TERM ONE-NOVEMBER 2015

DATES FOR THE DIARY **19TH NOVEMBER** FLU VACCINATION

4TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS CINEMA TRIP

8TH DECEMBER PARENT MEETINGS

CHRISTMAS PLAYS **I5TH DECEMBER** PLAYGROUP

I6TH DECEMBER PRIMARY I & 2

I7TH DECEMBER PRIMARY 3 & 4

18TH DECEMBER PRIMARY 5, 6 & 7



News At Holy Family

Principal's Message

Holy Family Primary School is 50 Committee request to mark celebrations.

Calling all parents and past pupils. September 2016 marks the 50th anniversary of Holy Family Primary school. To mark this very special occasion we would like to hold a series of events to commemorate the history of our school and its special place in the community. I

If you have photographs, items of interest, wish to share your talents and skills or you are interested in getting involved in a committee to organise special events to mark our anniversary please send an email to

holyfamilyps50@gmail.com and we will keep you informed of future events.

HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY SCHOOL **OPEN MORNING**

Wednesday 9th December 2015.

9.15am

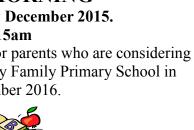
There will be an Open Morning for parents who are considering enrolling their child at the Holy Family Primary School in September 2016.



"In our hands we hold the Future."

Coffee Morning for Northern Ireland Hospice.

Congratulations to all involved in the fundraising for the Northern Ireland Hospice. Pupils throughout the school brought in cakes and buns to sell and a total of £504.85 was raised.













MATHS WEEK IRELAND—Manga High Champions

Congratulations to all of Holy Family Primary school for their part in Maths Week Ireland. Pupils from Primary 1 to 4 took part in investigations looking at Fairy Tales. Primary 5, 6 and 7 took part in the Manga High challenge. Our school came 1st in Northern Ireland and 6th in Ireland overall. This was a great achievement and our leading class, Primary 6, will be rewarded with a pizza party. Mrs Beattie presented medals and awards for the top performers in each of the classes. Well done everybody!



Manga High Leaderboard

The following pupils achieved over 100 points during the Maths week challenge, a massive achievement.

- 1. Thomas Hill P6
- 2. Sean Murphy P6
- 3. Bebhionn Rogan P6
- 4. Sean Rafferty P6
- 5. Antony Tokic P7
- 6. Thomas Napier P6
- 7. Lucy O'Neill P7
- 8. Zara El-Hertani P7
- 9. Connor Davis P5
- 10. Eamon McKinney P6
- 11. Lucas Twomey P5
- 12. Joshua Starkey P7
- 13. Anna Maria Tokic P6
- 14. Jack Deegan P7
- 15. Will Moore P5
- 16. Holly Carville P7
- 17. Matthew McClements P7
- 18. Kathryn Twomey P6
- 19. Paul Flanagan P6
- 20. Caireen Ferguson P7
- 21. Robbie Thompson P6
- 22. Patrick Gilooly P6
- 23. Conor Blaney P7
- 24. Justine Wynn P7
- 25. Katie Russell P6

- 26. Lucy Spence P6
- 27. Joseph Maginn P6
- 28. Jessica Sloan P6
- 29. Alicia Dobbin-Rodriguez P7
- 30. Ellah Ndlovu P7
- 31. Katie Watson P7
- 32. Milo Crean P7
- 33. Sarah McPolin P6
- 34. Pearse Irvine P7





NEWS AT HOLY FAMILY

ISSUE 1

Primary 7 Webcast with famous author.

The Primary 7 pupils were involved, with a number of schools from across the province, in a live webcast with Martita Conlon-McKenna, the author of the current Primary 7 class novel 'Under The Hawthorn Tree'. This provided excellent background knowledge both on our topic. the Famine, and on Martia's own motivations and thoughts when writing her novels. Mary Ann Smyth has written a recount on the experience.

Although I already knew that the characters were not real people, they were created. Also the ships were called 'coffin ships' and many people died on them. I learnt some new points from our webcast with Marita Conlon-McKenna. First she just thought she would write Under The Hawthorn Tree for he daughter Amanda, then it got published and was popular. Whenever she was 10 years old she started writing short stories. I think she said she wrote Under The Hawthorn Tree when she was 30 years old. She got emotional whenever she was writing about Brigid's death.

If Marita Conlon-McKenna hadn't made Brigid die in her book the story would have changed. On purpose she decided she had to have a big event to grab the readers. Finally she made up Duneen and Castletaggart. Brigid's disease was call typhus, which caused her to die. She said that some of her mum's family might have been in the famine.

Pupils attend 'Oklahoma' musical The girls from Primary 6 and Primary 7 attended the Assumption Grammar School performance of Oklahoma! A good time was had by all.

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By Mary Ann Smyth





<u>Holy Family Member in the Winning Team at the Meadows</u> Here is our pupil, Emma Burns from Primary 4, taking part in the Primary Schools Show Jumping League. Emma is riding in a mixed primary school team, with Fairhill Primary School Dromara, Downpatrick Primary School and Rowandale Priamry School, Moira. In September Emma's team were second, in October they were first. Pictured is Emma's team receiving their 1st place prize from International Show Jumper Cian O'Connor. The girls received equestrian vouchers and treats for their ponies. Well done Emma!



Dairy Council Visit

The Dairy Council visited the Primary 5 and 6 classes to talk about healthy eating and keeping fit. Both classes enjoyed the role-plays and games involved. This ties in with our healthy eating policy and work as a health promoting school.







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Primary 7 visits Down County Museum

The Primary 7 class recently paid a visit to Down County museum who were providing workshops looking at Famine. The Armagh Rhymers were present and a great day was had by all pupils.





TECONNAUGHT PLAYGROUP Open Night Wednesday 9th December at 7pm

This night is for parents only who wish to enrol their child in Teconnaught Playgroup next September (2016) The playgroup will explain the criteria used for enrolmment

PTA supplies new outdoor equipment Our new outdoor play equipment, which was

TUBS 4 TABLETS

We are collecting tokens for the Flora 'Tubs 4 Tablets' promotion. Please send in any tokens inside promotional tubs of Flora 500g as 50 tokens entitle the school to a Samsung Galaxy Tablet. Tokens would need to be in school by



