



HOLY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

3RD JULY 2020 — NO.32



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents,

This week has been another busy one. A highlight was a Year 6 Leavers' Mass today, streamed to us across the diocese, especially dedicated to those Year 6 pupils leaving all our schools.

Today you will receive your child's report. Please enjoy reading the annual report and sharing it with your child. It has been a pleasure reading them all - a big thank you to the teachers for the time they gave to writing them.

You will also have received letters informing you of what class your child will be in and who will be teaching them. All very exciting!

Normally next week would see our 'moving up' days, where the children enjoy time in their new classes. Obviously this will not be possible but we have been talking to CAST about what we still might be able to offer and how we might be able to support the children especially with their emotional well-being before the start of the summer holiday. We have come up with a proposed plan that we still need to add to the risk assessment but I wanted to share it with you.

The idea of allowing the children even a little bit of time back in school is a very good one and we think the weather looks on our side. We would like to start by inviting Year Groups back, one at a time. In the case of Foundation Stage, Years 1, 2 and 3, this will take the shape of a 'party' hopefully outside but if not in the school hall. I use the term 'party' loosely as games will be limited and the school kitchen will make some food in individual bags. We might be able to supply a drink or ice lolly. Exact arrangements will still need to be finalised but we think it is a chance for the children to see each other.

The invite is only for an hour - 1.30 - 2.30 p.m. Year 1s will be on Wednesday the 8th July, Foundation Stage on Friday 10th July, Year 2 on Monday 13th July and Year 3 on Tuesday 14th July. Whilst transition arrangements are not the priority of this visit - it is more just social to see their friends - it is an opportunity for the teachers next year to just be outside with their new pupils for a short time. Obviously the timing is short for obvious reasons - we need to get all off the school site before the children who are already in the school depart.

I have rung all Year 6 parents and proposed that Year 6 finishes at Holy Cross on Friday 17th July. Hopefully this will be the end of a special week for them and will culminate in a final assembly. In order to make that assembly possible I will be asking that all children, except key children in the key worker pods, to be picked up at the end of lunch - 12.40 p.m. Otherwise we have too many children on site to have a safe, socially distanced final assembly and the staff will be free to join the assembly.

This frees up the last two days to offer some transition time for our new Year 5 and 6 classes. On Monday 20th July, the Year 4 children will be invited to come in from 10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m. and be in their new class. On Tuesday 21st July, the same will be offered to the Year 5 pupils. They will be spread across their new classes - effectively three pods running across the Year 5/6 classrooms. The 2.00 p.m. finish then means there is time to thoroughly clean the classrooms.

This will mean that all the children have been offered the chance to come back into school for at least some time. I appreciate that some parents will not take up this offer and that is fine. We will need to create a booking system to ensure we know who is coming in.

We continue to work towards the full return of children in September; we will provide further advice and guidance as expectations become clearer. This arrived from the DfE yesterday. We are also working on a curriculum that will want to support the social and emotional needs of all and make this our priority

We continue to deliver weekly food hampers for 40 pupils - however this will be changed to a food voucher over the summer holiday period. Please read the note below about this scheme.

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/>

Have a lovely weekend. Take care everyone and God bless,

Mr Cotter
Headteacher

pcotter@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

Free School Meals—PLEASE READ

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, just follow the link below: -

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schoolseducationchildcareskillsandemployability/freeschoolmeals>

The Government is also funding a 'Covid Summer Food Fund' which will enable children who are eligible for benefits related free school meals to be supported over the summer holiday period. They will issue a food voucher for the six week summer holiday period.

IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE: There is a deadline for us to advise the Government regarding who is eligible for this.

You will therefore need to apply online, using the link above, and be accepted by no later than 8th July 2020.

If you need any help in applying, please contact our Parent Support Advisor, Rachel Confue on 07840 850396, or phone the school office on 01752 225420. Alternatively you can e-mail the school at holy.cross.rc.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk

Liturgy in School

The theme for our prayer and worship next week is:

Find peace and rest



Dear Jesus, please help me to carry your love to the people I meet today. Amen.

STAY CONNECTED about coronavirus (Covid-19)

Sign up for email updates with the latest news and information at bit.ly/plymouthemailalerts

plymouth.gov.uk/covid-19



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.virginicare.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

PARENTS PLEASE CAN YOU FILL IN THIS QUICK QUESTIONNAIRE ON Sustrans BIKE IT PROJECT AT OUR SCHOOL.
(The survey takes about 10 minutes)

Sustrans will be giving every school who participates a brilliant bike pack— track pump, multitool, etc. Plus, two scooter pods are up for grabs: one will be a draw for any school with parent surveys done and one will go to the school with MOST parent surveys submitted.

Closing date July 12th.





Safe, active, together.

Summer 2020 Holiday Camps!

Multi-Activity Holiday Camps for your children!

Our Holiday Camps provide a safe, fun and social place for your child to be throughout the summer. We've designed our Holiday Camps with safety in mind: grouped bubbles, reduced numbers & much more!



For more info, and to book, visit...
premier-education.com/holidaycamps



Our Holiday Camps near you...

Venue: Across Plymouth

Dates: From Monday 13th July - Friday 28th August

Times: 09:00 - 16:00 **Extended time available

Price: From £30 per block

Ages: 5 - 12 years old

Additional Info:
Venues include:
- Plymouth College Prep School **
- Boringdon Primary School
- Chaddlewood Primary School
Please check the website for all details



Taking every precaution

Our Activity Professionals have been undergoing additional training in order to provide the best care to the children under their supervision, specifically the Transcend Level 2 Award in Infection Prevention, Mitigation and Management.

You will need

- A packed lunch
- Plenty of water
- Suitable clothing for the weather
- Loads of energy!

Premier Education Promise: In the event these courses are cancelled, we will issue a full refund within 7 days.



For more info, and to book, visit...
premier-education.com/holidaycamps



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.

Friday 19/07/20

Last day of term—Year 6

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