



# Holy Family School for the Deaf

Navan Road, Cabra, Dublin DO7 TH79

: 01 838 0058 | F: 01 838 0230 | E: [info@holyfamilydeafschool.ie](mailto:info@holyfamilydeafschool.ie)

Principal: Eimear O'Rourke, M. Ed | Deputy Principal: Eugene Doyle

20<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. As the Christmas holiday period begins, we come to the end of a very difficult and challenging 2020. We are very grateful that our school community has remained safe this term. Sincere thanks are due to all our school staff and to you our parents/guardians for your support and encouragement to your son or daughter to continue to follow school and HSE rules to help prevent the spread of Covid 19. We ask you to continue this support in the New Year.

Despite the restrictions, all pupils from the Early Intervention Classes, Primary and Post Primary have participated in a very wide range of seasonal educational activities to bring some joy this Christmas. Our senior pupils also accessed our Advent/Christmas mass from the Emmaus Chapel, DVI via webcam. Information and photographs of these activities are very accessible on the school website: [www.holyfamilydeafschool.ie](http://www.holyfamilydeafschool.ie) and regularly feature on Twitter @HFSchoolDeaf1

**New school closure date:** Please note the following change to the school holiday list 2020/21: Post Primary will be closed on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 to facilitate teacher in-service training. **Early Intervention and the Primary will remain open.**

**School reports:** as we were unable to host our parent/guardian teacher meetings, comprehensive reports for all our primary and post primary children have been sent to parents.

**Pupil Progression:** I will send out letters with recommendations for the transition from primary to post primary for the 2021/22 school year and Junior and Senior Cycle programmes for post primary 1<sup>st</sup> year, 3<sup>rd</sup> year and Transition Year pupils.

## **Relationship and Sexuality Education Module (R.S.E.) Post Primary**

The Relationship and Sexuality Education module (R.S.E.), of the Social, Personal and Health Education programme (S.P.H.E.), will be covered in term two. It is important to discuss the issues raised in the R.S.E. module with your son or daughter.

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**Early Intervention**  
T: 01 868 9910

**Primary**  
T: 01 868 9910

**Post Primary**  
T: 01 838 0058

**Boarding**  
[infoboarding@cidp.ie](mailto:infoboarding@cidp.ie)



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## **Fund Raising**

We are delighted with the response to the ISL Run/Walk and the Christmas raffle. Many thanks to all who participated in the ISL Run/Walk and those purchased or sold a raffle ticket to support our school. These funds will go towards upgrading our digital infrastructure in the school. Please mark in your diary the 17th of April as the new date for the previously postponed Golf Fundraising Event. Full details will also appear on our website nearer the date.

## **Return to School**

The school will reopen on **Wednesday 6th January 2021**, with boarders travelling back on the evening of Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## **Illness**

**NO CHILD, STAFF MEMBER OR PARENT SHOULD ATTEND OUR SCHOOL IF UNWELL OR IF ANY MEMBERS OF THEIR HOUSEHOLD ARE UNWELL WITH SYMPTOMS CONSISTENT WITH COVID-19.**

Further information on COVID-19 symptoms in children is available at: -

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/if-your-child-has-symptoms.html>

If a pupil develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19 during the school day, they will be brought immediately to a designated isolation area with a staff member. **Parents will be contacted immediately to bring them home and seek further medical advice as necessary.**

If a pupil has been advised by a doctor to isolate, parents should contact the school.

Please use the **Return to School Parent Declaration Form**. This form should be used **after any absence due to illness.**

We will continue to upload the latest advice from the HSE and the Department of Education and Skills in relation to Covid 19 to our Website. [holyfamilydeafschool.ie/news](http://holyfamilydeafschool.ie/news)

## **Change of Address/Telephone Number**

It is extremely important that you notify the school immediately of any change of address or telephone number. This is to avoid private correspondence going astray and is also required in the event of an accident or emergency occurring in the school. New applications for transport must be

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made to School Transport following the change of address. **Please note that it may take up to 8 weeks for new transport to be arranged.**

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support this term. Best wishes to you and your families for a very Happy and safe Christmas and for a happier and healthy New Year.

Yours sincerely,

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Eimear O'Rourke M.Ed  
Principal