



Holy Rosary School Update

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29/09/2023

Dear Parent / Guardian,

It's hard to believe that the first month of the school year is already coming to a close! It's been a busy and exciting time for our school community, and we'd like to say a huge thank you and well done to everyone for their hard work and enthusiasm.

A special mention for our 48 incredible Junior Infants who have officially completed their first month of "big school!" This is a big milestone for these boys and girls and we're very proud of them.

Within this newsletter, you'll find important information, updates, and glimpses into events within our school. Please take a moment to read its contents carefully.

Thank you all for your continued support.

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PA AGM & Presentation From Hayley Rice

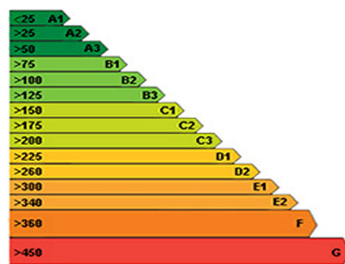
Our PA AGM will take place on **Thursday October 12th at 7.30pm.**

We're also delighted to invite guest speaker Hayley Rice. Hayley will deal with a range of topics on the evening, including:

- Understanding anxiety in children.
- Building confidence and self esteem in our children.
- Positive Parenting.

We're all really looking forward to this event. To help us plan, and to gauge numbers can you please complete the following form to register your interest in attending:

[RSVP for PA AGM & Hayley Rice Presentation](#)



BER Energy Chart

Retrofit For Holy Rosary School!

We're pleased to announce that our school will be engaging in a retrofit project this summer. This retrofit project represents a significant investment from the Department of Education.

Its primary objectives are to enhance the BERs of both the Holy Rosary and Bethlehem buildings, achieving a minimum BER of B1, while also transitioning to a more sustainable and energy-efficient approach.

The project will see the installation of air exchange units in every classroom across both buildings. Solar panels and air to water heat pumps will be installed and significant insulation works will take place in both buildings. We're extremely excited to engage in this project and we look forward to keeping you updated on our journey in the weeks and months ahead.

The Kube - Please support Siobhán!



We'd like to wish Siobhán Quinn, a parent from our school, the very best of luck as she takes part in the Kube Fundraiser in St Pats GAA Club on Saturday evening. We are so thankful to Siobhán, who has chosen to raise funds for our ASD classes. We really appreciate any support that you would like to give! The Doors open at 7:15pm and the event gets underway from 8pm. Tickets are available on eventbrite - please click on the link below to offer your support!

[Link to Tickets](#)

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Mobile Phones & Other Devices Policy

In this newsletter we encourage all parents & guardians to carefully consult our **Mobile Phones & Other Devices Policy**. The landscape is ever changing when it comes to the various modes of communication technology available to us and with this in mind it's more important than ever that we protect our children from the dangers associated with these. I'd particularly like to bring your attention to the second last paragraph of our policy that deals with 'other devices'

Children are not permitted to bring any other electronic devices to school, to school-related events in school or to offsite school-related activities. Many of these devices have messaging and recording capabilities and as such are not permitted in school (cross reference Data Protection and Anti-Bullying Policies).

Please note that **smart watches** and any other emerging technology with messaging and recording capabilities fall into this category and are **not permitted in school**. Please read the policy in full here:

[Mobile Phones & Other Devices Policy](#)



Professional photographers will be in our school next **Friday 6th October** as mentioned in our previous newsletter.

Here's a brief overview of what Michael and his team from County Photos will be offering:

1. **Family Photos**: Each family unit in the school will have the opportunity to have their photograph taken.

2. **Individual and Sibling Photos:** Junior Infants and 6th class pupils will be photographed individually and with their siblings. Pupils from Senior Infants to 5th Class will have the option to be photographed with their siblings or on their own if they do not have a sibling in the school.

3. **Multiple Poses:** You will have the choice of two poses for each family unit at no additional cost. You can select from image 1, image 2, or even a combination of both.

4. **Class Group Photos:** A class group photo will be taken for each classroom group.

Package prices start at €8, There is **NO** obligation to buy.

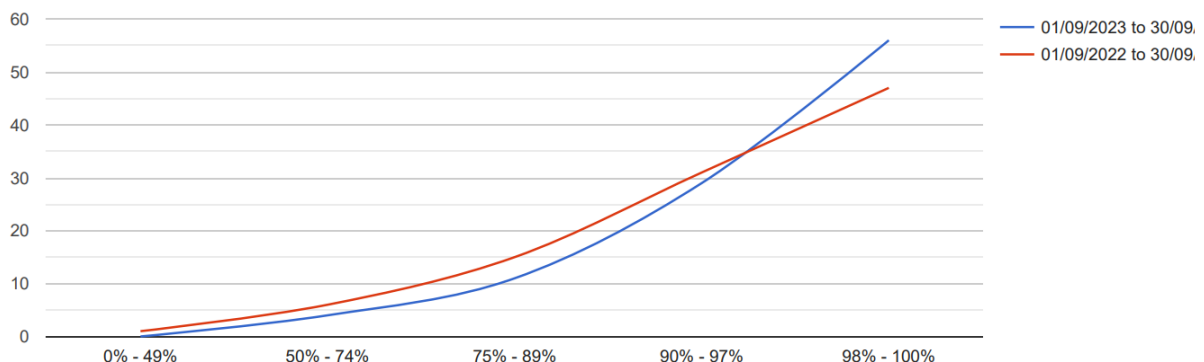
Once samples sent home parents can purchase via online shop facility, shop.countyphotos.ie . Orders will be delivered to the school. Cash payment option is also available. See attached for prices and options

[County Photos Flyer](#)

[County Photos Prices](#)

September Attendance Update

Class and Student Attendance Report



Last year saw a 2.8% year-on-year improvement in attendance for our school. This still leaves us with a significant gap to bridge to pre covid levels. I'm happy to report that September 2023 has seen a **1.4% improvement**. Our % rate of absences has fallen from 6.7% for the 2022 September period to 5.3% for the same period in 2023. I'd like to thank you all for your cooperation with this. Let's continue to make a huge effort in the month of October!

Our school is **duty bound** to report all absences to the Education Welfare Officer. We would like to remind all parents/guardians to please ensure that you **record the reason** for your child's absence via the **Aladdin App**.

Again, it is hugely important to emphasise that, **under no circumstances, should children come to school if they are unwell**. The health and well-being of our pupils and staff remain our priority. Please see the attached document below which illustrates the importance of school attendance in detail.

Importance of School Attendance



We Need Your Help!

Following on from previous messages, we'd really appreciate any help that parents / guardians can give to our school. We will need this additional support for certain events to become a reality.

To become a volunteer, there is a necessary step we request you to complete. Any parent / guardian wishing to volunteer must undergo Garda vetting through the school. This vetting process is an essential step which must be taken before you can volunteer.

We strongly urge as many of you as possible to take this important step in becoming a volunteer. Your willingness to be vetted not only allows you to support us during events like these but also opens the door to many future opportunities where your involvement can make a significant difference in our school community.

Please complete page one of the form attached below and return to Francesca in the office. Please note that you will need to bring two forms of I.D. including one with a photo when you are returning the form. Thanks in advance for your support.

Vetting Form



The Centre for Talented Youth, Ireland at Dublin City University is running Saturday and Summer Programmes for Primary School students with Exceptional Academic Ability. Children scoring above the 90th percentile in standardised tests are eligible for initial assessment. Please follow this link for more information.

<https://www.dcu.ie/ctyi/centre-talented-youth-ireland-primary-school-students>

All queries to ms.byrne@holyrosaryschool.ie

B.O.M. Agreed Report for Parents / Guardians

Our most recent Board of Management meeting took place on Wednesday 20th September. Please see a report from our meeting below:

B.O.M Report

Girls in Flying Form!



A massive well done to our girls who played their socks off in their Cumann na mBunscol blitz in Bray recently. A huge thank you to their mentors and volunteer parent for accompanying the team. Please read their report below!

[Blitz Report](#)

GAA School / Community Link

I'm hoping to organise a meeting in the coming weeks with a view to establishing a strong partnership within our school community to grow and promote our games in the school and beyond! Please email principal@holyrosaryschool.ie if you'd like to join.

School Policies

Please find links to a selection of important school policies here. We kindly ask that you familiarise yourself with these.

[Holy Rosary School Code of Behaviour](#)

[Accepted Uniform in Holy Rosary School](#)

[Child Protection Safeguarding Statement P1](#)

[Child Protection Risk Assessment P2](#)

Facebook Page

Please check out our facebook page for photos and updates!

[Holy Rosary Facebook Page](#)

School Calendar 2023/24

School Calendar for your convenience:

[School Calendar 23-24](#)

We will be in touch with further updates soon, but for now we'd like to wish you a pleasant weekend!

Le meas,

Brendan Roache,

Príomhoide.



Holy Rosary School

W: www.holyrosaryschoolwicklow.ie Ph: (0404) 67939 E: secretary@holyrosaryschool.ie