



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. 16: 22nd January 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

Pope Francis in the early days of the pandemic offered this advice:

'Let us try, if we can, to make the best use of this time: let us be generous; let us help those in need in our neighbourhood; let us look out for the loneliest people, perhaps by telephone or social networks; let us pray to the Lord for those who are in difficulty... Even if we are isolated, thought and spirit can go far with the creativity of love. This is what we need today: the creativity of love.'

This week has been a tricky and emotional one but with everyone's support, we got through it. As a community, it is important to be there for one another and to be able to give and take support. The messages of support for the staff this week are testimony to the strong relationships which are such a strength of our Holy Cross family.

The children have worked hard; the teachers have worked hard; the support staff have worked hard and you have worked hard...

Have a well-deserved rest this weekend and take a breath!

Stay safe,
Mrs F Gill
Headteacher



Friday 12/02/21
Last day of term

15/02/21—19/02/21
Half Term

Monday 22/02/21
Non-pupil day

The school will be closed to all children on the 22nd February for Trust-Wide staff training.

This will include our vulnerable children and our key worker children.

Tuesday 23/02/21
Term recommences for vulnerable children and keyworker children only.

02/04/21—18/04/21
Easter Holidays

Our Catholic Life

Our theme next week is LISTEN

On the Sabbath, Jesus goes to the synagogue in Capernaum to teach people about God. As soon as people hear Jesus speak, they are impressed by what he says and by the way he speaks. There is a man there who is ill. He is so ill that no one knows how to make him better. Jesus knows just what to do, however, and he heals the man. All the people are amazed and even more impressed. They know that Jesus is speaking the truth. No one has ever explained God in this way. They talked about Jesus everywhere, telling everyone about him.



Let us Pray

Dear Jesus help me to hear your words and put them into action. Help me to stop any bullying or nastiness towards anyone.

Amen



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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 February 2021

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/45698fdgjrg9u80rj45o9jer0945/>

DAILY PRAYERS FOR HOME

w/c 1 February 2021

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/5463g34g984uj9ojq34907845/>

SUNDAY LITURGY FOR FAMILIES

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



REMOTE LEARNING

Please visit our website for further information about our provision for remote learning as well as useful links to the weekly overviews and supporting online tools.

https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web/remote_learning/537447



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Wonders of the Week



This week I had the pleasure of leading our whole school Remote Celebration Assembly. Thank you to all our families at home for joining us.

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

Julia Donaldson: Raeden for completing all his home learning everyday. He puts 110% effort into everything he does and always has the biggest smile on his face!

Allan Ahlberg: Eli for his hard work and determination, especially in English where he is striving to achieve his full potential. I am proud of you Eli!

Roger Hargreaves: Florence for resilience and determination: for working hard on her remote learning and not giving up - even with a broken arm!

Eric Carle: Ewan for fantastic engagement in his home learning and producing impressive work!

Michael Morpurgo: Gabriela for having such a fantastic attitude to home learning and for completing some very pleasing pieces of work!

Quentin Blake: Vincent for completing home learning each day and sending super independent writing and for **Rosie** for showing resilience and always having a smile on her face

Roald Dahl: Xander for all the effort he is putting into his home learning and persevering with work even when he finds it challenging - he has shown great resilience this week!

Philip Pullman: Jesse for showing courage in his work, pushing through his boundaries and distractions and producing amazing writing this week. So proud!

Emma Carroll: Harmony for not only working incredibly hard to ensure all work is turned in, but for applying independence and problem solving when working on-line. She is a role-model for others to follow.

J K Rowling: Laura and Daria who have not only worked incredibly hard in their home learning (producing lots of pieces to be really proud of), but also ask questions when they need help, they check their understanding and they feedback when we ask them questions. They are becoming real leaders of their own learning and we are very proud of them!



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Gospel Values Awards

Julia Donaldson: Jefrin for Courage - for always trying so hard with his learning and having the courage to try all the new challenges.

Allan Ahlberg: Ava and Bella for Courage - for applying themselves to home learning despite finding it tricky to start with. They have participated with enthusiasm in phonics and are applying more focus-keep it up girls!

Roger Hargreaves: Quinton for Courage - for sharing his ideas so eloquently in our maths Google Meet this week.

Eric Carle: Martha-Mary for Courage - for showing courage when completing tricky home learning tasks! Well done!

Michael Morpurgo: Ruslan for Courage - for going out of his comfort zone to try new things! Proud of you!

Quentin Blake: Esme for kindness – for always showing kindness to everyone in Quentin Blake and being a great role model.

Roald Dahl: Millie for Courage - having the courage to read aloud the story she wrote in English to everyone on our Google Meet this week! And to **Grace for Kindness** - always helps others in any way she can, has impeccable manners and a very caring nature.

Philip Pullman: Stewart for Forgiveness - He had some tricky times at playtimes but dealt with them really well including showing forgiveness.

Emma Carroll: Jackson for Kindness- for showing kindness with his supportive words, but also courage and ambition to try and push himself with his home-learning tasks. Keep it up Jackson!

JK Rowling: Zuzanna for Courage and kindness - for being brave to explore new friendships and to put herself out of her comfort zone with her learning. Well done Zuzanna, excellent!





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Are you interested in becoming a school governor?

Sadly we say goodbye to Ryan Cook as parent governor. We are sorry to lose such a valued member of our Local Governing Body and would like to thank Ryan for his commitment to our school over the years and for giving so generously of his time and skills.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Are you able to help shape the future of our school? We are looking for a Parent Governor to join our dynamic Governing Body, and to work with our senior leadership team to ensure Holy Cross is the absolute best it can be. No experience is necessary, we are looking for an enthusiastic individual who is keen to get involved and use their skills to enrich our school. If you would like more information, or to register your interest, please email lmartin@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk



Help and support

- The Plymouth City Council's dedicated Covid-19 webpages are updated frequently:
<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/coronaviruscovid19information>
- There is help with food, money and supplies for anyone needing to self-isolate:
<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/coronaviruscovid19information/ineedhelp>

Advice and help is being co-ordinated by Caring for Plymouth, a partnership between Plymouth City Council, Livewell South West and a wide range of voluntary and community organisations:

<https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/coronaviruscovid19information/caringplymouth>

Plymouth Public Dispensary offers financial assistance for people in need who live in Plymouth and are unwell or convalescing to assist their recovery:
http://www.ppdtrust.co.uk/about_us.html

Or phone 01752



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Festival of Literature

Studies show that reading for pleasure is the biggest single indicator of a child's future success. The Festival of Literature creates communities of book lovers that spread out from individual classrooms to whole schools and out into pupils' homes, inspiring a new generation of readers and writers. All sessions are available to watch live using this link <https://www.festivalofliterature.co.uk/stream/>

Primary School Programme			
Date	Time	Author	Year Group
Tuesday 2nd February 2021	11:15am	Joseph Coelho	Year 3
Thursday 4th February 2021	11:15am	Rachel Rooney	Year 4
Monday 8th February 2021	10:30am	Emily Hanna-Grazebrook	Year 1 & 2
Monday 8th February 2021	11:15am	Andy Shepherd	Year 4
Monday 8th February 2021	9:30am	Emily Hanna-Grazebrook	Reception
Tuesday 9th February 2021	11:15am	Matt Oldfield	Year 5 & 6
Tuesday 9th February 2021	2:00pm	Anna McNuff	Year 5 & 6
Wednesday 10th February 2021	10:00am	Emma Yarlett	Reception, Year 1 & 2
Wednesday 10th February 2021	11:15am	Emma Yarlett	Year 3 & 4
Thursday 11th February 2021	11:15am	Onjali Q Raúf	Year 6
Friday 12th February 2021	11:15am	Tom Palmer	Year 5

  Bishop's Stortford College

Emily Hanna-Grazebrook

Join Emily on a magical, musical storytelling adventure. Wander into the fairy tree, frolic in the jungle playing hide-and-seek with the animals, escape from greedy trolls and help a little duck to save the day!

**Join Emily online on Monday 8th February at 9.30am-10am Reception
10.30am-11am Year 1 and Year 2**



Emma Yarlett

Join Emma as she tells the story behind her new book-eating monster adventure. Nibbles is eating his way through our bookshelf of favourite fairy tales... can we catch him? Come and help Nibbles get back to where he belongs.

Join Emma online on Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 10am Year 1 and 2.



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Join Emma, her fire-breathing friend and collection of Beasts for a monster storytelling session of *Dragon Post and Beast Feast*.

Join Emma online on Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 11.15am Year 3 and 4.



Joseph Coelho

Join Joseph Coelho on a fabulous poetic journey. Find out how he uses memory and the world around him to inspire his poems, and join in with him as he introduces ideas such as rhyme, alliteration and crescendo in a session that will entertain and educate in equal measure.

Join Joseph online on Tuesday 2nd February 2021 at 11.15am Year 3.



Rachel Rooney

Join Rachel as she performs poems from her much-loved collections.

Join Rachel online on Thursday 4th February 2021 at 11.15am Year 4.

Andy Shepherd

Disclaimer – Please note, all dragon-growing is undertaken entirely at the grower's own risk and Andy cannot be held responsible for any damage your dragon may cause.

Join Andy online on Monday 8th February 2021 at 11.15am Year 4.



Tom Palmer

Tom will talk to Year 5 pupils about his latest novel, *After the War*, the story of the Windermere Boys, Jewish children who survived the Holocaust and came as refugees to stay in the Lake District.

Join Tom online on Friday 12th February 2021 at 11.15am Year 5.



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Onjali Q. Raúf

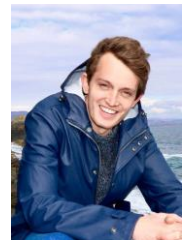
Join Onjali as she talks about her latest book is *The Night Bus Hero* which was inspired by Onjali's own experience of growing up in London and seeing the impact of homelessness on those around her.



Join Onjali online on Thursday 11th February 2021 at 11.15am Year 6.

Matt Oldfield

Join Matt as he talks about his award-winning sports book *Unbelievable Football: The Most Incredible True Football Stories*. Have you heard the one about the psychic octopus who can predict results or the dog detective who saved the World Cup trophy? Prepare to be flabbergasted with footie facts from the world's favourite game.



Join Matt online on Tuesday 9th February 2021 at 11.15am Year 5 and 6.

Anna McNuff

Anna will be sharing stories with high energy and exuberance about her awesome adventures. Her high energy and exuberance will certainly inspire and encourage everyone to fly by the seat of their adventure pants!

Join Anna online on Tuesday 9th February 2pm-3pm Year 5 and 6.



Fun Reading Challenges

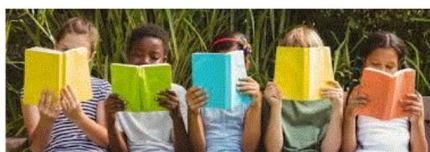
Week Two

Create top trumps cards about a range of different main characters using a range of stories.

Create a new dust cover for the book and include a blurb to explain what the book is about.

Create a map of a setting in your story. Select texts with detail setting descriptions.

Use an image from a picture book. Ask the children to come up with 10 questions they could ask about the image.

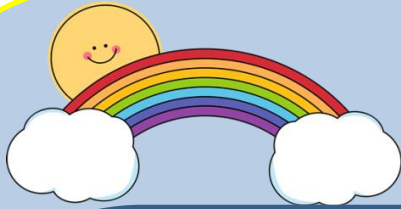


Be inspired to read some more and join in Miss McCalley's Fun Reading Challenges!



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Health & Wellbeing

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is

Express Yourself.

Place2Be has created activities and resources to help children (and adults) to explore the different ways that they can share their thoughts, feelings and ideas.

There are lots of resources on the Children's Mental Health Week website that you can use with your child at home including activity ideas, tips for parents and carers, and an online assembly which will be available from Monday 1 February.

Visit childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk to find out more



So your challenge this week is to come up with your own creative challenges!

- You might like to use art materials, music, words, dance or digital design.
- Maybe you'd like to have a go at planting seeds and creating an indoor garden, or cooking up your own recipes.
- Perhaps you could start some interesting discussions around the dinner table to find out more about your household.

Take a few moments now to think about what you might like to do to help you feel good. Why not write them down to help you remember!



REMEMBER TO...



Share how you feel

Be kind

Be generous

Forgive quickly

Ask for help when you need it

Be safe, be kind
and look after each
other.

Keep Smiling!

Mrs Gill





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Breakfast Club/After School Club

There is no Breakfast Club or After School Club next week.



PUPIL RECORDS

With all communication now virtual, it is vital that we have current, accurate contact information for you. Over the last couple of weeks, I have discovered that several telephone numbers and email addresses are no longer current.

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!

Term Dates 2021-2022

Now available from our website.



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/2022



AUTUMN TERM 2021	
Non-pupil day - School CLOSED to pupils	Thursday 2 nd and Friday 3 rd September 2021
Autumn Term commences - Back to school	Monday 6 th September 2021
Half Term - School CLOSED for the week	Saturday 23 rd October - Sunday 31 st October 2021
Non-pupil day - School CLOSED to pupils	Monday 1 st November 2021
Back to school	Tuesday 2 nd November 2021
Term finishes for Christmas (last day of term)	Friday 17 th December 2021
Christmas Holiday - School CLOSED for 2 weeks	Monday 20 th December 2021 to Monday 3 rd January 2022
SPRING TERM 2022	
Spring Term commences - Back to school	Tuesday 4 th January 2022
Half Term - School CLOSED for the week	Saturday 19 th February - Sunday 27 th February 2022
Non-pupil day - School CLOSED to pupils	Monday 28 th February 2022
Back to school	Tuesday 1 st March 2022
Term finishes (last day of term)	Friday 8 th April 2022
Easter Holidays - School CLOSED for 2 weeks	Saturday 9 th April - Sunday 24 th April 2022
SUMMER TERM 2022	
Summer Term commences on - Back to school	Monday 25 th April 2022
May Bank Holiday - School CLOSED	Monday 2 nd May 2022
Half Term - School CLOSED for the week	Saturday 28 th May - Sunday 5 th June 2022
Non-pupil day - School CLOSED to pupils	Monday 6 th June 2022
Back to school	Tuesday 7 th June 2022
Term finishes (last day of term)	Friday 22 nd July 2022

Learning Packs

There are still a large number of learning packs awaiting collection from reception. The remote learning we have planned is not all screen-based and your children would benefit greatly from having these packs to work on alongside the online learning provided. Please contact the school office to arrange a time that is convenient for you to pop in and collect one for your child.



Have a lovely weekend! ☀️