



# Holy Family

Primary School and Nursery

August Newsletter

2020-21 Session

*Dear Parents/Carers,*

*We have now been back at school for over 2 weeks and things have been going well. The classes have all been very settled and have adapted well to the new routines. The weather has not been cooperative this week, but we are trying to be out as much as possible, even if it is raining.*

*This continues to be a challenging time for us all, but I can assure you that things have been made easier by the support of our parents. You have followed all of the guidance for the yard and been very understanding if you have received a call regarding an unwell pupil. Thank you.*

*The learning and teaching is progressing well and classes are getting back into the swing of things. There are even wall displays appearing throughout the school showcasing the work of pupils.*

*Please complete the short survey in the e-mail so that we can gauge your experience of the return to school.*

*Yours faithfully,  
Andrew Gallagher  
Head Teacher*

## **New Staff**

Holy Family would like to welcome a number of new staff. Miss Sword is teaching P4 and Mr Davies is teaching P6. We also have Mrs Hannah who will be providing additional support and class cover.

I would also like to welcome Mrs Seehafer and Mrs Sweet who have joined the support staff team.

We also welcome Mr Secka and Mr Garnett who are day cleaners within the school.

## **Absence**

If your child is absent from school it is important that you contact the school in the following ways.

1. Call before 9.15am on the day of the first absence and each subsequent day.
2. E-mail the office (address below) stating your child's name, class and reason for absence.
3. In person at the office before 9.15am.

Please be aware that in the current climate we may ask a few additional questions regarding any absence.



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0141 955 2212

**E-mail** [office@holyfamily.e-dunbarton.sch.uk](mailto:office@holyfamily.e-dunbarton.sch.uk)  
**Website** [holyfamily.e-dunbarton.sch.uk](http://holyfamily.e-dunbarton.sch.uk)



## Our Shared Vision, Values and Aims

*In Holy Family Primary School, we are actively engaged in the pursuit of excellence. It is our purpose to provide a Catholic education of the highest quality that will enable all our young people to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.*

**We aim to:**

- Create an ethos of achievement within our learning community and so raise standards of educational attainment in all areas of the curriculum.
- Support and develop the skills of all staff to ensure the highest standards of learning and teaching.
- Use enterprising learning and teaching practices that encourage enthusiasm, creativity and ambition enabling each individual to reach their highest standards of achievement.
- Work in partnership with home and parish to build a sense of Christian community where all members are held in high respect and their dignity, worth and individuality are respected.
- Welcome parents as active participants in the life of the school to help all children develop physical, social, spiritual, mental and emotional health and well-being.
- Ensure the deployment of excellence by fostering high quality leadership at all levels.

*Below is our school prayer. We have spare copies within the school and are happy to supply one to you. Just contact the school and we will pop it into your child's bag.*

### School Values and Ethos Prayer

Dear Lord, grant that our school be a welcoming place where **respect** is given and peace is built on **justice** and guided by love. Where we are **motivated** to learn so we can develop the skills and talents you gave us. May we be **nurturing** so that everyone knows their opinion is valued and they are an important part of our school **community**. May we uphold our **integrity** in every action so that **equality** can exist, friendship can flourish and learning fill our days.

*Amen*



## Primary 1

Both classes have made an excellent start to their first year at Holy Family. Mrs McLellan and Miss Sutherland have been delighted with how well they have settled. This week they also started visiting the cafeteria for lunch which was an adventure.

## Twitter



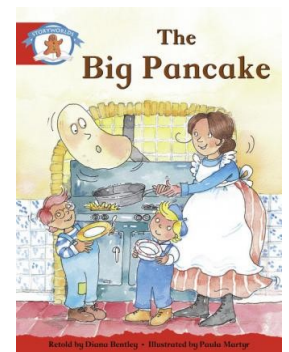
We are on Twitter! Please follow us at **@HFKirkintilloch** where class information and events will be tweeted. All new followers will need to request permission to see the tweets.

## Story World—Primary 1,2 and 3

Could we please ask that Story World books are returned on a Thursday each week. This is essential as we can then leave them for 72 hours before being re-issued on the following Monday.

We do not have a stock of extra copies so a failure to return them can have an impact on the distribution for the following week.

Primary 1 will start to receive books in the coming weeks.



## Book Amnesty

If you have any books from last year or previous years please hand these in - no questions asked!



## Uniform

The pupils have all looked great in their uniform since the start of term. Could we remind you to put your child's name on every piece of clothing as this will make it easier to return lost items.

**As the weather is unpredictable please ensure your child has a jacket with them each day. This is also needed for outdoor PE.**

## Return to School Survey

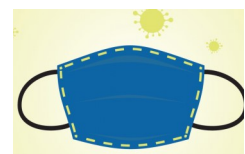
Please follow on the link on the e-mail to the 'Return to School Survey'. In the coming weeks we will also gather your thoughts on Homework and Home Learning.

**One random return will receive a box a of chocolates as an incentive!**

## Face Coverings

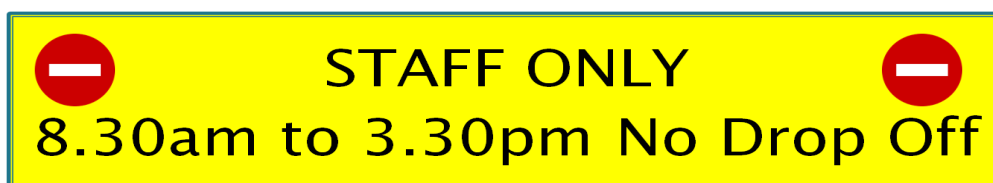
Guidance was issued this week regarding the use of face coverings on school transport. Could we also ask that pupils are given a pouch/zip lock bag for the safe storage of the face covering during the day and have this clearly labelled with your child's name.

There is also a useful video on our Twitter from the W.H.O.



## **Parking– Thank You!**

Can we remind you that there is also no pick up/drop off allowed in the school car parks (upper and lower), except for permitted vehicles. This has not been an issue since the start of term and we would like to thank you for your support.



Could we ask that you park with consideration for local residents and pedestrians and adhere to 'no parking' areas, especially with regard to school buses.

## **Pick Up Arrangements**

Please remember that only one parent of P 1-3 children is allowed in the yard at the end of the day and the adults/families should maintain social distance. If you feel that the exits are busy please wait in the yard until it is quieter.

3 o'clock is a very busy time of the day at Holy Family. If you need to make last minute changes to your arrangements for your child please call the office as soon as possible. Could we also ask all parents to talk to their children so that they too know the arrangements after school.

As always, children are told to return to the school office if there is no one there to pick them up at the end of the day.

## **Earrings and Jewellery**

East Dunbartonshire guidance does not allow children take part in PE whilst wearing earrings or cover them up using a plaster. All earrings must be removed as well as all other jewellery.

## **Water Bottles**

Please remember that water bottles can be topped up in class if needed.



## **Sacramental Preparation**

Fr Hannah will be meeting with the school next week regarding the Sacraments, both for this year and for the pupils who missed out last year. As soon as details have been finalised the Parish and School will distribute the details.