

The Harold Times *Midterm Oct/Nov 2022*

Message from Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians & everyone in our school community.

I hope that you are all well. We have been enjoying spooky artwork and batty Halloween stories & jokes in our school over the last few weeks. I want to thank our wonderful pupils in 5th & 6th classes and our Student Council for the way that they have inspired our younger pupils recently. Both their good behaviour and respect has been so lovely to see. They have been teaching our Junior Infant pupils more about what friendship means and also how to play enjoyable & inclusive yard games. I want to thank our dedicated staff for their commitment & support for our school. Our Open morning last Friday was a great success. Thank you to everyone on the team for their hard work.

Have a lovely & safe Halloween with family & friends.

Dervla Nic Mhathúna



IMPORTANT- Junior Infants 2023 CLOSING DATE

Please note that the closing date for the receipt of application for Junior Infants 2023 is 2nd November 2022 at 2.30pm.

Any applications received after that date will be treated as 'late' applications.

All the relevant information is on the school website www.haroldschool.ie under the "Junior Infants 2023" tab.

Team Hope Christmas Shoeboxes



The children in 5th and 6th Classes are taking part in the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox appeal in aid of children living in some of the world's poorest countries. Filled shoe boxes should be returned to the school **on Monday 7/11/2022**. All support of this very worthy cause would be much appreciated.

Mid Term Break

The school will close at the usual times on **Friday 28th October** for the mid-term break and will **re-open on Monday 7th November**.



I am sure that we are all looking forward to this break!

Dress Up day Fri 28th October



Our 'Dress-Up' day for Halloween will take place this Friday 28th

October 2022 when we look forward to seeing everyone in their colourful costumes.

We ask that the children do **NOT** wear Halloween masks, long trailing costumes (which could be a trip hazard) or scary/gruesome make up (to avoid scaring younger pupils).

The children may bring some extra treats to school on Friday.

Halloween Celebrations



We ask that parents/guardians be responsible in ensuring that their children do not cause injury to either themselves or others on Halloween night. If you discover that your children have fireworks/bangers etc., please confiscate them. Apart from the risk of injury, fireworks can cause great annoyance and distress to elderly neighbours, family pets and animals. They can also set off intruder alarms causing extra demand on Garda resources, and there is always the possibility of fire outbreaks.

Enjoy a safe Halloween!

Open Morning



It was so nice to welcome the parents of children in Classes 3rd to 6th to the school on Friday last, 21st

October, for our 'Open' morning. Although the

weather was a little inclement at times (heavy showers!) we were delighted to show them around the school to see the School Library, wall murals, lovely artwork throughout the school, our new IT facilities etc.

Thanks to the parents who attended, to all who helped in the organisation of the event, including our Student Council members.

Well Done all!

Upcoming:

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Parent/Teacher meetings will take place in person on 16th and 17th November 2022.

Christmas

Christmas Celebration 15/12/2022 for Classes 4th, 5th and 6th, Glashule Church 7.30 pm

Christmas plays

14th Dec 2nd & 3rd

15th Dec SI & 1st

16th Dec II

Further details to follow.



Gaelic Football



Well done to all the boys and girls in 6th Class who took part in the local Gaelic league over the last number of weeks. We have seen some excellent sportsmanship and team spirit throughout!

Thanks to

Ms Byrne, Ms Leahy,

Mr Dooley & Mr O'Shea for their commitment and enthusiasm.

And of course, thanks to all the parents who are so generously giving up their time in providing lifts and support etc.

Come on The Harold School!!



Maths Week

The Harold school really enjoyed taking part in Maths Week this year. We played Maths games, completed daily puzzles and challenges and entered an estimation challenge to win a class prize. It was a fun, active and enjoyable week. Congratulations to Kealan Brennan from 6th class and Donal Clancy from Junior Infants who both won prizes for their classes.

Congratulations also to Ms Leahy who won the staff estimation challenge and correctly guessed the total age of the Harold Staff!

Thanks to Mrs Boyle for organising the week's events!



Harold Hockey

Our 3rd - 6th class hockey players train every Tuesday afternoon on the pitches in Cluny. Our 6th Class hockey players will be representing The Harold School in The Leinster Schoolgirls' Primary League over the coming weeks. We wish the girls the best of luck and we look forward to cheering them on from the sideline!

Thanks to Emma Meir (Coach) & Ms McKeogh for co-ordinating this, and to parents for lifts and support for the girls at matches.et



6th Class

6th Class have had a very busy October.

- **Robin Stevens** - On Tuesday, October 11th, 6th Class went to the Lexicon library to attend a talk by Robin Stevens, the author of the 'Murder Most Unladylike' series. We were lucky enough that Robin signed some copies of our books as well.



- **David Gillick** - 5th and 6th classes are currently completing the Marathon Kids initiative which enables children to run the distance of a marathon over an 8-week period. David Gillick visited as the Marathon Kids ambassador on October 17th. He spoke to us about his achievements so far, answered some questions and then joined us for a run in Hudson Field.

- **Bloom** - 6th classes will be completing a school mural to brighten up our yards further this year. On October 18th we had our first visit from Fiona and Ashling from 'Bloom the Art Project' to begin the planning process of what this year's mural will look like.



- **Cycling** - 6th class completed a 7-week cycling workshop with 'Cycle Right' which included cycling around the area of Dun Laoghaire and Glashule to put our new learning into action.

- **Dáil visit** - On October 20th and 26th, 6th class visited the Dáil with Cormac Devlin showing us around as our tour guide. It was really interesting to have our questions answered and to see inside the Dáil.



School Yard Games

October was Yard Games month in the Harold and great fun was had by all. Each junior class was

partnered with a class from the senior end of the school and it was lovely to see the fun they had together. We hope that the children will continue to play some of these games that they have learned at break times throughout the year.

Thanks to Mrs Reynold for organising this lovely event!

IT

Our Junior and Senior Infants classes are delighted with their new interactive screens that were installed over the summer holidays. Every classroom in the school is benefitting from the most up to date interactive screens fitted with cameras and microphones to facilitate zoom calls which creates new and exciting learning opportunities for all. We are delighted with our new iPads in the school. We now have 2 full class sets (JI - 2nd class and 3rd - 6th class) and this gives every pupil in the class access to their own iPad during the lessons on their timetabled day.



our IT co-ordinator!

We are very grateful for parent support and fundraising that has allowed us to enhance our teaching and learning with these IT updates in our school.

Thanks to Mrs O'Sullivan

Internet Use/Safety

We cannot emphasise enough the importance of parental supervision of children's activity on the internet as

many websites can be used for cyber bullying, paedophilia, etc. Please warn children not to give names, addresses or personal details over the Internet under any circumstance. In our school we have a filter system which blocks access to unsuitable websites. Pupils who bully other pupils from our school on the internet will be sanctioned in accordance with our school's Anti-Bullying policy.

Please see some very helpful information in this regard on WebWise [Webwise- Advice for parents](#)



Happy Halloween and Happy Midterm!

Best wishes from all in the Harold School for a safe and happy Halloween and a relaxing midterm break. See you all on Monday November 7th!

