



MID TERM BREAK

The school will be closed from **Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October** inclusive for Mid Term Break. School will reopen on Monday 3rd November.

SWIMMING

Swimming for **1st, 2nd, 5th and 6th class** pupils will commence on **Friday, 17th October**. A payment link has been sent to enable online payment. Please remember to bring swimming gear to school as well as a plastic bag to put wet items in afterwards. School tracksuit may be worn to school on swimming days. Pupils may bring a small snack to eat on the bus afterwards.

ACTIVE COMMITTEE

The following pupils make up our **Active Committee** for the school year 2025/26: Aoibhín Dunne, Oisín Fogarty, Jonathan Walsh, Rhys Hetherington, Alexia Horgan, Leo Jackman, Rhona Bowe and Nora Ludick.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The following are the members of our **Student Council** for school year 2025/26: James Dunne, Micheál Coady, Lonnóg Hurley, Katie Shore, Charlie Rainbow, Harry Murphy, Ailbhe Jackman and Rachel Owens

AMBER COMMITTEE

The following pupils make up our **Amber Committee** for the school year 2025/26: Sarah Rothwell, Bronagh Nolan, Amelia Mooney, Ian Ciesielczuk, Tessa Geoghegan, Lottie Abbott, Sam Fortune and Shane Hayden.

GRANDPARENT'S DAY

This year as part of our Amber Flag initiative, we will host a **Grandparent's Day**. It will take place on **Wednesday 15th October**. We would like to invite Grandparents and other special relatives to come along to the school for 11am. After a quick tour of the school we will relocate to the hall where tea, coffee and refreshments will be served at 11.45am and where they can chat to their grandchildren again until the children leave for lunch at 12.15pm. The last time we held this event it was a huge success. We look forward to extending a warm welcome to the Grandparents of Holycross National School.

TEAM HOPE

Your child has been given a leaflet with details of the Christmas Shoebox Appeal which is an annual campaign sending gift filled shoeboxes to children affected by poverty in Africa and Eastern Europe. The process is explained in the leaflet. All shoeboxes must be dropped to the local library in Castlecomer before Monday 10th November 2025. More labels available from the school should you require them.

***(Please do not leave shoeboxes to the school)

SCHOOL MASS

A **"Start of School Year Mass"** will be held in the school for all pupils on Wednesday next, October 8th.

HALLOWEEN DISCO & PARTY

Pupils may wear their Halloween costumes to school on **Friday, October 24th**. As part of our Fundraising Activities it has been decided that on that day, the school will hold a **Halloween Disco & Games**. This will take place during the school day and will be supervised by the class teachers at all times. Since this will be part of our Fundraising Drive, pupils are asked to bring €5 each to go towards the cost of treats etc.

FIRST COMMUNION DATE

The date for First Holy Communion 2026 is Sunday, April 26th at 11am. **First Confessions** will take place on Saturday, 21st March at 10:30am

CHRISTMAS SHOW

Our Christmas Show will be held in the school at 7pm on **Thursday, 4th December**. Further details to follow.

CHRISTMAS ANNUALS

It is Christmas Annual time again! This year each child will receive an annual **free of charge** and will be subsidised by our Fundraising Fund.

MMR & 4in1 VACCINATIONS

MMR & 4in1 vaccinations for Junior Infants will be on Tuesday, November 11th in the school.

SAY YES TO LANGUAGES

We were delighted to be accepted into the "Say Yes to Languages" programme for the second year running. This initiative supports the introduction of a modern foreign language to pupils. This year, the pupils in Fifth & Sixth class will avail of the programme. We have secured the same tutor as last year, Ms Marion Rainbow (originally from France), to introduce the pupils to basic French. This initiative commenced on Monday, 1st October and will run for 10 weeks.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The children have created their own **Christmas Cards**. These will be printed professionally and will be available to purchase online. Further details to follow.

USED CLOTHES COLLECTION

Reminder: We will have a **Used Clothes Collection** on **Wednesday, November 25th**. Over Mid-Term would be a good time to have a "Clear Out"! Please tell your friends or relations since all donations are most welcome.

