



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 choose 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 30th January to 3rd 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 1st/2nd 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!



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 2nd class and in Senior Infants became engineers and built cool 3D creations using marshmallows and toothpicks. It was so much fun!



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 Gaeilge, Gill Publications chose our school to participate in their promotional video. Visit cosannagealai.ie to view this video.

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



Catholic

Schools Week

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



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 7th 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



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 1st to 17th 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 mórlena páistí agus na múinteoirí go léir. Visit our [website](#) for photos and videos.



The “Indoor” Parade

KidsView by Ethan & Mila



Our school parade took place on 15th 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 11th 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 14th March, we went to the hall for a Ceolchoirm. 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 3rd 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

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 toraíocht 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 Toraíochta na Cásca. Bhíomar ag lorg Coinín na Cásca. Rinneamar é i mbeirteanna. Chonaiceamar a lán sicín agus milseán. Thosaigh sé ag cur báistí ach bhí a lán spraoi againn.

Dates for the Diary

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