



SCHOOL CALENDAR 2025/2026

Mid-Term Break

Closed Thurs 19th Feb & Fri 20th Feb.

St. Patrick's Day

Closed Mon 16th & Tues 17th Mar.

Easter

Closing on Fri 27th Mar (half day).

Re-opening on Mon 13th April.

May Bank Holiday

Closed Monday 5th May.

June Bank Holiday

Closed Fri 29th May & Mon 1st June.

Summer Holidays

Closing on Wed 24th June (half day).

ZUMBA WITH TRACEY JAN 2026



As part of the dance strand in the P.E Curriculum, we have a Zumba instructor coming to our school every Tuesday for four weeks. The girls and boys are having so much fun learning new dance moves!

CROKE PARK MOVEMENT BREAKS JAN-MAR 2026



We are participating in this year's Active School Flag 'Active Break Every Day' challenge which asks teachers and their classes to commit to a movement break, every day, across the four weeks of the challenge (19th Jan – 13th Feb). It is so much fun! These are called "Croke Park Movement Breaks" and this challenge is supported by the GAA. As a registered school, we can access loads of classroom-friendly movement breaks videos recorded in Croke Park with great ideas to get everyone involved. Videos provide a behind-the-scenes look at where the team buses arrive, inside the players' dressing rooms and the warm-up areas where players get game-ready. In addition, they will learn interesting facts about the GAA and Croke Park.



UPCOMING EVENTS

FEB & MARCH 2026



AFRICAN DRUMMING



MOBILE FARM VISIT



SOCCKER SKILLS ON FRIDAYS

BAKING WITH MISS JONES – WEEKLY CLASSES

First Class boys & girls had a lovely time baking cookies with Miss Jones. Our pupils are developing essential life skills, fine motor coordination and academic concepts (math/science) through baking. Key skills include measuring & weighing, mixing, rubbing-in, kneading, following safety procedures & washing up too! And of course, tasting is our reward afterwards!!!





VISITING CHILDREN'S AUTHOR KATELYN HEALY

We were so lucky to have a children's author Katelyn Healy visit our school on Monday, 15th December 2025. She has written some lovely Christmas books.

She read a Christmas story to each class, and did a question and answer session after where the children could ask Katelyn questions about being an author.

Parents were also invited in for the story-time session with their class also. Take a look below at some photos:



CHRISTMAS 2025

Well done to all our pupils who put on fabulous Christmas plays & carol singing! They were absolutely fantastic at singing the songs and saying their lines. It was so lovely to have parents, grandparents, and relatives in our school hall to see the shows also. Take a look below at some photos:





GREEN SCHOOLS



WOW Day 4/2/206

Thanks to all of our pupils, parents & staff who joined us on our Walk On Wednesday. It was great to see so many walking to school.

Fewer cars around the school gates leads to better air quality for us all.



HOT CHOCOLATE PARTY FOR 100% ATTENDANCE IN NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

Well done to our pupils who did not miss a day of school since October Mid-Term break. They enjoyed a delicious Hot Chocolate party and biscuits with Ms. Healy and Louise. This is a fantastic achievement. Well done boys and girls!

We would like to take this opportunity to remind families of the **importance of regular school attendance** for every child. Attending school every day is vital for your child's learning and overall development. When children are in school consistently, they not only build important skills in literacy and numeracy but also benefit from daily **social interaction**, develop **friendships**, and learn how to work and play as part of a group. These experiences are essential to your child's confidence, happiness, and success both in and out of the classroom. We understand that there are times when children may be absent due to illness or family circumstances. However, regular absences — even a day here and there — can add up quickly and make it difficult for children to keep up with their classmates. Together, we can help every child reach their full potential and enjoy the many benefits of learning and growing in school each day.

Thank you for your continued co-operation and support! Take a look below at some photos:





JUNIOR INFANTS

We are so lucky to have been selected for the Happy Talk programme which is a Speech and Language intervention programme based on the latest research. This programme is ran by the HSE and UCC. The Happy Talk Junior Infant Programme involves supporting the Junior Infant teachers, wider staff, the children and their parents. Coaching and training is at the core of the Happy Talk model. Happy Talk is based on the hypothesis that coaching staff and parents will have an impact on the overall language and learning outcomes for children. The process begins with a parent session, where parents are guided through language development strategies and activities for that day. This will take place in the Parents Room in our school. The parents then enter the classroom with the Speech and Language Therapist and participate in the session with the SLT coaching the teacher, SNA or parent as they run activities with a group of children. During the week the children continue to work on the activities with their teacher. Our staff have already taken part in the training.

If you could please come in to school during the following dates to take part in the Happy Talk programme it would be fantastic and a great help for your child. If English is not your first language, you can take part in the Happy Talk Programme using your home language. If you could please come in to school during the following dates to take part in the Happy Talk programme it would be fantastic and a great help for your child. If English is not your first language, you can take part in the Happy Talk Programme using your home language.

-Room 10 Happy Talk Sessions: Wednesday, 4th February @9 am- 10 am, Wednesday, 11th February @9 am- 10 am, Wednesday, 18th February @9 am- 10 am, and Wednesday, 25th February @9 am- 10 am.

-Room 13 Happy Talk Sessions: Wednesday, 4th February @12:30-1:30 pm, Wednesday, 11th February @12:30-1:30 pm, Wednesday, 18th February @12:30-1:30 pm, and Wednesday, 25th February @12:30-1:30 pm.

-Room 9 Happy Talk Sessions: Friday, 6th February @9am-10 am, Wednesday, 11th February @9am-10 am, Monday 16th February @9am-10 am, and Wednesday, 27th February @9am-10 am.



JUNIOR GOLF NOV 2025



We had a golf instructor Denis Barrett teaching golf skills to all the classes for the month of November. The girls and boys really enjoyed it! Golf instruction for children promotes physical activity, patience, and concentration while also providing a fun and a different way for children develop coordination and gross-motor skills.



ART MURAL PROJECT





Our Art Mural project was completed before Christmas and it is now proudly displayed on the school wall for all to see. It is a beautiful and vibrant addition to the school and we are so grateful to all of the parents, family members and children that were a part of this project. The project was funded by Charleville ETB and our tutor Stephanie Abresch guided us to create this amazing piece. The project began in the school year 2023/2024 so it has been wonderful to see all the different people involved in it over the years, and we will all be able to see the fruits of our labour as we walk into the school for many years to come!

HSCL NEWS



The run up to Christmas was very busy here in St Josephs, where we held a Pediatric First Aid Course for parents, a make-up demonstration class as well as Christmas Craft classes and our now annual Christmas Wreath making class with Sharon. It was lovely to see everyone coming together and enjoying the magic of Christmas.



St Joseph's Convent N.S.

School Newsletter February 2026

2026 will see lots of more exciting events for parents here at St Josephs.



Our Parent and Toddler group runs weekly on a Friday morning from 9-11am and newcomers are always welcome.



We have a 6 week 'Healthy Food Made Easy' Course starting this Thursday at 9am.



Walk and Talk returns in the Town Park on Monday 9th February at 9.10am, we would love you to join us for some fresh air and chats!



Pancake Tuesday is on 17th February and we would love if parents could join us to flip some pancakes with the children.



A Flower Arranging Demonstration will be held on Friday 13th March with Sharon Cregg showing us how to create a variety of floral arrangements.



Cuddle and Read returns to Junior Infants in March, we would love if any parent/grandparent would like to visit the classrooms to read a story to the class. If any parent would like to read a story in their native language to the class, they would be very welcome to! The children have really enjoyed this activity over the years.



We will be running an Easter cupcake decorating class for parents and children in Senior Infants in the run up to Easter.



First Class children and parents will be invited to be part of the school garden this year, where the children will grow their own vegetables in the school polytunnel.

If anyone would like to come to any of the above classes, please contact Aileen (086)8383248, and if anyone has any suggestions of classes that they would like to see in the school please feel free to contact me and we will do our best to see what we can arrange.