

Holy Rosary School

Mid Term Update

NEWSLETTER ONE

OCTOBER 2020

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **Covid Response Plan** will be reviewed at mid-term. Any changes/updates will be emailed to parents before we return to school
- **School re-opens Monday 2nd November 2020**
- **Enrolments 2021** will be open from 3rd-24th November. See the website for further information

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Back to School Success!

Welcome back to a new school year everyone! The return to school this year has been like no other. We have had so many hurdles to overcome, but on the whole we have had a very successful re-opening of our school.

Over the summer months the Board of Management and the In-School Management Team worked extremely hard to make sure that all the necessary procedures were put in place to keep everyone safe.

Since our return the staff has worked tirelessly to ensure that these first few weeks back have gone well for everyone. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated staff and it is a credit to them that things have gone so well for us here.

A huge thank you to our parent

body! You have supported all our new procedures and co-operated with us every day. This has been central to the success of our safe return to school. We continue to keep



Fáilte ar ais!

our Covid Response Plan under review and we thank you for your patience and understanding as we make necessary changes. The health and safety of everyone in our school community is our number one priority and we are thankful for the support you give us in that regard everyday.

The final word has to go to our pupils. They have been fantastic and have done a great job since they arrived back to school. It is lovely to see all the smiling faces back in school where they belong! They are working so hard with their teachers and it is great to see the learning happening every day!

We all deserve a pat on the back for working together and having as good a start as we could to this very strange year. The aim now is to keep this going: by working together and following our plan our aim is to remain in school and keep our community safe, well and happy!

**WOOHOOO WE DID IT
THANK YOU
EVERYONE!**

Poster Competition

Well done to all the boys and girls from 3rd-6th class who took part in our "Design a Safety Poster" competition. We got fabulous entries in and it was a tough competition to judge! The children created wonderful designs and catchy slogans to help share some

important safety messages around our school: **remember social distancing and wear a face mask to protect yourself and others.**

The winning posters are now on display on the walls around the campus. Check them out when dropping/collecting from school!

We hope these messages from the children will encourage people to continue to help protect our school community by taking simple precautions.

Congratulations again to our winners: Hollie and Muireann(3rd), Jan, Grace and Ailbhe (4th), Goda and Emma (5th) and Katelyn, Alice, Caoimhe and Katelyn (6th).

Welcome New Students!



Fr. Donal helped us welcome all our pupils back to school with a special blessing of the schoolbags...via Zoom!

A big shout out to all our new pupils!

In the midst of all our new rules and regulations we welcomed two new classes of Junior Infants to our school! With the help of Ms. Russell and Ms. O'Keeffe, they have settled so well into school life and we are so proud of the excellent work they have done so far.

From their very first day they have been so good at following all the guidelines and they have been super at coming in every morning.

The first day of school is always such a memorable one, but we will always remember this particular year! Starting school in 2020 has been an experience like no other!

A warm welcome also to our pupils who have joined other classes up through the school. They have blended so well with their classes that

you'd hardly know they hadn't been here before! It can be tricky moving to a new school and this particular year has added extra difficulty to it, but they have all done a great job!

Finally, welcome to the families of all our new students. We hope that you are enjoying your experience of our school and that you are getting to know other families. If you need any assistance please contact our secretary Francesca and she will help you:

secretary@holyroaryschool.ie

*This September
we opened a
brand new Early
Intervention Class
for children with
ASD*

New Early Intervention Class

Not only did we welcome new pupils to Junior Infants this year, we also opened a brand new class in our school!

Our first day back to school marked the start of our Early Intervention Class for children with ASD. There are currently 5 children in this class and they are based in the Willow Room in Bethlehem along with their teacher Ms. Kearns.

We are delighted to have opened this class as it is a great resource for the local community.

The idea behind an Early Intervention Class is to help support children before they start primary school. As a result, the children in our class are as young as 3 years old. They have done an amazing job of starting in school and our hope is that

they flourish and grow in school this year.

An Early Intervention Class caters for a maximum of 6 pupils with one teacher and 2 SNAs. In September 2021 we will have 3 places available in this class. We continue to have a primary-age class for children with ASD in school and this class works out of the Holly Room in Bethlehem with Ms. Rice. There will be one place available in our ASD class next September.

Enrolments 2021

Remember
to enrol:
3rd-24th
November
2020



We will start taking enrolments for September 2021 on Tuesday 3rd November. Parents will be invited to complete an online pre-enrolment form on our school website.

The application portal will remain open until 24th November. To view our new Admissions Policy and our Admissions Notice 2021 please visit:
www.holyrosaryschoolwicklow.com

The school will notify parents with offers of places by Friday 4th December. At that point parents will be asked to

complete a full enrolment form and to provide additional information like a copy of their child's birth certificate.

Parents will also be notified if there is no place available for their child. All places must be accepted/declined before

11th
De-

What's been going on in Bethlehem



Ag obair le chéile ar scoil!

Our junior classes have been working really hard over the last few weeks.

Our Junior Infants have started learning Jolly Phonics and are experts on all things autumn and hedgehogs!

Ms. Phillipson's Senior Infants have been doing recount writing as part of their work in English. They have also been learning some lovely poems: they have

performed their poems for all of us on our virtual assembly! Meanwhile Mrs. Kanka's class have learned all about the skeleton...they've even learned a song about it!

First Class have been hard at work! Ms. Duffy's class have been

learning about money and space. Ms. Egan's class have been taking advantage of the good weather and have been learning to use thermometers to take the temperature outside.

Second class have produced some fabulous artwork that's perfect for this time of year! Mrs. McAllen's class have created a lovely display of pumpkins while Ms. Megannety's class have connected their maths to art by making symmetrical pumpkins! Both classes have also been making time for mindfulness!

We are having great fun at our assemblies showing each other some of our fantastic work and performing songs and poems for each other.

"Every week we have a virtual school assembly...we are doing our best to stay connected!"

What's been happening in Holy Rosary

Our senior classes are just as busy. Ms. Fenton's class have been learning dances in PE and have even managed to share a performance with their parents by using SeeSaw! Meanwhile Ms. Doyle's class have made monster pinch pots and have been using descriptive words for witches' potions!

Ms. Tyrrell's class have been learning lots of geography and history. They know all about the water cycle and Irish myths and legends! Next door in Ms. Murray's class they've been using songs to help learn their tables and they also

had time to make peppermint cream sweets...yum!

Ms. Reynold's and Ms. Phillips' 5th classes have been busy learning about space. They've also been studying things a bit closer to home by learning about Europe. With so much fine weather, they've also had a chance to work outside and use our outdoor classroom!

Ms. Leonard's 6th class have been hard at work learning about Marie Curie. They have just finished projects on her homeland: Poland. Ms. Byrne's class have been learning

about America in the lead up to the elections there. They have also been enjoying some guided reading of 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo. Ms. O'Hara's 6th class have been getting creative using jigsaw pieces to create beautiful autumn trees. They also learned an Irish poem 'Duilleoga' to compliment their artwork!

All of our classes have been focusing on wellbeing and have been completing lots of great SPHE lessons to help us get back on track in school. We've been concentrating on resilience ...something we could all do with during these tough times!

Mid-term Break!!

Children are invited to dress up for school on Friday. All we ask is that the costumes are appropriate for school and that no masks or props are brought in. We are looking forward to seeing all the costumes at our virtual school assembly!

After the success of the last few weeks we have all earned the break at mid term. Here's hoping

that everyone gets to enjoy the break from the school routines!

Halloween will be a little different this year, but it can still be fun. Play some Halloween games and enjoy family time together.

Over the course of the week we hope that everyone continues to stay safe. Follow the guidelines and hopefully things will improve for us all soon.

School will re-open on Monday 2nd November and we are looking forward to more learning and fun for everyone in the coming weeks.



Is breá liom Oíche Shamhna!



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Find us on Facebook!

*An open mind, a listening ear,
Caring and sharing you'll find here!*

In-School Management Team in Holy Rosary School:

Principal: Ms. F. Wickham
Deputy Principal: Mrs. D. Gill
Assistant Principal I: Ms. O. Murray
Assistant Principal II: Ms. C. O'Hara
Assistant Principal II: Ms. J. Kearns
Assistant Principal II: Ms. L. Phillips



Holy Rosary School Parents' Association

A big thank you to our Parents' Association who continue to work tirelessly to support our school. Covid-19 has taken away a lot of our opportunities to interact and work together, but the Parents' Association are continuing their work on behalf of the school. We are very grateful for this support, especially in these strange times we find ourselves in.

If you would like to get involved with the Parents' Association please get in touch with them at:

parentsassociation@holyrosaryschool.ie

In a year where activities are so limited, the Parents' Association have already managed to organize school calendars and Christmas cards. All new ideas are welcome!

Through the efforts of the Parents' Association, and with the support of the wider community, a cheque for €8500 was presented to the school last week....AMAZING!!! While €2000 of this money is intended for use in the playground, the remainder will go towards supporting our efforts to develop the I.T. infrastructure in the school. During the mid-term we hope to install two new interactive boards as a first step in upgrading the older systems in place. If we have learned anything from the past few months it is the importance of being ready for anything! Our next step is to build up a suite of I.T. devices for our pupils so that we can teach our children the necessary skills for operating remotely. We also want to integrate I.T. more in our daily lives and build our general approach to digital literacy within the school. We couldn't do this without your support.



**Ba mhaith linn níos mó
ríomhairí ar scoil!**

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir!