

Holywell Educate Together National School

Phone: 014444386
Email: secretary@holywellets.ie

*Winter Newsletter
December 2024*



Important Dates for Term 2

Please note some important dates for next term:

Monday January 13th: school closes for all children at 1.10pm for a 'half in-half out' staff meeting.

Friday January 31st: school closes at 11.30am for staff training on the new anti-bullying guidelines 'Bí Cineálta'.

Monday February 3rd: School closes for the St. Brigid's day bank holiday.

Monday February 17th- Friday February 21st: School closes for midterm.

Monday March 17th: School closes for St. Patrick's Day bank holiday

Friday April 4th: School closes for Primary Maths Curriculum Training day.

Friday April 11th: School closes at 11.30am for Spring holidays.

School Closure Reminder

School closes for the winter holidays on Friday December 20th at 11.30am.

Please ensure all childminders, creches and relatives collecting your child(ren) are aware of the collection time.

School closes for the winter holidays from Monday December 23rd- Friday January 3rd. School reopens for term 2 on Monday January 6th 2025.

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Board of Management Update

Please note that the school's Child Protection risk assessment and safeguarding statement, along with the Anti-bullying policy was revised and ratified at the Board of Management meeting on Wednesday November 20th 2024. Copies of the policies are available to view on the school website.



Staff Updates:

Congratulations to teacher Suzie Lewis, Richie Gleeson and Alison Lynch who were recently appointed as Assistant Principal II in the school. They will have responsibility for areas such as literacy in the middle class groups, science, promotion of attendance and Gaeilge support respectively.



Junior Infants 2025

Applications for Junior Infants 2025 opens on Monday January 6th 2025 via the school website www.holywelletns.ie. Applications will remain open for 3 weeks until January 27th. Any applications made after this time will be considered a 'late application'. Please take the time to read the school Admission's Policy to understand your child's eligibility.



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Class Updates

Josh's 6th Class

We were so excited to have Kayleigh's first class as our 'Buddy Class' for this year. Some of the children already knew each other and they are some siblings too! So far, we been practicing our reading, playing board games, and creating collaborative artwork. We look forward to every Tuesday afternoon so that we can complete another fun task together again!



Claire's 5th Class

Claire's 5th class had a fantastic term one. We enjoyed many fun PE lessons and Lego Spike as part of our IPAD time every Wednesday afternoon. Our class researched and presented country projects. We learned lots of new information and facts. We have just finished our cycling programme. We thoroughly enjoyed it.



Alison's 3rd Class

It has been very busy in Alison's 3rd Class. We painted a winter scene in art. We have new buddies from Junior Infants and we loved reading to them. We celebrated STEAM Fortnight in our school. A STEAM activity we really loved was called LEGO SPIKE.



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Vincent's 4th Class

All of the fourth classes have been learning Irish Sign Language with our Teacher Lorna this term. Every Wednesday morning Lorna has joined us and taught us how to communicate with ISL. We have learned the days of the week, colours, sports, food, shops etc. We can see a huge improvement in our vocabulary and our confidence in signing has grown too. We want to say Thank you so much to Lorna for all of her help over the last few weeks.



Michaela's Junior Infants

The children had a great time visiting the Science Fair in Stuart's 5th class! They were excited to explore the experiments and loved trying some of them out.



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Clare's Senior Infants

Senior Infants have been very busy this month. We have had lots of practice sessions for our Winter Concert. In Art we drew snowflakes and painted them with water colours to learn about wax resistance. We have done lots of festive activities; making Christmas lights from counters, colourful paper chains and building a sleigh for Santa.



Sarah's 2nd Class

In Sarah M's 2nd class we welcomed our student teacher, Aimee! We have been doing lots of fun lessons while Aimee has been here. We have had loads of fun learning about space and the different planets. We created the planets for art, we created a fact file on the planets and we worked in groups to design and make rockets. We used baking soda and vinegar to launch our rockets out in the garden, it was so much fun! Our class have been really enjoying participating in the MS Readathon and we will be sad when it's over but we will keep reading!



Rob's First Class

We have been learning about the changing of the seasons and the start of winter. We went on nature walks around the school to look for signs of winter. The leaves have fallen off the trees, the days are shorter and the weather is colder. In art class, we had lots of fun painting winter trees and reindeer. We explored and experimented with paint to make winter colours.



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Alexine's Class

The children of Crannóg have been getting out and about on Friday's this half term. Here we are enjoying some down time in Malahide Castle and Newbridge Farm!



Helplines

For any family needing additional support this Christmas or at any other time of the year, please find below some useful helplines:

Alone - 0818 222 024
Aware - 1800 804 848
Samaritans - 116 123
Pieta House - 1800 247 247
Age Action - 01 475 6989
Irish Red Cross - 01 642 4600
Citizens Advice - 0761 07 4000
Alzheimer's Society, Information and Emotional Help - 1800 341 341
Exchange House, Traveller Mental Health Support - 01 872 1094
Senior Line Friendly Listening Service - 1800 80 45 91
Amen, Domestic Violence (male victims) 046 902 3718
Rape Crisis Centre, Crisis Helpline - 1800 778 888
Mental Health Ireland, Mental Health Helpline - 01 284 1166



School Instagram Page

Please follow our school Instagram page using the link below-
[https://www.instagram.com/holywell_etns?
igsh=MXJ5dW5yZ2x0cTZtZW==](https://www.instagram.com/holywell_etns?igsh=MXJ5dW5yZ2x0cTZtZW==)

Wishing all our families a very happy and relaxing holiday and the very best of health and happiness in 2024.

Nollaig Shona agus Aithbhliain faoi Mhaise Duit agus do Chlann

