

The Harold Times

Summer 2023



**SCHOOL CLOSED—
Summer**

Holidays

As per calendar the school will close for the summer holidays this Friday 30th June
Please note THIS IS A HALF DAY
Pick up times:

J & S Infants - 11.45am
1st & 2nd - 11.50 am
3rd—5th - 12.00 noon



We wish you all a well-deserved, happy and relaxing holiday break.



School will re-open for all classes on Wednesday 30th August 2023

at the usual times.



Website: We have updated our school website with some new photographs and information from this school year. Please take a look at the improved IT in school, yard areas, garden area and sporting achievements. Stationery lists, annual charges and the school calendar for 23/24 can be found on the website too. <https://www.theharoldschool.ie/>

A BIG thank you to Ms Wall for all her hard work in updating and maintaining our school website!

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents & Guardians,
It is a joyful time for our school as we come to the end of this term. This school year has been a testament to the love and support over the years from the staff, parents/guardians and the wider school community.

It is such a privilege for our staff to bear witness to how our 6th class pupils have grown in confidence, knowledge, kindness and faith.

Our graduation ceremony was a celebration of all that is good about our pupils, our teachers and our school. I look forward to hearing great things about each of these students.

Parents/Guardians,
Every morning I meet your wonderful children. They are a credit to you, their families. You are the vital component in your child's' education. We, the school, value and acknowledge the support of our parent community. Without it, we simply would not have such a marvellous school. We bid a very fond farewell to the families that have journeyed with us for the last 8 years. We are so very grateful for your support, and you will be sorely missed.

Like any production, behind the scenes there is a very large team of hard working people. The love and dedication of our staff to the pupils in their care is commendable and it is a privilege to work with such a strong team here in The Harold School. I thank our teachers for their commitment to providing stimulating, challenging learning environments and opportunities throughout the year.

I would like to wish you all the very best for the summer holidays and look forward to welcoming you all back, refreshed, for what will be an exciting, new school year.
Go n' éirí libh go léir!

Dervla Nic Mhathúna

SPORTS DAY

Our **Sports for all Days** took place on 12th, 13th and 14th June 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 and novelty races.

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 who were on hand to help during the 3 days, to all our amazing teachers, SET Department, SNAs, and our 5th Class students for helping to run the event so effectively and efficiently.

Thanks so much to Cormac, and Mrs Cave for organising these great days.

BLOOMSDAY

On June 16th everyone 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. 6th class visited the village twice during the day and also went for a walk to the Martello Tower. 6th class also took part in a competition for the best costumes. Well done to Ella, Ted, Florence and Missy for winning prizes in the competition.



BLOOMSDAY

Thanks to everyone for entering into the spirit of this event!



JUNIOR INFANT VISITS We were delighted to welcome our prospective Junior Infants Classes 2023/2024 to visit us on Thursday and Friday 25th and 26th May and see their classrooms, and look forward to welcoming them on August 30th.

GAELIC FOOTBALL in THE HAROLD SCHOOL



We have had a great term with our Gaelic football teams. We started the term with our new jerseys which helped us all feel like a team. Thank you to all our sponsors for helping us with them.

The 5th and 6th class boys competed in our annual Seán O'Gorman Cup against The Harold Boys in Dalkey. It is the best of three matches.



The teams were so well matched that for the first time ever it had to go to a replay. The boys fought hard in the replay and they won the match. We are so proud of the teamwork and commitment the boys showed throughout the matches.



The 6th class girls football team competed against Loreto Dalkey in a new competition. Again this was the best of three matches. The girls showed great enthusiasm and

teamwork throughout their matches. Each match was very close, and it was great to hear our big squad of 21 girls cheering each other on throughout the matches. We are so proud of all of the girls and all they have achieved this year. We hope the boys and girls continue with their Gaelic journey next year.

Thank you to all the parents and teachers who supported the teams throughout the year. A special thank you to the managers, Ms Byrne, Mr Dooley and Ms Leahy

THANK YOU !

Thanks to your wonderful generosity our recent fundraiser



(organised by our Student Council) in aid of Laura Lynn has raised €1,578.00 to date which is absolutely fantastic.

WELL DONE to everyone!

6th Class Report

Alive Outside: 6th class visited Alive Outside for their final school tour last week. They had an amazing day out taking part in shelter building, making fires, completing the Hell and Back course and cooling off with a dip in the lake in Kiltrudery. All children agreed it was their best school tour- finishing on a high!



School Hoodies: 6th class received their red hoodies to wear proudly for the final weeks of school. These will be a lovely memory of their time in The Harold and of their peers.



Quizzes: Student representatives from each of the three sixth classes took part in the DLR Schools Quiz in June. Two of our teams made it through the first round of qualifiers and into the finals. Congratulations to the team from Ms Wall's class who came in third place overall in the quiz.

Graduation: We had a lovely graduation ceremony for all sixth class students on Tuesday to mark the end of their eight years in The Harold wonderful celebration of the students with poetry, musicians, drama, singing and dancing- showing off the various talents this cohort have. Parents, students and school staff helped give them a great send off as they walked through the green doors for the final time. Wishing them all the best for the future.



Huge thanks to Mrs Ahern, Ms Madden, Ms Corcoran and Ms Wall for all their hard work during the year and for making 6th Class so special for all the pupils.

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S CHOIR



After all 5th and 6th classes performed in a wonderful choral concert in April in the National Basketball Arena as part of the National Childrens choir, a further group of nineteen children from 5th and 6th class performed for President Higgins and his wife in a packed National Concert Hall on May 27th. They sang 15 songs in three- and four-part harmony in a repertoire that encompassed a wide variety of songs from many genres of music and in several languages including Latin, Italian, Spanish, Irish and Slavic. They rehearsed on the morning and met up with lots of other children from Cork, Mayo, Kildare and various parts of Dublin. It was a truly memorable occasion for all.

A huge THANK YOU to all the 5th and 6th Class teachers, SNA's and especially to Mrs Ahern, Ms Murphy & Ms Thomason.



CONCERTS

We also enjoyed recitals last week as the end of year summer concerts took place. We all enjoyed lots of poetry, singing, dancing and of course lots of instrumental performances as the pupils got to show off their many talents. There was even some gymnastics!, ballet and Irish Dancing.

Thank you to all the Teachers, Sna's, and pupils for all their wonderful efforts, the concerts were really enjoyable!

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

SOCCER

It has been great to be able to bring soccer to the Harold School this school this year. Boys and Girls from 5th and 6th classes took part in a number of FAI tournaments this term and represented the school with great effort, enthusiasm. We also had a fantastic school tournament for both 5th and 6th



classes a couple of weeks ago and all the children really enjoyed the day.



It is wonderful to see so many children having a keen interest in soccer and we very much look forward to bringing more soccer to the school next year!

We send best wishes and lots of luck from everyone in The Harold School to the Women's National Team in the World Cup in Australia in July. **Come on you girls in GREEN!**

Thanks you to the managers, Ms Connolly and Mr O'Shea.

Thanks also to the parents for their support and transport!



COOL DUDES: 5th Class have had a very busy year so far. Over the past few months, they participated in the Cool Dudes programme. This is a food, cookery, and nutrition programme. We



had two wonderful instructors join us for five sessions.

Our 5th class students learned all about food hygiene, food safety, the preparation of food, and cooking skills! Some of the meals

that they made included chicken curry, chicken tenders, vegetable soup, banana muffins, apple crumble, spaghetti bolognese and jam biscuits. After each session, the classes were able to sit down, relax and enjoy their food, which was definitely a highlight for all! We were delighted with the program, and it was definitely one of the students favourite activities this year. It has been wonderful to see the 5th classes take their new skills and knowledge home and make some delicious meals for their families and friends!!

Thanks to Mrs O'Sullivan, Ms Henderson, Ms Quinlan and Mr Burns for facilitating.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Well done to the Student Council for all their work this term. They have encouraged their classes to make suggestions on improving our school. Many of these suggestions have been taken on board already and others are being considered for the coming school year.



Our Student Council represented our school so well at our recent Open Day, welcoming our new Junior Infants and their parents. They have also organised a non-Uniform fundraiser day for the charity Laura Lynn. And we are delighted to inform you that an **AMAZING €1,578.00** has been raised to date.



We are very proud of their dedication and commitment to our school! AND Thanks to everyone for their very generous support!

A BIG THANK YOU to Mrs Macey for looking after the Student Council.

GREEN SCHOOL and BIODIVERSITY

It has been a very exciting time recently for the Green Schools. On the 23rd of May the school received a Green Flag for biodiversity.

The awards ceremony took place in the Helix, and four representatives from the Harold Green Schools committee attended to collect our latest Green Flag.



This is the result of lots of hard work on the part of the Green schools committee and all the staff and children of the school, who participated enthusiastically in all the events and initiatives that have taken place over the last couple of years. Well done to one and all!

Thanks to Mrs Reynolds and Ms Connolly for looking after our GREEN school!



MESSAGE from PA:

The Parents' Association would like to send a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the Harold School community over the past year, whether as a class rep, a volunteer at one of the many events, or by supporting our fundraising initiatives. We are still on the look-out for reps for next school year so if you are interested, please contact your current rep or email haroldschoolpa@gmail.com. We will be launching our new fundraising initiative in September so wish all the parents and children a wonderful summer until then.

Ciarán, Brenda & Lucy (Parents' Association Committee)



INTERNET 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 (in line with Department and PDST filter recommendations) 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.

USEFUL INFORMATION:

Please see the attached PDF re Web-wise and safe internet use over the summer break.

IT



Wonderful progress has been made with digital learning this year for all our pupils in the school. By purchasing 4 new sets of iPads we have quadrupled our number of devices which will enable all of our pupils from junior infants-6th class to have frequent access to an iPad to enhance their learning and create new and interactive teaching opportunities in our classrooms.

We have also purchased a class set of pupil laptops and our 5th class pupils were very lucky to trial them this term. Every pupil was assigned a Microsoft online account giving them access to Word and Powerpoint which created a home/school link for their work which they can share through Seesaw to their teacher.

All pupils learned how to use and more importantly create Powerpoint presentations and share them in their classes which is an amazing learning opportunity and it was only made possible with the laptops in classrooms. We will roll this out for all 3rd - 6th class pupils in September.

We are very grateful for your support with fundraising enabling us to achieve the extensive suite of IT devices giving our students a unique learning experience in primary school.



Thanks to Mrs O'Sullivan and Ms Wall (our Technology Department) for all their efforts

NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM

As you are aware, this year our staff attended a number of inservice training days pertaining to the New Primary Curriculum Framework. Please see the link below for further information for parents/guardians about the New Curriculum.

[New Curriculum for Primary Schools - information for parents](#)

SMART PHONE VOLUNTARY CODE

Following a recent survey of The Harold School community, an overwhelming majority of our parents/guardians said they would welcome the introduction of a voluntary code pertaining to primary school children's use of smartphones.

If you would like to anonymously sign up to The Harold School's Parents' Association's No Smartphone Voluntary Code please click on the link below to fill out the short form.

[No Smartphone Voluntary Code -The Harold School P.A](#)

GAEILGE

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. 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 again go léir go mbainfidh sibh sult agus spraoí astú.



Many thanks to everyone for all the effort that has been put into "Labhairt na Gaeilge" during the year both at school and at home. Remember to keep it up over the holidays and use your "cúpla focail" when you get a chance! Have a lovely holiday and see everyone back in September!

SCHOOL LIBRARY

The school library has been a popular and worthwhile addition to our school this year. Every child has had the opportunity to visit and borrow a variety of age appropriate books while also enjoying the quiet, colourful surroundings. We are constantly upgrading the room and thanks to the Scholastic book fair this year we will be adding lots of new books to our stock for next year. We have also recently received a supply of Foreign Language books suitable for our students who come from many corners of the globe. Thank you to all involved in setting up, supporting and maintaining the room.

Thanks especially to Mrs Boyle for coordinating this!



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>

IMPORTANT—OFFICE

As the school office will be closed, any urgent enquiries during the summer break may be emailed to admin@haroldschool.ie. Emails will be monitored intermittently.

Happy Summer Holidays from all in the Harold School.

Relax, take care and be safe!

See you on Wed, 30th August!