



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. 8: 6th November 2020



Our Catholic Life

Our theme next week is **Be Ready**

Jesus tells a story about a wedding. In Jesus' time, bridesmaids escorted the groom to his bride. This would happen in the evening so the bridesmaids carried oil lamps to light the way. The groom in this story was late and it was nearly midnight by the time he arrived. Five of the ten bridesmaids were well prepared and had spare oil so they could keep their lamps burning, but the other five were unprepared and ran out of oil. These foolish bridesmaids had to go and buy more oil. Consequently, they were late for the wedding and missed the celebrations. Jesus tells this story to remind us to **BE READY!**



Let us Pray

Dear Jesus, you are the light of the world. Please light up my life by helping me to remember that you are always with me.

Amen

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after a very rainy half term break.

These are very difficult and anxious times. We recognise that for many families, circumstances can be complicated and challenging. If you need any support, please call us and we will do what we can to help.

The government continues to advise that children should continue to attend school every day. I wrote to you earlier in the week to share some of the extra precautions we have taken to ensure that school is as safe as it can be. Our revised lunchtime schedule is working well and has created more space for the children on playgrounds and in the hall. Our hand washing and cleaning routines continue to ensure the risk of transmission is minimised and the changes to pick up times have alleviated potential crowding at the gate. Please can we ask that you try to stay further back from the school gate, waiting at a safer and quieter distance along the street until your pick up time. Standing in line from 2.50 to pick up at 3.15 makes social distancing difficult as well as adding to the risk of traffic accidents so please help us to keep everyone safe.

At the back gate, please be aware that residents may move their cars at any time. Reminding your children to stay with you until you have safely approached the school gate will help to keep them safe.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support during these difficult times.

Stay safe,

Mrs F Gill
Headteacher



Friday 18/12/20

Last day of term

Monday 4/1/21

Non-pupil day

Tuesday 5/1/21

Spring term begins

Friday 12/02/21

Last day of term

15/02/21—19/02/21

Half Term

Monday 22/02/21

Non-pupil day

Tuesday 23/02/21

Term recommences

02/04/21—18/04/21

Easter Holidays



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Why Does Attendance Matter?

Despite the current challenges with regard to COVID-19 and the need for children/families to self-isolate in order to control the virus, we feel it is important to remind ourselves of the importance of good attendance at school.

**Remember! The guidance hasn't changed.
Children should still attend school every day.**



Class	Attendance
JD	98%
AA	97%
EC	100%
RH	96%
RD	100%
QB	99%
MM	94%
EMC	97%
PP	99%
JKR	98%

This week's attendance at Holy Cross has increased overall to 98% - **Well Done everyone!**
PLEASE always ring the school number 01752 225420 to report an absence. *Thank you*



This week Roald Class helped Miss Mooney with our Celebration Assembly.

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

Julia Donaldson: Methuja for having a brilliant week and working hard completing the literacy and craft challenges.

Allan Ahlberg: Thomas C for an incredible effort in writing and really impressing us with wanting to write all of the words he could see around our class!

Roger Hargreaves: Brody for his wonderful determination in mathematics this week.

Eric Carle: Maisy for consistently trying her very best in maths and correcting her mistakes independently.

Michael Morpurgo: Lucas for his great maths work this week; he is really starting to challenge himself in his learning.

Quentin Blake: Iris for always working hard and coming into school with a smile.

Roald Dahl: Johan for an amazing piece of instruction writing before half term!

Philip Pullman: Adam P He has focussed very well this week and has produced some fantastic learning

J K Rowling: Evan for his hard work, wonderful attitude and dedication to his learning!

Emma Carroll: Rianna for her fantastic participation in our class discussions.



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Gospel Values Awards

Julia Donaldson: Lullah for her reflections in RE and linking the gospel values to our everyday lives.

Allan Ahlberg: Phoebe for showing humility. Phoebe wanted to be the line leader but someone else also wanted to, so she let them have her space and be the line leader instead.

Roger Hargreaves: Thomas for his continual kindness and compassion to others.

Eric Carle: Sebastian for showing *Courage* - joining in with singing and the actions during our class liturgy even though he was nervous!

Michael Morpurgo: Zakk for showing *Courage* - taking everything in his stride and having such a great attitude towards things.

Quentin Blake: Lena for showing courage through the week and overcoming her worries.

Ronald Dahl: Hashviithaa for her kindness and compassion towards her peers; for example, always remembering when others have received Dojo points and reminding me to give them to them.

Philip Pullman: Gregory for his continual kindness and compassion towards others.

J K Rowling: Bobby for his kindness, compassion and nature, thinking about others before himself.

Emma Carroll: Ashley for his compassionate reflections during our class liturgies.



Maths Week Competition on TT Rockstars

As part of our commitment to make maths exciting and high profile in our school, this November we are taking part in a competition for Maths Week England. It's called Rock Out 2020 and it's all done online via play.ttrockstars.com.

For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your child will earn their class a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours). Winning classes in the school and in the country as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

All game modes (Gig, Garage, Studio, etc.) will count but only from games played between 7.30am and 7.30pm on Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th, Friday 13th and Saturday 14th.

In the spirit of the competition, please don't play on their behalf but by all means encourage and support them to the extent that it doesn't cause high stress levels or impact on family plans. We suggest a limit of half an hour a day outside school hours – some will play more, some will play less.

Thanks for your support





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Children who display symptoms



If your child should display any one of the three key symptoms of COVID-19, we will contact you and request that you come and collect your child (and siblings) and have your child tested. We would ask that when you collect your child(ren), you come to the **back gate** (Friary Housing estate) and we will bring your child(ren) to you.

Breakfast Club/After School Club

Please remember to book your place for **Breakfast Club/After School Club** via

holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk one week in advance.



Due to the national lockdown and resulting restrictions, we will not be extending our before and after school provision until after January at the earliest.

Please ensure that your child arrives at Breakfast Club by **8am** to be admitted. The staff stop serving breakfast at this time to allow them to clear up and get the children to their class bubbles before the other children arrive. Thank you for your help with this.

PUPIL RECORDS

Please ring the school office if your contact details have changed. It is really important that we have current, accurate contact information for three contacts per child so that we can get hold of someone in an emergency.

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

THANK YOU

Children in Need Friday 13th November 2020

Please help us to support Children in Need by making a donation of **£1 per child** for a mufti day on Friday 13th November.

Wearing yellow, spots or stripes would be fantastic!

We will be joining Joe Wicks as he completes his 24hr challenge on Friday morning.

Thank you



Have a lovely weekend! ☀️