



June 2025 Newsletter

Summer



A message from Mrs Lewis

We have had a fast and wonderful final term this year with so many different experiences and activities to keep everyone busy, and having fun! The children in our school have had a great year and have been provided with wide ranging experiential learning. I wish to thank the children for their enthusiasm and joy in their learning, and their families for the continued support and cooperation we receive in Holy Family. Thank you to our staff for their energy and hard work, always going the extra mile for the pupils. Thank you also to our Chairperson Canon Munster and our Board of Management for their wise governance. Wishing you all a very happy, relaxing and safe summer. Hopefully the sun will shine!



Board of Management

Along with everything else our Board of Management are currently working on the additional accommodation sanctioned by the Dept. We hope to see new classrooms added in the near future! Thank you to our Chairperson, Canon Munster and board members, Marie, Bernie, Siobhán, Aiden, Adrian and Lorraine for all their hard work. For more information and Agreed Reports check www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie

Visit our School Website & Social Media Pages

www.HolyFamilyBallyshannon.ie

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Elementary-School/Holy-Family-National-School-443493775761145/>



Active Schools

The big news is we received our next Active Flag! The accreditor was super impressed with all the work our Active Committee and our school are doing culminating in our famous Sport for All Day, we had: Zumba, Tag Rugby, Yoga, Disco, Skills Games, Tug o War and much more!

To see it all click on:

<https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/active-school-2425.html>



GAA Skills

5th & 6th Class had the opportunity to participate in a handball workshop, they really enjoyed it and we have purchased a handball kit so the practice can continue!



Parents' Association

Our Parents' Association continue to support our school by consulting on policy and fundraising for opportunities for our pupils. This term they very generously sponsored the Ice-Cream on Sport for All Day and our 6th Class Hoodies. They hosted a wonderful party for our Communion Class and their families. They also held a summer raffle fundraiser raising over €3300! Thank you to all our wonderful parents for this support.



Liquid Therapy

Pupils for our Rock Hub Classes enjoyed surfing with Liquid Therapy. This gives the children confidence and wellbeing in the water. They will attend again in September.



Green Schools

We are working on our new flag "Travel" and have been working with Dolores McWeeney on safety and walkability on our route to school. We have also continued to look into a bus route option for our school to reduce traffic. See information on our school webpage: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/green-schools.html>



School Policies

Our school community work together on the formation and review of school policy. Many of our policies are available on the school website or by request at the school office. We recently ratified our new Anti Bullying Procedures: *Bí Cineálta Policy*.

HSCL Home School Community Liaison (HSCL)

Mrs McGinn is available to support the families in our school. She is available on 0830094276 or mrsmcginn@holyfamilyballyshannon.ie

Some of this term's activities are:

- Stronger Start Grocery Bags
- Fitness Classes
- Súgradh le Chéile
- Enrolment Support

For more news and information, click:

<https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/home--school-support.html>



Uniform Orders

Don't forget to order any new uniforms needed by 30th June. The online shop will close after this date to prepare all the orders for our return. It will reopen again in September.

<https://oreillysofficial.com/product-category/club-shops/holy-family-n-s-ballyshannon/>

Amber Flag

More big news, we also received our next Amber Flag this term! The Amber Committee have been busy hosting various events throughout the year such as the 'Spread the Cloak of Kindness' Campaign, the 'Book Buddies' Project and the 'Yard Buddies' Project. They also held a fundraiser for Pieta House.

Well Done to all students and staff for creating such a great learning environment and positive atmosphere in our school.



Play & Art Therapy

Thank you to Suzanne (Play Therapist) and Jackie (Art Therapist) for continuing to provide these special opportunities for our pupils.

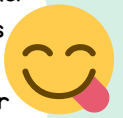
Farewell 6th Class

It's time to say goodbye to our fantastic 6th Class who will be transitioning to Post Primary. They have been great role models as our senior class this year and we are very proud of them. They celebrated their graduation with a special ceremony this week and a guard of honour from the rest of the school. We wish them every success as they continue the rest of their educational journey.



Hot Lunches

Free hot lunches continue and our provider Fresh Today let us know of any changes occurring, they are emailed on to parents/guardians so keep a look out for this. You can change the children's choices weekly. Please ensure your choices have been made by Thursday each week for the change to come into effect the following Monday. More information is available on the Fresh Today website www.freshtoday.ie Mrs McGinn can assist anyone having difficulty logging in.



Student Council

Our Student Council were fantastic at welcoming our new pupils for a visit to our school in preparation for next year and they have continued consulting with their classes and Mrs Lewis in relation to the new *Bí Cineálta* Anti Bullying Procedures.



Books & Stationery Lists

The school will purchase and provide all workbooks, text books and copies for next September. A stationery list will be provided to parents via email containing items such as pencil cases, colours, glue etc. these will be purchased by families. Costs for insurance, art materials and photocopying will be sent out via payment link in September. You will receive your Stationery list and the name of next year's teacher in an email on Friday 20th June.





Ukulele Programme DMEP

Our ukulele programme came to an end and the children in 4th, 5th and 6th Class learned so much from their tutor Nao. This culminated in a trip for 5th & 6th class to An Grianán in Letterkenny where they performed on stage for lots of Donegal schools. Their performance was brilliant!



Junior Infant Transition Programme



As part of our ongoing transition programme our new Junior Infant class came to visit the school. They enjoyed meeting their new friends and staff in the school. Meanwhile the parents met Mrs Lewis and Mrs McGinn to have a cuppa and chat about getting the children ready for school. We also had a visit from the children who attend Saimer Childcare preschool as a follow on from last year's Tús Maith programme. The children sang songs, played games and had a treat!

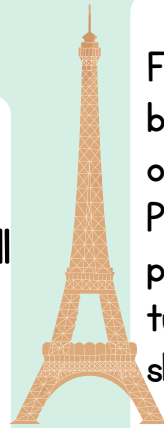
Dance Fit for Second Class

This Term Second Class participated in a Dance Fit class with Caroline, they were put through their paces and really enjoyed this fun way to exercise!



Partnership with Saimer Childcare

We have a great relationship with all childcare providers in Ballyshannon and are delighted to begin a new extended partnership with Saimer Childcare next term. They will be using our school hall to add to their after school service. This means our pupils will be prioritised for after school care and they can offer more places in the area.



Say Yes to Languages
Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Class have been learning French as part of our Say Yes to Languages Programme. They completed this programme with a project. Our tutor Eva says their language skills are très bien!

merci!

School Ethos

Congratulations to Sixth Class on celebration the sacrament of Confirmation on 15th May, it was a very reverent occasion. Congratulations also to our Second Class on receiving the sacrament of First Holy Communion, it was also a very special occasion. We also has a visit from Bishop Larry Duffy who visited classes and had wonderful conversations with the children this term.



Summer Programme 2025

We are delighted to once again be able to provide a summer programme in our school this year for the fourth year in a row. It will run for two weeks from 23rd June to 4th July. All participants have received an email to confirm places and the programme is full for this year.



Create a **POSITIVE**
and **INCLUSIVE**
Learning
ENVIRONMENT

News from the Classes



Click the link to take you to the class page on our school website
If your browser won't bring you to the page you can access everything on www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie

Junior Infants: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/junior-infants--ms-martin.html>

Senior Infants: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/senior-infants--ms-mullaney.html>

First Class: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/1st-class--mr-mc-groary.html>

Second Class: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/2nd-class--ms-curran.html>

Third Class: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/3rd-class--mr-sweeny.html>

4th & 5th Class: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/4th--5th--ms-curran-ms-johnston.html>

5th & 6th Class: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/5th--6th-class--mr-foley.html>

Rock Hub, Ms McNally: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/rock-hub-1--ms-mc-nally.html>

Rock Hub, Ms Brennan: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/rock-hub-2--ms-brennan.html>

SET Ms Maguire: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/set--ms-maguire.html>

SET, Ms Sweeney: <https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/set-ms-sweeneyl.html>

Dates to Remember

- School reopens 27th August 2025.
- October Mid-Term Break, school will close on Friday 24th October and reopen on Monday 3rd November 2025.

Next Year's Calendar 2025/2026 is available at:

https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/uploads/8/7/3/8/87385194/school_calendar_2025-2026.pdf