

Nurturing Talent & Fulfilling Potential



Phone: 02890-351032 holycrossboys@hotmail.com Twitter: @HolyCrossBoys FB: Holy Cross Boys' PS www.holycrossboys.com

H.C.B School of Philosophy House System Winners

ARISTOTLE	2F R4: Neil Murphy & Cillian Robinson 2M R5: Jack O'Hare & James McDonald Close	MILL
PLATO	3Mo R13: Matthew Berry & Caleb Davidson 4W R12: Lucas Saunders & Jaxon Wilgus	SOCRATES
	5W R14: Tomas Cosgrove & Donal Lindsay 5C R15: Kai Baker & Jamie McGonnell	
	6M R19: Caoimhin Catney & Sean Ferguson	
	6E R21: Eoghan Cromie & Shay Branniff 7L R18: Joe Thompson & Corey Smyth	
	7H R20: Jack McCabe & Barra Quinn	

Solitude Winners: Well done to the following boys who were selected to go to Solitude on Friday 1st March 2024 for a coaching session on the pitch with our two staff members, Tony Kane and Hollie Mailey (Cliftonville FC). The boys were selected for their outstanding efforts with their behaviour and attitude. Thanks so much to Cliftonville FC and especially Imelda Pettigrew for the use of their superb facilities every week. **Starlight:** Daire Savage & Dylan Og Kelly. **P4:** NM Sports (2 weeks left). **P5:** Conor Moyna, Jack Stitt, Ronan Gillespie, Nathan Ewing, Jack McAuley-Reid, Jake Reid, Calvin McGeeough, Oscar Altas, Patrick McManus & Colm Og Lavery. **P6:** Sean Murphy, Leon Shannon, Sean McConnell, Ronan Burns, Sean McCrudden, Pearse Strain, Kayden Brady, Brooklyn O'Neill, Caoimhin McGarry & Nathan Silva. **P7:** (Swimming Week 5 of 8).

Retirement: Best wishes to Margarite Larkin who retires after 28 brilliant years of commitment to HCB. The large staff turnout at her retirement doo last weekend, was testament to the high esteem in which she was held by everyone. Happy retirement from all the staff at the school.

Transition Week (P7): The annual Primary 7 Transition Week took place last week and proved a great success for all involved. The boys had a wonderful experience, as they were given a taste of what their school timetable may look like in September in their next schools. They were taught lessons from teachers from Mercy College, Hazelwood College, Edmund Rice College, Blessed Trinity College, St. Mary's and St. Malachy's. Thank you so much to the schools who sent their teachers and to Mr Morrin (Community Links Coordinator) for liaising with the schools and organising this excellent week in the HCB Calendar. <https://www.holycrossboys.com/latest-news/news/the-annual-year-7-transition-week-a-great-success/?p=1&tags=1081>, **O.T.O.S. (One-to-One Support) Reading Boost programme:** Week 2 of the 8 for selected pupils continues this week. They will receive one-to-one help from a trained mentor to help order their reading or boost their confidence. Thanks to all the parents who came to the Reading Workshop on Mon 26 Feb @ 2.00pm with Mrs. Reel (Communication Co-ordinator).

Pupil monitoring: Focus on Attendance, Punctuality, Homework, Schoolwork, School Uniform/ Shoes & Behaviour/Attitude. At this mid-point in the school year, we create a list of pupils who are consistently having difficulties in one or more of these areas and closely monitor this on a weekly basis in order to help the boys improve. Mr McAreevy (Thursdays) & Mr Curran (Tuesdays) will be visiting the classes to check up on these concerns on a weekly basis to monitor this. If there are improvements in the coming weeks, then we will reward your son with a tuckshop voucher and his name will be removed. If the situation does not improve, then we will have to organise a meeting in the school with the parent and teacher to address the issue and put things in place to move forward positively. The boys on the list were given a letter last Thursday/Friday to make the relevant parents aware of this.

P1 Parent Information: From tomorrow, Monday 4th March 2023, the Primary 1 classes (P1Q Room 2 and P1T Room 3) will line up in front of the school (from 8.45am). The Primary 1 teachers and classroom assistants will be outside from 8.45am and take the boys into the school for 9.00am. This is the normal arrangement for Year 1, after the mid-term 2 break. Parents will now leave their children at the gates (like all P2-7 parents/guardians). P1 Breakfast club boys will be brought out to the playground to join their line.

World Book Day is on this Thursday 7th March 2024 this year. We would like the Primary 1 and 2 pupils to either wear or bring their pyjamas to school or their dressing gown. They can also bring their favourite small cuddly toy to school for the day. Or if they already have a costume for World Book Day, they can wear it. We would ask that Primary 3-7 pupils bring their favourite book to school to share with their teacher and peers. Mr McAreevy has asked if the parents could upload a photo of their child reading in an unusual place to their class app. There will be prizes for the best photos. <https://www.holycrossboys.com/latest-news/news/hcb-celebrate-world-book-day-in-style/?p=25&tags=1081>

Sponsored Bounce-a-thon: We are holding a sponsored Bounce-a-thon in school hall on Wednesday 6th March 2024. The money raised will provide much needed funds for purchasing novels and guided reading books. Each boy will be asked to seek sponsors or donations from their family and friends (1 sponsor sheet per family). Every child in school who has been given parent/guardian consent, will get a chance to take part. Sponsor sheets were distributed on Mon 19th Feb for the pupils taking part. All monies should be returned to the class teacher by Mon 4th Mar 2024. <https://www.holycrossboys.com/latest-news/news/sponsored-bounce-note-formpdf/?p=1&tags=1081>

CRIS and Peace Players: P7L met up with their buddies from Glenwood PS last week. They had a great day playing games and participating in a tower building competition. The boys will meet this Tuesday 27th February for the last joint session at Glenwood. <https://www.holycrossboys.com/latest-news/news/buddy-up-programme-with-glenwood-ps/> P4M enjoyed their first 4 sessions with Peace Players on Thursday and look forward to the next two - 1.15 to 1.45 on Thursdays 7 & 14 March.

Philosophy: Philosopher of the Week goes to Leo who was so impressive with his knowledge and thinking on CHANGE.

Music: Singing Practice for P1-3 on Fridays and P4-7 on Thursdays. Classes & Peripatetic lessons on flute, violin, brass, cello & bassoon continue weekly.

Counselling Service: With the help of ES funding & the PHA, we are now offering a specialist counselling service for selected pupils on Mondays (Mental Health Movement at the Marrowbone Hub) thanks to Caoimhin McNulty and on Wednesdays in the school with Anne.

Physical Education: HCB Year 6 team, under the management of Mr Mullan, Tony Kane and Joe Gormley played some fantastic football yesterday to beat Our Lady Queen of Peace 3-1 in the opening round of the EDCO Primary 6 Cup at the Waterworks. Two goals from Kaelem Madden put Holy Cross 2-0 up before an own goal made it 3-0. The boys conceded from a corner kick one minute from the end. They will now meet St. Paul's PS this Thursday at the Waterworks in round 2. Year 7 will have week 6 of their 8-week swimming programme on Friday 8th March. The focus for Physical Education theme in Term 2 is Games & Gymnastics. Year 5 will continue their GAA programme with Gaeliff's Oisín on Thursdays. P5W enjoyed the coaching in the sunshine last week. They were learning about passing the ball while moving, dipping, toe kicks and scoring. The children were so happy to see Coach Oisín back and are already looking forward to next week. **NM Coaching** for P1T in hall @9:30, P1Q 30 mins in hall @10:00, P4W AYC @10:30 & P4M AYC @11:30 (1 week left - Friday 8th March 2024). NM Coaching for Year 6 on Tuesdays and Year 5 on Thursdays (for 4 weeks).

Breakfast Club: We are delighted that further funding from the Good Food Fund has meant that we will continue to provide a free breakfast club to the end of the year.

Mental Health Awareness: The next session for P6 & 7 pupils will be on Thursday 7th March 24 @9.30 to 10.30am with specialist, Joe Watson.

School Holidays https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetswdd/684/docletter/20230309120136_15_HCB_School_Holidays_for_Parents_2023-2024.pdf

HCB Healthy Eating Policy: https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetswdd/684/docletter/20220705104703_11_Healthy_Eating_Policy.pdf



Margarite retires after 28 years in HCB

Further funding from the Good Food Fund



Visiting teachers for HCB Annual Year 7 Transition Week 2024

YEAR 6 Football Team

PHILOSOPHER 	READER 	MATHEMATICIAN 	MUSICIAN 	SPORTS STAR 	Healthy Eating 	Artist
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YEAR	START	Finish	Friday Finish
1	9.00	2.00	12.45
2	8.45	2.15	1.00
3	9.00	2.30	1.00
4	8.45	2.45	1.20
5	9.00	3.00	1.20
6	8.45	2.45	1.20
7	9.00	3.00	1.20
RR	8.45	2.00	12.30
SL	8.45	2.30	12.30

Dinner Menu 2023-24 https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetswdd/684/docletter/20240228032021_23_Dinner_Menu_Updated_MARCH_2024.pdf

Wellbeing Weekly

Philosophy Question: Should bullies be looked after the same as the victim?

Weekly Challenge: Focus on an insect or bird and just watch.

Motivational Quote: You become what you believe. Oprah Winfrey

Happy Birthday

Brandon Adams, Roen Fitzsimons, Carter Dunlop, Conan Milligan & Barra Quinn.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Trainer Tuesday: Pupils can wear their trainers on 5th March for 50p.

Breakfast Club is FREE for all pupils in Term 2.

Tuckshop: will take place on Friday 8th Mar.

Sponsored Bounce-a-thon Wed 6th March.

World Book Day on Thursday 7th March 2024

HCB Football Team Year 6 v St. Paul's PS at 2.00pm at Waterworks on Thursday 7th March

Solitude Friday Visits Next visit on Friday 8th Mar.

First Confession (Year 3) Friday 8th March 2024

Rewarding Pupils: Term 2 Award Winners for Reading, Maths and Attendance on Tue 26 March.

Year 7 Swimming: Week 6 on Fri 8th March 2024.

TRIPS: YEAR 2: Titanic Museum 06/03/24. **YEAR 4:** Armagh Planetarium 23/04/24. **YEAR 5:** W5 (Energy Workshop) 06/03/24 & Ulster Museum (Egyptians) 20/06/24.

HIP N HEALTHY Programme (online) for 7H R20 on Wed 6 Mar: Tackling Anxiety, Wed 10 Apr: Developing Resilience & Wed 8 May: Three Pillars of Growth.

NSPCC PANTS programme visit P1-P4 11/04/24

St. Patrick's Day Assemblies KS1 & KS2 on Wed 13th March 24.

St. Patrick's Day Hols: Pupils finish early (11.00am) on Thur 14th and return Tue 19 March.

Accelerated Reader & FRECKLE Certificates for Term 2 on Monday 25 Mar 2024.

Easter Holidays: Pupils will finish early on Thurs 28th Mar (11.00am) and return Mon 8th Apr 24.

Careers Week: Monday 22-Friday 26 April 24

P1 Health Appraisal School Nurse Visits on Monday 15th to Wed 24th April 2024

Holy Communion Year 4 Fri 17 May 24 @11am.

School Closures in May 2024: Mon 6th & Tue 7th and Mon 27th & Tue 28th May 2024.

Year 7 Leaver Ceremony Fri 21 June @10am

Summer Holidays Year 1-6 on Fri 28 June @11am

HCB Weekly Bulletin for Monday 4th FEB Friday 8th MAR 2024