



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.9: 12th November 2021

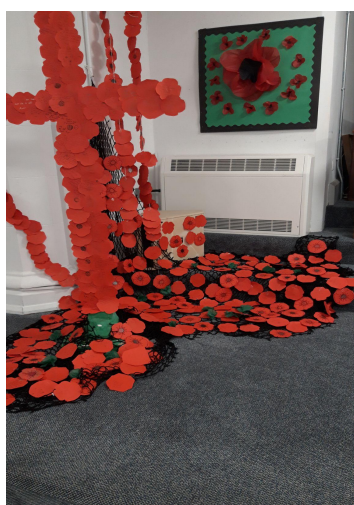


Dear Parents/Carers,

This week, the week of Remembrance, the children and staff have reflected on the sacrifice of those who have died so that others may have peace.

November is the month that the Catholic church dedicates to those who are no longer with us.

We celebrated a special Mass of Remembrance with Father Victor on Tuesday and held a special service on Remembrance Day itself. The Hall was beautifully decorated and the children reflected thoughtfully and sensitively. Our Gospel Value this week was that of PEACE as we all strive to be peacemakers .



They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we shall remember them.

God of justice and **peace**, we pray for those who have been injured or disabled through war. For those who have lost homes and security through conflict; for those who have lost loved relatives in wars;

for those who face danger and take risks for peace; for all those, especially children, caught up in current conflicts; for refugees and all those in need of aid and other help. God of encouragement, comfort those who remember past sacrifices and guide us in building a just and peaceful community for all. **Amen.**

Mrs F Gill
Headteacher



15th-19th November
Anti-Bullying+Road Safety Week

16th November
TEMPEST Photos (individuals and siblings)

19th November
*Children in Need
Play Leaders' Training*

22nd November
*Antibiotic Awareness
Workshop with Dr Chaam*

24th November
*PSSP Indoor Athletics RC
schools Competition*

23rd and 25th November
Parent Consultations

25th November
Flu Vaccinations

Christmas Dates
see below

13th December
EYFS Vision Screening

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



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Our Catholic Life

The Gospel this week reminds us that life can be very scary at times. Jesus knows that his friends will have to face very difficult times, when it seems as though the world is going to end. But Jesus promises to come with his angels and he will look after us. The fig tree grows new buds while the weather is cold and when the leaves come out we know that summer is near. When things look bad, we should remember that Jesus is coming. Jesus has promised and his promise is for always.

This week we celebrated a Remembrance Mass on Tuesday and a special Remembrance Service yesterday. We encourage the children to spend time, reflect and give thanks for those who have died, particularly in wars and conflict. Throughout November we continue to especially pray for the souls of those who have died and who are now in heaven.



*We have now appointed our new GIFT team members for this academic year. GIFT means Growing In Faith Together and these are a group of children who help to strengthen the Catholic Life of our school and aim to support our local community. They needed to undergo a rigorous application and interview process to enable them to fulfill this important role in school. Thank you to our existing members, Olivia and Julia, who supported and helped to appoint our newest members
Congratulations to Jacob, Carter, Harlow, Emilia, Tno and Jaisal. I'm sure you will all make wonderful contributions to the GIFT team.*



Let us Pray

*Dear Jesus, thank you for your promise to be there when we need you. Help me to keep my promises too.
Amen*



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Wonders of the Week

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



Julia Donaldson: Evelyn J - becoming more independent in her choosing time and persevering with her cutting skills

Allan Ahlberg: Raeden- for growing in independence in all his learning, especially writing.

Simon James: Kesiena - For such wonderful resilience with his learning this week, especially within maths lessons.

Judith Kerr: Ianis- For showing resilience when completing maths activities and producing fantastic independent work.

David Walliams: Anastazja For being so independent and determined in her learning.

Cressida Cowell: Farhan: For showing great resilience to improve his handwriting and storytelling!

Roald Dahl: Bonnie - for showing resilience in her learning this week.

Louis Sachar: Karolina - During all of our joint Talk for Writing story mapping sessions, she has demonstrated a real knack for using images to portray the text with great clarity. This has been so helpful to us all.

Emma Carroll: Katie - for building resilience when working independently. She always works hard.

Malorie Blackman: Gabriel- He has been exceptional at helping other children who are struggling around him. He goes out of his way to further research what he is learning in order to better his subject knowledge in order to improve his work.

Gospel Values Awards: This week we have all been trying to show **Peace**

Julia Donaldson: Theodora - For always showing peace and being a calm and kind friend in our class.

Allan Ahlberg: Elijah- For being a calming influence over the other children and sharing peace and serenity everywhere he goes.

Simon James: Thomas - For spreading peace and calmness this week to other children in the class. He has tried to provide gentleness and serenity to those who have needed it.

Judith Kerr: Fahad For always quietly helping others, demonstrating peace and kindness in all that he does.

David Walliams: Sonny - He demonstrates peace in all he does. He is a kind and calm friend and a peaceful and independent learner.



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Cressida Cowell: Alex- For always being a peaceful presence in our class though his actions to others.

Roald Dahl: Misma for demonstrating peace through her love, care and kindness

Louis Sachar: Melissa - She oozes calmness and has a great influence on all around her.

Emma Carroll: Garima - for being a calming influence in the class.

Malorie Blackman: Aswina- She is always a peaceful presence in the classroom and she always helps others to be calm, collected and in the right state of mind to work.

Top Table Awards



Julia Donaldson: Eli for being a kind friend to others in his class and always having a smile on his face.

Allan Ahlberg: Johan for being kind and helpful to others. What a great friend!

Simon James: Kesiena for always saying please and thankyou with a smile on his face.

Judith Kerr: Oli for always using impeccable manners.

David Walliams: Harry for always offering to help to tidy up in the hall.

Cressida Cowell: Emilia for being a wonderful friend, showing humility by putting others first.

Roald Dahl: Misma for using wonderful manners and going out of her way to help others.

Louis Sachar: Karolina for being such a great role model to others showing care and kindness.

Emma Carroll: Ruslan for having good table manners and putting others first.

Malorie Blackman: Katie for her amazing manners and politeness to others, always wanting to help.



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Attendance Matters



Julia Donaldson	95.2%
Allan Ahlberg	96.9%
Simon James	95.5%
Judith Kerr	97%
David Walliams	93.5%
Cressida Cowell	98.6%
Roald Dahl	92.8%
Malorie Blackman	95.8%
Emma Carroll	96.1%
Louis Sachar	97.5%

Congratulations to **Louis Sachar Class** with the highest attendance this week.



Congratulations to **Iris** in **Malorie Blackman Class** who has become our first reading millionaire this academic year having read and quizzed on 23 books and 1,342,122 words.



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On Friday 19th November we will be fundraising for Children in Need. We will be having a Fancy Dress Friday where we are asking the children to come to school dressed up in something yellow or spotty for a donation of £1.

We will also be having a bake sale on that day. This has been planned and organised by Atene and Julian from Emma Carroll Class. The children will have the opportunity to buy cakes at playtime for a small donation. We welcome donations of cakes on the morning of Friday 19th. Any homemade cakes **MUST** be accompanied by a list of ingredients, otherwise we will be unable to sell these. Here are some recipe ideas <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/resources/new-bbc-children-in-need-recipe-ideas/>

Children in Need have a Pudsey Shop this year and you may want to have a look <https://www.bbcchildreninneedshop.co.uk/>

Ideally donations should be paid via ParentPay and the link is <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=3838>

Bake Sale Proposal by Julian and Atene.

Bake Sale coming to Holy Cross!

Atene and Julian would like to hold a bake sale as a fundraising event to help those that are less fortunate than us on Christmas. They would set reasonable prices, starting from 25p and they will put all funds towards Mount Gould hospital charity.

Why do we want to do this?

Many children, like us, have to spend their magical Christmas day in poor health. Julian and Atene Strongly believe that no child should be going through their everyday life (not just Christmas) in these conditions, we want to get involved and help children that are not as lucky as us. We would love to make a bake sale and raise our funds and buy gifts and toys for people in need. We would love to help!



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Why I think it would be important to hold this event:

Julian and Atene would be super excited to hold this bake sale, we would be beyond grateful if we can make this happen. I think this would give a great learning experience for the younger children and they will be more encouraged to donate to the needy. I think it could also teach the older kids, who can follow our lead and add more amazing ideas to Holy Cross. Not just the community of the Holy Cross, It can also teach us to become more confident and compassionate to share our talents.

How we will market our bake sale :

Atene and Julian will market their bake sale by creating large posters for all key stages (Foundation, Yr 1 and 2, Yr 3 and 4, Yr 5 and 6.) These posters will have all the necessary details including prices, items, ingredients and more!. Don't worry if you don't get a chance to see the posters, as mini flyers will be made for every individual pupil.

How we will set up the bake sale :

Atene and Julian will have a pot for the money and a clean table. There will be all the things we will have for the sale, listed in the paragraph "Dates and Prices". Here is a picture of what we will do

Thank you - Atene and Julian





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Poppies and Poetry Workshop



Intergenerational Project



Following our Poppy and Poetry workshop Roald Dahl class decided to make Bethany Christian Care home a remembrance display.



Bethany Christian Care Home commented, "Wow what a wonderful Remembrance display to be greeted with when I arrived in the lounge today. It really did make a difference to our Remembrance display. Please pass on the residents' grateful thanks to the children for all their hard work in making all the poppies. It gave us something very special to focus on for our Remembrance devotions today. Thanks to you too for organising it and delivering it to us."



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Tempest Photography is coming in on Tuesday 16th to take individual and family photos. These make great Christmas presents.

If your child has a sibling who does not attend Holy Cross you are welcome to bring them from 8.20am-9am, entrance via the red church doors for a family photo. If your child has siblings at school they will have their photo during the school day

If your child normally has PE on a Tuesday please send them in school uniform and they can bring their PE kit to change into after their photograph.



The date for the school age flu vaccinations is Thursday 25th November. You will have been emailed a copy of the letter from virgin care and a copy is available on Class Dojo. The school office are unable to keep lists of who has consent for this so it is important that you follow the link <https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2021/devon> to either give or decline consent for your child to have the flu vaccination.

There is a strict policy of closing the consent links and our school's link will close at midnight on the **17th November**.



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Some parents have been asking about the dates for the **Christmas Performances**. All the key dates are on the calendar on the website. Some important dates coming up this term

Week beginning 29th November- Advent begins/ Advent Prayer Space

6th December - EYFS Christmas Performance at 2pm

7th December- Y1/2 Christmas Performance at 2pm and 6.30pm

8th December- Y3/4 Christmas Performance at 2pm and 6.30pm

9th December- Y5/6 Christmas Performance at 2pm and 6.30pm

10th December- Christmas Jumper Day

15th December- Christmas Dinner

17th December- Last day of the Autumn Term



Indoor Rowing



Friday 05th November 2021—Saw Bobby, Gabriel, Stewart, Joshua and Eugene take part in an Indoor rowing event at Cann Bridge School. All were eager to learn some new skills, meet new people and take part in some friendly competition.

First up was the 100m dash: the children were challenged to row 100m as fast as they can but on their next go they had to try to beat their own score.

Joshua - 2nd place, **Eugene** - 3rd place

Next was the 200m dash

Eugene - 2nd place, **Joshua** - 3rd place.



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Well done to all of the boys who took part. We had great reports from the PE specialists. Thank you also to Miss Chafer and Miss Friend for supporting the children.



Football



Well done to Teddy, Maisie, George, Kacper and Rosaleen for representing the school this week at a 5-a-side football tournament. They all greatly enjoyed themselves - playing 9 games in total and ending up coming 5th out of the 10 schools that entered. They enjoyed themselves so much that some have now joined football coaching outside of

school. Brilliant. Many thanks to Miss Goddard and Mrs Kirk for supporting the children.



What a great few weeks we have had, with over 20% of key stage 2 children participating over 4 events. I'm pleased and delighted to report that our year 3 / 4 Boys team has won 3rd place. Well done Yosab, Sam, Brody and Carter.



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Holy Cross keeping Active. Last week the children took on a basketball challenge. This week it's Star Jumps. Why not have a go at home - try it together!

Have fun everyone.



PSSP PERSONAL CHALLENGE

Autumn Term– Week 10

STAR JUMPS CHALLENGE



How many star jumps can you do in 1 minute?
This will build you stamina and a great cardio workout.

Finding this too easy?

Try seeing how many burpees you can do in 30 seconds.



Finding this too hard?

Try stepping your foot out one at a time with your arms raised like a star jump and swap legs.



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We are delighted to confirm the announcement of our Christmas Roadshows for the upcoming Festive Period which includes our ever popular Christmas Cracker (Limited spaces) where the children get the opportunity to train with the first team players. Please find the attached roadshows we have running this year:

Christmas Cracker (limited to 200 spaces) – Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £25 – 16th December (4:30pm-7pm)

Christmas Special - Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £18 – 20th December

Christmas Special - Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £18 – 21st December

Christmas Special – Plympton Academic - £18 – 21st December

Christmas Special - Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £18 – 22nd December

Christmas Special - Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £18 – 23rd December

Festive Football - Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £18 – 29th December

Festive Football - Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £18 – 30th December

Disability & SEND Roadshows

Christmas Cracker (limited to 20 spaces) – Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £25 – 16th December (4:30pm-7pm)

Short Breaks - Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £8 – 20th December

Disability Christmas Special - Manadon Sports and Community Hub - £16 – 23rd December

To book your child's space please book the below link:

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



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COVID19 Information

Unfortunately, we still have high numbers of cases in the South West and as a result, schools have been directed to re-introduce certain measures.

We will continue to promote hand washing/hand sanitising, respiratory hygiene, ventilation and touchpoint cleaning.

We will try our best to balance the need for ventilation with the need for a comfortable working temperature but please ensure your child wears an extra layer under their school shirt just in case.

Staff will once again wear face coverings in communal areas and we ask that parents also wear a face covering if coming onto the school site. This will help to mitigate the risks at pick up time which can be very busy in the playgrounds.

We are pausing whole school assemblies for the moment but can continue to hold gatherings for smaller groups eg EYFS, Year1/2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6.

We have reviewed our lunchtime provision to minimise mixing between these larger groups.

Staff will continue to do twice weekly LFTs.

Advice on symptoms:

If unwell stay at home and book a PCR. If negative, individuals should still wait until 24hours post fever to go back into a setting. Colds and other non-Covid symptoms are circulating but in the first instance cardinal symptoms should be treated as possible COVID and trigger isolation and testing.

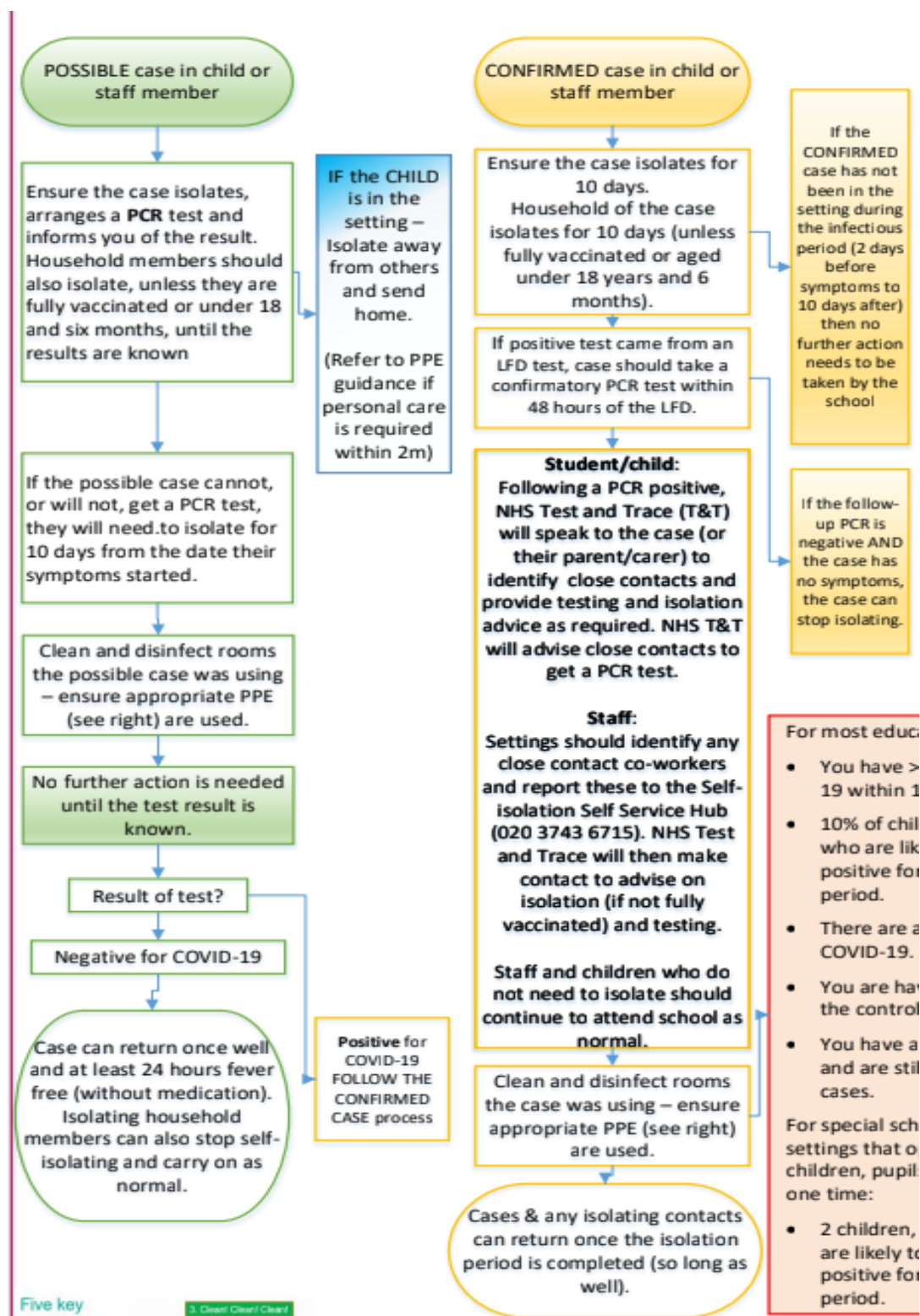
Household siblings of confirmed cases are advised to take daily LFD while awaiting their PCR test results and to continue to attend school (at discretion of parent for primary age children) and recommend daily LFD testing for all close contacts identified by NHS Test and Trace whilst individuals await their PCR results.

See flowchart for further explanation.



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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 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 half-term!