



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your support as we try our best to continue with our planned live performances of our Christmas nativities. As I have forewarned you, this could change at any moment. Sadly we have had to cancel some other events in order to minimise the risk of transmission.

I would love to be able to have the hall bursting at the seams with proud parents watching your children perform next week but we have to do all we can to ensure their and your safety as cases continue to rise in school age children across Devon. With Christmas so close, the last thing any of us want is to see this new variant take off and put paid to everyone's plans to get together - especially since so many families were unable to do so last year.

The guidance regarding close contacts in children and fully vaccinated adults remains unchanged and those identified can continue to attend school/work etc unless symptomatic. Daily LFTs and regular PCRS are advised if members of your household are positive.

Where this concerns the new variant, Omicron, this is different and close contacts should self-isolate for 10 days, regardless of age or vaccination status.

Face coverings should be worn in communal areas and we ask that parents/visitors to the school wear a face covering when on site; this includes the playground at dropping off and picking up times and will also include all spectators at next week's performances.

Arrangements for the performances and further detail about the safety measures in place will be posted on Class Dojo. Teachers will also be sharing information on Class Dojo regarding times for dropping off and collecting from evening performances.

Once again, thank you for your support; your messages and emails have been greatly appreciated.

Mrs F Gill
Headteacher



6th December
EYFS Nativity 2pm

7th December
KS1 Nativity 2pm/6.30pm

8th December
Y3/4 Nativity 2pm/6.30pm

9th December
Y5/6 Nativity 2pm/6.30pm

10th December
*Christmas Jumper Day
RockSteady Concert
Internet Legends Y3/4*

13th December
EYFS Vision Screening

14th December
End of Term Mass

15th December
Christmas Dinner

16th December
*KS1 Buckfast Trip
Christmas Stories with Austin in
EYFS*

17th December
Christmas Holidays start



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ANY COVID RELATED COMMUNICATIONS (POSITIVE RESULTS OF TESTS): covid@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

Our Catholic Life Prepare

John the Baptist is getting everyone ready to welcome Jesus. He is travelling through the wilderness, making sure everyone hears his important news. We can all prepare ourselves to meet Jesus by turning our lives around; walking away from what we know is wrong and choosing instead to do what is right. God has already forgiven us and wants us to have a new life and a new start.

In the Bible we often hear about people going into the wilderness. The wilderness is a lonely and sometimes scary place but this is where they meet God. Sometimes it is during the most difficult times of our lives and our most challenging moments that we meet God. We come out of those times stronger and with a new, closer relationship with God.

A two-year 'synodal' process is taking place in the Catholic Church from October 2021 that culminates in the final Synod Gathering of Bishops in Rome in October 2023. The overall theme is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission". The Synod itself has been called by Pope Francis to listen to and better understand the views and opinions of the people of the Diocese of Plymouth and other dioceses all around the world. This gives the people an opportunity to affect change in the Catholic Church for future generations. The first phase of the Synodal Process is a time of listening in local churches which takes place in parishes during the Season of Advent.

It follows a pattern of prayer, listening (which is the period that we are in now) and discernment. The word discernment basically means making sense of all the listening that has been collated so that it can be put into themes.

Please join us for our Act of Worship on Monday 6th December. This will be an opportunity for our whole school community to participate in this journey together.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96843895516?pwd=RGdTekJGUmh3Qk5Cdmdk5NIhzWkcZQT09>

Meeting ID: 968 4389 5516

Passcode: cqpc5y



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



Let us Pray

Dear Jesus, Help me to make the way to my heart easy for you. Help me to say 'sorry' and to change when I need to change.

Amen

Wonders of the Week

Here are this week's winners of the Wonder of the Week award.



Julia Donaldson: Matthew: for trying incredibly hard to learn his lines for the play and for becoming a fantastic king!

Allan Ahlberg: Kitty for persevering with saying her words for the Nativity and being so confident. We are proud of you!

Simon James: Ruqaya - For huge effort with her learning and building lots of confidence.

Judith Kerr: Ianis- For his enthusiasm and effort during Read, Write Inc sessions. Well done!

David Walliams: Malak for persevering in all subjects.

Cressida Cowell: Yosab- For showing us great improvement with your enthusiasm for your learning and impressing us all in our Christmas play!

Roald Dahl: Tristan- Showing excellent perseverance in all of his subjects and always having a smile on his face.

Louis Sachar: Cristian - for emerging from the shadows and really showing us his abilities.

Emma Carroll: Talia - for persevering to produce more work in her books and succeeding. She now demonstrates, not only beautiful presentation, but great quantity too.

Malorie Blackman: Pranusha-for working really hard in science and producing an amazing double page spread.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



Gospel Values Awards: This week we have all been trying to show **Patience**.

Julia Donaldson: Marley: for showing patience and trying really hard to listen on the carpet.

Allan Ahlberg: Ralph- for showing a huge improvement in his ability to wait patiently for his turn to speak.

Simon James: Treh - For showing patience with others in and out of class.

Judith Kerr: Minaal- For showing great patience when waiting her turn in our play practice. Well done, Minaal!

David Walliams: Sam - for showing patience when helping other children with computers.

Cressida Cowell: George- For brilliantly playing Jenga with a friend who needed a good friend and for waiting his turn to speak in our Christmas play- you even made Mrs Glanfield cry with pride!

Roald Dahl: Conor- Always helping others and always working really hard!

Louis Sachar: Holly - Cool, calm and collected - enough said!

Emma Carroll: Hollie - for showing great patience when mastering graphs and tables - well done Hollie.

Malorie Blackman: Harlow- for always being patient with those around her and helping others to be patient.

Top Table Awards



Julia Donaldson: Rosie for always eating nicely and being an excellent role model.

Allan Ahlberg: Charli for eating nicely and being polite and well-mannered.

Simon James: Thea for being so polite to adults and to her friends.

Judith Kerr: Sonia for being an excellent role model for her friends.

David Walliams: Georgia for always being polite and remembering her beautiful manners.

Cressida Cowell: Reece for being friendly to the staff and always being polite and gentle in the playground.

Roald Dahl: Israel for her beautiful behaviour and for always enjoying her dinner.

Louis Sachar: Jeroen for his excellent behaviour.

Emma Carroll: Sarah for being cheerful and following instructions from the adults.

Malorie Blackman: Iris for always being on her best behaviour.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



Attendance Matters



Well done everyone - you are all doing a fantastic job!

Julia Donaldson	97.5%
Allan Ahlberg	97.2%
Simon James	98%
Judith Kerr	96.5%
David Walliams	91%
Cressida Cowell	97.6%
Roald Dahl	92%
Malorie Blackman	96%
Emma Carroll	91%
Louis Sachar	94%

COVID ABSENCES

Please be aware that if your child is absent because they have tested positive for COVID 19, their attendance is unaffected.

We are very grateful that parents are being responsible and having their child tested if unwell and displaying symptoms of COVID19, as this keeps others safe from the virus.

We recognise too that for 18 months, many of us have been unable to travel and for a great number of our families, this has meant not seeing family members living outside the UK. However, it is still the case that holidays cannot be authorised and schools are being asked to promote good attendance so that children do not lose any further learning time.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



Thank you to those who showed interest in the **Global Warrior's Christmas Card appeal.**

This year the Global Warriors would like to support a local charity 'Moor Trees' by asking you to donate the money you would have spent on Christmas cards to the charity using the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/holycrossglobalwarriorschristmascardappeal>

The Moor Trees Charity is an independent charity dedicated to restoring native woodland on Dartmoor and in South Devon. They aim to improve the environment and connect people with their forest heritage.

If you would like to send cards, we ask that you give them to your close friends, not the whole class. We hope you support us and help Holy Cross to reduce paper waste.

Thank you,

Global Warrior team!



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



Maths Day—Bishop Cornish CofE VA Primary School

This week, some of our year 6 children were given the opportunity to take part in an exciting maths day. They solved some challenging maths problems involving prime numbers, magic square and tangrams. They had a brilliant day and we were so impressed by their perseverance. Well done!



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



Indoor rowing at Holy Cross

This week saw our year 5 and 6 children rowing...indoors...no water beneath, just in water bottles. All three UKS2 classes received coaching from the Sports Partnership coaches and I too got involved - well I had to really! 81 children took part and by the looks on their faces they enjoyed their time on the rowing machines. With the Plymouth City Schools championships being held at the end of January, this was a great start. This was a great opportunity for children to shine in a new sport.





HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



Year 5 sports and play leaders

Young Ambassador - Leadership Academy
Leadership & Volunteering



Qualities of a good leader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leadership in action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The STEP process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Officiating games	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Well done to the 18 year 5 children who successfully completed their sports / play leadership training last week.

On Monday 6th December they will lead short lunchtime sessions with year 1 / 2 children in a variety of games and skills.

Well done to all who so enthusiastically volunteered and listened to the training given by Mr Turner (PSSP).

You are all **agents of change** and we thank you.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



**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 of September
Sticks and pads available to borrow

Get your first
6 weeks free



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



www.plymouthhockeyclub.org.uk

Membership

Safeguarding

When & Where

With

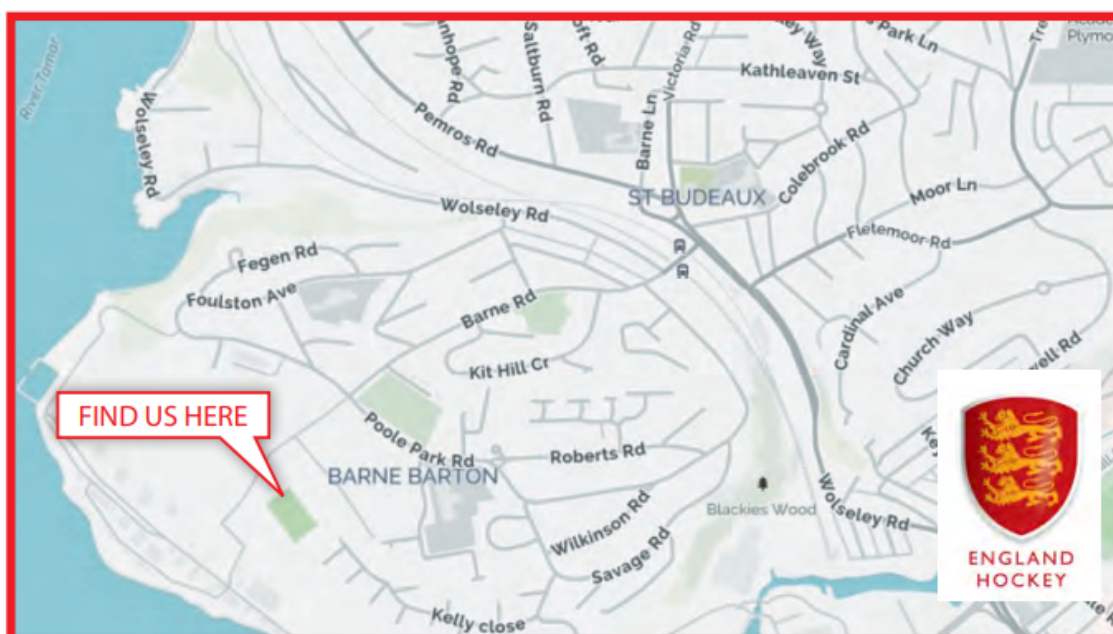
£60 per season. £40 for siblings.
(Payment may be made by instalments)

All staff hold DBS. All coaches first aid trained.

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.

Free secure parking, comfortable club lounge
over-looking the pitch.

*Complementary beverages, toilets
and changing rooms*



"The friendliest club in the city"



For further information, please contact us
committee@plymouthhockeyclub.org.uk



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



December 2021 Prayer Letter

***For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9 v 6-7***

Comparing where we are now to where we were this time last year, contemplating a Christmas with COVID, a lot of uncertainty still remains. As this verse reminds us, we are thankful that the government is ultimately on His shoulders and that we have this certainty to navigate by as we look ahead to Christmas 2021 and the challenges that the New Year will bring.

Our staff continue to work around the clock providing bespoke help and support as each client navigates their own set of challenges. Provision has been made to give them a Christmas Dinner this year. We are delighted that this is now possible, having not been able to do so last year.

As we often ask, we would appreciate that you keep both our staff and clients in your prayers.

**Thank You for the gift of Jesus,
Our Emmanuel, the Word made flesh.
Our everlasting Prince of Peace.
In a world where worry, not peace, prevails,
This Christmas, make it real in our hearts again.**

Adapted from a prayer by Rebecca Barlow Jordan

We wish you His peace and His presence this Christmas!

www.shekinah.co.uk





HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



/COVID19 Information

Unfortunately, we still have high numbers of cases in the South West and as a result, schools have been directed to re-introduce certain measures.

We will continue to promote hand washing/hand sanitising, respiratory hygiene, ventilation and touchpoint cleaning.

We will try our best to balance the need for ventilation with the need for a comfortable working temperature but please ensure your child wears an extra layer under their school shirt just in case.

Staff will once again wear face coverings in communal areas and we ask that parents also wear a face covering if coming onto the school site. This will help to mitigate the risks at pick up time which can be very busy in the playgrounds.

We are pausing whole school assemblies for the moment but can continue to hold gatherings for smaller groups eg EYFS, Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6.

We have reviewed our lunchtime provision to minimise mixing between these larger groups.

Staff will continue to do twice weekly LFTs.

Advice on symptoms:

If unwell stay at home and book a PCR. If negative, individuals should still wait until 24 hours post fever to go back into a setting. Colds and other non-Covid symptoms are circulating but in the first instance cardinal symptoms should be treated as possible COVID and trigger isolation and testing.

Household siblings of confirmed cases are advised to take daily LFD while awaiting their PCR test results and to continue to attend school (at discretion of parent for primary age children) and recommend daily LFD testing for all close contacts identified by NHS Test and Trace whilst individuals await their PCR results.

See flowchart for further explanation.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



Breakfast Club and After School Club

Please can all bookings for Breakfast Club and After School Club be made via email to

holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk

This will ensure the smooth running of the provision and provide a clear avenue of communication.

We would also remind users of the provision that bookings need to be made **one week in advance**. Bookings requested on the day are unlikely to be possible due to the high demand for places and parents therefore risk disappointment. We have already increased our staffing to allow for 5 extra places. Thank you for your help with this.



Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am and **children need to be in by 8am. Arrivals after this time will not be admitted.**

After School Club finishes at 6pm.

Please ring 07398477727 when dropping off and picking up.

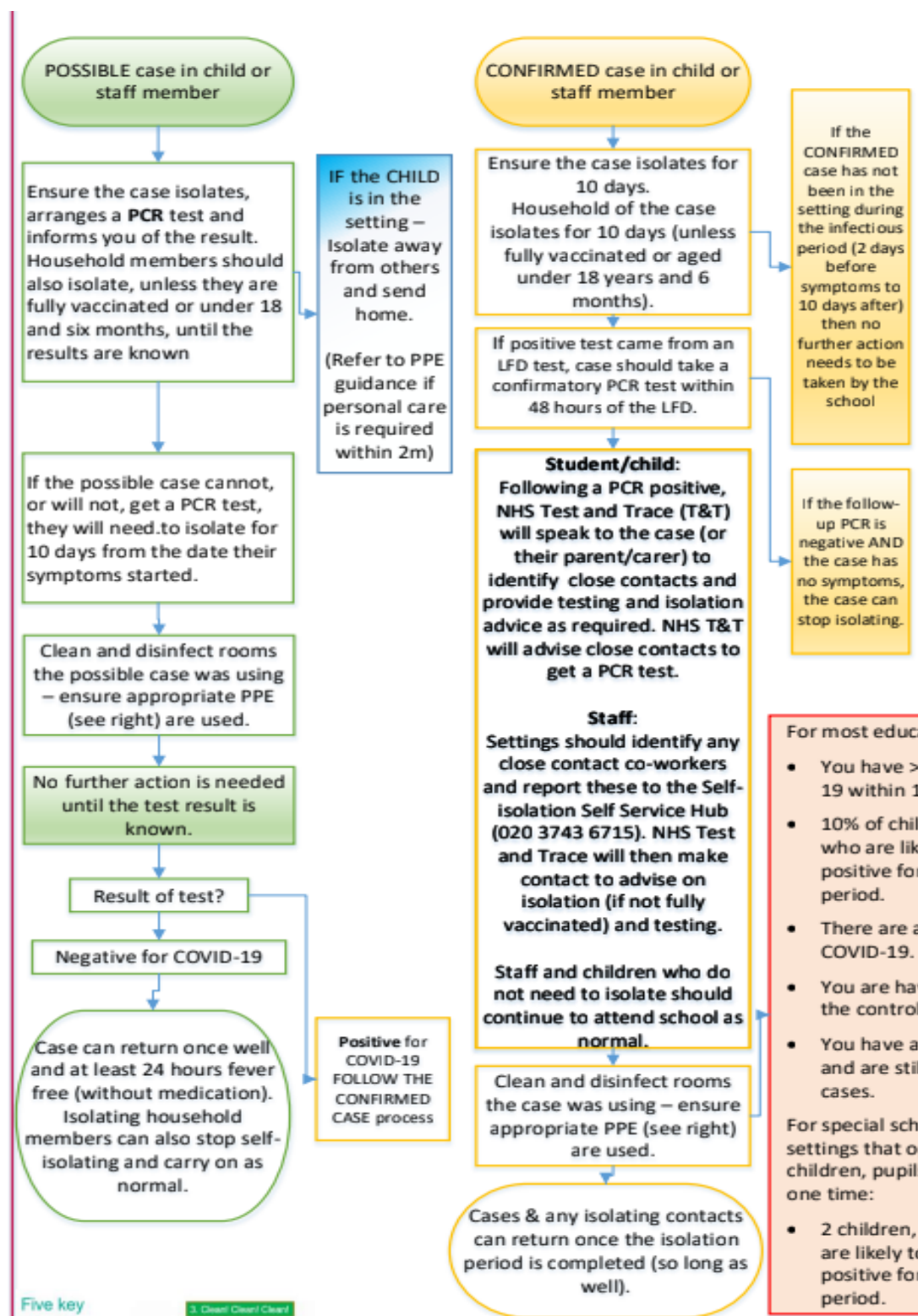
Drop off and collection to Breakfast Club/After School Club is at the main red doors to the church.

Please see last week's newsletter for information about a range of holiday clubs and activities.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021





HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021



30 places available at Breakfast and After School Club.

Please ring or email the office at holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk to book places one week in advance.



We cannot take bookings on the day.

Breakfast Club runs from 7.45am and **children need to be in by 8am**. Arrivals after this time will not be admitted.

After School Club finishes at **6pm**.

Please ring **07398477727** when dropping off and picking up.

Drop off and collection to Breakfast Club/After School Club is at the main red doors to the church.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.12: 3rd December 2021

