

TERM ONE –
NOVEMBER 2015

DATES FOR THE DIARY

19TH NOVEMBER
FLU VACCINATION

4TH DECEMBER
CHRISTMAS CINEMA
TRIP

8TH DECEMBER
PARENT MEETINGS

CHRISTMAS PLAYS
15TH DECEMBER
PLAYGROUP

16TH DECEMBER
PRIMARY 1 & 2

17TH 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



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 Marita 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 Marita'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 her 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.

I thought it was good that we got to webcast with Marita Conlon-McKenna because we got to find out more about her and the book.

By Mary Ann Smyth



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 called 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.



Holy Family Member in the Winning Team at the Meadows

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 Primary 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.



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 enrolment

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 the



