



## 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.21: 11th February 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a case of Maths - Mania this week and we are very proud of the children for showing such resilience! They have been practising their times tables to ensure, not only that they can recall these important number facts **accurately**, but that they can recall them **at speed**!

Their enthusiasm and their delight in the progress they have made was so wonderful! Knowing number facts and times tables is really important as quick recall of these means that the child can focus on the mathematical reasoning and more involved concepts when solving problems. This not only allows them to make greater progress but it also gives them confidence and more importantly, satisfaction in their achievements. Their smiles today, as the Year 4 children told me how well they are doing, told the whole story!

The Year 5 and 6 children have also been practising hard and the competition between the classes was fierce! I don't think the laptops and Chromebooks were given much time to charge as they were constantly on the go - with children on Times Tables Rock Stars even at lunchtime! Well done to them all!

Safer Internet Day has given the children the opportunity to explore their own use of the internet, ensuring that they use it responsibly, respectfully and critically. Exploring the theme of online respect is always time well-spent as many people adopt such different behaviours when online and say things they would never say to a person's face. Teaching children 'netiquette' helps them to navigate the online world safely and respectfully and how to avoid getting into difficulty. It is important that we teach the children to be tolerant and considerate in both the real world and online and to think about what they post and share. The children engaged well in the discussions and adopted a very grown-up and respectful approach to the issues shared.

Mrs F Gill  
Headteacher



**21st Feb - 28th Feb**

Half Term

**28th February**

Non-Pupil Day

**2nd March**

Ash Wednesday Mass

**3rd March**

World Book Day

**7th March - 1st April**

'Eat them to Defeat them'

**7th - 11th March**

Careers Week

**9th March**

Inclusion Football Festival

**14th-18th March**

Science Week

**15th and 17th March**

Parents' Evenings

**Please note change of date**

**21st March**

Y3/4 Able Maths Day at Bishop

Cornish

**23rd March**

World Maths Day

**23rd & 24th March**

Afternoon Tea for mums

**29th March**

Tempest Class Photos

**21st -1st April**

Big Walk and Wheel Week

**NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ANY COVID RELATED COMMUNICATIONS (POSITIVE RESULTS OF TESTS): [covid@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:covid@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk)**



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### *Our Catholic Life*

This week Jesus tells us how we can be blessed by God and be truly happy.

Wherever he went, crowds gathered from far and wide to listen to Jesus. They were often surprised by Jesus' words. Jesus tells them in this week's Gospel how we can be blessed by God and be truly happy. Real happiness is not what we might expect. Jesus says it is people who are hungry, poor or sad who will be blessed by God. People who are in prison or suffering for their faith will find lasting happiness. Anyone who relies on themselves and ignores God has already had their reward. God gives life and real happiness to those who trust in his love.



#### *Let us Pray*

Thank you for the gift of happiness. Help me to spread your joy by smiling, laughing and being happy this week.

**Amen**

**We pray for Miss Buscombe who has lost her mum today. May God bless Miss Buscombe and her family, remind them of their treasured memories and the gift of the love they had for their beloved mother. May God be with Miss Buscombe at this sad time and keep her safe in his hand. Amen**



### *Wonders of the Week*

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

**Julia Donaldson: Anastasia** - for persevering and writing a wonderful letter to our class fairy!

**Allan Ahlberg: All of Allan Ahlberg!** For producing such amazing innovated instructions in their writing this week.

**Simon James: Finch** - For producing her best in every lesson and showing wonderful creativity with her writing this week.

**Judith Kerr: Ishan**- For fantastic effort and progress in reading and writing.

**David Walliams: Methuli**- For showing perseverance in all areas of her learning.

**Cressida Cowell: Alex**- For showing great sportsmanship at our sports event and being a great representative of Holy Cross!

**Roald Dahl: Julia** for incredible sporting performance in the athletic competition this week!





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**Louis Sachar:** Joshua G - for a SUPERHUMAN effort and achievement in our TT Rockstar Challenge  
**Emma Carroll:** Tillie - For a beautiful piece of writing in our guided reading lessons.  
**Malorie Blackman:** Esme - For consistently demonstrating high standards in her learning, always being a reliable friend and an incredible asset to the class.

### ***Gospel Values Awards:***

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

**Julia Donaldson:** Vivaan - for showing kindness to everyone in our class and looking out for his friends when needed.

**Allan Ahlberg:** Elijah - for having such a kind and caring nature.

**Simon James:** Ekkam - For always showing kindness and offering friendship to his peers

**Judith Kerr:** Marina- For showing kindness to others in class and always looking out for her peers.

**David Walliams:** Luna- For always including others and trying to be friends with everyone.

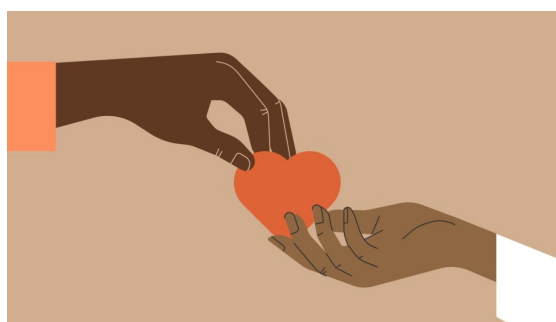
**Cressida Cowell:** Roland- For always being noticed by other adults around our school for showing kindness to everyone.

**Roald Dahl:** Thomas for always being a kind friend to everyone he meets.

**Louis Sachar:** Leo - For going above and beyond - supporting others in our creative club and supporting his teacher and class by creating a fantastic Scratch animation presentation for the whole class to use.

**Emma Carroll:** Atene - for making a card for a member of our class who was unwell this week after an accident.

**Malorie Blackman:** Fran - for showing a willingness to help others and being kind to everyone she meets.





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### Top Table Awards



**Julia Donaldson: Aurora** for always being polite to adults and children.

**Allan Ahlberg: Dawson** for his exemplary behaviour and beautiful manners.

**Simon James: Afnaan** for her lovely polite manners.

**Judith Kerr: Florence** for being kind and helpful to another child.

**David Walliams: Lucas** for always being polite, well-mannered and helpful to adults at lunchtime.

**Cressida Cowell: Archie** for always being kind, considerate and polite to other children.

**Roald Dahl: Conor** for playing nicely, showing consideration to others and for being respectful to adults.

**Louis Sachar: Eugene** for trying really hard at lunchtime; playing nicely and listening to adults.

**Emma Carroll: Ruby** for always being considerate and polite.

**Malorie Blackman: Iris** for her exemplary behaviour - a superstar role model!

**A beautiful poem from a child who would like to remain anonymous. Her words, however are too powerful not to share and in her own words, the issue is "too important, not to be addressed."**



There is a star shining so bright,  
everyday losing more light.  
Earth is the star; we are the light  
The planet is getting less and less bright.

Start to take care of what you throw  
We need to stop melting all of our snow!  
we are stealing our planet  
We are stealing soil, earth and granite.

Chemicals are submerging in our air  
Toxins are floating as breathing bears  
So no more killing our earth  
for a 2.0 would be absurd.





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The past week, UKS2 have held a times table challenge on TT Rockstars.

It has been fantastic to see all of the children so engaged in this with scores rising far higher than I could have ever imagined.

However, the winners are.....

**1st place Louis Sachar 162,951**

**2nd place Emma Carroll 157,192**

**3rd place Malorie Blackman 79,404**





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## Times tables Masters!

Mrs Gill rewarded these children with a Headteachers Award for the resilience and independence they have shown learning their times tables. Well done to you all!



The children have been practising their times tables and challenging themselves to recall these important number facts as quickly as they can. Many of the children have taken part in times tables challenges, recalling both multiplication and division facts within 5 seconds... 4 seconds...3 seconds ...and even 2 seconds!

At the end of next week, the children will face the ultimate challenge - the Times Tables Championship... so keep practising!



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## We LOVE to Read!

Roald Dahl class loves nothing better than a bit of library time.







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# Holy Cross Sports

## Year 3/4 Athletics Finals

We are so proud of our amazing athletes!





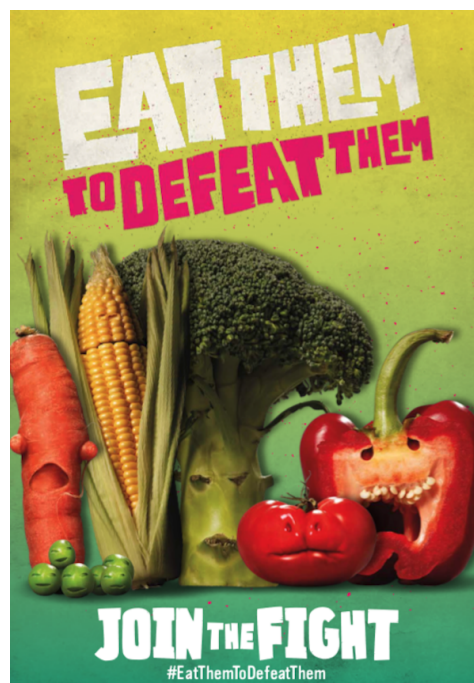
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## It's Back.... Eat them to defeat them!

- w/c 28<sup>th</sup> February Carrots
- w/c 7<sup>th</sup> March Peppers
- w/c 14<sup>th</sup> March Broccoli
- w/c 21<sup>st</sup> March Tomatoes



## You are invited...

to Premier Education's  
extracurricular activities!



### Here's what's on near you...

#### Holy Cross Catholic Primary school

Wednesdays= Gymnastics: Year 1/2 Time: 15:20 - 16:30

Start Date: 2nd March - 30th March (6 weeks)

Thursdays = Dodgeball: Year 5&6 Time: 15:20 - 16:30

Start Date: 3rd March - 31st March (6 weeks)

To discover the activities available and to book today, visit  
[premier-education.com](http://premier-education.com)

## Plymouth Pilgrims

### Netball Club

*Fully qualified and insured coaching team*

Now open to Years 5 & 6



Wednesdays 6-7pm  
at The Life Centre

£3 a session

To sign up contact Sarah

*(coach and primary school teacher)*

07812 196511





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Plymouth Argyle are expanding their offering to children with SEND within Plymouth this upcoming half term. They have SEND & Disability Roadshows for February half term. Please find the schedule below:

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Manadon Sports and Community Hub – 10am-3pm - £16 – Disability Football Roadshow**

**Brand New additional to our programme - Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Plympton Academy – 10am-3pm - £16 – Disability Football Roadshow**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Manadon Sports and Community Hub – 10am-1pm – £8 – Short Breaks**

All courses do have limited numbers meaning these spaces will be offered on a first come first serve basis.

All provisions can be booked on the below link:

<https://argylecommunitytrust.co.uk/soccer-roadshows/in-plymouth/>





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### Change of Menu- 15th February 2022

On Tuesday 15th February there will be a change of menu and we will have a special Chinese menu.

- Sweet and Sour Chicken with noodles or egg fried rice
- Vegetable curry
- Mini Spring Rolls
- Mango ice-cream
- 



### COVID19 Information

#### Update 10th February 2022

Following the Prime Minister's indication this week that he intended to drop all Covid rules – including the legal requirement for Covid cases to self-isolate, we are awaiting further guidance for what that will mean for schools.

In the meantime, Covid is still causing huge disruption to England's schools, with 320,000 pupils off because of the virus last Thursday, and nearly one in ten staff also absent. In Plymouth the infection rate is still high and school leaders continue to work hard to manage workforce shortage and pupils absences.

### Breakfast Club/After School Club

30 places available at Breakfast and 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.

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**.

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.

*Have a lovely weekend.*



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