



# HOLY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

29TH NOVEMBER 2019 — NO.11



## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents,

What a week it has been with so many children and staff succumbing to various bugs this week! It has meant that staff have taken on added responsibilities in others' absence and that has been appreciated. Thank you also to the cleaners who have been extra vigilant in their efforts.

The **Sing Workshops** were a great success on Monday and we hope this will lead to a choir to be run similar to the Rocksteady Workshops. A letter has been sent home specifically about this and parents can respond directly to the providers.

On Wednesday we held **interviews** for the Year 5 teaching position. We successfully appointed Mr Rob Shaw and we look forward to him starting.

One of our KS1 classes was able to enjoy their **trip to Saltash** this week but the others have had to be postponed.

The Science students from Plymouth University have been in to support classes this week. Eric Carle had their **class Mass** on Thursday. The rest of the school have become very busy in preparation for our Christmas performance.

It has been very helpful having the **German students** in classes again this week. We wish Jana, Michelle and Katharina all the very best.

The Foundation Stage parents enjoyed their **Thanksgiving lunch** with their children on Thursday. It was great to see so many of you in the hall. See over the page for some great pictures from the lunch!

Year 5 and 6 took part in a **Basketball Festival** today. This is a great opportunity to become familiar with a great game.

The PTFA's **Non-Uniform Day** today has provided donations for our Christmas raffle. Thank you for your generosity.

The school might need to change its systems soon as regards to ParentPay. Whilst most parents ensure that payments are made swiftly, we also have many accounts that are holding significant **debt**. There are 32 parent accounts who owe the school over £10. Whilst I would not want to stop a child from having a school dinner, attend before or after school clubs, or have to cancel a school trip through lack of funds, the school should not be waiting considerable periods of time for these debts to be paid. It should not be the task of office staff to be chasing this money so I would ask any accumulated debts to be paid by the end of this month and in future for these not to occur. We do not have the capacity to hold debt, so this cannot continue.

Next week we have more Science and Art students in, trips to the cinema and Buckfast, and a Penitential Service.

Have a lovely weekend and Happy Saint Andrew's Day to all you Scottish descendents!

Mr Cotter  
Headteacher







THANKSGIVING LUNCH  
28/11/19

PIC•COLLAGE



OUR  
FANTASTIC  
THANKSGIVING  
LUNCH



## Foundation Stage - Kindness Countdown Calendar



Throughout the month of December, the children in Foundation Class are being encouraged to engage with a 'Kindness Countdown Calendar', with the hope that each day every child in the class will commit to carry out an act of kindness, with focus being on giving rather than receiving on the run up to Christmas.

If you would like to help our Foundation Class with their engagement, and would like to donate something for their collection box, they would welcome any of the following items which will go towards supporting families who are currently staying in the Women's Refuge:

**Stocking fillers such as sweets and chocolates; Christmas books; colouring books; fluffy socks; games, snow globes and Christmas decorations.**

They will also be supporting the Plymouth Foodbank by collecting non-perishable food items to make hampers for families so any donations for this again would be much welcomed.

All items can be handed into reception where a collection box will be placed before Monday 16th December.

Mrs Shaw and Miss Heaton would like to thank you in advance for the tremendous response they know they will receive from our generous school community.



The Governors of Holy Cross Catholic Primary School, 2 Beaumont Road, St Jude's Plymouth, PL4 9BE are seeking to appoint a positive and inspiring Meal Time Assistant for 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020. They are keen to accommodate the best candidates who will make a positive impact on our school and standards. Applicants with experience are encouraged to apply.

#### We offer:

- A welcoming school with a strong Catholic ethos
- Children who are polite, happy and motivated to learn
- A supportive staff team who genuinely want the best for our pupils
- A commitment to your own professional development

#### The successful candidate will:

- Be happy to support the Catholic ethos of our school
- Be committed to creating challenge, excitement, creativity and independence in learning
- Be dedicated to raising standards and be a good role model
- Have excellent organisational and communication skills
- Be dynamic, resilient and hard working with a positive nature
- Be able to work as part of a team and establish positive relationships with pupils, parents, governors and staff
- Have a reflective and evaluative approach to their practice

Required 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Salary: £16,959 paid pro rata

Contract: Permanent Part-Time

Hours: 7.5 hours per week, working Monday to Friday from 11.50am to 1.20pm

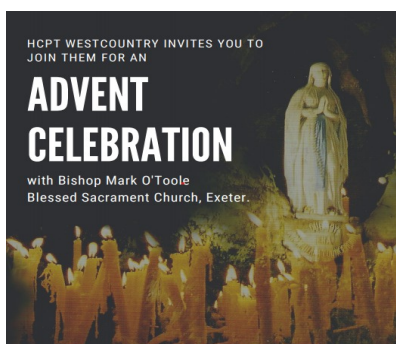
We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS Disclosure is required for this post.

Closing Date: 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Interviews: To be advised

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by email

School Website address: <https://holy-cross-es.schools.co.uk>



Sunday 1st December.

2.30 - 3.30pm Advent activities for children

3.45 - 4.15pm Tea & cake

4.30 - 5.15pm Advent service

Blessed Sacrament Church & Richard Reynolds Centre.

Fore Street, Heavitree, Exeter, EX1 2QJ.

Further information contact: Richard King [westcountry@hcpt.org.uk](mailto:westcountry@hcpt.org.uk)



Take YOUR CYCLING seriously, don't miss out on Bikeability!



**Years FS, 3 & 6** will have received a letter from the Plymouth School Sports Partnership regarding the Bikeability Programme. Please ensure that your consent forms are signed and returned to school as soon as possible so that we can register as many pupils as we can onto the fantastic Bikeability programme which is due to take place early next year.





Julia Donaldson (FS): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Simon James (Y1): Maya  
 Eric Carle (Y1/2): Kacper  
 Roger Hargreaves (Y2): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Roald Dahl (Y3): Dominic  
 David Walliams (Y3/4): Bobby  
 Michael Morpurgo (Y4): Atene  
 Emma Carroll (Y5): Holly  
 Anthony Horowitz (Y5): Nathan  
 J K Rowling (Y6): Henryk

## HOUSE POINTS

**St Jude—3817**

**St Teresa—3750**

**St Andrew—3748**

**St Julie—3612**

## REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK: -

### Monday

**Roger Hargreaves to  
Buckfast Abbey**

### Tuesday

**Simon James Class to  
Buckfast Abbey**

**Whole School Trip to see  
'Frozen 2' at the  
Vue Cinema**

### Thursday

**Whole School Mass**

**Flu Vaccinations**

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



### Monday 02/12/19

**Roger Hargreaves Class to Buckfast Abbey**

### Tuesday 03/12/19

**Simon James Class to Buckfast Abbey**

### Thursday 05/12/19

**Whole School Mass**

### Thursday 05/12/19

**Flu vaccinations**

### Friday 06/12/19

**Eric Carle Class to Buckfast Abbey**

### Thursday 12/12/19

**Simon James  
Class Mass**

### Tuesday 10/12/19 & Wednesday 11/12/19

**Foundation Stage  
Nativity @ 1.45pm**

### Tuesday 17/12/19

**Christmas Production  
@ 2.00pm & 6.30pm**

### & Wednesday 18/12/19

**Christmas  
Production @ 6.30pm**

### Tuesday 17/12/19

**FS visit Pennywell Farm**

### Thursday 19/12/19

**Whole School Mass**

### Friday 20/12/19

**Last day of term**

### Monday 06/01/20

**Non-Pupil Day**

### Tuesday 07/01/20

**Back to School**

## 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:**

**GET READY!**



**Jesus, help me to get ready to welcome you into my life in a new and special way. Help me to listen to you, like Noah did. Amen.**

Thank you all for your support, as always.

Have a lovely weekend.  
Mr Cotter and staff