



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. 6: 15th October 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

We started the week with our Monday act of worship focusing on sharing what we have with others. At the end of the week, the generosity of our school community was awe-inspiring. JUST ONE TREE, promoted by our very own Global Warriors, is an opportunity for us to make a difference. JUST ONE Tree is a non-profit Community Interest Company which removes CO2 from the atmosphere, reversing biodiversity loss through global reforestation. On average a tree absorbs 48lbs of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere every year. JUST ONE Tree supports reforestation projects in Madagascar, Haiti, Indonesia, Mozambique, Nepal, Kenya and Zambia where the deforestation has been devastating. Supporting JUST ONE TREE gives the children the opportunity to be agents of change and to take positive action towards looking after our planet.

We also had a very special visitor today from the NSPCC who came to see the children in Foundation stage, Year 1 and Year 2 bringing a very important story and teaching the children a fun song with an important message. PANTOSAURUS was a huge success and brought a lot of laughter but also ensured that the very important PANTS message would be firmly understood and remembered by the children.

Congratulations to our cross country runners. Not only have they shown amazing resilience and perseverance but their behaviour has been wonderful and they have made us all proud!

Our Year 5 swimming sessions have come to an end - again, the children demonstrated courage and resilience, overcoming their initial anxieties and all making progress by the end of the three week course.

Next week we look forward to sharing what we have learned during Black History Month. More about this to come

Mrs F Gill
Headteacher



October

Month of Rosary

18th-22nd October

One World Week (Focus on Laudato Si)

18th October

Feast of St Luke

21st October

Black History Exhibition of learning

Details to follow on Class Dojo

22nd October

Wear Red Day-Show Racism the Red Card
MUFTI

Saturday 23rd October to Monday 1st November
Half term

Tuesday 2nd November
Back to school

9th and 11th November
Parents' Evenings

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ANY COVID RELATED COMMUNICATIONS (POSITIVE RESULTS OF TESTS): covid@holycross.plymouth.sch.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. 6: 15th October 2021



Our Catholic Life

In the Gospel on Sunday Jesus' friends ask him to promise them a place in heaven. Jesus explains that he needs them to think about his message differently. If they are going to follow Jesus, they will have to live as he does. Following Jesus means being a servant of everyone else. Anyone who wants to be first must put themselves last.

On Monday it is the feast of St. Luke, the Evangelist. Evangelist comes from Latin and means someone who spreads the good news. Luke spread the message of Jesus during his travels and with his writing. He was a doctor who wrote one of the four Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles, the story of the first Christians. Jesus asks all Christians to be evangelists.

October is the month of the rosary. The Rosary is a set of prayers to God, Our Lady and the Holy Spirit. As we repeat the familiar words, we allow our minds to think about a wonderful part of Jesus' life here on earth – a mystery. Here is a link to a resource to support you with praying the rosary at home.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/prayers-for-home-joyful-mysteries/>

The parent letter to support our Collective Worship themes during October can be found here www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter/

Our current 'Come and See' theme in RE is Baptism and Confirmation. It has been wonderful to see the photographs of your child's baptism or other ceremony of welcome from your faith. It would be lovely to see any more so please continue to share these with your child's class teacher. Father Victor will be supporting Julia Donaldson Class with their learning about Baptism next week.

Our RE and Catholic Life Governors visited today and were very impressed with the way the children showed such high levels of engagement in their learning. The mutual respect for one another was evident to see. Our children and staff show that they are living out our Mission, following in Jesus' footsteps by the positive way that they support one another each and every day.



Let us Pray

I want to pray for all the people who spend their lives helping and serving others. Help me to put other people first too.

Amen



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. 6: 15th October 2021



Wonders of the Week

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



Julia Donaldson: Bartosz - for being creative and always trying his best in his learning.

Allan Ahlberg: Leo- for amazing knowledge of elephants and information texts.

Simon James: Bradley - for a wonderful attitude to his learning since the start of term.

Judith Kerr: Adam- for super use of his Magpie book and impressing us all in his English sessions! Well done!

David Walliams: Toby for improving the quality and quantity of his work through better learning behaviour

Cressida Cowell: Tory for writing a brilliant debate piece of writing and having a brilliant learning attitude to his learning.

Roald Dahl: Mason for his creative writing and positive attitude to learning.

Louis Sachar: Rianna - as an Global warrior she created a fantastically informative poster.

Emma Carroll: Bobby - for showing great work ethic this week. He has worked hard and achieved.

Malorie Blackman: Ashleigh for her supportiveness towards others both inside and outside the classroom

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

Julia Donaldson: Daphnie - for showing kindness and giving a friend her sticker when they lost theirs.

Allan Ahlberg: Gabriela for being generous with her time to help her friends.

Simon James: Maya - for being a compassionate and caring friend to all of our class.

Judith Kerr: Fahad- for always doing the right thing and showing generosity and compassion to all members of our class.

David Walliams: Abby for always showing compassion to all of her classmates

Cressida Cowell: Vincent for showing great care for our 'one tree' day and showing care for our world.

Roald Dahl: Grace for being kind and caring to everybody in her class community.

Louis Sachar: Jackson - consistently being generous with his time - especially at lunchtimes in the hall.

Emma Carroll: Tillie - always willing to give up her time for others.

Malorie Blackman: Annouska for being really generous with her time and resources in order to help those who need extra help.



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. 6: 15th October 2021



Top Table Awards



Julia Donaldson: Iris for wonderful manners at lunchtime

Allan Ahlberg: Aria for being a kind friend

Simon James: Archie for always using wonderful manners

Judith Kerr: Lund for being kind and helpful

David Walliams: Katie for being helpful and always saying thank you

Cressida Cowell: Joy for always being kind, helpful and using wonderful manners

Roald Dahl: Rosaleen for showing such politeness and going out of her way to say thank you to the kitchen staff

Louis Sachar: Jackson for being helpful to the lunchtime staff

Emma Carroll: Talia for being a kind friend

Malorie Blackman: Alex B. for being polite and helpful

Our new Foundation Stage stars!!





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. 6: 15th October 2021



Summer Reading Challenge

Yes, the summer does seem a long time ago but today Austen visited us with some very wonderful certificates to present to the children who completed the Summer Reading Challenge at the library.

Well done to all our book worms!

Afnaan, Anmar and Awaab ; Harry and Jacob; Louis and Kitty; Sam, Lucas, Maisy, Gabriela F, Adam, Gabriel F, Esme H, Daisy and Ralph; Stephen and Emily; Elin, Thomas L, Rudairo, Hashviithaa, George, Maya, Tory, Tommy, Emilia, Quinton and Rianna.



School attendance - DFE update

As the new Secretary of State for Education has made clear, young people regularly attending school is a national priority and is important for their education, wellbeing, and long-term development. This is particularly true for children

who were persistently absent before the pandemic or who are at risk of becoming persistently absent. Attendance continues to be mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and schools should communicate clear and consistent expectations about attendance.

Schools will be aware that the Deputy Chief Medical Officer for England recently wrote a [letter](#) to parents of children identified as clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), to inform them that they were no longer considered to be clinically vulnerable and would not be advised to shield in future. This decision was based on the results of recent clinical studies which found that in general, children and young people are at very low risk of becoming seriously unwell from the virus. The recommendation was agreed by the Chief Medical Officers of the 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. 6: 15th October 2021



A very small number of children and young people will have been advised to isolate or reduce their social contact for short periods of time by their specialist, due to the nature of their medical condition or treatment, rather than because of the pandemic. If this is the case, they should continue to follow the advice of their specialist.

Schools continue to be able to grant leaves of absence for pupils subject to the normal rules. Applications for leave of absence may be made for reasons arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic that do not fall within the category above. Schools should consider all applications for leave of absence on an individual basis taking into account the specific facts and circumstances, and relevant background context behind the request. **Schools should only grant leaves of absence in exceptional circumstances.** If a leave of absence is agreed, it should only be for a specific period of time.

We encourage schools to work together with local authority staff, attendance support workers, and local health services (including GPs and school nurses) to reassure families and ensure as many pupils are attending school as possible.



Contact Details

It is essential that we hold up to date contact information for your child, in case we need to contact you in an emergency. The office will shortly be sending out a data collection sheet for each child. I would be grateful if you could **check the information on this sheet and amend where necessary, and sign, date and return the form** to the school office as soon as possible.

Please also sign and return if no changes are to be made, as we can then update our records accordingly.

Please could you ensure that you have at least 2 contacts listed, with a daytime telephone number and email address, in order that we can be assured that we are able to contact at least one person in an emergency.

Many thanks for your help regarding this. Our main priority is to ensure the safety of your child at all times.



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. 6: 15th October 2021



Parent Consultation Evenings

An opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress and next steps in learning will take place on Tuesday 9th November and Thursday 11th November. There will also be an opportunity for you to view your child's work and see their classroom. Bookings for these will be able to be made from Monday using the e-schools platform. You should have login details for e-schools but if you are unable to book please contact the school office for login details or your child's class teacher to make the booking for you.



We are delighted to confirm our October Roadshows are starting in just a couple of weeks! We do have limited spaces available meaning these will be offered on a first come first serve basis. The cost per day is £18 or we do have a weekly pass available which costs £70 for the full week and you can select whichever days you wish to attend, this works out to be only £14.

Please find the below dates we have running this half term:

Monday 25th October

Manadon Sports Hub-Football Roadshow
Ivybridge- Strikers and Goalkeepers
Manadon Sports Hub- Girls Only
Manadon Sports Hub – Disability Short Breaks – 10am-1pm



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. 6: 15th October 2021



Tuesday 26th October

Plympton Academy- Football Roadshow
Wembury- Football Roadshow
Newton Ferrers- Multi Sports
Lipson Vale- Multi Sports

Wednesday 27th October

Manadon Sports Hub- Strikers and Goalkeepers
Manadon Sports Hub- Multi Sports
Newton Ferrers- Football Roadshow
Wembury- Multi Sports
Manadon Sports Hub- Mini Kickers (ages 1-5)

Thursday 28th October

Manadon Sports Hub- LTPD intense training day
Plympton Academy- Strikers and Goalkeepers
Lipson Vale- Multi Sports
Manadon Sports Hub – Disability Roadshow

Friday 29th October

Ivybridge CC- Strikers and Goalkeepers
Ivybridge CC- Girls
Plympton Academy- Strikers and Goalkeepers

To book on please see the link below:

<https://argylecommunitytrust.co.uk/soccer-roadshows/in-plymouth/>

We look forward to hopefully seeing you there!!



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. 6: 15th October 2021



Plymouth Youth Parliament Climate Emergency conference

The Plymouth Youth Parliament climate emergency conference is to be held on 29 October. The conference is open to all young people aged 11-19 and online booking is available via email at: ukyp@plymouth.gov.uk. If you are interested in doing your bit to look after the planet, and are between the ages of 11 and 19, why not go along?



KS1 NSPCC PANTS afternoon

On Friday afternoon, KS1 spent some time exploring NSPCC PANTS. This is all about remembering that what is in our pants, stays private and belongs to us. We were also visited by Pantosaurus and learnt some actions to go with our PANTS rules. If you would like some further information about PANTS or ideas on how to discuss this with your children, please see this [link](#).



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. 6: 15th October 2021



Plymouth Sports Schools Partnership - Cross Country event 3

Tuesday saw the children again take part in a Plymouth Schools cross country event at Coombe Dean School. This event was the longest yet and held over some tricky terrain. Many thanks again to the parents and carers of those who took part for getting the children to the event. Also to Mrs King and Miss Galley for their help at the event - a real team effort to provide the children yet another sporting opportunity. This event was the biggest yet with many competitors.

Roll of honour:

Year 3/4 Girls - Maya(16th) Daria, Rosie, Nikola, Sadie

Year 3/4 Boys - Yosab (4th), Brodie, Carter, Conor, Sam, Toby

Year 5/6 Girls - Annie (22nd), Olivia, Anne, Emily, Esme, Lilly, Rianna, Tilly, Tillie.

Year 5/6 Boys - Jeroen (32nd), Eugene, Cristian, Xander, Joshua, Eitan, Gabriel.



The Finals will be held at Staddiscombe next Thursday. As it's the Finals, we will only be able to take 4 children from each age group - 16 in total. Letters will be sent out once final details have been received. I will contact the lucky few via Dojo on Friday.



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. 6: 15th October 2021



COVID19 Information

The issue of many people testing negative on PCR after positive LFT has hit the press this morning as you may have seen, with the news that a specific lab has been implicated as having a much larger number of these than expected. Now that the issue has been identified and traced to this lab, it has been possible to understand what percentage of samples locally go to this specific lab and so might have been affected. The good news for Plymouth is that the number is tiny, less than a handful in 6 weeks or so since it has been in operation.

The key messages are:

- NHS TT have recently seen a rising number of positive LFD results subsequently testing negative on PCR. As a result of our investigation, NHS TT are working with one laboratory to determine the root cause to any issue which could potentially have led to inaccurate PCR results being issued to people.
 - NHS TT have immediately suspended testing at this laboratory while we continue the investigation.
 - NHS TT is contacting the people that could still be infectious to advise them to take another test. Close contacts who are symptomatic will also be advised to take a test in line with normal practice
 - There is no evidence of any faults with LFD or PCR test kits themselves and the public should remain confident in using them and in other laboratory services currently provided.
 - If you get a positive LFD test, it's important to make sure that you then get a follow up PCR test to confirm you have COVID-19. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, self-isolate and take a PCR test.
 - Testing advice remains the same:
-
- ★ People with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19.
 - ★ Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate.
 - ★ If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and there is no longer need to self-isolate as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms



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. 6: 15th October 2021



As Lateral Flow Testing continues in schools and homes, could we remind you to report any positive results to covid@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk or to **ring the school office immediately**, with self-isolation taking place until a confirmatory PCR test result is received. If the PCR comes back negative, your child can return to school. If the PCR is positive, your child will need to isolate for the full ten days from the onset of symptoms or the date of the test is asymptomatic. Any positive PCR tests should also be shared with us along with the date of the positive test.

See flowchart for further explanation.

The guidance has now changed.

If a child or member of staff tests positive, NHS track and Trace will carry out contact tracing.

Close contacts will be contacted by NHS Track and Trace and advised appropriately.

If there is a positive case in school, we will inform the parents of the affected class **but** we will not do contact tracing or send whole classes home.

If not contacted by NHS Track and Trace, you can assume that your child has not been identified by them as a close contact.

However, we all know how closely children interact within the classroom so we would advise you to book a PCR test for your child when informed of a positive case in their class. They can continue to attend school whilst waiting for either the test or the result. If the PCR is positive, then they should isolate.

We would also advise you to be vigilant and to monitor your child for symptoms if informed of a positive case within their class. They should not attend school if they develop symptoms and should book a PCR test immediately.

Use this link to book: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

You should not take a **Lateral Flow Device** (LFD) test if you are symptomatic even if LFD testing is part of your routine. **LFD tests are for people who are asymptomatic** – i.e. not showing any symptoms. If you are not sure whether you have one or more of the symptoms then book a **PCR** test.

Please note that this applies to anyone in your household as well.

For further information on testing go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>

If your child presents with a new continuous cough, a fever or is experiencing any loss of or change in their taste/smell, please do not send them to school.

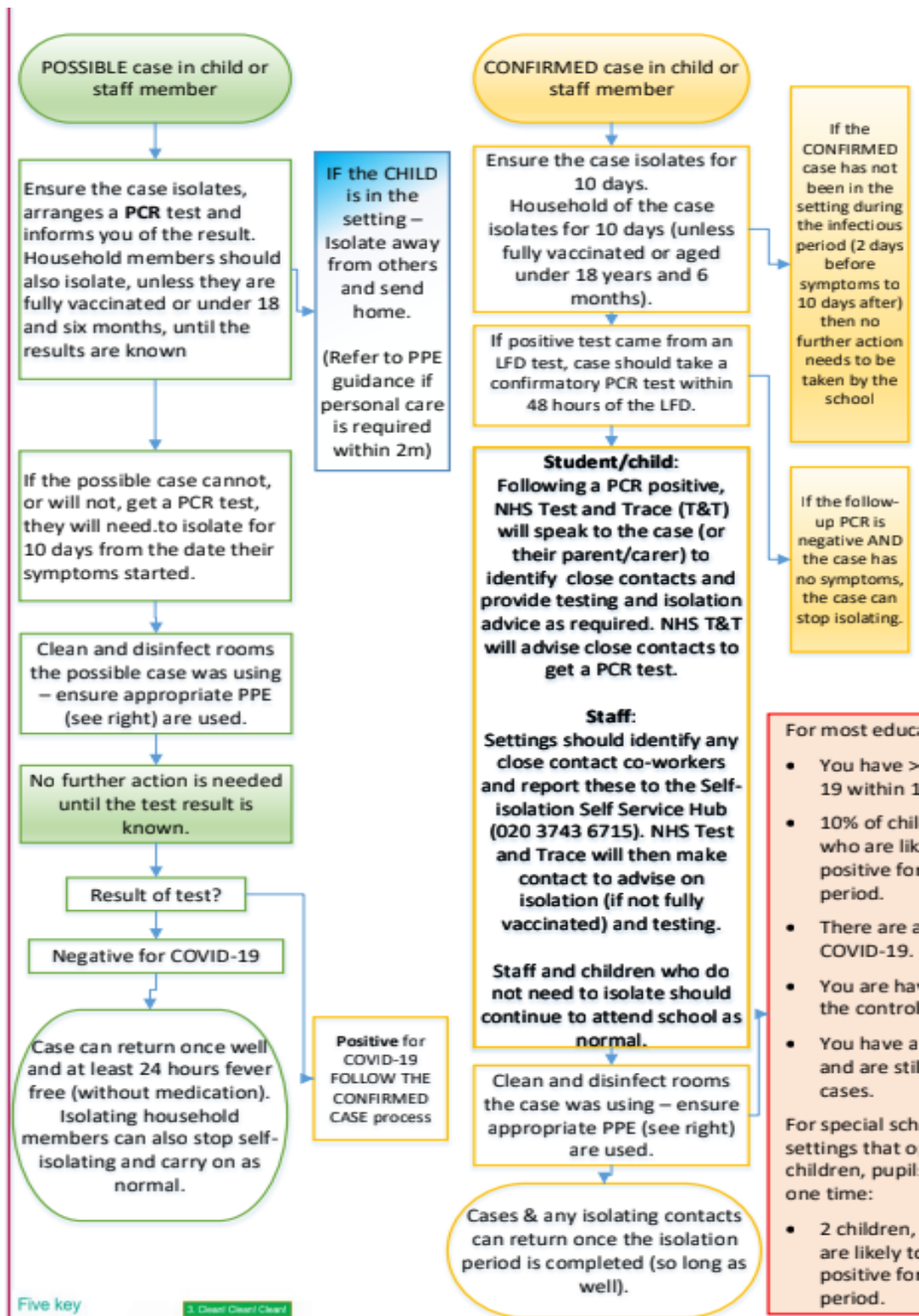
If your child presents with any of these symptoms while at school, we will call you immediately. You should have your child tested and the whole household should self-isolate until you get the result.

Further action will depend on the result of the test.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 225420
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holycross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No. 6: 15th October 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. 6: 15th October 2021



Breakfast Club/After School Club

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.

Have a lovely weekend!