June 2026 Newsletter

Summer

A message from Mrs Lewis

We have had another very busy 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!

Active Schools

Very busy term for sport! The following took place: Cumann na mBunscoil, NL/SD Cup matches, Cycle Bus, Rinka, Hurling Coaching and Blitz, Football Blitz, Golf Session, Summer Football League. Play Session with Emer. Sport for All Day.

To see it all click on: https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/active-schools-2526.html

GAA Skills

All classes had wonderful coaching from Clun Aodh Ruadh in hurling this term. They learned great skills from familiar faces! Thank you to the coaches John, Stephen, Aiden, Hannah and Kevin.

Board of Management

Along with everything else our Board of Management are currently working on the additional accommodation, new appointments and environmental additions for our school. 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

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 ! Thank you to all our wonderful parents for this support.

Visit our School Website & Social Media Pages

www.HolyFamilyBallyshannon.ie

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

Liquid Therapy

Pupils for our Rock Hub Classes enjoyed surfing with Liquid Therapy. This gives the children confidence and wellbeing in the water. We hope to have the cance to attend again next year.

Green Schools

We were awarded our third flag "Travel" and we are so proud of all the work our teachers and committees have done to achieve this. Our next flag will be on the theme of "Biodiversity" and work has already begun in this area. See information on our school webpage: https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/green-schools.html

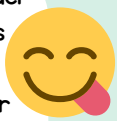
Farewell 6th Class

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.

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 newly reviewed Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

Hot Lunches



Free hot lunches continue and our provider Fresh Today let us know of any changes occurring, they are emailed on to parents/guradians 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.

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
- Tús Maith
- Enrolment Support

For more news and information, click: https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/home--school-support.html

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 on our Hot Meals Programme.

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/

Books & Stationery Lists

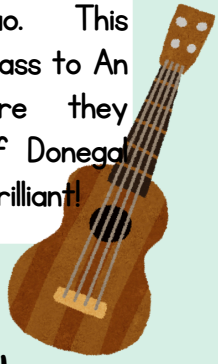
The school will purchase and provide all workbooks, text books and copies for next September. A stationery list will be provided to parents via email containing items such as pencil cases, colours, glue etc. these will be purchased by families. Costs for insurance, art materials and photocopying will 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 19th June.

Amber Flag

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. The Committee enjoyed and ice cream as a reward for all their hard work.
Well Done to all students and staff for creating such a great learning environment and positive atmosphere in our school.

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 aslo had a visit from the children who attend Saimer Childcare preschool as part of theTús Maith programme. The children sang songs, played games and had a treat!

A Song for Shannon

Following the wonderful fundraiser in memory of Shannon Gallagher, we are delighted to receive a whopping €8000! This will help fund a new playground agility trail for all the children to enjoy. Sincere thanks to the Gallagher family for this very generous donation.

Outreach Class

Third Class will utilise our outreach class for the next Academic Year. We wish to thank Saimer Childcare for their partnership and collegiality in preparing this space and sharing it with our school. Third Class will assemble on our school yard each morning and exit via the school front door each afternoon.

Partnership with Saimer Childcare & Kids Cove

We have a great relationship with all childcare providers in Ballyshannon and are delighted to continue our partnership with Saimer Childcare and begin another partnership with Kids Cove next term. This will help to ensure that all childcare needs can be met in our school community. Please contact providers directly for enquiries vis the following numbers:

Saimer Childcare

Kids Cove:

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 witht he childrenthis term.

Summer Programme 2025

We are delighted to once again be able to provide a summer programme in our school this year for the fifth year in a row. It will run for two weeks from 22nd June to 3rd 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--ms-delaney.html

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

First Class: https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/first-class-mr-mc-groary.html

Second Class: https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/second-class-ms-curran--ms-johnston.html

Third Class: https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/third-class-mr-sweeny.html

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

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

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

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

SET Ms Martin: https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/set-ms-maguirel.html

SET, Ms Sweeney: https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/set-ms-sweeney.html

Dates to Remember

- School reopens 26th August 2026.
- October Mid-Term Break, school will close on Friday 23rd October and reopen on Monday 2nd November 2026.

Next Year's Calendar 2026/202 is available at:
https://www.holyfamilyballyshannon.ie/uploads/8/7/3/8/87385194/school_calendar_2026_2027.pdf