



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone/Fax 01752 22540
Website: <https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web>
Email: holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill
Newsletter No.35: 24th June 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

This week was an active one and we picked the hottest week so far this summer for all the activity!

I hope you all enjoyed our Sports Day - the first since 2019! Mr Boyle did an amazing job, supported by the entire Holy Cross Team and a band of wonderful volunteers; Howard and Hayley from Plymouth Sports Partnership were there to help on the day along with Mr C who stayed on for the afternoon; Mr Gill who gave us his time and expertise on the day (don't worry, his tutoring groups will be re-scheduled) and Ken (Sadie and Cerys' grandad!) who helped to put up and take down the shelters! Thanks also to all of you for volunteering to accompany the children on their walk to Tothill and for coming along and supporting them - it was really lovely to have a whole school community gathering after so long!

This event took a huge amount of preparation and planning and we are all very grateful to Mr Boyle for coordinating this successful event.

Finally, our children - the stars of the show! They behaved so well; both on their way to and from Tothill and throughout the event despite the heat! Their support of one another was admirable and shows what a united and caring community we are at Holy Cross. I received a very lovely message yesterday from a parent and resident of the area overlooking Tothill Park, complimenting us on the behaviour of our children as they walked to and from the park. Apparently we stood out as the best behaved school amongst the several schools using Tothill this week - well-deserved praise for our delightful children!

Year 3 and our reception children enjoyed their bikeability and balance-ability sessions this week also - it's been all go at Holy Cross.

The week ended with our long-awaited discos; the children had a wonderful time. HUGE THANKS to our PTFA and all the volunteers (both parents and staff) who made this possible.

I hope you all have a restful weekend and manage to recharge your batteries!

Mrs F Gill
Headteacher



Every Thursday 9am
Drop-in

27th June-15th July
Year 4 Swimming

28th June
Art Gallery 2-3pm

4th-8th July
Year 6 Residential

11th and 12th July
Year 3/4 field trip to
Dartmoor

18th and 19th July
Year 6 Performance
2pm and 6.30pm

19th July 10am
CAST Leavers' Mass for Y6
children

20th July 9.15- 11.30am
Year 6 Leavers' Mass at
Holy Cross followed by
refreshments



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Our Catholic Life

In the Gospel this week we hear that as they travel on to Jerusalem, Jesus and his disciples are not always welcomed by the people they meet. Jesus does not let this worry them. They meet other people who want to join them and follow Jesus. Jesus explains that following him will not be easy. Foxes have holes, birds have nests, but Jesus has no place to call his home. Nothing is more important than spreading the message about God's kingdom. Everything else can wait.

On Saturday 11 children from Holy Cross made their First Holy Communion at Plymouth Cathedral. They were part of a group of 45 children from the Cathedral Parish. Congratulations to Alex, Thomas, Annika, Millie, Nikola, Maya, George, Roland, Dylan, Joy and Julia. We are very proud of you all.





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On Wednesday we will celebrate the Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul with a whole school Mass. After Jesus returned to heaven, Peter made it his mission to bring the good news about Jesus to people in many places around the world. The life and mission of St Peter and St Paul inspire us to follow their example by reaching out to others around the world as brothers and sisters in God's Universal Family.

Thank you for your generous donations for the Catholic Children's Society. It was lovely to see the children in blue, white and yellow. We will let you know how much we raised next week.

Dear Jesus,

There is a place for you to stay in my heart. Help me to make your kingdom real by bringing love, justice and peace to my small part of the world.

Amen

Action: If you have one, spring clean your pet's home this week.

Wonders of the Week

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

Julia Donaldson: Elin - for showing great resilience during balance ability and not giving up. Well done Elin

Allan Ahlberg: Piran- for amazing effort with reading and great retrieval and inference skills! Well done!

Simon James: Kane - for brilliant confidence on Wednesday at Sports Day. He took all the changes in his stride and took part with great enthusiasm.

Judith Kerr: Steven- For excellent effort in all areas of learning, especially maths, and making super progress!

David Walliams: Haidar - For superb behaviour, improved resilience and being a wonderful team mate during Sports Day

Cressida Cowell: Year 3: For completing their bikeability course this week. They kept themselves safe and took on the challenge well.

Roald Dahl: Nevaeh, Tristan, Riley, Meleia, Laith - for being resilient and learning to ride a bike this week!

Louis Sachar: Tomas - For his continued excellence and work ethic in Maths.

Emma Carroll: Charlie - For learning all of his lines and practising his performance for our production excellently.

Malorie Blackman: Pranusha - for her wonderful artwork planning and final plan, focusing on our key values.





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Gospel Values Awards:

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

Julia Donaldson: Dante - for always thinking of others and being fair when working with friends.

Allan Ahlberg: Hanna- for caring about her friends and showing a good sense of fairness for herself and others.

Simon James: Leena - for caring about others around her and showing fantastic sportsmanship on Wednesday.

Judith Kerr: Adam- for demonstrating fairness and excellent sportsmanship during Sports Day.

David Walliams: Lucas - for showing justice and compassion in helping others during Sports Day

Cressida Cowell: Olivia: For taking a real interest in our refugee week and for reflecting beautifully on what we can do to help.

Roald Dahl: Blake R - for making sure that everyone is treated fairly.

Louis Sachar: Stewart - a fine role model, who has a strong sense of right and wrong.

Emma Carroll: Ashley - For really getting involved in our refugee week discussions this week, noting how we can help others in so many different ways.

Malorie Blackman: Annouska - For making sure that everyone in the class is supported and treated fairly by others and for being a friend to everyone.



Refugee Week began with a class-based Act of Worship on Monday morning. The children and staff reflected on the 'Escape to Egypt' in the Gospel of Matthew 2;13-15. We reflected on the plight of the Holy Family as they were forced to flee for their lives and on the challenges and difficulties they would have faced as refugees. We thought about the plight of the Ukrainian refugees forced to leave their country, their fathers, uncles, brothers and cousins, as they flee to safety. We also thought about the sanctuary given to them by the people of Poland especially - where they were welcomed into homes and families and given a safe place to live.

The children wrote the most beautiful prayers and reflections - sending messages of hope to those all over the world who have been forced to leave their homes.

During the week, the teachers explored the theme of 'refugees' with their classes by sharing stories and poems including the poems by Michael Rosen 'On the Move' and 'Saving the Butterfly' by Helen Cooper.

Yesterday we welcomed Mr Meakin, a retired police officer, who came to tell us about the work he and his friends have been doing to support this humanitarian crisis. Despite the decreasing media coverage, Mr Meakin reminded us that the challenges facing the people of Ukraine have not eased - the people of Ukraine are still very much in need of our support.



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The children listened attentively and asked extremely deep questions which kept Mr Meakin on his toes! We shared some of our prayers and messages of hope and finished by singing our favourite hymn: 'We are never too young to witness'. In the words of that song, 'we are never too young to serve; never too young to work for justice and never too young to be disciples of our Lord, Jesus Christ'.

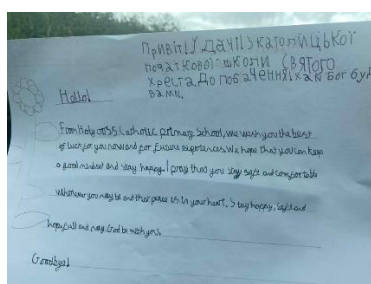
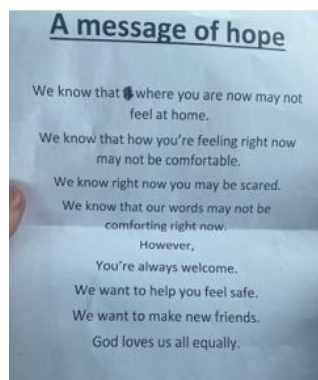
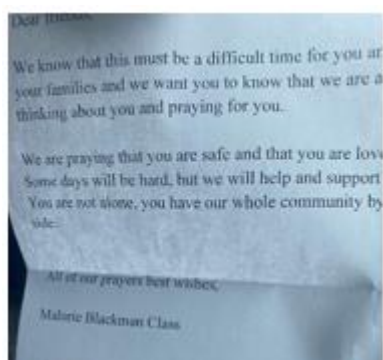
We have created a video recording of our messages, prayers and singing for Mr Meakin to take back to Ukraine on his next trip.



On Mr Meakin's facebook page, he posted the following update...

"I was privileged enough to be invited to share the experiences of our aid team with Key Stage 2 at Holy Cross Catholic Primary School in Plymouth. The sympathy and concern shown by these children was touching, and gives hope for the future. Some of the older children had raised in excess of £600 to help the refugees. A massive well done to them. I would also like to state how impressed I was with the children. They were extremely well behaved and respectful. This reflects positively on the leadership and teachers at the school."

He also stated in a separate message, ***"Their kindness shone through too"***.





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Our Lady of Czestochowa - the Black Madonna

Our Lady of Czestochowa has joined us at Holy Cross in recognition of our rich culture and heritage.

Known as the Queen of Poland, she is based at the Jasna Gora Monastery in Czestochowa. According to legend, the statue was inspired by the painting of Mary by St Luke in the year 326 AD. He painted Jesus' mother, Mary on a cedar table top from the house of the Holy Family. Interestingly, the painting then travelled from Jerusalem to Constantinople, to Ukraine and finally to Poland, coming to rest at Jasna Gora in the 14th century. Miraculously saving the monastery from a Swedish invasion in 1655, she was proclaimed the Queen of Poland.

Czestochowa is regarded as the most popular shrine in Poland, with many Polish Catholics making a pilgrimage there every year. Since 1711, a pilgrimage leaves Warsaw every August 6 for the nine-day, 140-mile trek. Elderly pilgrims recall stealing through the dark countryside at great personal risk during the Nazi occupation. Pope John Paul II secretly visited as a student pilgrim during World War II.

The feast day of Our Lady of Czestochowa is celebrated on August 26th.



Our Lady of Czestochowa, pray for us.



The following children have achieved the next level of Numbots, increasing their fluency of recall of number facts

Jax Ioannou-Iron
Fahad Alanazi-Glass
Piran Dreyer-Steel

In TTRockstars the accuracy of the recall of times tables facts is just as important as the speed of response.

A rock hero is able to answer questions in 1 second (60+ questions a minute) and a rock legend is able to answer questions in 2 seconds (30+ questions a minute).

A rock star is able to answer a question in 3 seconds (20+ questions a minute).

These children achieved the status this week



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Pison Temesen- Rock Hero
Harvey Gilmore-Rock Legend
Leo Ju-Rock Legend



In KS2 we use a programme called Accelerated Reader and when we have read a book we take a quiz to check our understanding. The following children have reached a new level.

Words read this week

Class	Words Read
Cressida Cowell	531,081
David Walliams	57,709
Roald Dahl	63,301
Emma Carroll	320,929
Louis Sachar	936,656
Malorie Blackman	126,206



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Safer Journeys to School

Safer Journeys To School campaign pilot: your opinion matters!

Thank you to the 24 parents and carers who have completed the Safer Journeys To School campaign survey this week!

If you drive your child/children to school, we would be really grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete the survey below.

The survey will close next Friday (July 1st).

Thank you in advance!

Open the survey by [clicking here](#) or by using this QR code:



Alternatively, you can fill out a paper copy of the survey at the school reception desk.

Year 6 Events

4th-8th July: Year 6 Residential. **All consent forms and full payment are now over-due**

18th and 19th July: Performance - There will be an afternoon show at 2pm and an evening show at 6.30pm on both days. Each child will have two tickets for each show. Please complete the following google form to reserve the tickets you require <https://forms.gle/3TmVLPct3ND6ciRB6>

We will send out the number of tickets that you have requested. **Entry will be by ticket only**

19th July: Plymouth CAST Leavers' Mass at Cathedral (10am). This is a diocesan event for schools only - at present there is no plan for parents to attend as there will be children from all six primaries.



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20th July: Holy Cross Leavers' Mass at 9.15am followed by refreshments. Each child will have two tickets. Please complete the google form if you have not already done so. We will send out tickets to those who have requested them

<https://forms.gle/5v3cY6vtNBjGDEke7>

Entry will be by ticket only – please book these as soon as you can.



Children's University Graduation

Congratulations to the graduates from Holy Cross who were 'conferred' with their Children's University certificates last week. They have done amazingly well and we are very proud of them.



Children's University is an amazing project where you can get rewarded for having fun!

Collect stamps in your Passport to Learning for each hour of an activity that you do, and when you get 30 we will give you a bronze certificate! Collect 65 and we will give you a silver certificate. Get all the way up to 100 and we will give you a gold certificate, and not just that, but we will invite you and your family along to the University of Plymouth where you will graduate.

Don't stop there though. You can collect awards and certificates right up to 1000 hours!

As well as certificates we also have CU Badges that you will receive with your certificates. Wear them to school and show off your achievements.



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from Mrs Newton



I am hoping to set up a Military Kids Club (MKC) in our school. Any pupils from the Armed Forces community of serving and ex-serving personnel, the Reserve Forces and Royal Fleet Auxiliary are welcome to join. Military Kids Club is a national organisation setup to support and give a voice to children and young people of serving and ex-serving personnel.

If one or more members of your family are serving or ex-serving personnel and you would like your child to be involved, please could you message me on Dojo or send an email to hnewton@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

Holy Cross Sports Day

What a day - perfect weather - lots of cheering children - supportive parents, family and teamwork.

Every single child who took part, did their best for their house, whether it were St. Judes, St. Julie, St. Andrews or St. Teresa. All had the opportunity to contribute to enabling their house to succeed.

We kept everyone on tenterhooks - announcing the scores throughout the day.

In the end, we had a year 6 and an EYFS child step-up to receive the House Trophy.





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The final scores

St.Andrew 832pts

St.Julie 796pts

St.Jude 784pts

St. Teresa 697pts



A huge thank you from me to the teachers who turned out at 0730, before school, to erect the children's shelters and to the volunteers mentioned by Mrs Gill: Mr Gill and Ken, who really went above and beyond the call of duty and were there at the end of the day too - Thank you.

Year 3 Bikeability





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Our Plymouth



At the start of July (weather dependent, hopefully Sunday 3rd July) a Plymouth-based art organisation called 'Low Profile' are recreating a kind of flash mob on the Hoe recreating an old photograph from 40 years ago, where lots of people stand spelling out the word 'People'.

They are hoping that people who volunteer their time - PTA members, mothers and fathers who look after friend's children, anyone who gives their time helping for free, will get involved. They want to recognise these legends and bring them all together to create a photograph that celebrates this.

They are still in the 'sign up' phase of the campaign and would love to see some of the families from Holy Cross represented.

Here is the link to know more / to sign up:

<https://ourplymouth.co.uk/people/>



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YOU CAN HELP...

Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)
St Boniface House, Ashburton, TQ13 7JL
For further details please contact Vicki Dunstone:
Email ccs@prcdtr.org.uk
☎ 01364 645420



We can accept any of the following to help us to raise vital funds.

Charity Number 282803
www.ccsplymouth.org.uk

Stamps, First Day Covers or old Envelopes and Postcards

Leave foreign stamps (of any date) or UK stamps postmarked BEFORE 1970 ON envelopes and postcards - DO NOT REMOVE THEM! They can be worth more as a collectible item complete.



HELP YOUR CHARITY - INSIST ON USING REAL STAMPS WHEN YOU POST ANYTHING!

In order to improve fundraising for charities that collect stamps, always insist on REAL stamps when posting anything (instead of a computer generated label). If you ask nicely you could get commemorative stamps and maybe even a circular date stamp! (Depending on service used.)

Coins and Bank Notes

Any and all, old and new, from ANYWHERE in the world, obsolete or otherwise.



Precious Metals

Including broken jewellery, old trophies, gold, silver etc.



Metals

Household ornaments, keys and cutlery - **HOWEVER**, please contact 'Stamps n All' via the number below BEFORE SENDING.



Costume Jewellery

Medals

Not limited to military items - any medals and metal badges accepted.



Watches

Digital quartz or manual wind, working or not.



For a complete list of items we can turn into funds for your charity, please visit:
www.stampsnall.co.uk

HOW TO DONATE YOUR ITEMS...

(a) Hand your donation to the charity, or (b) we accept small lots posted direct to the address below. **VERY IMPORTANT:** Please mark envelope with your charity's **Dept CODE**, because **unmarked donations** are automatically allocated to Veterans Outdoors (Charity No.1175204).

***Stamps n All, Dept CCS-PLYM, 32 Eastbury Avenue, Plymouth PL5 2NB**

***Please attach correct postage to your parcel - this is NOT a freepost address.**

Special collections can be arranged (minimum weights apply: Coins 10kg, Other items 15kg), please telephone 01752 296 369 on Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays from 9am to 5pm.

Stamps n All (Sole Trader) purchases all goods it receives from Charities for fundraising, offering a fair market rate for the donated goods, and as such Stamps n All makes a profit from the goods purchased.



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SUMMER

at City College Plymouth

City College Plymouth is delighted to announce that it is running a summer school throughout July and August for students that will be enrolled in September. Students must live within the Plymouth local authority and hold an Education, Health and Care Plan.

There will be a range of fun activities each week and lunch will be provided.

There is no charge for these sessions, however students must arrange their own transport to and from the College.

For further information on how to apply, please contact Michelle Foley on **01752 305876**.

Please note, due to high demand, places will be offered on a first-come first-served basis.

SCHOOL





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WE'RE HIRING!

We currently have 4 vacancies in the school, starting from September 2022.

2x Mealtime Assistant Roles

2x Teaching Assistant Roles

Please visit our website for more information;

https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web/job_vacancies/276722

Please also feel free to share with family or friends who may be interested in applying.

Thank you



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St. Boniface's Catholic College

Year 5 Open Morning



Thursday 7th July 2022 9am to 10.30am

Pre-Booking Essential

To reserve your place please email:

mailbox@stbonifaces.com or call 01752 779051



St Boniface's Catholic College

Honour, Integrity, Service



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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.

We will no longer be taking bookings for Breakfast Club/After School Club if payments are outstanding. If you are a regular and payments are outstanding, your session will be cancelled so please check your Parent Pay account.

I apologise for the inconvenience this may cause and for the flurry of email reminders but the school is owed a significant amount of money. DFE money cannot be used to subsidise Breakfast/After School Club and the school cannot cover these costs within its budget.

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.