

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.26: 1st April 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again, we have reached a turning point with regards to 'Living with COVID' and the guidance has been coming at schools thick and fast and as usual, on a Friday! I have included the guidance issued today at the end of the newsletter but of course the crux of the guidance is still focused on testing. We have also been told that LFTs or asymptomatic testing will no longer be freely available which does bring the guidance into question. I am hopeful that there will be greater clarity around the advice before the end of term or at the very least, by the time we come back again after Easter and of course I will share that with you via Class Dojo.

After more than two years, I have myself succumbed to the virus but am hopeful that I will recover quickly and be back at school as soon as possible.

This term, we have, like the majority of schools across the city, struggled with staff shortages and I am very grateful to our staff team for pulling together to ensure our children receive the best teaching and nurture possible, despite staff illnesses. Thank you to you also for your support, patience and understanding during these past weeks.

Next week, we are looking forward to our End of Term Mass on Tuesday with Father Victor and to our exciting Easter Egg Hunt on the last day of term. Our thanks to the PTFA for providing the eggs for the children.

A huge thank you also to Ashley and his team of helpers for organising the Ukraine Raffle. The children were very excited and applauded each other as the big wheel announced winner after winner - we lost count of the number of prizes! Thank you too to those of you who donated prizes - they were all gratefully received. All proceeds will go to **CAFOD** to support the people of Ukraine. I will let you know the amount raised on my return to school next week.

Mrs F Gill
Headteacher



5th April
End of Term Mass

6th April
RD Class to the Box

8th April
Egg Hunt

*5pm finish for After School
Club on Friday 8th April.*

Monday 25th April
Back to School

Thursday 28th April
Drop in morning

May
*Safer Journeys to School
(Further details to follow)*

4th May
*Football Inclusion Event
Mango Tango Signing
Assembly (KS2)*

6th May
Boccia Inclusion Event

9th-12th May
Key Stage 2 SATS

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Our Catholic Life

In the Gospel this week the religious leaders are certain that the woman they bring to Jesus has sinned. They want to punish her by throwing stones at her. If Jesus doesn't agree with them, then perhaps he isn't following God's commandments. Rather than condemn the woman, Jesus asks the men if they have ever done something wrong. If they have never sinned, Jesus says, they can throw their stones. One by one, the accusers all leave. The woman is free to go and make a new start.

Let us Pray

Dear Jesus,
You show us the way to God.
You let your light shine through us.
You help us to grow in love.
You rejoice in us.
You died for us, to give us hope.
Help us to hope and trust in you.
Amen.



Action: Think about if there is anyone you need to say sorry to and put right your friendship

Wonders of the Week

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

Julia Donaldson: Daphnie - becoming more independent in her learning and developing her confidence.

Allan Ahlberg: Methuja - For growing in confidence this week with his learning in class

Simon James: Lizzie - For a really productive week in class and making real progress with her learning

Judith Kerr: Lund - For fantastic participation in our music lessons and trying hard in all aspects of his learning.

David Walliams: Lucas - for being such an engaged learner and supporting others in maths.

Cressida Cowell: Eva - for always being a good friend and role model to others.

Roald Dahl: Ben - for his independence and creative writing

Louis Sachar: Anne - What a great attitude to learning - especially during a week of assessments, where she has certainly made progress.

Emma Carroll: Saffron - For setting a fantastic example for all to see.

Malorie Blackman: Fran - for being such a kind friend and helping her peers in Maths.



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Gospel Values Awards:

This week we have all been trying to show **Perseverance**

Julia Donaldson: Matthew - for persevering in his learning and not giving up.

Allan Ahlberg: Eli - For persevering and following our class rules.

Simon James: Bradley - For regularly not giving up on a task until he knows that he has put in his best effort.

Judith Kerr: Ishan- For trying hard to learn his sounds and applying these to his reading and writing.

David Walliams: Daria - For persevering with her writing and maths.

Cressida Cowell: Olivia- For persevering with her handwriting and times tables this week!

Roald Dahl: Mason - having the strength and courage to never give up!

Louis Sachar: David - Working hard, never giving up and an 'I can' attitude is really starting to pay dividends.

Emma Carroll: Tillie - For persevering with our assessments this week and doing an excellent job.

Malorie Blackman: Laura - for working hard and taking on board any feedback she has been given.



Top Table Awards



Julia Donaldson: Iris for following instructions at all times

Allan Ahlberg: Gabriella for being polite and a good friend to all

Simon James: Ruby for having such good behaviour in the hall and playground

Judith Kerr: Marina for always being a good friend

David Walliams: Sonny for such wonderful behaviour in the playground and hall

Cressida Cowell: Olivia Jones for playing cooperatively in the playground with her friends

Roald Dahl: Tristan for wonderful manners in the hall

Louis Sachar: Melissa for always being polite

Emma Carroll: Garima for being consistently well-behaved

Malorie Blackman: Aisline for always being cheery and a good friend

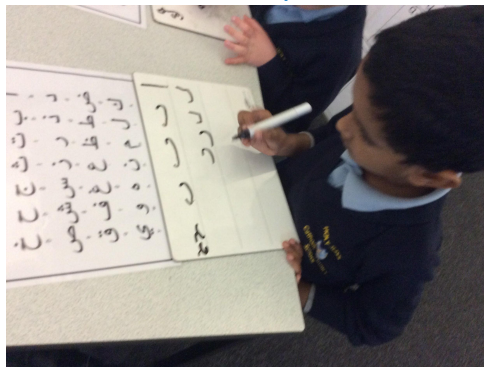
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Multicultural Week - Julia Donaldson Class

This week we have explored lots of different countries and cultures through dance, music, food, craft and maps.



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Our trip to 'The Box' museum

Cressida Cowell and David Walliams Classes were finally able to visit the Box and explore everything it has to offer.

We found more about 'Ancient Egypt' as well as other eras of history.

We loved being historians for the morning.

Roald Dahl class will have their turn next week!



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Simon James Class - Science experiment

As part of our learning on materials, we tested which materials would keep our Lego house dry.



A big welcome to Helen Newton, our brand new Parent Support Advisor who started this week. every morning apart from Wednesdays so please say hello! He is very excited about getting to know the wonderful Holy Cross family!

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Rock Steady Concerts

Today we were given a rare treat when the Rock Steady musicians performed for us! They were amazing, playing their instruments and singing with such talent!

Well done to them all for all the hard work and perseverance they have invested in their music and a big thanks to their Rock Steady band leader, Rebecca and of course to Emma, the previous band leader, who left us recently for new adventures.



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**THE BRAND NEW CHOIR FOR
CHILDREN ACROSS
PLYMOUTH!**

The Legacy Choir presents

**MANGO
TANGO**

Run by

Darren Ball and Jessica Rowe (Miss JR)

MONTPELIER PRIMARY SCHOOL

PL2 3HN

FOR Y3-6: MONDAY 5.45- 6.30PM

Sing, Laugh, Perform
Free!

Starts Monday 9th May

For more info and sign up, message the Legacy
choir Facebook page: @PLYMOUTHLEGACYCHOIR
or email jessrowe@mpsplymouth.net



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Sport Relief 2022

A huge thank you to everyone who made donations through justgiving and to those who donated for mufti-day.

The poster is a vibrant yellow and teal graphic celebrating a fundraising success. On the left, the Holy Cross Catholic Primary School crest is displayed, featuring a shield with a cross and the letters 'H C', with a banner below that reads 'BENE OMNIA FECIT'. The central text, in large, bold, red and blue letters, reads: 'YOU DID IT! YOU SMASHED IT! £196'. To the right, a photograph of a smiling young girl is shown, with two red circular stickers above her head that say 'RED NOSE DAY'. Below the photo, the text 'THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED YOU'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE' is written in blue. At the bottom, a teal banner contains the text 'Holy Cross Sports Relief Challenge!' in red. In the bottom right corner, the 'SPORT RELIEF' logo is visible, featuring a red stylized figure jumping over the words 'SPORT RELIEF'.

**YOU DID IT!
YOU SMASHED
IT!**

£196

**THANK YOU TO
EVERYONE WHO
DONATED
YOU'RE MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

**Holy Cross Sports Relief
Challenge!**

**SPORT
RELIEF**

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The Pupil Chaplains have been busy organising our Easter Egg Hunt for the last day of term. They are planning it to be a grand event as it will be one of the first opportunities in two years that the children have been able to work with children from other year groups. The Easter challenge that will be set will certainly require the children to use our learning behaviours of **confidence, resilience, independence, creativity and curiosity.**

Thank you to those parents and governors who have already volunteered to help out on the day. Your support is very much appreciated. If you would like to help on 8th April in the morning please send me an email to sbuscombe@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

Volunteers Needed!



We are now able to have volunteers back in school to support the children. If you feel that you have some time and you would like to volunteer to support in class, hear children read, accompany the children on school trips or support with events such as school discos we would love to hear from you. As our volunteers haven't been in school for a while, all volunteers would need to have a new DBS check which we can arrange. If you would like to know more please contact me via [dojo](mailto:dojo@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk) or email on sbuscombe@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

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 **We Made It Through to 2022.** 

Plymouth Scout and Guide Gang Show 2022



The Barbican Theatre

THURSDAY 14TH TO SATURDAY
16TH APRIL 2022
7.30PM AND 2.00PM MATINEE
SATURDAY

Ticket Prices : £10.00 Adults £8.50 Concessions
Group discounts available.
Tickets available now:
or online at: www.barbicantheatre.co.uk

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After Easter, from Thursday 28th April there will be a drop in session for parents every Thursday morning from 9.00-10.00 in the hall to speak to Miss Buscombe, our SENCO and/or Helen Newton our PSA. This will be an opportunity to ask any questions or concerns about the individual needs of your child or family. They are always available via dojo and email throughout the week. Tea/Coffee will be available, if you would like the opportunity to chat and/or meet with other parents.



Choir

After Easter, starting Wednesday 27th April Mrs. Shaw and Miss Buscombe will be starting a choir. It will be open to children from all classes and run from 3.15pm until 4.15pm. All are welcome. If you would like your child to join please send a dojo message to Miss Buscombe or Mrs. Shaw or email us.

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There are lots and lots of families going through tough times who can't get away together. We want to make the biggest difference we can to as many families as we can. We focus our holiday offers on families who:

- Are on a low income (a household income of less than £24,000)
- Haven't had a holiday together in the last 4 years
- Have at least one child under 18 who will go on the holiday

What's available?

Holidays available now that include **school holidays** and **bank holiday weekends** as well as everything in between! The perfect opportunity for families to get away with the kids as early as Easter if they want to. With the cold winter months soon slipping away, it's time to get them excited and have something in the diary to look forward to!

The good news is that this year we are offering these breaks entirely through a voucher model so that families have as much flexibility as possible to choose the date that works for them.

Families cannot self-refer but we can refer you if you feel you meet the criteria. Please contact our PSA at hnewton@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk if this would be something you feel would benefit your family and you satisfy the eligibility criteria.

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A **funded STEM club starts this Saturday** in collaboration with St Budeaux & Barne Barton Wellbeing Hub in Plymouth and there are **a few spaces left**.

What is it?

~ A **5 week Saturday Wellbeing club for ages 8-12**.

~ The theme is **Science**, in particular experiments and activities will be focussed around the amazing microscopic world around us.

~ **9am-12pm** on the following Saturdays:

March 26th

April 2nd

April 9th

April 23rd

April 30th

Cost?

£5 for the whole 5 weeks includes breakfast!

Where?

St Budeaux & Barne Barton Wellbeing Hub, William Sutton Memorial Hall, 6 Shelley Way, Plymouth, **PL5 1QF**.

Who's running it?

We are www.sciencedipity.co.uk and will be leading the clubs activities in collaboration with St Budeaux & Barne Barton Wellbeing Hub. **Sciencedipity is a Devon based non-profit company**, who has been delivering science workshops and clubs to schools and the community for 7 years across the south west. The company is led by scientists & qualified teachers, and supported by experienced staff.

How to book?

Booking is essential as we have only 20 spaces.

Book directly here: <https://Sciencedipity.as.me/sciencewellbeingclub>

Or read more and see the flyer here:

<https://sciencedipity.co.uk/for-parents/community-science-events/>

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The Uniform Store Plymouth is a free service for families to kit out their children for school. Through donations of good quality school uniforms, we give these items out to those in need, free of charge – no referral is needed.

We run a pop-up shop in Plymouth City Centre throughout the school summer holidays, and a Click and Collect service that runs throughout the year, where parents/carers can order the uniform that they need for their children and collect it from our collection point.

To place an order for school uniforms, families should [use our website](#).

Our collection point is at Redeemer Church, St Barnabas Terrace, Plymouth PL1 5NN.

For more information, please email hello@uniformstoreplymouth.co.uk

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SUMMER LEAGUE IS BACK

PLYMOUTHBASKETBALL.CO.UK

WEEKLY COMPETITIVE FIXTURES

MINI SCHOOL YRS 4-6	JUNIOR SCHOOL YRS 7-9	SENIOR SCHOOL YRS 10-13
THURSDAYS 6-8PM ORRHE PRIMARY SCHOOL, PL2 2EN STARTS THURSDAY 28/04/22 FOR 12 WEEKS. £40 ENTRY	TUESDAYS 6-9PM SIR JOHN HUNT COMMUNITY SPORTS COLLEGE, PL5 4AA STARTS TUESDAY 26/04/22 FOR 12 WKS. £50 ENTRY	MONDAYS 7-9PM MARJON SPORT & HEALTH CENTRE, PL6 8BN STARTS MONDAY 25/04/22 FOR 10 WEEKS. £50 ENTRY

CLOSING DATE FOR ALL ENTRIES IS MONDAY 18/04/22
FEE INCLUDES REGISTRATION FOR FULL COMPETITION AND PLAYING T-SHIRT

PLYMOUTH

BASKETBALL CLUB



hello@plymouthbasketball.co.uk



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The Rock Pool Project has launched a new 'Blue Recovery' project to inspire and connect people from disadvantaged areas in Plymouth and Falmouth with their local marine wildlife, after receiving almost £150,000 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Every year, millions of people are drawn to the South West's spectacular coastline. However, a rising number of locals are becoming disconnected from their nearby beaches and marine heritage, missing out on this coastline's numerous benefits: fresh air, sea views, discovery, exercise, restfulness and fun.

Today, The Rock Pool Project begin their exciting two-year Blue Recovery Project aimed at addressing this issue, made possible with a grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Thanks to National Lottery players, the innovative not-for-profit organisation will help hundreds of local people to explore, understand and care for their local wildlife and coastline. People living in relevant postcodes can join the Blue Recovery Community and enjoy free events and training as: Citizen Scientists: for adults and children over 16; Rock Pool Families: for families with younger children; Blue Recovery Rangers: leadership roles for a small number of dedicated adults.

Find out more here:

<https://www.visitplymouth.co.uk/invest/news/read/2022/02/major-new-project-to-connect-people-from-disadvantaged-areas-in-plymouth-to-their-coast-and-coastal-wildlife-b986>

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Extra Curricular after school opportunity

A message from Plymouth Argyle Community Trust. Youth Cricket provision this upcoming summer :

All Stars for children between 5-8 years old + Dynamos Cricket Manadon Sports and Community Hub on Tuesday's with the following times and dates:

All Stars (5-8 year olds) : 10th May – 28th June (8 weeks - £40) 5pm-6pm with 32 spaces – Booking link below:

<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/BookCourse/27ffd867-db28-4935-9fc-c-e8f20322b801>

Dynamos (8-11 year olds): 10th May – 28th June (8 weeks - £40) 6pm-7pm with 32 spaces – Booking link below:

<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/Dynamos/BookCourse/bc4e4da9-5b95-4dba-a5e4-37f9da352f9f>

Spaces are limited and will be offered on a first come first serve basis but each programme will come with cricket specific benefits which are listed in the above links.

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COVID19 Information from 1st April 2022

Specific Guidance for Schools regarding COVID 19 has now been withdrawn. Guidance has now been issued by UKSHA for Respiratory infections, including coronavirus (COVID-19)

Children with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education or childcare setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a [high temperature](#) should stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people. They can go back to education or childcare setting when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough.

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people for **3 days after the day they took the test**. The risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower after 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature.

Children and young people who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

Schools should:

Ensure that any children and young people who have a high temperature and are unwell do not attend the education or childcare setting until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to attend.

Encourage all children with respiratory symptoms to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

In the event of an outbreak, we will implement measures in line with DFE/PHE advice which may include the re-introduction of face coverings or other restrictions as advised. Should we need to re-introduce these measures, I will inform you. We will no longer inform you of positive cases.

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Chicken Pox and Scarlet Fever

We have been informed that there has been an increase in the number of chicken pox and scarlet fever cases nationally and specifically in the SOuth West; both are considered to be common, mild and of low public health risk.

Please let the school office know if your child is absent due to these diseases.

Breakfast Club/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. (Early finish of 5pm on 8th April 2022)**

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.

After School Club on Friday 8th April will finish at 5pm.

Have a lovely weekend.