



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. 19: 12th February 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

Well done everyone – we made it to half term! I have been constantly amazed by the efforts of staff, children, parents, grandparents...! Thanks to everyone, the children have been supported to learn despite school being closed to so many of them. Today's class-based celebrations were a welcome relief and it was so lovely to see the children engaging with one another, laughing, sharing and just enjoying one another's company.

To all the learning-weary parents and carers out there – a HUGE well done! We know many of you are juggling home learning with working from home or looking after small children and we are very appreciative and actually, very much in awe of what you have all managed to accomplish.

Hopefully, on the 22nd February, we will hear from the government about their plan moving forward. We do not receive any prior notice – we will find out at the same time as you, what those plans are and when the government plans to lift the restrictions. We will then plan accordingly.

Please remember that the 22nd is a staff INSET day and children return on Tuesday 23rd Feb.

I hope you all have a lovely half term and manage to get some fresh air and relaxation.

Reflection

*Life is mostly froth and bubble,
Two things stand like stone,
Kindness in another's trouble,
Courage in your own.
(Adam Lindsey Gordon 1833-1870)*

*Stay safe,
Mrs F Gill
Headteacher*



Friday 12/02/21
Last day of term

15/02/21—19/02/21
Half Term

Monday 22/02/21
Non-pupil day

The school will be closed to all children on the 22nd February for Trust-Wide staff training. This will include our vulnerable children and our key worker children.

Tuesday 23/02/21
Term recommences

02/04/21—18/04/21
Easter Holidays



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Our Catholic Life

Our theme next week is REACH OUT

Knowing that Jesus has the power to heal him, a man with an incurable skin disease asks Jesus for help. Of course Jesus wants to make him well, so he reaches out and touches the man. Straightaway, the man is healed. Jesus asks him to go to see the priest, proving he is well and can live a normal life again. Jesus also asks him not to tell anyone what has happened. Unsurprisingly the healed man can't keep quiet and tells so many people about this miracle that Jesus is unable to go into the town.



Let us Pray

You were brave and reached out to touch a man with an incurable disease. Help me to share your love with everyone, especially anyone who is left out. Help me to be brave like you and include everyone.

Amen

TENTEN WORSHIP

Here at Holy Cross, we use a resource called Tenten to deliver some aspects of our collective worship and our Relationships Education. During lockdown, Tenten have made some wonderful resources available for you at home. Perhaps you would value the opportunity to gather together as a family to pray or to hold your own family act of worship. Here are the links for this week's resources. You don't need a user name or password – simply click on the link...

ASSEMBLY VIDEO FOR HOME

w/c 15 or 22 February 2021

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/q9304tejirg9034t57q4ohjqqu8504g5owg4>

DAILY PRAYERS FOR HOME

w/c 15 or 22 February 2021

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/034-Orig-w599p59u5-0ighn0/>

SUNDAY LITURGY FOR FAMILIES

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/sunday-liturgy-for-families>

LENT begins on Ash Wednesday, the 17th February.

We will be learning about Lent on our return to school after half term.





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Wonders of the Week



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

We hope you all enjoyed your Class Celebrations today and were able to say hello to one another and enjoy some shared activities.

Julia Donaldson: *Tommy* for always working so hard on his home learning and doing it with a huge smile on his face!

Allan Ahlberg: *Melody* for her fantastic approach to home learning. She shows great enthusiasm, a love of learning and is always determined to try her best.

Roger Hargreaves: *Quinton and Thomas* for their commitment to remote learning and outstanding work produced.

Eric Carle: *Alex* for always putting in 100% effort with all tasks set. He has really impressed us with his mature attitude towards home learning!

Michael Morpurgo: *Mahi* for writing a brilliant innovative plan for her story based on the original Beowulf. Well done Mahi!!

Quentin Blake: To everyone in *Quentin Blake* for being such amazing learners both in school and at home. We are very proud of you all!

Roald Dahl: *Elijah* for a great week's home learning.

Philip Pullman: *Alex* for amazing artwork using tone and poem using the rhythm and rhyme.

Emma Carroll: *Emily W* for her detailed and well-planned Science review which she shared and presented to the class. It showed that she had really understood what we had been learning.

J K Rowling: **THE WHOLE CLASS** for all rising to the challenge of our new working situation with maturity, humour, kindness and determination and I could not be prouder of them. I think they are all WOW!



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Gospel Values Awards



Julia Donaldson: Archie for Courage - for showing courage when coming into school and trying all the new activities.

Allan Ahlberg: Vanessa for Courage - for showing great determination and resilience throughout this term and rising to new challenges.

Roger Hargreaves: Laith for Kindness and Compassion - for playing so well with his friends and supporting them to be the best they can be.

Eric Carle: Ali for Kindness - for looking after his friend when she was hurt and showing kindness to everyone in our class.

Michael Morpurgo: Dominic F for Courage - for showing resilience and perseverance towards challenges throughout this term.

Quentin Blake: Isabelle for Kindness - for being a good role to all her peers in class.

Roald Dahl: Wadih for Kindness - towards all of his friends

Philip Pullman: Tilly for Courage and Kindness - for carrying on even when things are tough and for always thinking of others.

Emma Carroll: Eitan for Integrity and Courage - When tackling learning from home, we have enjoyed seeing how he challenges himself and extends his learning.

JK Rowling: Evan for Kindness - for looking after, supporting and entertaining all of us on our google meets each day.



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Safer Internet Day 2021

Tuesday 9th February was Safer Internet Day. Over the course of the week, the children learned about keeping themselves and others safe when online and many valuable lessons were learned! Through a competition organised by Miss Buscombe, the children explored the concept of Fake News and misinformation. Here is one example of the high quality work produced.



Misinformation - Fake News



Misinformation is a harmful thing,
And all of the consequences that it can bring.
Inaccurate information and stories that aren't true.
Stopping the spread of fake news is something we can all help to do.

“Coronavirus is fake”
No it isn't
“Dolphins are swimming in Venice”
No they are not
“Trained Triceratops spotted in Indonesia” No it wasn't

When reading stories on the internet
We need to stop and consider all the facts
It is easy to continue to spread fake news
We should all think before we act.

Why has the story been written?
Is it to make people angry and sad?
Is the source reliable?
Or do they have a reputation that's bad?

Examine all the evidence,
Don't just believe everything you see,
Are there any quotes from experts?
Is anyone else reporting the same story?

People spread rumours because they want to be heard
Or to cause tension between people.
They don't stop to think to be the bigger person
So we all need to do this for them.

By Tillie Cooper





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Support for partners and carers

The [Parents Protect website](#) of the [Lucy Faithfull Foundation](#) provides parents, carers and professionals with useful advice and information to help keep children safe online and offline, including what to do if they suspect something is wrong.

To help families protect children whilst isolated at home, they've made [12 short films](#) that aim to educate them about how and why child sexual abuse happens, how to prevent harm from happening in the first place, and where to get help if something has already happened.

Goodbye, Thank you and Good Luck!

It's time to say a fond farewell to Miss Courtney and Miss Putt today. They have been with us, working primarily in Eric Carle since October but more recently supporting KS1 as a whole both in school and remotely. They have been a wonderful addition to the team and both the staff and the children will be sad to say good bye. We want to say a HUGE thankyou to them both for everything they have brought to our school. We wish them the very best of luck with the next step of their journey to becoming wonderful teachers! We are so proud to have been part of that journey.





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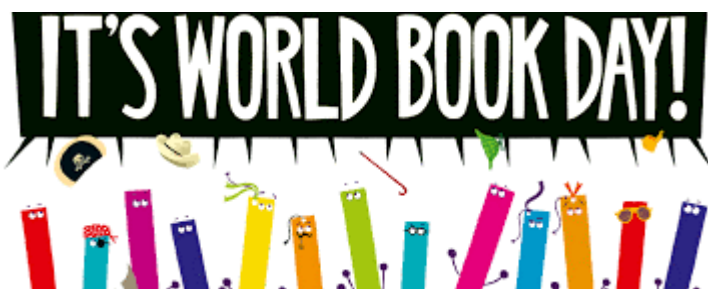
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REMOTE MEETING OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL



Yesterday Mrs King supported the first remote school council meeting. The children represented their peers brilliantly, displaying excellent online manners and articulating their views so clearly and intelligently. The Senior Leadership Team have received the minutes of the meeting and look forward to working with the school council to address the issues raised. It is wonderful to have their help and support as we continue to work together to improve our school. This week, they discussed the challenges of remote learning and the need for increased opportunities for social interaction. This is really important and we will be putting our heads together after half term to ensure that we plan opportunities for children to connect with one another as lockdown continues. We will also be planning further wellbeing activities for both children and staff. Thank you for your fantastic suggestions!



Exciting news from Miss McCalley!

On March 4th we will be celebrating another World Book Day! We will go 'off timetable' on this day with each class teacher providing reading themed tasks and activities.

We will also be setting some whole school challenges and enjoying some experiences together. We have booked an online theatre session with **'Hobgoblin Productions'** that everyone can take part in; we will send the link for those watching at home on March 4th.

We will not be asking the children to dress up this year, however if you would still like to do so then please do. We thought that as an alternative, children could make a headband or hat based on their favourite book character; however there is no pressure to do so.

Whole School Events:

This year we have three main 'whole school' events running throughout the day

- Masked Reader - Can you identify the teacher behind the mask, reading their favourite story?
- Theatre Experience - Alice In Wonderland
- Literary Menu Competition - Make a menu for a dinner party linked to favourite books and characters. You could even make one (or more) of these courses and hold this party at home!

We look forward to sharing with you our fabulous 2021 Holy Cross World Book Day experiences! Keep an eye on Class Dojo for more information.



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CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION FOR KS2

With half term on the horizon, our storytelling competition is the perfect project to keep young authors occupied.

Children in Y3-Y6/P4-7 are invited to submit a **modern fairy-tale** inspired by The Brothers Grimm. Any themes, any setting but stories must be complete and be kept under 500 words. For those not too keen on writing, we are also accepting illustrated storyboards from our template [here](#). (attached separately to the newsletter).

Every submission will be reviewed by the creative team at Heartbreak and then a special guest judge will choose the final winner. That lucky person will have their story turned into a script, and brought to life by Heartbreak's professional actors as part of their summer production 'Wonder with Grimm.' The show will be toured all over the UK in Summer 2021 and the winning author will be invited along with their family as VIP guests to **watch their very own story on stage!**

Entries can be submitted online via [Heartbreak's website](#) between Feb 15th and March 7th. Winners will be notified by March 21st. Every entry must be submitted with a parent/guardian email address.



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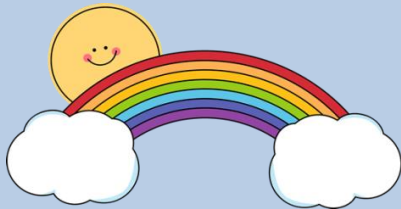
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Health & Wellbeing Growth Mindset

Print the templates attached to the newsletter to make a 'Good Night Glowing cube'. Not only does it support the development of a positive approach or growth mindset, but it's fun to do at bedtime too!



Be safe, be kind and look after each other.

We miss you all very much!

Mrs Gill





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Breakfast Club/After School Club

We continue to run Breakfast Club and After School Club as we try our best to support our key worker parents. We have had to place a cap on numbers, limiting attendance to 10. However, we also need to make sure it continues to be viable so if the numbers drop below 5, we will need to close it down. It's a bit of a balancing act but the best thing to do is to ring and book a place if you need/want one. We will then let you know if there are spaces.

Please make sure you have booked **one week** in advance. If you are not in need of the place, please cancel ahead so we can offer the place to someone who needs it. After School Club finishes at **5pm**. Please ring **07398477727** When dropping off and picking up.

We will have to bring your child to the pedestrian gate off the playground as we are having some work done in front of the church.



PUPIL RECORDS

With all communication now virtual, it is vital that we have current, accurate contact information for you. Over the last couple of weeks, I have discovered that several telephone numbers and email addresses are no longer current.

If you have moved house or changed your phone number or email accounts, please let us know by phoning the school on 01752 225420 or by email to holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk

We need to stay connected!

School Photos

These had been booked for the 16th March. Unfortunately, due to the current lockdown, we have cancelled this booking and will re-arrange for the summer term when the situation becomes clearer.

Have a lovely weekend! ☀️