

# Holy Family Open League Campaign with a win

*Holy Family met Gael Colaiste Cill Dara in the first league game of the year on Tuesday. Kick-off was at 12 noon in Naas*



The match began with skilful play from both sides. Holy Family's first corner was won by Lea Jones, with Lauren Doyle delivering a powerful kick that put significant pressure on the Gael Coláiste defence. Despite this, Gael Coláiste secured the opening goal, taking an early 1-0 lead. Holy Family continued to press, with Jessica McNulty taking shots on goal, but the opposition's goalkeeper made a strong save, narrowly denying us an equaliser.

Holy Family's defence was resilient, clearing every ball that came their way, with Betty Dunne making several key saves to keep the game close. The Holy Family players demonstrated excellent teamwork, passing effectively and creating opportunities for the forwards, despite challenging pitch conditions. Substitutions were made, with Anniemae Dunne and Malvina coming on for Kate and Lea, both of whom had played exceptionally well.

Our strong defence held firm, preventing Gael Coláiste from scoring further. Laura Jane Kaye delivered a brilliant ball to Tara Christie, who found the back of the net, leveling the score at 1-1. With Emer taking corners, it was clear that another score for Holy Family was likely. A series of well-coordinated passes led to another goal by Laura, putting Holy Family in the lead at 2-1. Gael Coláiste had an open goal opportunity, but Lily O'Connor made an impressive clearance, closing down the chance. Ella Donellan also made some critical blocks and tackles, regaining possession.

Tara then scored a fantastic goal, bringing the score to 3-1. Holy Family continued to show great determination. Betty Dunne made another impressive save, but Gael Coláiste managed to pull one back just before halftime, making it 3-2. With the midfield generating numerous chances, Jessica McNulty found the net with a fantastic goal, extending our lead to 4-2.

Even as Gael Coláiste's strong forwards continued to press, our defence held firm. Jessica, Tara, and Laura executed brilliant passes, making it difficult for Gael Coláiste to keep us away from their goal. Although the opposition scored another goal, closing the gap to 4-3, the Holy Family girls maintained their momentum. Anniemae crossed a beautiful ball into Olivia Hyland, who tapped it in to make it 5-3.

Anniemae stepped in as goalkeeper for Betty, and with Lauren and Eva making a crucial clearance off the goal line and Anniemae making a fine save, Holy Family secured a 5-3 victory. Another well-deserved win for the girls!