

Message from the Headteacher



I cannot believe that it is March! Happy St David's Day to all you of Welsh blood. The week has gone by so quickly as we settle into another term.

There have been some serious reports coming from the media and Plymouth City Council on inappropriate material on the internet. Overleaf you will find some information that has been passed to us by Plymouth City Council.

As a school we are also hearing from the children how many of them are accessing material that is not suitable for primary school age children. Games such as Fortnite and Hello Neighbour carry age restricted certificates for a reason. If any parent would like some support on how to ensure your equipment has restrictions, please discuss this with us.

Interviews took place this week to cover the two days a week in Dick King-Smith class that is usually taught by Mrs Duthie, who as you know is on maternity leave. We are delighted to inform you that Mr Charlie Kaylor has been appointed and will start next week.

Next week will be a busy one for the children as they have some tests in reading and maths. It is also the beginning of lent with a mass on Ash Wednesday.

Have a lovely weekend.

Paul Cotter

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**AN INVITATION TO
JOIN US FOR MASS**

COME AND JOIN US FOR **ASH WEDNESDAY MASS** NEXT
WEDNESDAY 6th March AT 2PM. Please arrive at 1.40pm as
doors will close promptly at 2pm. (entrance will be through the
double red doors on Beaumont Road),

Liturgy in School

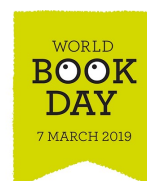
*Parents and parishioners are
invited to join us for liturgy,
9am, Monday mornings.*

**The theme for our prayer and
worship next week is:**

All Change!



**Dear Jesus, thank you for all the
goodness in my heart. Help me to
think about how I become even
more loving, rather than blaming
other people for their faults and
failings. Amen.**



**DON'T FORGET THAT NEXT
THURSDAY**

7th MARCH IS

WORLD BOOK DAY.

**CHILDREN CAN COME TO
SCHOOL DRESSED UP AS
A CHARACTER FROM
THEIR FAVOURITE BOOK!**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION—PLEASE READ

You may have heard something in the recent media about an online viral trend that is currently doing the rounds. We would like to share the following message we have received from Plymouth City Council:

“On Line Alert : Momo

This advice is not intended to cause any panic, however aims to raise awareness of a growing concern and to signpost support to reduce risk to children.

Children receive a message request from an unknown number which then proceeds to send graphic images and instructions to harm themselves and others - or the Momo will “curse them”.

The avatar for Momo is a haunting image of a woman with grotesque features and bulging eyes taken from the work of Japanese artist Midori Hayashi, who is not associated with the game. This week reports of this presenting in the UK are growing widely.

With urgent warnings being released about the game here is what you need to know about the 'Momo challenge' - including a reminder of how to prevent your children from seeing it. Maintain an open dialogue with your children about what they are doing online and the dangers of viral trends like this one.

Monitor the things your children can access on the internet. This includes activating parental controls and checking search history. Knowing the signs of distress in your child, is also a huge indicator that something could be going on behind closed doors. These include falling behind at school, loss of appetite and being agitated after being on their phone.

You can watch the Fox News interview which provides some useful advice by following the links below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGPsUqiVNZg>

Further information, including lines of support can be found in this BBC article.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-47359623>”

Our advice here at Holy Cross is not to bring this to your child’s attention, but to remain vigilant and open with communication with your child regarding online activities. If you are concerned about anything you have read above, please contact Rachel, our Parent support Advisor on 225420.



Online security is paramount here at Holy Cross. We want to reassure you that all internet use is constantly monitored, that no child accesses the internet without an adult present and that a child appropriate search engine is used at all times. Holy Cross use the search engine Kiddle which you may wish to use as your search engine of choice at home for any device which your child may have access to. Kiddle has inbuilt filters to show only age appropriate search results.

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1st March 2019
No.19

Parents Evening

**Monday 18th March
& Tuesday 19th March**

@ 3.30pm—6pm (Years 1—6)
@ 1.30pm—6.30pm (Foundation only)

Booking opens at 6pm on Friday 1st March on **eSchools** for our Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings. Remember to sign up for an appointment with your child's class teacher. This is an important opportunity to find out how your child is progressing in this academic year. It is also a useful way of finding out how to discuss ways you might support them at home.

Your eSchool login will be in the format of:

Username: first name.surname (e.g. paul.cotter)

Password: This will be the password that you have created.

Please contact the school office if you have any issues with making a booking or if you need a password reminder.



The PTFA is responsible for almost all of the school's fundraising income and together, with staff at the school, help to create a caring and supportive atmosphere in the school. Research shows that children whose parents are involved in their school often achieve better and have fewer disciplinary problems at school. By joining the PTFA you will get the opportunity to meet other parents in a similar situation to you, and will enable you to be connected with a group of likeminded parents who share a common goal of improving the school for the children.

Our PTFA is always looking for helpers and at the moment is looking for a:

Vice Chair

If you are interested please contact Justine (Chair) on hc.ptfa@gmail.com

PTFA AGM

Wednesday 13th March @ 5.30pm

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you have a child attending a school or 6th form and you receive certain benefits, you may be entitled to claim free school meals. Plymouth City Council is able to check your eligibility online, therefore minimising the need to provide proof of your entitlement.

It is of great benefit for your child's school if you are entitled to free school meals as they receive extra school funding for all children who qualify. Please contact your child's school for details of their Pupil Premium Policy. Plymouth City Council have a 5 day turn around for all free school meals applications, and will advise your child's school of the date the free school meals start.

For more information please go to <https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schoolseducationchildcareskillsandemployability/freeschoolmeals>

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EACH WEEK, WE RECOGNISE AND REWARD THOSE WITH
THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE FOR
ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY.

THIS WEEK WE SAY WELL DONE TO: -

Julia Donaldson (FS)

Simon James (Y1)

Eric Carle (Y1/2)

King-Smith (Yr3/4)

Anthony Horowitz (Y5)

Every one of the above classes were 100% on time.

Well done everyone!



Pupils who attend the
Rock Steady Music
School will be perform-
ing a small concert on :

**Friday 29th March @
10am—10.30am**

If your child attends
Rock Steady here at Ho-
ly Cross, and you would
like to see your child
perform in their band, do
come along and show
your support.



1ST St Andrew & St Julie

2ND St Jude

3RD St Teresa



Please remember that your
ParentPay Account **MUST NOT** go
into debit. Please ensure that you
always have sufficient monies within
your account at all times. We are
continually having to chase debtors
which is both costly and time
consuming.



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

Wednesday 06/03/19

Whole School Mass

Thursday 07/03/19

World Book Day

Wednesday 13/03/19

PTFA AGM

Tuesday 19/03/19

Tempest

—Class Photographs

Monday 08/04/19 to

Friday 19/04/19

Easter Holiday

Friday 19/04/19

Good Friday

Monday 22/04/19

Easter Monday

Tuesday 23/04/19

Summer Term starts

Monday 27/05/19 to

Friday 31/05/19

Half Term

Monday 03/06/19 to

Friday 07/06/19

Year 6 Residential

Friday 28/06/19

Summer Fair

Friday 19/07/19

Last day of term