

The Harold Times June 2022

Message from the Principal:

We have made it to the end of our school year!

Thank you to everyone in our school community, parents, staff and the Board of Management for their support, patience and understanding this year. Well done to our wonderful boys and girls for their hard work during this very challenging year.

We wish to our 6th Class pupils well as they move on to the next chapter of their lives. Thank you for your contribution to the life of our school over the last eight years.

Thanks to all of the staff who have looked after and cared for them during that time.

We wish everyone in the school community all the best for the summer holidays, and hope that you all have a lovely, relaxing and safe summer break. We look forward to seeing you again at the end of August refreshed and ready for the challenges of the next school year.

Take care

Dervla Nic Mhathúna

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

As per calendar the school will close for the Summer break with a half day on Thursday 30th June 2022.



The finishing times will be staggered as follows:

Senior Infants-11.30 am

Junior Infants -11.40 am

1st/2nd Classes-11.50 am

3rd/4th Class- 12.00 noon

5th Classes -12.10 pm



We wish you all a very happy, healthy, relaxing and safe summer holiday.



And.....

School will re-open on Wednesday, 31st August 2022. The

start and finish times will be as follows:

8.45 am to 2.25 pm 1st Class

8.50 am to 2.30 pm 2nd to 6th Classes

8.55 am to 1.35 pm Senior Infants

9.00 am to 1.40 pm Junior Infants

Further information in relation to entrance and exit points will follow at the end of August.

Ірландське вітання нашим учням для України



Ми раді вітати 5 учнів у шкільній спільноті Гарольда цього року. Ми дякуємо їм за внесок у нашу школу. Дякуємо всім у школі Гарольда за те, що вони відчували себе так приємно та допомагали їм влаштуватися. Можливо, ми знову вітаємо їх у 2022/2023 роках і будемо раді зробити це знову.



Дякуємо ПА за організацію невеликого побачення/кави в середу вранці для всіх наших українських учнів та їхніх батьків/опікунів, і бажаємо їм успіхів у наступні місяці, коли вони переживають ірландське літо!

An Irish welcome to our pupils for Ukraine

We have been delighted to welcome 5 pupils into the Harold School Community this year. We thank them for their contribution to our school. Thanks to everyone in the Harold School for making them feel so welcome and helping them to settle in. We may be welcoming them back again for 2022/2023, and of course will be happy to do so again.



Thanks to the PA for organising a little get together/coffee on Wednesday morning for all our Ukrainian pupils and their parents/guardians, and we wish them well over the coming months, as they experience an Irish summer!

Re School Uniform

Uniformity is the provider of the Harold school uniform



Uniformity: Unit B, Three Rock Road, Sandyford Industrial Estate, D18 H21
www.uniformity.ie 01 2300501

Please note that strict adherence to the school's uniform requirements will be implemented from 31st August 2022 and monitored on a continuous basis.

IMPORTANT

For your information:

Copies of the Class Book lists, Stationery Lists and **School Calendar**** for 2022/2023 are available on the school website www.theharoldschool.ie

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An addition to the school calendar is a staff training day - 5th January 2023



Amber Flag

We are delighted to announce that our school was awarded the Amber Flag this month. This was a whole school effort and thank you to all our pupils, staff and parents who embraced our activities with positivity and enthusiasm. We look forward to planning and continuing the journey of promoting positive mental health in our school community and retaining our Amber Flag next year. **Congratulations and thank you to Mrs. O'Sullivan and our Amber Flag committee who did an exceptional job in their role.**



Sacraments

We were delighted to enjoy a number of Sacraments over the course of this summer term

Confirmation took place for our 3 x 6th Classes on 17th, 18th & 19th May.

Our 3 x 2nd Class celebrated their First Holy Communion over 3 Sundays and 6 ceremonies on May 8th, 15th & 22nd.



First Penance for our 3 x 3rd Class (1st Communion Classes of 2020/2021) was celebrated on 10th June 2022.

We would like to thank all our wonderful boys and girls taking part, their teachers for their preparation, and all parents/guardians for their support. *Thanks also to Fr. Kennedy and Fr. Tyrell for presiding over these occasions, and the Parish office for all their help.*

Speaking of Fr. Kennedy

Fr. Denis will celebrate 60 years of priesthood on Sunday 3rd July. He will celebrate Mass at 10.15 am and there will be a gathering in the parish centre afterwards. It would be lovely for him to have a full church on



this wonderful occasion. And Fr Denis will also be 89 on 30th June.



Happy Birthday!

We, the Harold School Community would like to congratulate him on both his jubilee and his birthday, and to thank him so much for his sterling contribution and dedication to the Harold School over the years, and wish him a wonderful, well deserved celebration on 3rd July.

HAROLD HEROES



We were delighted to welcome back more Harold Heroes this year. These past pupils have gone on to achieve great things since their time in The Harold

and kindly agreed to speak to the current students. The motivation behind the event is to encourage our students to think about their own talents and interests. We hope that their stories will inspire our students to achieve their own goals and dreams.

The Harold Heroes we selected for this year are:

Jack Kirwan - Animation artist

Ali Hardiman - Actress and Screenwriter

Philippe Grehan – U-19 Irish Cricket Team

Maedbh Grehan - Under 16 GAA Team

Peter Grehan - Under 13 Cricket Team

Thanks to Ms Cadogan for organising this.

Student Council

Thank you to the members of the Student Council who have taken their responsibilities very seriously with their suggestions and ideas over the last year. Their fund raiser in aid of the Red Cross Ukraine appeal was a wonderful success raising over €10,000.



Thanks to all members of the Student Council and to everyone for your generosity!



Summer Term Sports May and June have been busy months for sports in our school. Fifth and Sixth class boys took part in the **Seán O’Gorman Cup** tournament against The Harold Boys in Dalkey. They played extremely well.

Unfortunately, the cup has passed back this year to the Dalkey boys but we will be back again next year!



There were **Cuala gaelic football blitzes** held on three days in the Thomastown pitches for 3rd, 4th, & 5th Classes. These days as always were a great success. A big thank you to Ken, the class teachers and to all the parents who helped with supervision.



In **Tennis** our school was represented by boys and girls from 4th, 5th & 6th Classes in the Leinster primary school tennis league. We are very proud of all those who participated, particularly the mixed team who made it through to the semi-finals.

More recently our **Sports for all Days** took place on the 13th and 14th June in the Hudson Field. These were hugely enjoyable days with students taking part in a host of events, track races and relays as well as the shot put, javelin, archery and novelty races. They also got to spend time in the games area.

Well done to all our winners but as always, our main goals are **participation, enjoyment and good sportsmanship** so congratulations to all on taking part, doing their very best in all the events, and your great sporting behaviour!

Huge thanks all the extra helpers and coaches on hand during the 2 days, to all our amazing teachers, SNAs, and our 6th Class students for helping to run the event so effectively.

Thanks so much to Cormac, Mrs Reynolds and Ms McKeogh for organising these great days. Thanks to Cormac for all his PE sessions throughout the school year. Time to take a break!



Gaelic in The Harold School

Message from Ken Fitzgerald -
“Just a short note to wish all students in the Harold a very good summer break. I love coming to the Harold every Thursday to deliver Gaelic

Games coaching on behalf of Cuala GAA, and it is great to see so many of the girls and boys joining Cuala to bring their skills to the next level. I’m sure I’ll see lots of you at our Summer Camps during July but in the meantime remember to keep active and practising your skills with your parents or brothers and sisters. Don’t forget to watch out for Cuala & Dublin teams playing over the summer. All information about Cuala and what we do can be got at www.Cualagaa.ie”

Buíochas le Ken

6th Class Report on Summer Activities

Rang a sé have had a very busy final term in The Harold.

Squirrel Scramble: On Friday, June 24th, 6th class went to Squirrel Scramble for their final school tour. We had a great day out making lots of memories on our last trip together as a year group.

GAA (5th and 6th): Our 5th and 6th class girl’s and boy’s teams played in the local Cuala league over 3 Thursdays. They played numerous local schools and put on a wonderful display of Gaelic football. Their teamwork and ability to ‘dig deep’ when games were closely contested was amazing. The girls team won the Cuala League cup and shield. We are extremely proud of all of our GAA teams. We are very thankful to Donagh Healy (Patricia’s Dad) and Sinead Caffrey (Katie’s mum) for their help.



Quiz Team: Congratulations to our three quiz teams which represented the school so well during their qualifying and final rounds of the 6th class quiz in DLR library.



6th Class Report on Summer Activities contd.

Hoodies: Our graduates of 2022 received their beautiful Harold Hoodies recently. These will be a lovely memory of their time in The Harold.



Languages: During the summer term our 6th class students got to sample Spanish and French as they prepared for secondary school. The 6 week block of French and 2 day Spanish workshops were enjoyed by all, the students are very excited to learn a new language as they move to secondary school.



Thanks to Anne McLaughlin and Sofia Colas for arranging this

Confirmation: In May, our three sixth class were confirmed in three lovely evening ceremonies in St. Michael’s Church in Dun Laoghaire. Thank you to the parish committee, parents and teachers who helped in preparing the students for this sacrament.



Crystal Maze: 6th Class travelled to Meath to visit the Crystal Maze outdoor activity centre. They worked as teams to solve challenges and enjoyed finishing up splashing through the river and rolling down grassy hills. We were delighted to bring home a trophy as well for our achievements on the day.



Graduation: Our Sixth Classes graduated on

Tuesday, June 28th. As a school community we would all like to wish our graduates the very best in the future as they move on from The Harold, to begin their new adventures in secondary school. *Thank you Sean for the beautifully decorated yard!*

A huge thank you to our three 6th Class teachers this year, Mrs Ahern, Ms Madden, Ms Wall, and to Theresa, Val, Brenda & Erna for their hard work, encouragement and enthusiasm during the year. Have a lovely well-deserved, summer break



Green School News We have had a very busy few months on the green school committee. Here are some of the activities we have been doing.

IT

This year we have invested greatly in IT equipment to enhance the teaching and learning in our school. This was made possible by grants from the Department of Education and also through generous donations and fundraising from parents which is greatly appreciated.



- Pupils have accessed iPads 1st - 4th classes have benefitted from new interactive screens in their classrooms
- Teachers have been able to share snapshots of school life with parents at home through photographs and videos on Seesaw using the new tablets
- 5th classes completed a programme in Minecraft education

We are delighted to announce the following new equipment for September 2022:

- Junior and Senior infant classrooms will have new interactive screens installed
- All classrooms will have cameras and microphones installed to enable new and exciting learning opportunities via Zoom calls
- We are doubling the number of student iPads so we will have 2 class sets of 32 enabling a whole class to engage simultaneously with their own device
- Student laptops for our 3rd - 6th class pupils to develop their skills using a computer for presenting and researching work

We are very proud of the progress made to date and excited about our future plans to engage in new and innovative projects across all class levels.

A very big thank you to Mrs O'Sullivan for her ongoing sterling work in this area.

- Surveying classes to establish the level of knowledge among students from 1st to 5th Class on the topic of Biodiversity.
- We surveyed and mapped out the school yards and gardens to identify areas for redevelopment.
- Brainstormed the topic of biodiversity and created a to do list of suggestions on how to develop the theme, Biodiversity
- Created a list of activities for classes to do in year 2 of our theme.
- Participated in the National Spring clean in a school wide clean-up of the rooms, yards and Eden park
- Many classes submitted entries in DLR poster competition on the topic of anti-dog litter/fouling. We had several highly commended results and we also congratulate Mathilda Leahy from 1st Class who was overall winner. Watch out for her winning poster on the Belly Bins in our area.
- Have a wonderful **Green** summer from all of the **Green Committee. Thanks so much to Ms Murphy and all the members of the Green school Committee for all their efforts.**



Therapy Dogs

We were delighted to have Jack, the Therapy Dog, back in the school with us this year. Jack

has a really calming and loving influence on all the children he works with. We look forward to working with him again. We are very lucky to have him as part of our team here in The Harold. Thank you Jack! and **thank you to Ms Grehan for organising this.**



Some other events/News

Bloomsday: On June 16th many in school dressed up for Bloomsday to celebrate James Joyce and Ulysses. The village of Glasthule was full of life and costumes for this community event.

Odd Sock

Day: On Friday, June 17th, we all wore our odd



socks to school to fundraise and raise awareness for Down Syndrome Ireland. The school was full of colour celebrating individuality and difference on this day. A wonderful €1,348 was raised thanks to your generosity so **Thank you!**

End of Year School Concert: On June 23rd we had our junior and senior school concerts in the hall.

Students from each year group performed in front of their classmates showing a variety of musical, acting and gymnastic talents to name a few. Thank you to Mrs Murphy for all her help in organising this.

Bodhrán: 5th and 6th class students took part in a Bodhrán workshop in May. They each had their own bodhrán to use for the workshop and enjoyed playing the rhythms with their instructor.



Parent Etiquette – Eden Park and surrounding roads We would like to remind everyone to respect our neighbours living on the roads around the school area by parking respectfully, not congregating outside their windows, using sills as seating areas, and cleaning up any dog fouling etc.

Re Eden Park, there has been a lot of planting done recently by the Council etc. We would ask to you to ensure that your children do not walk on the flowerbeds so that we all, the Harold School community and the local residents may enjoy this lovely local amenity.

Many thanks for your support in this matter.

Gaeilge sa Scoil

Táimid tagtha go deireadh na bliana agus bliain do-chreidthe a bhí ann dúinn go léir. Comhghairdeachas do gach duine as an sár-íarracht a rinne sibh chun an Ghaeilge a úsáid ar scoil agus sa bhaile. Míle buíochas do Ms Dalton a bhí ag obair le gach rang ó Rang a Dó ar aghaidh chun cluichí Gaelacha a imirt agus Gaeilge neamhfhormiúl a fhorbairt trasna na scoile. Bhain gach duine idir múinteoirí agus daltaí an taitneamh as. Ná déan dearmad ar TG4 i rith na laethanta saoire agus an cúpla focail a úsáid nuair is féidir. Bain taitneamh as na laethanta saoire gach duine! Tá súil againn go léir go mbainfidh sibh sult agus spraoí astú.



Worth a mention! A group of girls from Mrs Holland's 3rd Class pupils hosted a bake and treats sale in the Hudson field one afternoon in aid of the fund for Ukraine and raised €74. **Well done girls!**

Very IMPORTANT Internet Use/Safety

We continue to emphasise the importance of parental supervision of children's activity on the internet and social media over the Summer holidays



Voluntary Contributions

A huge **thank you** to all parents who have made a contribution in this regard. Your support of the school is most appreciated.



For those who might still like to contribute, payment may be made online through your child's payments page via Aladdin Connect. Thank you!





DLR Libraries are delighted to announce that our annual Summer Stars Reading Adventure for children will take place in all library branches again this summer.

Summer Stars is an exciting reading-based programme which is available free of charge to all children. We are encouraging all children to join in and to participate in our range of storytelling and other fun activities during the summer.

Each child is invited to register for the reading adventure at their local library and enjoy reading many books during the summer holidays. All participants will be given a Summer Stars Reading Card to record and track their own progress and a library reward stamp will be added to their reading card at the library after each book read. Children will be encouraged to continue reading throughout the programme and there will be rewards and incentives along the way.

Summer Stars is a national programme so even when you are on holidays children can avail of the opportunity to pop into any library in Ireland and get their cards stamped and updated.

At the end of the adventure, all children who participate are invited to attend an award event at which they will be presented with their own Summer Stars certificate.

Events for children will also be held in branches and online throughout the summer. Library staff will also be hosting events so plenty to keep everyone occupied during the summer break from school. Do watch out for our Teddy Bear workshops in particular!

Keep an eye on the DLR website and social media feeds for updates.

Useful Information

Seesaw Archive: For anyone who may wish to download their child's Seesaw journal to be able to keep their work for the year, the link here provides information on how to do

so: <https://help.seesaw.me/hc/en-us/articles/208754866-How-families-and-students-can-download-an-archive-of-student-work>



ODD Sock Day a thank you!

"We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who supported "Odd Sock Day" in The Harold. It is through support like this that we are able to provide services to so many children, we can't express enough how grateful we are for your support" The Down Syndrome Centre



As we come to the end of another school year, we would like to thank our Reps & you our parents for all the help and

enthusiasm as we started back after recent challenging times. We are all looking forward to next year where we can get back to doing some really fun things again. We hope you have an incredible summer and look forward to seeing you next year.

Regards,

Anna, Andrea & Samantha

The Harold School Parents Association

Thanks to all the PA and volunteers for their work during the last year, it is much appreciated.

IMPORTANT RE Returning to the Harold in September 2022??



If you are aware that your child will not be returning to The Harold in September for the 2022/2023 school year, we would greatly appreciate it if you would let us know as soon as possible as we have a waiting list of applicants for most classes.

Please email admin@haroldschool.ie



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The SVP's National Education Committee offers support to families in relation to book rentals, summer camps etc. The contact number is **01 8550022** or email **info.east@svp.ie**

Important St Vincent de Paul-Support

*A **HUGE THANK YOU** to all who have contributed to school life in the Harold over the last year including:*

*Our Pupils and Parents
Ms Nic Mhathúna, Principal
Ms Mc Keogh, Deputy Principal
The School Management Team
The Covid Response Team
Class and SET Teachers
SNA's
The Board of Management
The Parents Association
The Fundraising Committee
Gráinne, Sue and Fiona
Sean, Elaine and Anna
Fr Kennedy
Fr Tyrell*

School Office

The office will be closed over the summer break. For urgent enquiries please email admin@haroldschool.ie

*Best wishes for a wonderful summer and some sunshine to everyone
from Sue, Gráinne and Fiona*



Happy Summer Holidays from all in the Harold

*School.
Relax, take care and be safe!
See you on Wed, 31st August!*



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