for recently funding the Helix Panto "Hansel and Gretel". It was available to view in class over the past week - the children enjoyed it immensely! Oh yes they did!



## Dates for the Diary

St. Brigid's BH	6 February 23
Mid-Term	13 -17 February 23
Seachtain na Gaeilge	1 – 16 March 23
St Patrick's BH	17 March 23
Easter Break	31 Mar–17 Apr 23



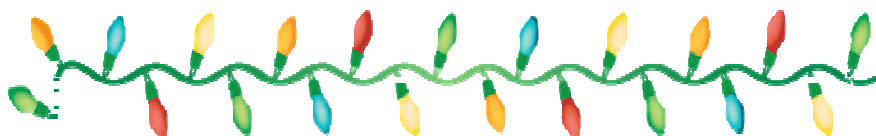
The return of our annual book fair this year brought a smile to all book lovers faces.

It took place every day in the school hall from the 14th to 18th November.

To the children's delight, there were small trinkets to buy in addition to lots of beautiful books. We are as ever grateful to the members of the Parents Association who setup, organised and helped the children make their important purchases. Many thanks to Ms. Fitzsimons - Literacy Co-ordinator JNS and Mr. Duffy SNS for facilitating! Sales in the Junior School amounted to €7,740 - 60% of this value will be converted to credit with Scholastic to fund resources for the school library.



The Second Classes have been enjoying a spot of tennis this term! This session rotates to other class levels. Thanks to Schools Tennis Initiative co-ordinated by Fingal County Council for this 4-week block.



## Hark the Herald Angels Sing ...

The Christmas concerts were in full swing last week. It was lovely to welcome parents, guardians, grandparents, siblings and extended families. The concerts took place in our school hall and in St. Finian's Church. Many thanks to all for their cooperation in facilitating these venues and to Ms. Hayes for co-ordinating.

For almost all children, it was their first opportunity to perform in person for their loved ones.

Ms. McNally would like to thank the children for their wonderful performances, the staff for their time and efforts - in particular those who provided live music, and the family members who came to enjoy and support their little ones.



\*\*\*\*\*School Re-opens 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023\*\*\*\*\*