

Holy Family Community School

Information Meeting
for
6th Class students and their parents

School Personnel



- ▶ Principal Ms. Brenda Kelly
- ▶ Deputy Principal Ms. Ingrid Fallon
- ▶ Deputy Principal Mr. Christy Morrin
- ▶ Deputy Principal Ms. Denise O’Keeffe
- ▶ SEN Coordinator Ms. Paula Dunne
- ▶ Year Head Ms. Colette Phillips
- ▶ Chaplain Mr. Noel McConnell
- ▶ Secretary Ms. Lorraine O’Connell
- ▶ Tutors & teachers To be decided





- ▶ Speaker Mr. Gary Hoey
Wriggle Learning

First Year Classes & Assessment

- ▶ 7 Mixed Ability Classes in First Year formed following assessment test and consultation with primary schools
- ▶ Principal chooses students' classes
- ▶ Assessment test held in February, 2020
- ▶ Cognitive Abilities Test (abilities not attainment) – on computer
 - Non-verbal Reasoning (shapes & patterns)
 - Verbal Reasoning (words)
 - Quantitative Reasoning (numbers)
 - Spatial Ability (shape and space / a shape changing and moving)
- ▶ Gives information on students' abilities, strengths and possible need for additional support or challenge
- ▶ May be used to inform subject choice

Name:			
School: Holy Family Community School			
Group:			
Date of test.	Level: E	Age: 12:03	Sex: Male

Profile

Verbal		
Quantitative		
Non-verbal		
Spatial		

Summary

profile of scores from CAT4 is evenly balanced and this means that he can learn effectively in a number of different ways.

- is likely to learn by reading, writing notes and essays and discussing topics as well as using a more hands-on approach across all subjects.
- This means that should be capable of doing well in many subjects.
- A clearer preference may develop over time which may help direct choices for the future.
- should use a range of methods when learning and revising: reading, writing notes and using pictures, charts and diagrams (mind maps) to provide visual clues to help remember key facts and information.
- verbal skills can be developed further by reading widely from a range of sources like novels, factual information and poetry and through books, the internet, newspapers and magazines.

School Programmes

- ▶ Junior Cycle (3 years)
- ▶ Transition Year (Optional) (1 year)
- ▶ Leaving Certificate Applied (2 years)
or
- ▶ Leaving Certificate (2 years)
 - Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (Optional subject)



New Junior Cycle Framework

- ▶ New Junior Cycle Specifications in all subjects
- ▶ <http://curriculumonline.ie/Junior-cycle/Curriculum>
- ▶ 10% for schoolwork component (completed in 2nd & 3rd Year) & recognised by the SEC (Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) and Assessment Task)
- ▶ 90% for terminal written examination
- ▶ Name of qualification: JCPA – Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement
 - Includes report on CBAs and other areas of learning

Examination Subjects

- ▶ Gaeilge, English, Maths, History, Geography, Science,
- ▶ Option A: 1 subject from student options form
- ▶ Option B: 1 subject from student options form
- ▶ Option C: French or German or Art

Non-Examination Subjects

- ▶ RE, SPHE, PE, CSPE
- ▶ Wellbeing: PE, SPHE, CSPE and Guidance



Subject Options



- ▶ Visual Art
 - ▶ Business Studies
 - ▶ French
 - ▶ German
 - ▶ Home Economics
 - ▶ Wood Technology
 - ▶ Engineering
 - ▶ Music
 - ▶ Graphics
 - ▶ Applied Technology
-
- ▶ Subjects option form issued in February, at time of assessment test
 - ▶ Students choose 5 subjects – number them 1–5 in order of preference on subject options form
 - ▶ **Return subject options form by Friday, 13th March**
 - ▶ Students study 3 of the 5 subjects chosen
 - ▶ Impossible to give every student all their subject choices – every effort is made to give students their preferred options
 - ▶ Decisions based on best possible package within available resources

Extra-curricular activities

- ▶ Athletics
- ▶ Basketball
- ▶ Debating
- ▶ Gaelic Football
- ▶ Gymnastics
- ▶ Hurling / Camogie
- ▶ Music events
- ▶ Public Speaking
- ▶ Rugby
- ▶ Soccer



Communication

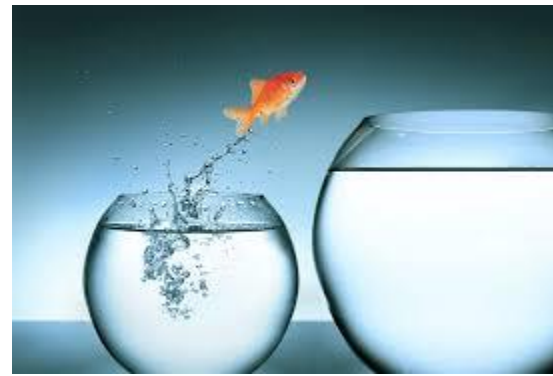
- ▶ SMS Text, Telephone, Letters
- ▶ Examination Reports
- ▶ Dialann, Behavioural Reports
- ▶ Email, Website, Twitter
- ▶ Information Meeting – September
- ▶ Parent/Teacher meeting
- ▶ Meetings re specific issue
- ▶ Please inform us of any health issues, special educational needs
- ▶ Notify us of any changes in your address, phone numbers etc.
- ▶ School contact details:
- ▶ Holy Family Community School, Kiltel Road, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin
- ▶ Tel: 01-4580766 Fax: 01-4580153 Email: info@hfcs.ie
- ▶ Website: www.hfcs.ie Twitter: @hfcsrathcoole



School Details

- ▶ Classes begin at 8.45 am & finish at 3.40 pm (1.00 Wed. pm)
- ▶ One-hour classes
- ▶ Morning break 10.45 – 11.00 am (10.55–11.10 am Wed.)
- ▶ Lunch break 1.00 – 1.40 pm
- ▶ 1st, 2nd and 3rd Year students must stay in school during lunch break unless going home with written permission of parents
- ▶ Early Bird Enterprise and lockers provided
- ▶ Mobile phones and personal electronic devices – must be off and out of sight during the school day
- ▶ Information Pack sent to parents in early July
 - Uniform supplier
 - Book list & Book Shop information
 - Calendar
 - Personal Accident Insurance–€10 approx.
 - Lockers – €25 (Collected August)
 - Voluntary Contribution
- ▶ The timetable is explained to students when they start in August

Transition



- ▶ **Change in school system:** longer day; larger school; moving between classrooms; lockers; timetable; books and equipment
- ▶ **Social change:** old friends; new friends; from oldest to youngest; from one to many teachers
- ▶ **Change in school work:** One-hour classes; new subjects; homework; different teaching approach & standard of assessment
- ▶ **Mentors:** 6th year students who agree to be available to the first year students to help with the transition from Primary to Secondary school

Digital Learning/eLearning

- ▶ Introduction of eLearning – part of school’s Strategic Plan
- ▶ To improve teaching and learning
- ▶ Students will have
 - iPads (restricted) with the ebooks downloaded onto them
 - ‘real’ physical books
 - Copies, pens etc.
- ▶ Students will
 - bring the iPad to class and leave the ‘real’ books at home
 - use the iPad frequently but not continuously
 - use the iPad as a book, a research tool, to record some of their work (eportfolio)
 - Be expected to complete written work
- ▶ Costs and service will be explained by Mr. Hoey, Wriggle

Digital Learning Benefits

- ▶ using ICT (tablet computer) to
 - enhance teaching methodologies
 - access interactive teaching resources
 - facilitate increased differentiation and personalised learning
 - enrich students' learning experience
 - enhance students' engagement in learning
 - reach students with different learning styles
 - encourage self and peer assessment
 - facilitate research and eportfolio work – CBAs
- ▶ Additional benefits
 - eBooks – lighter than 'real' books
 - enhances students' digital wellbeing
 - students develop ICT skills
 - prepares students for third level education, life long learning and the world of work

Important Dates



- ▶ February – Assessment and Subject Options Form
- ▶ 13th March – Deadline for return of Subject Options Form
- ▶ April – Subject Options given along with instructions to access the Wriggle online bookshop
- ▶ May– mid June – Purchase iPad, ebooks and physical books from Wriggle
- ▶ July/August – Delivery of iPad, ebooks and physical books