



HOLY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

26TH 2020 — NO.31



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents,

I cannot believe that it is July next week. Summer has been enjoyed this week, although I am not sure about the weekend!

From Monday, we have almost all our staff back at school. Once again this will have an impact on what we can do. Teachers will still be providing online learning, as always, although it might start to get that summer term approach with a more project based feel that will not require immediate checking.

I am aware of a DfE blog this week that suggested schools can start ignoring the 2m distancing rule for pupils, and that actually the rule never did really apply to children within school anyway.....

The CAST Trust position remains unchanged: **current planning, risk assessment and control measures** based on 2m social distancing will remain in force. The reasons for this are very clear and it does mean the school remains committed to the children currently in our care. Whilst I would absolutely love to have everyone back before the end of this term, I do not have the space to do so safely.

It is now clear that schools will be opening full-time for all children from the start of the Autumn term, unless the COVID-19 national, regional or local status changes significantly. We will all be working towards the full return of children in September; we will provide further advice and guidance as expectations become clearer.

We continue to deliver weekly food hampers for 40 pupils - however this may now require some parents to pick theirs up as staff are charged with other duties.

On Monday, we celebrate the feast of St Peter and St Paul. Two saints dear to my heart! We will be celebrating it as a 'day of many colours.' We would like all classes to take part in the day. Children may dress in bright colours to represent children from all over the world and this gives us a real opportunity to celebrate difference and diversity. There is an assembly as part of the day where we will all participate at 11am, so that we are together but in our respective pods. Families can also use this at home, should they wish.

There is also a Reaching Out art activity in which children and young people can design their own greeting for children around the world. Schools are being encouraged to upload the artwork to be seen on Twitter by including the @MissioUK address and the hashtags #DOMC or #MissionTogether. Please forward any examples that you would like to share to Miss Buscombe.

We will be sending you your child's annual report next Friday along with a letter informing you of what class they will be in.

You continue to be in our prayers. Here is our Ten Ten resources link for anyone who would like it to support with your own family worship.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/prayers-for-home/sunday-liturgy-for-families/>

Take care everyone and God bless,

Mr Cotter
Headteacher

pcotter@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

Liturgy in School

The theme for our prayer and worship next week is:

Who is Jesus?



Dear Jesus, please help all the leaders of your Church. Help them to make wise decisions and to be brave when they need to stand up for what is right. Amen.

Free School Meals

Families in Plymouth are being urged to check if they qualify for free school meals, after a Government U-turn means that the scheme will now be funded over the summer holidays.

Due to the pandemic, a lot of family circumstances may have changed over the past few months so please, if you think you might be eligible please do apply. If you would like to check to see if you qualify for free school meals, please follow the link below: -

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/newsroom/pressreleases/plymouthfamiliesbenefitfreeschoolmealturn?fbclid=IwAR0yhy-G55w9BsJm-AvG25HMAYPyZtDR-TPTt0ycJrflVvyLb8wRSMoNMxA>

Are you (and/or your child) interested in taking part in a research study?



University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust is researching a new way of surveying how well protected we are from infectious diseases by collecting blood samples from people who represent different groups across society.

They are looking to enrol children and adults from birth to 19 years old. To take part you will be required to have a single blood test taken either in the Research Centre itself, or at home.

If you would like further information please visit www.whatsthestory.org.uk or contact the team by telephone on 01752 432447 or e-mail plh-tr.whatsthestory.nhs.net.

To register your interest in taking part in the study, please use the following link: -

<https://trials.ovg.ox.ac.uk/trials/whats-story-plymouth-registration-form>

You will also find an invitation letter attached to this week's newsletter.

Do you want to help us understand the STORY of infections in children and teenagers?

In some parts of the UK there has been an increase in two vaccine preventable diseases; MenC (Group C meningococcus) and diphtheria.

You may also have seen in the news that there is concern that a new coronavirus (COVID-19) could spread globally.

Testing blood samples from healthy children and teenagers can help us understand more about these diseases. For COVID-19 this can tell us if the virus is spreading, or likely to spread, in the UK.

To do this, we will be providing blood samples from the 'What's the STORY' (Serum Testing of Representative Youngsters) study to Public Health England to test for immunity against MenC, diphtheria and COVID-19.

But first we need healthy volunteers for 'What's the STORY!'

Please see the attached invitation letter, and get in touch with us if you would like to help.

What's the STORY?: Seroprevalence survey of England in 2019/2020; OVG 2019/01; Coronavirus pamphlet; REC Ref 19/LD/1040; IRAS 263097; Version 1.1; Dated 25 FEB-2020



Leading with excellence, caring with compassion



Q. Why did the Jelly Jot want to go to school?

A. Because he wanted to be a Smartie!



Staying safe online—internet safety

Early use of digital technology has been shown to improve language skills and promote children's social development and creativity.

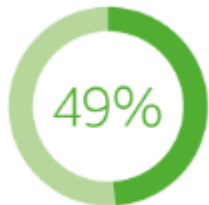
However, it is not without risks for young children who come across inappropriate content or begin to copy what older children do online. Below you will find some useful pointers to help you when it comes to keeping your child safe online.

Agree boundaries

Be clear what your child can and can't do online – where they can use the internet, how much time they can spend online, the sites they can visit and the type of information they can share. Agree with your child when they can have a mobile phone or tablet.

Explore together

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to ask them to tell you about what they do and what sites they like to visit. If they're happy to, ask them to show you. Talk to them about being a good friend online.



YouTube viewing platform of choice

Stay involved

Encourage them to use their tech devices in a communal area like the lounge or kitchen so you can keep an eye on how they're using the internet and also share in their enjoyment.

Talk to siblings

It's also a good idea to talk to any older children about what they're doing online and what they show to younger children. Encourage them to be responsible and help keep their younger siblings safe.

Search safely

Use safe search engines such as [Swiggle](#) or [Kids-search](#). You can save time by adding these to your 'Favourites'. Safe search settings can also be activated on [Google](#) and other search engines, as well as [YouTube](#).

Check if it's suitable

The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. For example, the minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram. Although sites aimed at under-10s like [Spotlite](#) (Formerly Kudos) also have social networking elements.

Put yourself in control

Install **parental controls** on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. Set up a user account for your child on the main device they use and make sure other accounts in the household are password-protected so that younger children can't access them by accident.

Use airplane mode

Use airplane mode on your devices when your child is using them so they can't make any unapproved purchases or interact with anyone online without your knowledge.

Number of 6–10 year olds who now have their own tablet



REMEMBER

Not everyone online is who they say they are. Teach your children not to befriend people they do not know.



Register your child for this year's winter flu vaccination.

Children in school years Reception to Year 6 in September 2020 are eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination.

The flu vaccination will be delivered at Holy Cross School on 14th October 2020.

The vaccination will be administered adhering to all up to date Infection Control, PPE and social distancing guidance at the time.

Flu vaccination is one of most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system, which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential the vaccine is delivered to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society.

In light of the above, the Immunisation Team are expecting demand to be high and therefore they urge you to follow the below link to consent to your child's vaccination. You will also find answers to your FAQ's on this link. Please go to:

<https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form please contact the Virgin Care Immunisation Team on their Single Point of Access (SPA).

Tel: 0300 247 0082 Email: vcl.immunisations.nhs.net



JOIN MILLIONS OF PARENTS ON PARENTPAY

Visa Checkout is changing

From June 21st Visa Checkout will be changing their logo as part of their plans to comply with the new EMV® Secure Remote Commerce (SRC) Specification.

We'll be letting parents know about the change - you can view the information they will be receiving linked below.



will become



Thank you all for your support, as always. Have a nice weekend.

Mr Cotter, Miss Buscombe
and all the staff at Holy Cross.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Here is a list of some important dates confirmed for next year.

All information is available on our website calendar.

Tuesday 21/07/20

Last day of term

Wednesday 2/9/20

Non-pupil day

Thursday 3/9/20

Autumn term begins

Friday 23/10/20

Last day of term

26/10/20—30/10/20

Half Term

Monday 2/11/20

Term recommences

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