

## 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](mailto:holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs F Gill  
Newsletter No.30: 6th May 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been very proud of our children this week who have all been working extremely hard; not least our Year 6 children who have demonstrated and continue to demonstrate, amazing perseverance and resilience as they prepare for their tests next week. They have all worked so hard and despite the disruption caused by COVID over the last two years, have made strong progress and should be very proud of what they achieved. We are confident that they are well-prepared and ready for the next step - their move to secondary school - and that's what's important. What is also important is that these tests do not measure how wonderful, how kind, how compassionate or how creative our children are - and that is what makes them the special people they are!

Hopefully you have seen the freshly painted wall in the middle playground. Mr Pardew, our caretaker, has done a fantastic job and it has made us all feel much brighter! The wall is now ready for stage 2 - it's a surprise so make sure you keep an eye out to see what happens next!

Over Easter we had new carpet laid in two classrooms and Simon James Class will be receiving brand new tables next week. Their furniture was quite dated so it was time to bring it in line with the rest of the school. I know the children will look after their lovely new classroom as we encourage all the children to show respect and care for our school environment. It is always very sad when someone intentionally causes damage and doesn't consider the consequences for others - the people who need to repair the damage or clean up the mess. We remind the children often of the importance of looking after our lovely school.

I have huge pleasure in saying a big well done to Marcus, Xander, Harry, Toby and Dominik who attended a football event at Goals this week. They were a credit to themselves, to you and to Holy Cross.

Finally, KS2 enjoyed a fun singing session on Wednesday led by Jess Rowe who is starting a children's choir. She had such success during lockdown with a remote children's choir that she wants to offer children across the city the opportunity to sing. The children were offered a flyer about the Mango Tango Choir but please do contact me if you would like to find out more about it.

Mrs F Gill  
Headteacher



**9th-12th May**  
Key Stage 2 SATS

**May 16th**  
Walk to School Week  
Safer Journeys to School  
see newsletter

**May 17th**  
ASC cancelled due to staff  
training

**Every Thursday 9am**  
Drop-in

**26th May**  
Jubilee Day

**27th May**  
School Closed

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### *Our Catholic Life*

*In The Gospel this week we hear that we are Jesus' sheep and he is our shepherd. Jesus loves us very much and will look after us. A good shepherd knows each sheep in the flock and Jesus knows and loves each one of us. We might feel as though we are just one of the crowd but each one of us is unique and very special. Jesus wants us to listen to what he says and follow him. Jesus wants us to be safe with him. Nothing can ever take us away from Jesus.*

*To find out more about our collective worship this month please follow the link <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter/>*

### *Let us Pray*



**Action: Consider how you can show humility and put others first, how can you care for others as the shepherd cared for his sheep**

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### Wonders of the Week

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

**Julia Donaldson: Teddy** - for being really creative in his learning and being able to talk about how and why he made things.

**Allan Ahlberg: Alia**- For a huge improvement with her independent home learning home learning and handwriting practise.

**Simon James: Amelia** - For wonderful creativity with her writing and her human skull art work this week. Miss Blackmore, Miss Taberner and Mr Bromhead were all thoroughly impressed with your artistic skills.

**Judith Kerr: Yasmin**- For fantastic effort and improvement in your phonics. Well done!

**David Walliams: Toby** For having an epic week with his behaviour and learning! Keep it up!

**Cressida Cowell: Faith**- For showing great independence in her writing this week! Well done Faith!

**Roald Dahl: Ewan** for his independence and curiosity when using ambitious vocabulary this week!

**Louis Sachar: Alvin** - What a week! We've really seen Alvin shine this week - voluntarily answering and providing insightful responses, which we've all appreciated.

**Emma Carroll: Eitan** - smashing his arithmetic this week. I'm so proud of how well he's done.

**Malorie Blackman: Caylum**- For his hard work and focus when working with Mr. Gill



### Gospel Values Awards:

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

**Julia Donaldson: Sophia** - for working hard in all her learning in a quiet and humble way.

**Allan Ahlberg: Rory**- For being proud but not boastful about his improving writing.

**Simon James: Treh** - She has really gone out of her way to practise and improve her writing, taking onboard all the help given to her by adults in school and adults at home. Treh keeps striving to improve. Well done!

**Judith Kerr: Marina**- For always supporting her peers and encouraging them to be their best without seeking recognition.

**David Walliams: Dominik** - For showing humility while representing Holy Cross at a football competition on Wednesday.

**Cressida Cowell: Rosie**- For kindly handing a tissue to someone who was upset without seeking reward or questions. You really showed the Gospel Value in such a simple action!

**Roald Dahl: Abbas** supporting his friends to make good choices

**Louis Sachar: Alexander** - On multiple occasions this week, Alexander has helped his learning partners to develop their understanding. He's freely carried this out.

**Emma Carroll: Boo** - Giving up her lunch time to help an upset child find her way back to her classroom.

**Malorie Blackman: Alex**- For being very patient and supportive to his peers



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### Top Table Awards

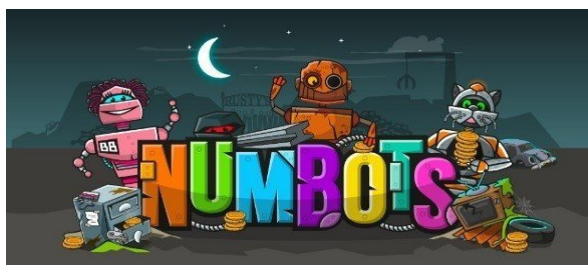


- Julia Donaldson:** Gabriella for her wonderful manners and always being polite  
**Allan Ahlberg:** Gabriela for being kind and having good manners  
**Simon James:** Logan for being kind to his friends in the playground  
**Judith Kerr:** Lullah for being polite and helpful  
**David Walliams:** Mahi for helping in the hall  
**Cressida Cowell:** Tory for being polite  
**Roald Dahl:** Abbas for always saying thank you to the adults in the hall  
**Louis Sachar:** Marcus for checking that a classmate was okay during the lunchtime  
**Emma Carroll:** Tillie for always being peaceful and well-behaved  
**Malorie Blackman:** Katie for always being polite to the mealtime staff



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

**Piran- Allan Ahlberg**  
**Charli- Allan Ahlberg**  
**Vivaan- Julia Donaldson**  
**Vihaan- Julia Donaldson**  
**Amen- Simon James**  
**Ethan- Simon James**

The children work hard to receive coins in Numbots whilst also improving their fluency of number facts.

Class	1st	2nd	3rd
Julia Donaldson	Ryan	Nico	Elin
Allan Ahlberg	Charli	Piran	Ava
Simon James	Thomas	Kesiena	Amen
Judith Kerr	Minaal	Fahad	



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

Congratulations to  
**David Walliams Class** with 97% accuracy

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**Emma Carroll Class** with an average of 1,964 correct answers per child

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

**Tristan Furby-Rock Legend**

**Eitan Gaskin- Rock Legend**

**Ezekiel Manesh- Rock Legend**

**Tno Rahman- Rock Star**

**Sonny Cooper- Rock Star**

**Joshua Laiju-Rock Star**

**Tiago Svolik Da Costa- Rock Star**



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.

**Joshua Langrishe- Ready Reader 4**

**Ezekiel Manesh- Ready Reader 3**

**Katie Thompson- Ready Reader**

**Words read this week.**

**Well done to Louis Sachar class with the highest number of words read.**

Class	Words Read
Cressida Cowell	73,610
David Walliams	148,114

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Roald Dahl	175,574
Emma Carroll	422,816
Louis Sachar	626,045
Malorie Blackman	141,234

**Book Swap:** Please encourage your children to bring in books to swap for a new one. Our Book Swap Cupboard is crying out for books as are some of our enthusiastic young readers who have read all the books already! The Book Swap cupboard is in the middle playground, just outside Julia Donaldson. We would love to see it open and busy every day.



Huge thanks to all our busy parents who, despite having to deal with a poorly child, make sure they find the time to let us know they won't be in school. It is great that you message the teacher on Dojo so that we are aware. Many of you also ring the office which is very important. **If you want to choose one way of reporting your child's absence, the best route is via the school office.** The ladies in the office have to check the registers every morning and ring parents to find out the reasons for a child's absence. Teachers, being the extremely busy people that they are, do not always have the time to forward your Dojo messages so the office is not aware that you have communicated with the school. They then won't need to bother you with a phone call. ***Thank you for your help.***

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## Sport at Holy Cross

Wednesday saw Dominik, Harry, Toby, Marcus and Xander take part in a 5-side football tournament at Plymouth - GOALS.

We have had lots of compliments from other schools regarding the care and sportsmanship shown by all. A credit to all.

Miss Friend also spoke extremely highly of all of the children, saying that she was extremely proud of them.

By the way - they won the tournament :)



WINDSOR CASTLE

Apr 29<sup>th</sup> 2022

Dear Eli,

The Queen wishes me to write and thank you for the splendid handmade card and kind message you sent to Her Majesty's ninety-sixth birthday.

In this historic year of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Her Majesty is most grateful for your thoughtfulness in writing at this time.

Yours Sincerely  
Christine Gaudin

Lady-in-Waiting

## A Letter from the Queen

Eli, a year 2 child made a beautiful birthday card for the Queen and received a letter thanking him for his kind message. He was understandably very proud! What wonderful evidence of the compassionate, kind children we have at Holy Cross - a true witness to our Gospel Values.



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# SAFER JOURNEYS TO SCHOOL



In last week's newsletter, we informed parents and carers that Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is going to run *Safer Journeys To School*, a new road safety campaign designed by the Road Safety Team at Plymouth City Council. The campaign will be launched on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May and will be running for a few weeks. One of the key aims of the campaign is to encourage driving parents and carers to park away from the school gates to improve the safety of children who are walking, scooting or cycling to school.

To help parents and carers know and consider where best to park, the map below is showing the recommended nearby streets where parking is allowed and is for

free. These streets are located within a 400 metres distance from the school, which represent a nice and short walking distance for the children and their parents, especially if walking through the beautiful Beaumont Park.



Parking and walking within a 400m distance from the school



To support parents even further in finding spaces to park, Plymouth City Council are issuing parking permits to any parents and carers at Holy Cross which can be used on school days only, at drop-off and pick-up times, and only on Hampton Street and part of Constantine Street.

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**Please note that permits can be collected from reception from Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May in the morning.** As they are collecting their permits, parents and carers will be kindly asked to complete a very short survey on their journeys to and from school.

We hope that driving parents and carers will find both the map and the parking permit helpful.

Additional details about the campaign process will be shared soon.

**Our Junior Road Safety Officers will be starting work next week also, carrying out a baseline traffic survey and raising awareness of the campaign amongst the children.**

## KS2 SATS

Good luck to our Year 6 children who will be doing their SATs next week and showing how hard they have worked !

## Please ensure your child is in school each day.

Breakfast will be provided to those arriving early - please see the letter sent home by the Year 6 team regarding this.

**This is the timetable for the tests:**

Date	What Happens
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Papers 1 and 2)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	English Reading
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) and Paper 2 (Mathematical Reasoning)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths Paper 3 (Mathematical Reasoning)
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Deadline for teacher assessment
July	SATs results returned to school and released to parents.



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### Year 3/4 Engineering club

This week marked the start of our club which focuses on the transportation of cargo and the ways in which we could improve this by using our engineering knowledge. This week we started off by building our truck and exploring ways in which we can work as a team to support each other. We are looking forward to updating you all as our projects develop over the next couple of months.



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### COVID19 Information from 1st April 2022

Specific Guidance for Schools regarding COVID 19 has now been withdrawn. Guidance has now been issued by UKSHA for Respiratory infections, including coronavirus (COVID-19)



### COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINICS

**Did you know?**

We're currently running a number of Outreach Vaccination Clinics that are offering COVID-19 vaccinations in community settings such as libraries and community centres.

Our clinics are walk-in only (no booking required) for anyone aged 5 years or older to receive a vaccine. *Please note: in order to receive a vaccine, you must be COVID-19 free for 4 weeks if over 18 years, and COVID-19 free for 12 weeks if under 18 years old.*

To find your nearest clinic, please visit this website or scan the QR code:  
<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/coronaviruscovid19information/walkin/vaccinationsessions>



**Guidance for children in educational settings included in People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))**

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people. They can go back to an education or childcare setting when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough.

It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to do so by a health professional.

**If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day, they took the test.**

Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days.

Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

Children with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education or childcare setting.

**We will continue to highlight the importance of handwashing, good respiratory hygiene, ventilation and a robust cleaning regime in order to limit transmission in school.**

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### Breakfast Club/After School Club

Please ring or email the office at [holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto: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.**

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. (Early finish of 5pm on 8th April 2022)**

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.

**After School Club on Tuesday 17th May is cancelled for Staff Training.**

*Have a lovely weekend.*