



# Holy Family JNS

River Valley Swords

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



## March 2023

### Principal's Message

Welcome to our Term 2 Newsletter. We have had a busy term with Science Week, Spring Day and all the activities that took place during Seachtain na Gaeilge.



In this newsletter, we are delighted to launch a new initiative called **KidsView**. Children from 2nd class will be invited to contribute to the newsletter. These children will chose a topic, write a draft and edit their piece - this process allows children to purposefully engage with writing and will be denoted with the binocular symbol. *Thanks to Ms Ginty for coordinating KidsView and producing the newsletter.*

On behalf of the board and staff, I would like to thank Ailbhe Glennon, Máire Clerkin and David Minnock for their contribution and dedication over the years in Holy Family JNS. I would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter – enjoy the break. Hope the Easter Bunny comes!



Mary Mc Nally



### Science Week

took place in HFJNS from the 30<sup>th</sup> January to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023. This nationwide event gives children an opportunity to appreciate and celebrate science in our everyday lives. This year, we were especially delighted to welcome back our Parent Talks amongst other activities including exciting experiments, Dinosaur Excavations and Design & Build Groups where infant classes joined forces with 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> to complete a STEM challenge! The children loved the Daily Facts in addition to learning about famous scientists. Many thanks to our STEM parents for their time and involvement and to Ms. Corr for organising a great week. Check out the [website](#) for photos and more!

### Buddy Reading



A new interschool reading initiative took place over the past six weeks. Everyone would agree it was a great success. Many thanks to the Junior and Senior school teachers involved.



### KidsView by Lexi-Jai & Sienna

Every Monday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> classes went to the 5<sup>th</sup> classes and every Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> classes went to the 1<sup>st</sup> classes for Buddy Reading. We all got partnered up. We brought our books and took turns reading. It as fun because we got to see the Senior School and make new friends. We love Buddy Reading!



### KidsView by Grace, Cameron & Luke

We had special visitors to our classrooms to teach us about science. One parent was a scientist in a lab and he taught us all about germs. The boy and girls in 2<sup>nd</sup> class and in Senior Infants became engineers and built cool 3D creations using marshmallows and toothpicks. It was so much fun!

### Catholic Schools Week



CSW was celebrated from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> January with the theme "Walking together in Faith and Love". Children from 2<sup>nd</sup> class marked this with prayers and reflections read daily over the school intercom. Our thanks to Ms.Hayes for facilitating this.



On 2nd February, pupils and teachers alike had a very exciting day. A film crew visited the school to record a class of Junior and Senior infants in action as *Gaeilge!* Having taken on a new scheme this year for the teaching and learning of Irish called *Cosán na Gealaí*, Gill Publications chose our school to participate in their promotional video. Visit [cosannagealai.ie](http://cosannagealai.ie) to view this video.



### HFJNS Art Gallery

In 2018, an initiative was introduced by Ms Fitzsimons which supported the Arts and our own budding artists in Holy Family. Interesting works are displayed around the school to foster an appreciation of art. An Art Exhibition was set up in the foyer of the school to display the children's art. Many thanks to Ms. Fadden for co-ordinating this each term.

### KidsView by Roman & Sophia



The Art Gallery is at the front of our school. Every term, a piece of art is chosen from each class. If your art is chosen for the Art Gallery, you get a badge and a certificate. It makes the corridors colourful and fun. Holy Family has lots of great artists. Go Art!



## Safer Internet Day

took place on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023. This is an EU wide initiative to promote a safer Internet for all users, especially young people.

The children took part in discussion, songs and stories to raise their awareness of staying safe online. Thank you to Ms. McCabe for co-ordinating this. Any parent who wishes to learn more about online safety for their child, please visit [webwise.ie](http://webwise.ie)



### SENSORY PATH



This term a sensory corridor and outdoor space was installed in the school. Many children benefit from this daily. This was funded by the Parents Association. Our sincere thanks to all.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge 2023

Holy Family JNS joined in the worldwide celebration of Irish language and culture from 1<sup>st</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March. The children were fantastic; embracing classroom activities, a ceolchoirm with the Teachers Band, a bi-lingual show and finishing up with the Céilí Mór and Parade. Thank you to Ms Ginty for organising the events and buíochas mór lena páistí agus na múinteoirí go léir. Visit our [website](http://website) for photos and videos.

### The "Indoor" Parade KidsView by Ethan & Mila

Our school parade took place on 15<sup>th</sup> March. Every class in our school marched around the Junior School for the parade. Music was playing. We cheered and clapped for each other. It was great fun. It was a nice way to end Seachtain na Gaeilge. Not even the rain could stop our fun!

### Trioblóid sa Chaisleáin KidsView by Rachel, Darragh & Luke

On 11<sup>th</sup> March, we went to the school hall to see a drama. It was about a queen who wanted turn her castle into a coffee shop, a princess who wanted to be a boxer and an evil villain who wanted to take over the castle. It was hilarious. We sang songs. It was great fun. Everyone enjoyed it.

### An Ceoilchoirm KidsView by Nicole, Liam & Clayton

On 14<sup>th</sup> March, we went to the hall for a Ceoilchoirm. Ms Corr, Ms Kearns, Ms Hough, Ms Roughneen, Ms Rattigan, Ms McCabe, Ms Linnane and Ms Hayes were up on the stage. They played the bodhrán, the accordion, the tin whistle, the piano, the guitar and the flute. All the children clapped and sang along to the music. Some children played the tin whistle for us. It was brilliant fun. The teachers were as good as The Beatles!  
(We think our teacher Ms Kearns was the best – shhh!)

## Spring Day 2023



A huge thank you to the Parents Association for a fantastic Spring Day this year. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> March, the children were treated to delicious cakes and fun activities. The Bumper Raffle brought great excitement and many winners to both schools. All proceeds go towards educational resources and this year, we raised €10,500. To get involved, please email [holyfamilyparentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamilyparentsassociation@gmail.com)



### KidsView by Erin & Bella

We went to the PE hall for the cake sale. There were scrumptious cakes such as Krispys, chocolate and blueberry cupcakes. There was a raffle and a guessing game. There were presents and flowers for Mothers Day. It was a great day.



### Tennis & GAA

Thanks to coaches from Swords Tennis Initiative via the Fingal County Council. & to St. Finian's GAA – the children have been enjoying their sessions!



### Toraíochta na Cásca

The term came to a close this week with an Easter themed Irish and Maths Hunt. The children had great fun ag leanúint an tóraíocht agus iad ag caint as Gaeilge. Thanks to Ms Coen and Ms Ginty for organising this fun event. Beannachtaí na Cásca Oraibh!



### KidsView le Evan, Molly & Thomas

Chuamar ar Tóraíochta na Cásca. Bhíomar ag lorg Coinín na Cásca. Rinneamar é l mbeirteanna. Chonaiceamar a lán sícín agus milseán. Thosaigh sé ag cur báistí ach bhí a lán spraoi againn.

## Dates for the Diary

Term 3 Re-opening	17 <sup>th</sup> April
May BH Closure	1 <sup>st</sup> May
First Communion	6 <sup>th</sup> May
Senior Infant Tour	19 <sup>th</sup> May
June BH Closure	5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> June
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Tour	12 <sup>th</sup> June
Incoming JI Visit	13 <sup>th</sup> &14 <sup>th</sup> June
2 <sup>nd</sup> Class Tour	15 <sup>th</sup> June
Junior Infant Tour	16 <sup>th</sup> June
Summer Closure	12 noon 30 <sup>th</sup> June