

End of Year Newsletter

June 2022

**Newsletter 4:
2022**

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Special points of interest:

- School will close for summer at normal times on Wednesday 29th June
- School will re-open for the new school year on Wednesday 31st August
- Please be mindful of where you park outside of school...avoid blocking in any of the local residents!

Farewell from Ms. Wickham!

It has been an honour and a privilege to be principal in Holy Rosary School for the last two and a half years. I have been fortunate enough to work with one of the most commitment and dedicated school teams that anyone could ever be fortunate enough to lead. The school community of Holy Rosary is a centre of excellence through the quality and expertise of its teachers, SNAs and ancillary staff and I thank them all for allowing me to be part of their team. I have learned more from them than they can imagine and I will take those lessons with me into the future.

Thank you to the entire parent body for your unwavering commitment and support to the school. There is a strong sense of partnership between home and school that even a pandemic couldn't break! The children of HR are lucky to have such staunch supporters behind them and their lives

and educational opportunities will be all the richer for it! A special thank you to the Parents' Association who continually work on behalf of all the parents to ensure that the school has everything they could possibly need to deliver quality educational experiences. With your help we have brought enhanced IT infrastructure to the school which will benefit the children for many years to come.

The Board of Management works tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that the school maintains and develops its high standards in teaching and learning. I want to thank them for the support and assistance they have given to me during my time in Wicklow.

Finally, our school would be nothing without our wonderful pupils. I want to thank each and

every one of them for always doing their best and for being the best versions of themselves every day. No principal could ask for more than that and I am so proud of them! I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in Holy Rosary and value the contribution that each and every one of our education partners makes to ensure the success of the school. I have no doubt that there are great things to come for HR. The future is bright and I wish Mr. Roache, Ms. Byrne and the entire team every success as they start a new chapter together in September 2022!



A Note from Mr. Roache

It is an honour to introduce myself as the new principal of Holy Rosary School from September. I'm very much looking forward to joining the team and getting to know everyone in the weeks and months ahead. I'm excited to build on the fantastic work of Ms Wickham and her team and can assure you that I share their vision and commitment to caring for your children and providing

them with rich learning experiences.

To our pupils, I cannot wait to meet you all! I hope that you're looking forward to a fun-filled summer of activities with family and friends and that you're excited for the new school year.

In closing, I look forward to meeting you in person very soon. Let's always keep our

pupils and children at the centre of everything that we do. I welcome conversations and positive input from you all and I look forward to celebrating our collective successes and achievements long into the future.

Enjoy the summer holidays!

Brendan Roache



All The News From Bethlehem

It's hard to believe but Junior Infants have finished their first year in school! They have worked hard all year and have really settled into school in Holy Rosary! Well done to all of them...they are going to be great role models for our new boys and girls starting this September!

Senior Infants have been very busy during the last term. They have learned about the solar system and Neil Armstrong, and have made their own spaceships and rockets! Ms. Megannety's Class have created some beautiful symmetrical butterflies and Ms. Phillipson's Class have grown tomato plants and looked after their pet Triop!

It's a hive of activity in 1st Class. Ms. Duffy's Class have been learning all about the environment and how to look after the bees. They've also been studying the life cycle of the frog! Ms. McAllen's Class have studied

wildflowers and have learned all about the famous fossil hunter Mary Anning! They've also been busy looking at the theme 'Under the Sea'.

Our 2nd Classes have had a lovely term in school. Their main event was their First Holy Communion which they celebrated together in May. For the first time since Covid we had the classes join together and it was lovely to see. Since their tour to Dublin Zoo they've been busy with learning about animals. Our 2nd Class rooms are always full of learning and fun!

Holly Room has been focusing on developing friendship skills over the last few months. They've been working very hard, but have also found time to have some fun together in Pirates' Cove! Some of the children are moving to 'Oak Room' in HR in September, so there is lots of work going on to get everyone ready for the big move!

Willow Room had a water play day today! The boys brought in their wetsuits and swimmers. The paddling pools were set up outside and they had lots of bubbles! Everyone had great fun splashing in the water and playing in the paddling pools...some well-earned fun after all the busy work of learning during the term!

All our Junior Classes have had a fantastic year. They have been growing and learning everyday, and having lots of fun with their friends. Everyone's ready for a nice break now this summer!



Sports Days and School Tours

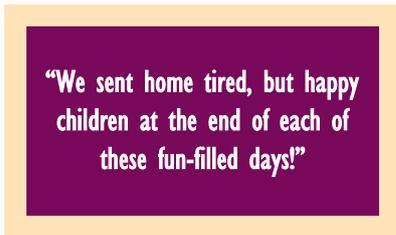
The last few weeks have been full of fun and adventure in school. With the sun came the opportunity to have our Sports Days and it was wonderful to see our classes able to interact with each other for the first time since the pandemic.

We are so lucky to be able to use the hockey pitch and we thank DCW for giving us access to this space.

We had two days full of races and

fun for all. Ms. Wickham had treats for everyone, and we sent home tired, but happy, children at the end of each day (even though it was hard to see some of the smiles under the layers of dust!).

We also had some great adventures on our school tours. The excitement for everyone heading off on the bus was immense and for some it was their first time to travel on a bus at all!



Our classes got to experience lots of different things this year:

- Junior Infants: Tick Tock Farm
- Senior Infants: Glenroe Farm
- 1st Class: Kia Ora Farm
- 2nd Class: Dublin Zoo
- Holly Room: Pirates Cove
- 3rd Class: Greenann Farm
- 4th Class: Dublin Zoo
- 5th Class: Clara Lara
- 6th Class: Russborough House

Congratulations To Our Graduates!

On Friday 24th June we held our 6th Class Graduations in school. There was a great air of joy and excitement as we celebrated the 56 children in 6th class who are graduating from our school.

For the first time in over two years, we opened our doors to parents and families to join in the celebration and mark this important milestone with their children. It was lovely to have a sea of faces in the hall and the sense of community was evident for all to see.

Many thanks to our class teachers Mr. O'Sullivan and Ms. Tyrrell, as well as our 6th Class Support Teachers Ms. Hughes and Ms. Doherty, who have worked hard all year to give our 6th Class every opportunity for success going forward. We also thank all the teachers they have had along the way who have helped to mold them into the well-rounded and fabulous young people that they are today.

Congratulations to everyone in 6th Class. We are all so proud of you and

your accomplishments and we wish you every success as you start your journey into post-primary school!



What's Been Going On In H.R.??

It's been a busy and productive term in Holy Rosary and all our Senior Classes have been working hard and learning lots of interesting things!

3rd Classes have had a great first year in HR building. Ms. Fenton's Class have learned about Tom Crean and have worked hard on their procedural writing. Ms. Egan's Class has learned all about Australia and have mastered the task of dividing big numbers!

Our 4th Classes have been busy growing and learning every day. Ms. Murray's Class love science and have done many experiments including making mould, lava lamps and stress balls! Ms. O'Keeffe's Class have learned all about the Normans and even made their own castles. For Ms. Murtagh's Class, the Olympics has been the hot topic and they have learned about some Irish Olympians. All 3 classes used their trip to the zoo to extend their learning through report writing, learning about animals

and enjoying the music of Camille Saint Saen's Carnival of the Animals!

Our 5th Classes have taken the opportunity to come together for work and play over the last few months. They have completed maths trails around Wicklow with their teachers Ms. Phillips, Ms. O'Hanlon and Ms. Seery, as well as capacity activities on Travelhawk Beach. They really have gone to great lengths to experience maths in the local environment! 5th Classes have also taken advantage of the fine weather to have an inter-class rounders tournament. Great fun was had by all!

For our 6th Classes and their teachers Ms. Tyrrell and Mr. O'Sullivan it's been all about getting ready for the transition to post-primary school and graduation. Our girls got to experience taster classes in DCW, and everyone worked hard on putting together their memories, hopes and dreams for the end of year presentation.

They wrote lovely comments about each other for the graduation which we hope they will remember always!

Even with all the preparations for the end, they still found time to learn about World War II and completed some fabulous projects and reports!

It's been a good year for all our classes and it has been lovely to see the school start to open up and connect together again after such a long time in pods and bubbles. We are better and stronger together, and we are all looking forward to the year ahead which should bring more happiness, positivity, learning and adventures our way!



Holy Rosary's Got Talent!

There was great excitement in school when Ms. Seery and Ms. O'Hanlon had the inspired idea to launch 'Holy Rosary's Got Talent'! With the help and support of Ms. Phillips, Ms. Tyrrell and Mr. O'Sullivan, and all our 5th and 6th classes, they put on a fantastic show which everyone in school thoroughly enjoyed.

We had a huge variety of acts

"Our 5th and 6th Classes put on a fantastic show which everyone in school thoroughly enjoyed!"

including singing, dancing, magic, gymnastics and lots more. Everyone who took part gave it their all and we are so proud of each and everyone one of them!

No show is a success without the help of the back stage crew and we were blessed with the team involved for our inaugural talent show.

We welcomed Mrs. Gill and Mr. Gibbons back to join

Ms. Kanka on our judging panel and they really had a very difficult job!

Huge congratulations to Emilia and Emma who were worthy winners on the day. We are looking forward to next year's show already...the bar has been set high but who knows what tricks our pupils will have up their sleeves! Bring it on!



Summer Holidays

It's hard to believe we've reached the end of the school year! Everyone has worked really hard and has definitely earned a fun-filled, relaxing break this summer!

Thank you to all our pupils who have worked so hard this year. Thank you to their parents for supporting them and the school at every opportunity along the way. Thank you to the entire staff for working so hard and ensuring our school community is a happy and vibrant place to be, and where

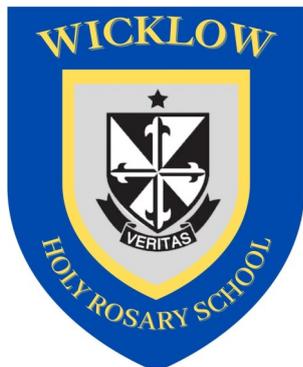
teaching and learning are at the heart of everything!

School closes for the summer break at normal times on Wednesday 29th June.

School re-opens on Wednesday 31st August at 9.20am for Senior Infants to 6th Class. Our new Junior Infants will receive details of their introduction to our school separately.

Happy summer everyone and we look forward to welcoming you all back to school for the 2022/23 school year!





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**CHECK US OUT ON
INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK!**

We're on the web:

www.holosaryschoolwicklow.ie

Words of Wisdom for Summer

Let this be the summer of play! Our children have coped with such a challenging academic year. Their lives were turned upside down, and they gave up so much to protect those older and more vulnerable. This year has taught many of us to lower our expectations, so let's remember this summer does not have to be 'Instagram worthy'. Forget the 'making memories' hashtag, instead let's make this the summer of little things. Beach days, park days, building forts, blowing bubbles, water fights, picnics in the garden. This is the play that helps our children to grow strong and confident. This summer they need time to play, to laugh, to hug, and to heal.

*Dr Mary O'Kane
Perfectly Imperfect Parenting*

School Calendar 2022/23

TERM 1

School Re-Opens:

First official day for Junior Infants:
Staff Meeting Half Day:
Halloween Mid-Term Break:
Christmas Holidays:

Weds. 31st August 2022 Senior Infants - 6th Class
Junior Infants visit – times will issue to parents
Thur. 1st September 2022 @ 9:45am
Mon. 26th September 2022 (HALF DAY 12.15pm)
Mon. 31st October – Fri. 4th November 2022
Weds. 21st December 2022 (HALF DAY 12.15pm)

TERM 2

School Re-Opens/Staff Meeting
St Brigid's Day (Public Holiday)
Spring Mid-Term Break:
St. Patricks Day (Public Holiday):
Staff Meeting Half Day:
Easter Holidays:

Thur. 5th January 2023 (HALF DAY 12.15pm)
Mon. 6th February 2023
Mon. 13th – Fri. 17th February 2023
Fri. 17th March 2023
Date TBC
Fri. 31st March 2023 (HALF DAY 12.15pm)

TERM 3

School Re-Opens:
May Bank Holiday:
June Break:
Summer Holiday Closure:

Mon. 17th April 2023
Mon. 1st May 2023
Fri. 2nd, Mon. 5th & Tues. 6th June 2023
Fri. 30th June 2023 (HALF DAY 12.15pm)