



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. 20: 26th February 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

So at last we can see a light at the end of the tunnel and the numbers of cases of COVID 19 in Plymouth are dropping! With the increased numbers of people being vaccinated, this paints a much more positive picture.

Of course the first exciting step is to welcome all our children back to school – and we are very much looking forward to doing that on Monday 8th March.

Early next week, we will share with you the exact arrangements regarding times of drop-offs and pick-ups and the systems we will be inviting you to follow so that school can be as safe as possible. It is not likely to be vastly different to our September arrangements or indeed our reviewed January arrangements prior to the announcement of the national lockdown.

Our key safety measures will focus on minimising contact between bubbles, hand-washing, ventilation, respiratory hygiene, enhanced cleaning regimes and implementing systems to facilitate track and trace. Attendance from the 8th will be mandatory and we look forward to seeing everyone again.

Reflection

*Daylight hanging on
For a bit longer.
Birdsong breaking out
In the bare branches.
There's hope enough
In all of that.*

Stay safe,

Mrs F Gill
Headteacher



02/04/21—18/04/21
Easter Holidays

*Last day of Easter Term is
Thursday 1st April*

**Good Friday 2nd April is a Bank
Holiday**

Summer term 1
*Monday 19th April – Friday 28th
May*

Half term
*Saturday 29th May - Sunday 6th
June*

First Holy Communion
Sunday 27th June 2021

Summer Term 2
*Monday 7th June – INSET day
Tuesday 8th June – Thursday
22nd July*



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Our Catholic Life

Our theme next week is CHANGES

Jesus goes up a high mountain with some of his friends. In front of their eyes, Jesus is changed. His clothes become “dazzlingly white” and the disciples see a little bit of what Jesus will be like after his death and resurrection. They see Jesus talking to Moses and the prophet Elijah and don’t want this experience to end. God the Father speaks and says, “This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.” Jesus asks his friends not to tell anyone what has happened until after he has risen from the dead. The disciples find it difficult to understand just what he means.

Let us Pray

Dear Jesus, thank you for showing me just how much I am loved. Be near me today, lighting up my life with your love. Please brighten the days of anyone who is lonely, ill or worried.

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 1 March 2021

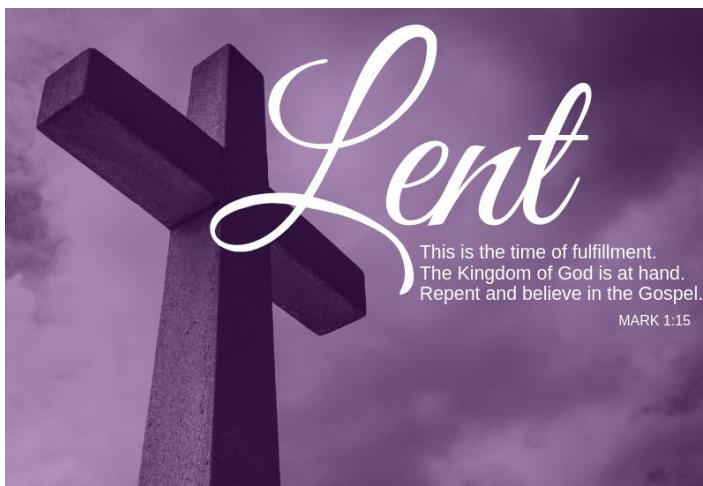
<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/980rgju0589jip0wu5ejq4u50843qf/>

DAILY PRAYERS FOR HOME w/c 1 March 2021

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/54-t80it492i2b5869iopt4rpquj9-q/SUNDAY>

LITURGY FOR FAMILIES

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



We would ask that you keep Fr Jacek in your prayers as we pray for his prompt recovery and his return to good health.

We also ask you to remember Mrs Duthie whose mum has sadly passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this very sad time.



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Wonders of the Week



Here are this week's winners of the Wonder of the Week award. **Miss Buscombe led our Celebration Assembly today and we were delighted that Deacon Albert was able to join us too.**

Julia Donaldson: Kasiena for having a fantastic week of learning at home and for always completing all his learning with great enthusiasm; we love watching your videos.

Allan Ahlberg: Annika for the positive way she has adapted to change and for showing great determination to achieve her best in all lessons.

Roger Hargreaves: Louis for his incredible effort with his home learning over the past few weeks.

Eric Carle: Ekkam for showing great enthusiasm in class and working incredibly hard on sentence writing. We are so proud of you!

Michael Morpurgo: Joshua for having a great week at school completing all of his learning independently.

Quentin Blake: Euri for having a positive week by completing all his tasks well. We are very proud of you!

Roald Dahl: Blake for writing an amazing innovated story this week that included detailed descriptions of the setting.

Philip Pullman: Dylan for perseverance- He did his absolute best even when things were really tricky when technology wasn't behaving for his home learning.

Emma Carroll: Sasha for her resilience and effort towards her learning tasks. I have been really impressed by her commitment to making sure she is turning in all of her work.

J K Rowling: Daria for continuing to work really hard, producing work to be really, really proud of. Daria also likes to challenge herself and take herself out of her comfort zone in her learning which is a wonderful quality to have! Well done Daria!



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Gospel Values Awards



Julia Donaldson: Victoria for Courage - for showing courage coming back to school and contributing to class discussions. We are very proud!

Allan Ahlberg: Rory for Courage - for showing great courage and resilience when learning from home.

Roger Hargreaves: Lund for Courage - for sharing his incredible knowledge and ideas with his new POD this week.

Eric Carle: Daisy for Courage - for being brave when returning to school and always having a wonderful smile on your face!

Michael Morpurgo: Julia for Kindness - towards her peers both inside and outside of the classroom.

Quentin Blake: Theresia for showing Compassion and Humility during our talks during our RE this week.

Roald Dahl: Melissa for Courage - to come back into school in a new, unfamiliar class.

Philip Pullman: Sasha for Compassion and Kindness - for showing compassion and kindness whilst working in EMC. It has been lovely having him in class as a learner and a friend.

Emma Carroll: Finlay for Courage - for having the courage to take on his afternoon learning with a positive mind-set. This was reflected in his insightful reflections of Picasso's artwork.

JK Rowling: Abady for Courage - for being brave and courageous in his move to a new place and for still working really hard and producing amazing work. Well done Abady!



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The Beach By Boo Clark

*The warmth of the sun
The soft sand touching my feet*

The salt in my hair and my hair swishing in the wind,

The waves crashing on the shore

You can see the shells on the ocean

The leaves on the tree waving and crashing the branch

What a wonderful beach!



The children in Emma Carroll Class took their inspiration from this beautiful image



Here are some of their poems...

The Tiger

By Alex Baird

It smells like blood, its teeth have gone red,
Its fur is orange and black stripes, end to end,
Its claws razor sharp and long with red tips,
It eats all animals and they always are ripped,



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Yellow eyes to see in the night,
When they look it is oh so bright.,
Legs from a pig, head from the cow,
Whatever it finds it'll eat it right now.

It's bigger than a lion,
A roar louder than a car.,
You can hear it from a mile away,
so loud and so very far.

Only 4000 left in the wild alone,
They are an endangered species,
So please leave their habitat alone,
In the last hundred years, there were over 100,000
But now their homes have been destroyed all around them.

The White Tiger

By Emily Jones



Her claws are small sharp knives,
that slash and scratch even the hardest of bones in
half.

She is only blood free when she goes for a swim,
you'll never know she's coming until it's too late.

Her teeth are not that different,
like daggers.

Made for ripping and shredding meat off bones.
She'll only share with her cubs.
That means she needs to hunt more!

Her hungry amber-fire eyes will send anyone running.
She'll hunt at night with her night vision eyes,
and if you see her, the last thing you'll see is the hunger in her eyes.

The Beast

By Alfie Lewis

It has wide amber eyes of fire,
Piercing through the trees and bushes,
hunting for its feast,



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Always scanning for its prey leaving it
endangered,
Piercing gazes that never quit.

Step by step,
Claw to prey,
Stabbing into the ground,
Long and deadly daggers,
With its thick pads,
Making not a chance for prey to escape.

Reality in dreams

By Maxim

Focused in reality,
nothing can resist.
Trapped in your dream,
it's not made up - your mind's in a mist

Immersed in the soft and sweet chirps,
you are hallucinating.
The soft and sweet chirps,
that control the whole world

You're trapped, you try to move,
you're in your dream - or is it reality?
"Help me! Help me!" you shout out loud,
but it's no use - you can't get out.

There and there,
water rapids start to appear.
But it's not water,
it's just the silk soft sand, running through your hand

You're trapped, you try to move,
you're in your dream - or is it reality?
"Pinch me! Wake me up!" you shout out loud,
but it's no use - you can't get out.

You can see the palm trees moving,
dancing to the beat and grooving.
The ocean is calm, and it looks like ice,
Still - not even the wind.

You're trapped, you try to move,
you're in your dream - or is it reality?
"Help me! Help me!" you shout out loud,
but it's no use - you can't get out.



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You sniff like a dog,
it's too strong.
The salt rises from the Ocean,
you've lost your sense of taste - it's just too strong.

You're trapped in reality - or is it just a dream?
but it's too late - you just can't move.
"Pinch me! Wake me up!" you shout out loud,
but it's no use - you can't get out.



KS1 children were busy making Tudor houses this week. They did a fantastic job!

They had to plan, design, create and evaluate their houses. Daria even went to see a Tudor house to inspire her learning.





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NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

To raise awareness of the world of work, we invite our children to take part in this competition.

Pupils are tasked with saying "thank you" to the NHS.

The brief:

Pupils should be encouraged to reflect on which job or team they want to say "thank you" to and create the thank you.

Challenge pupils to think about:

- the wide range of jobs they have learnt about
- surprising facts they have collected
- how the NHS has helped them, one of their friends or family.

GO TO [NHS careers and jobs competition for KS2 in primary schools \(stepintothens.nhs.uk\)](https://stepintothens.nhs.uk)
TO FIND OUT MORE...



The important details

- + The task: Saying "thank you" to the NHS
- + Competition rules
- + Competition deadline
- + The prizes
- + Judging criteria
- + Full terms and conditions



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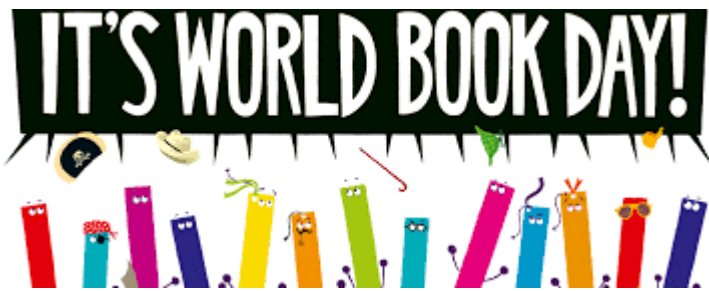
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Support for partners and carers

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.



Next Thursday is World Book Day!

On Thursday 4th March Holy Cross will be celebrating World Book Day (WBD) with a number of class and whole school activities (see WBD messages below for more details).

Class teachers will load their WBD activities for the day onto their usual platform (Class DOJO / Google Classroom etc).

Information for whole school competitions, Masked Reader videos and links for the whole school production will be made available next week - watch this space!

We have said that those who wish to dress up are very welcome to; however, this is not compulsory. If you want to transform into your favourite character without wearing fancy dress, you could create a mask or a hat in the style of a favourite character instead, but there is no pressure to do so.

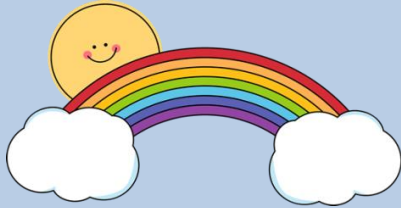
We are all looking forward to the day, we hope you enjoy it too!

Miss McCalley



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Health & Wellbeing

Be Calm - take time for you!

For a number of weeks now, parents have been asked to do the impossible: to be mum, dad, teacher, referee, laundress, cleaner, janitor, chef, servant...
Take some time for you and pause!



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 will continue to run Breakfast Club and After School Club when we re-open fully. Numbers will remain capped at 20 so that we can accommodate different bubbles safely. Please ring to book places one week in advance. We will take bookings next week for the week beginning the 8th March.

If you are not in need of the place, please cancel ahead so we can offer the place to someone who needs it. 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 will again run until **6pm**.



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. Before half term, food vouchers were emailed to families who are eligible for Free School Meals. These were emailed to the email addresses we hold on our records. If you did not receive the voucher and are eligible for Free School Meals, please check the email account you have provided.

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!

Have a lovely weekend! ☀️