



## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents,



It has been so nice to walk around the school this week and to hear all the singing coming out of the classrooms in preparation for our Christmas performances. The excitement is so great to see and I know that you will enjoy what is coming up.

### This Week....

We have continued to have Science and Art students in from Plymouth University, working with the children. It has really supported learning in these subjects. This allows the children to have expertise in the subject as well as being able to work in very small groups.



Our Key Stage 1 classes visited Buckfast Abbey throughout the week, and on Tuesday the whole school (apart from Simon James Class who were at Buckfast!) enjoyed a visit to the cinema to see 'Frozen 2.' Thank you to all our adult helpers, I hope everyone enjoyed the film!



Father Jacek led us in a Penitential Service and he also provided an opportunity for children to go to confession. Another **Non-Uniform Day** today may seem untimely following last week, but in this season of giving, it is good to show that we are thinking of others. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Our focus on 'kindness' has continued this week and our Foundation Stage has really led the way... see page 3 for more details!

### Next Week...

Next week, we are holding a Christmas meal for some of the elderly in our community. The children will entertain them by singing festive songs and will then take some time to enjoy talking with them. We very much look forward to welcoming them here at Holy Cross School.

Our Foundation Stage will perform their Nativity play on Tuesday and Wednesday and we also have STEM workshops and Fizzpop assemblies. On Thursday we have a class Mass for Simon James class and we have our whole school Christmas dinner.

I am delighted at the response to creating a school choir to sing at the **Primrose Carol Service** on the evening of the 20th December. Forty of you have got back to me through Class Dojo and we have begun to learn three songs to sing at the event already.

Our Rocksteady bands will also be performing for their parents on Friday. I hear that some of you have now signed up to the **Sing Workshops** starting in January. If you have lost the letter, the link to sign up is <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/sing/>

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Cotter

From the Vatican, 25 November 2019

Dear Pupils,

His Holiness Pope Francis has received your letters, and he has asked me to reply in his name. He thanks you for writing and telling him about your efforts to care for the world, our common home.

The Holy Father will remember you and your school community in his prayers, and he sends his blessing.

Yours sincerely,

*L. Roberto Cona*  
Monsignor L. Roberto Cona  
Assessor



Pupils of Year Four  
Holy Cross Catholic Primary School  
2 Beaumont Road  
PLYMOUTH  
PL4 9BE  
Great Britain

### Liturgy in School

Parents and parishioners are invited to join us for liturgy, 9am, Monday mornings.

The theme for our prayer and worship next week is:

Time to Change



Loving Jesus, help me to make it easy for you to come into my life. Help me to turn away from bad things and to turn towards you. Amen.

CATERed

# JINGLE BELLS...

..JINGLE ALL THE WAY TO CHRISTMAS LUNCH!

ROAST TURKEY AND CHIPOLATA SAUSAGE  
OR BEETROOT AND SQUASH WELLINGTON  
AND SEASONAL VEGETABLES

A VARIETY OF CHRISTMAS TREATS



00146 Holy Cross PTFA 00146

**Holy Cross PTFA**

Printed by Shabbir Tishani - Litchfield www.shabbirtishani.com

**Holy Cross PTFA CHRISTMAS PRIZE DRAW**  
To be drawn at Holy Cross School on 18th December 2019

Tickets £1 each

Prizes include:  
Vouchers from Tesco, Sainsburys, Morrisons, Lawsons, & Entertainer, Jewellery, Hampers, Restaurant vouchers, Jump, Woodlands entries  
Keep a look out for more prizes on our Friends of Holy Cross Plymouth Facebook page

Registered Charity No. 1105108  
Registered under the Gambling Act 2005 with Plymouth City Council SL0425  
Promotor: Justine Andrews, Holy Cross School, 2 Beaumont Road, St Judes, Plymouth, PL4 9BE  
Tickets are not transferable and may not be purchased by persons under 18 years of age.

Please return counterfoils, payment and unsold tickets by 13th December 2019

**Thank you** to everyone who has so very kindly donated items to go in this year's Christmas Raffle Hampers. Don't forget to buy your tickets to be in with a chance to win some **fantastic prizes**. If you have already purchased some but would like to buy some more, just visit the School Office. *For those that do not wish to buy any tickets this year, please remember to return your tickets to the office for onward sale.*



This week, **Julia Donaldson class** started their [Kindness Countdown Calendar](#) by writing a letter and decorating biscuits to take to local businesses in the hope of receiving donations for the packages that they are making for the Plymouth Food Bank and Women's Refuge. They, and us, were overwhelmed by the generosity and response that the youngest children in our school received. They cannot thank the parents and our local community enough for everything they have donated this week.

A huge shout goes out to **Karen and the kitchen staff** for helping them make and decorate the biscuits that were shared. Also, they would like to thank **CaterEd** for donating the ingredients to make the biscuits. Thank you to our local **Tesco** store for allowing the children to fill up a basket of food and toiletry items, and to our local Sainsbury's for giving us £15 to spend in store.

Thank you also to our local butchers, **Jones & Champion** on Ebrington Street for donating a voucher, to **Tiger** for donating a huge bag of toys, to **Boots** for donating a bag full of toiletries that we will be picking up at the weekend and to **Superdrug** for donating lots of toiletries!

We would also like to give a special thank you to **Tyler**, a staff member in the Card Factory who was so touched by the children's request that he donated his own money to let us pick stockings and sacks for the gifts to go in!

We could simply not believe the generosity of all the people that Julia Donaldson met in their first week, and they can't wait for the Kindness to continue.....!



# SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2021/2022



Take part in the consultation on school admission arrangements for 2021 entry.  
**Consultation starts 9 December 2019 and ends 19 January 2020.**

Visit [www.plymouth.gov.uk/admissionconsultation](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/admissionconsultation) or contact us 01752 307470.  
 Email [schoolconsultations@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:schoolconsultations@plymouth.gov.uk)



Education, Participation and Skills, Plymouth City Council, Windsor House, Plymouth PL6 5UF



December 2019 Update

## Auto top-up for school meals to launch soon

### What is Auto top-up?

Based on parental preference, Auto top-up will add money to their child's meal account as soon as the balance falls low. Funds are drawn directly from the parent's bank account (via Bank Transfer).

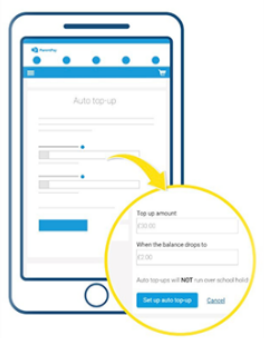
Parents will get increased peace of mind and schools will benefit from decreased meal debt.

Auto top-up has already been successfully tested with parents across the UK.

**Please note:** Auto top-up is not available to parents who use advanced meal booking services.

Auto top-up for dinner money is here!

Never miss a payment again...



[Click here to see guidance for parents](#)

## We've made transferring balances even easier for school managers

Further improvements have been made to our meal reporting for schools using bookings – including reporting on meal sittings



The key to fighting sepsis is awareness.

We have exciting news that we want to share with you! We have recently launched our *Schools against Sepsis* awareness campaign in collaboration with Iceland Foods Charitable Foundation.

Our aim is to educate Key Stage 2 school children and their families about sepsis. Our campaign is supported by TV paediatrician Dr Ranj and actor Warwick Davis.

We have developed a number of *Schools against Sepsis* resources that are available to schools for FREE.

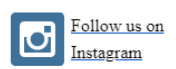
We want as many schools as possible in the country to be downloading the resources, delivering the lesson plan, and sharing our potentially lifesaving information about sepsis.

If you are a parent or carer of children, you can help us in our mission by visiting [www.sepsistrust.org/schools](http://www.sepsistrust.org/schools) and downloading the letter that we created for you to send to your local primary school. The letter encourages the school to get involved with our campaign and help protect their staff, pupils and their families.

If you want to find out about more about Schools against Sepsis, please email [schools@sepsistrust.org](mailto:schools@sepsistrust.org) or call us on 0800 389 6255.

Thank you for your continued support!

UK Sepsis Trust Team



## NEVER HAVE PARENTPAY DEBT AGAIN!

PARENT PAY now offer a service (successfully tested by parents) whereby if you wish to register your bank card against your ParentPay account, they will automatically take a set amount (set by you) from your bank account as soon as your account runs low.

If you do not wish to register your card against your ParentPay account, but do want the peace of mind of not falling behind with arrears, you can also set up a reminder service, to prompt you when your balance needs topping up. For more information ask Mrs Rosevear in the School Office.

**WWW.FIZZPOPSCIENCE.CO.UK**  
 Fizz Pop Science Taunton & Exeter  
 01278 448 602  
 Taunton-exeter@fizzpopsience.co.uk

**School:** Holy Cross Catholic Primary  
**Day and Time:** KS2: Weds 15:20 – 16:20  
 KS1: Thurs 15:20 – 16:20  
**Dates:** KS2: 15/1 22/1 29/1 5/2 12/2  
 KS1: 16/1 23/1 30/1 6/2 13/2  
**5 Week Programme Cost: £36**

**Experiment! Discover! Inspire!**

Our After School Programmes are designed to inspire our children towards gaining an interest in the Sciences. Our workshops are a mixture of exciting demonstrations and thought provoking hands-on experiments and tasks.

**'Out of Our Senses' - Sensational Science!**

**TASTE BUDDIES!**  
 Finding out about flavour is the aim of this session, we explore the reasons why we like some food and drinks, but not others. We will even make sherbet to help investigate what makes our drinks fizz and more acidic.

**'GO WITH MY GUT'**  
 Follow food down into the belly as we enter the guts and digest the inner workings of our body from dinner plate to toilet bowl. Find out how the body gets as much as we can by eating and what waste we leave behind.

**'SNOTTY SCIENCE'**  
 The body is under attack from dangerous germs and we must protect it! Find out about this seasons must have mucus and how it protects us from the dangerous invaders all around us. Just in case, take some extra home with you as well.

**'I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES'**  
 Seeing is not always believing! We open our eyes to the wonderful world of optics and the workings of the brain. We will see how our brain plays tricks on us to see things are not really there!

**'SHOW ME THE LIGHT'**  
 Become illuminated as we split apart light into rainbows. Discover how light travels and how it can be used every day. Discover invisible messages that are hidden in plain sight to help keep us all safe.

**FUN GRADUATION!**  
 Hopefully we have opened your eyes to the world around us! You will be rewarded with a certificate and a special gift in this fun-filled SOUND session.

Terms and Conditions - Refunds can only be given for cancellations made seven days prior to programme commencing. Any cancellations not made within this period will be charged £5.00 administration fee. No reimbursements will be given for any child asked to leave the programme due to bad behaviour. Refunds can not be given for children missing sessions. Programmes may change without prior notice, however every effort is made to keep to workshops as those stated above.

**ONLINE SIGN UP ONLY**  
 Visit our website...  
**WWW.FIZZPOPSCIENCE.CO.UK**  
 Click on the **Online Sign Up** at top right of web page

**PLEASE NOTE** as of June 2018 we are unable to accept Reception year children, only Year 1 – Year 6  
 Further terms and conditions and our data protection and privacy policy information can be found on our website at [fizzpopsience.co.uk/school-clubs/](http://fizzpopsience.co.uk/school-clubs/)

**Christmas break Holiday Camps!**



**INCLUDES FUN FANCY DRESS!**

**Go on a magical adventure this holiday with fun and exciting sessions for 5-12 year olds!**

Our Holiday Camps are packed with our favourite indoor games and activities. Get out of the cold and on the move throughout the winter break with Premier Education Holiday Camps!

Book now at... [premier-education.com/holidaycamps](http://premier-education.com/holidaycamps)

**1999-2019 20 YEARS of Premier Education**

**Our Holiday Camps near you...**

<b>PLYMOUTH</b> Plymouth Preparatory Primary School PL1 3JB Multi-Activity Camp Mon 16th Dec - Fri 20th Dec Christmas Party! Mon 23rd Dec	<b>PLYMPTON</b> Boringdon Primary School PL7 4HU Christmas Party! Mon 23rd Dec	<b>TOTNES</b> Dartington Primary School TQ9 6JU Christmas Party! Mon 23rd Dec
--	---	--

**£15 Christmas Party!**  
 9:00am - 4:00pm  
 Ages 6-12  
 \*Splash Swimming Session in Plymouth College included\*

**£10.00 Christmas Party!**  
 9:00am - 4:00pm  
 Ages 5-12

**15% OFF EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!**  
 When you book before 15th Nov we have a 15% discount on our start date.

**Christmas party!**  
 Includes fancy dress, Christmas disco and prizes to be won!

**About Premier Education:**  
 We are the UK's #1 provider of sports and physical activities to primary schools in the UK. Come along to our popular Holiday Camps to find out why!

**Trustpilot**  
 5 stars (based on 47 reviews)

**STANBOROUGH CHORUS**

*Celebrate Christmas*

**CAROL SERVICE**  
 IN AID of the **PRIMROSE FOUNDATION**

Friday, 20th December at 7.00 pm  
 The RC Cathedral of St. Mary and St. Boniface, Plymouth PL1 5EJ

Conductor - Christopher Fletcher  
 With guests from  
 The Plymouth Philharmonic Choir  
 and the choirs of  
 Holy Cross Catholic Primary School  
 and The Cathedral School of St Mary  
 Soloist - Helen Haviland  
 Organ - Nick Danks

All proceeds to go to the Primrose Foundation, your local breast care charity.

For more information contact Madeleine Matthe  
 01752-975217 / [madeleine@primrosefoundation.org](mailto:madeleine@primrosefoundation.org)

**TRY HOCKEY**

**PLYMOUTH HOCKEY CLUB**

Are you 5 - 13?  
 Up for a challenge?  
 Do you want to be part of a winning team?

Try us for size  
 Training starts on the first Sunday in September  
 Sticks and pads available to borrow

Get your first **6 weeks FREE**

**KADCAT**  
 Proudly presents **Peter Pan**  
 Directed by Andy Heath

Friday January 10th 730pm  
 Saturday January 11th 230pm and 730pm  
 At ST Barts Church Hall  
 Milehouse

Ticket Hotline: 07966512254  
 Adult £7.00  
 Child / 05P / Concessions £6.00

Book now at... [premier-education.com/holidaycamps](http://premier-education.com/holidaycamps)

[www.plymouthhockeyclub.org.uk](http://www.plymouthhockeyclub.org.uk)

**Membership** £60 per season. £40 for siblings. (Payment may be made by instalments)

**Safeguarding** All staff hold DBS. All coaches first aid trained.

**When & where** 10.00-13.00 every Sunday (September to April) at Bull Point ATP, Kinterbury Road, Plymouth, PL5 1ER. Please ignore the 'authorised vehicles only' sign.

**With** Free secure parking, comfortable club lounge overlooking the pitch and complementary beverages.



**"The friendliest club in the city"**

For further information, please contact us  
[committee@plymouthhockeyclub.org.uk](mailto:committee@plymouthhockeyclub.org.uk)

# Star of the week

Julia Donaldson (FS): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Simon James (Y1): Daisy  
 Eric Carle (Y1/2): Everyone!  
 Roger Hargreaves (Y2): Georgia  
 Roald Dahl (Y3): Alvin  
 David Walliams (Y3/4): Preston  
 Michael Morpurgo (Y4): Esme  
 Emma Carroll (Y5): William  
 Anthony Horowitz (Y5): Emily  
 J K Rowling (Y6): \_\_\_\_\_



**David Walliams Class (Y3/4)**

**Well done on your excellent punctuality**

- **REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK: -**
- **Fizzpop Assembly—Tuesday**
- **Foundation**
- **Nativities—Tuesday and Wednesday**
- **Christmas Dinner - Thursday**
- **Simon James Class Mass—Thursday**

Here is a list of some important dates confirmed for this year. All information is available on our website calendar.



**Thursday 12/12/19**  
**Simon James**  
**Class Mass**

**Tuesday 10/12/19 & Wednesday 11/12/19**  
**Foundation Stage**  
**Nativity @ 1.45pm**

**Tuesday 17/12/19**  
**Christmas Production @ 2.00pm & 6.30pm**

**& Wednesday 18/12/19**  
**Christmas Production @ 6.30pm**

**Tuesday 17/12/19**  
**FS visit Pennywell Farm**

**Thursday 19/12/19**  
**Whole School Mass**

**Friday 20/12/19**  
**Last day of term**

**Monday 06/01/20**  
**Non-Pupil Day**

**Tuesday 07/01/20**  
**Back to School**

**W/C 27/01/20**  
**Bikeability for years FS, 3 & 6**

**W/C 03/02/20**  
**National Storytelling Week**

**W/C 17/02/20**  
**Half Term**

**Monday 24/02/20**  
**Non-pupil day**

**Tuesday 25/02/20**  
**Term Begins**

Come and join us for our  
**Christmas Celebration**  
**Green Ark**  
**Children's Centre**  
**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December**  
**10am-12pm**

Face painting      Christmas crafts  
 Raffle      Soft play  
 Baby area  
 Sensory play

Come and join us for our  
**Christmas Celebration**  
**Manor Street**  
**Children's Centre**  
**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December**  
**1.30pm-3pm**

Face painting      Christmas crafts  
 Raffle      Soft play  
 Baby area  
 Sensory play

Thank you all for your support, as always.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Cotter, Miss Buscombe and all the staff at Holy Cross.