



## 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. 18: 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

With one week to go before half term, I have to say a HUGE well done to you all. This week, I met with each teacher to discuss the progress made by your children and the fact that we are discussing the progress your children are making during a national lockdown, and can see evidence of that progress through the work they are sending into us, is a credit to you. You are doing an amazing job!

This week I would like to share a poem with you:

### Have you earned your tomorrow? By Edgar Guest

*Is anybody happier because you passed his way?  
Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?  
This day is almost over, and its toiling time is through;  
Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?*

*Did you give a cheerful greeting to the friend who came along?  
Or a churlish sort of "Howdy" and then vanish in the throng?  
Were you selfish pure and simple as you rushed along the way,  
Or is someone mighty grateful for a deed you did today?*

*Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that's slipping fast,  
That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?  
Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said;  
Does a man whose hopes were fading now with courage look ahead?*

*Did you waste the day, or lose it, was it well or sorely spent?  
Did you leave a trail of kindness or a scar of discontent?  
As you close your eyes in slumber do you think that God would say,  
You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?*

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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 GOOD NEWS

Simon Peter's mother-in-law has a fever. As soon as Jesus hears about this he goes to visit her, takes her by the hand and heals her. This miracle is so quick and complete that Simon's mother-in-law gets up immediately and gives Jesus and his disciples their dinner! The whole town wants their friends and relatives to be healed too and they bring them to Jesus. Very, very early the next morning, Jesus gets up



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*and goes away by himself to a lonely place to pray. When his disciples find Jesus he is ready to go on to another town to spread his message of God's love.*



### **Let us Pray**

*Dear Jesus Thank you for your healing love. Help me to follow your example and make time to be quiet and pray, especially when I am very busy.*

*Amen*

## 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 8 February 2021

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/3408549uj0p9q7ruq3jfq309345t/>

### DAILY PRAYERS FOR HOME

w/c 8 February 2021

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/34b9efqj903487043otq408er083q4y/>

### 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](https://www.holycross.plymouth.sch.uk/web/remote_learning/537447)



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### Wonders of the Week



This week Miss Buscombe had the pleasure of leading our whole school Remote Celebration Assembly. Thank you to all our families at home for joining us. A special thank you to Father Jacek who joined us and gave us a special blessing.

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

**Julia Donaldson:** Poppyrae for trying incredibly hard in all her learning, especially applying her new sounds in phonics lessons.

**Allan Ahlberg:** Leo for challenging himself in all his lessons this week. Well done!

**Roger Hargreaves:** Clara for her incredible effort in writing this week. She now uses finger spaces independently! **Bonnie** for being determined to achieve her very best. Bonnie has worked really hard with her mummy to improve her handwriting. She is also choosing to redo work if she thinks it can be improved! Well done!

**Eric Carle:** Reece for great effort with home learning and for producing a fantastic habitat.

**Michael Morpurgo:** Elsie for her amazing attitude to her home learning and for completing every piece of work set. Well done Elsie! **Lucas** for trying so hard to complete work at home. It is very pleasing to see all of your work every day Lucas!

**Quentin Blake:** Emilia for always sending in amazing work and for staying positive!

**Roald Dahl:** Wiktor for persevering with his number bonds to 10 and making good progress with this aspect of his maths learning.

**Philip Pullman:** Tillie for consistently showing a positive and respectful attitude towards her learning and friendships. You are a fantastic role model Tillie!

**Emma Carroll:** Holly for not only showing commitment to handing in all of her learning tasks, but for her amazingly detailed research into Anglo Saxon forts. Her response to feedback showed great attention and reasoning. **Adam** for amazing Miss Hannaford with his incredible INNOVATE writing!

**J K Rowling:** Boden for his online learning: he has continued to send in a wide range of learning and he is adding more and more detail, challenging himself and enjoying his work (especially science experiments). This week he has also submitted a fantastic innovated write – we cannot wait to read the rest!



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### Gospel Values Awards

**Julia Donaldson:** *Kitty for Courage - for confidently sharing her ideas and learning with her class during Google Meets. We are so proud of you!*

**Allan Ahlberg:** *Daria for Courage - for showing great courage and dedication at home to always trying your best.*

**Roger Hargreaves:** *John-Paul for Kindness - for always being kind to others.*

**Eric Carle:** *Maya for Courage - for showing great courage when completing home learning tasks! Well done!*

**Michael Morpurgo:** *Dominik for Kindness - for showing kindness to his peers in school. He has been a real pleasure to have in class. Keep it up Dominik!*

**Quentin Blake:** *Lily for Compassion – for showing compassion to her friends this week and for helping them. Keep being a good role model!*

**Roald Dahl:** *Johan for Courage - for having the courage to take part in a live lesson after losing his confidence earlier in the week. I am so proud of you!*

**Philip Pullman:** *Lynn for Integrity - for showing amazing maturity in her RE lessons this week by articulating so beautifully her understanding of our spiritual journey and how we are always learning.*

**Emma Carroll:** *Jackson for Integrity- when playing with her friends and also when learning – ensuring she always is, and does her best.*

**JK Rowling:** *Mia for kindness - for showing kindness to everyone, all the time, no matter how she is feeling.*

**Gabriel for forgiveness** – for being mature and sensible in tricky playtime situations and being kind to those around him.





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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](mailto: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](http://www.ppdtrust.co.uk/about_us.html)

Or phone 01752



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## Festival of Literature

The festival continues into next week. So far, the children have enjoyed the sessions, hearing real authors talk about their love of writing and the stories they have written.

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

**Emma Yarlett** Join Emma online on **Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 10am Year 1 and 2** and on **Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 11.15am Year 3 and 4.**

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

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

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

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

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

***See last week's newsletter for further detail about the books and stories they will share.***



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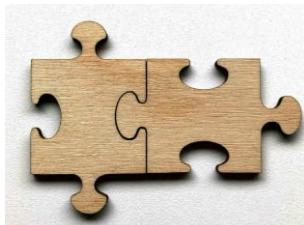


### Mr Shaw's 28 Day Lockdown Challenge for the month of February

#### A PE Challenge a Day!

**Remember safety first!** Make sure you have plenty of clear space all around you, remove any obstacle or hazards. Always get permission of a parent or carer before attempting any of the activities on the grid. *Adult supervision is recommended.*  
Please collect photos and send them on Dojo after you have completed the 28 challenges so we can share them in assembly.

1 Climb 100 stairs	2 Play Basketball with your socks!	3 Find a song to dance to.	4 Try Yoga - (Cosmic Kids)	5 Do a Joe Wicks workout!	6 Play a ball sport for 10 minutes	7 Go for a walk with the family
8 How many star jumps can you do in a minute?	9 Can you create a family workout at home?	10 Jog on the spot for 1 minute	11 How many jumps can you do in a minute?	12 Create a gymnastic routine	13 Be active outside (be creative here)	14 Go for a short jog whilst out walking with the family
15 Climb 200 stairs	16 Sprint around the house	17 Play Basketball with your socks!	18 Do a Joe Wicks workout!	19 Find a song to dance to.	20 Play a ball sport for 10 minutes	21 Go for a walk with the family
22 Do a Joe Wicks workout!	23 Jog on the spot for 2 minutes	24 Find a song to dance to.	25 Create a gymnastic routine	26 Try Yoga - (Cosmic Kids)	27 Build a den in the great outdoors	28 Compete in a family sprint race



### PICTURE NEWS JIGSAW PIECE CHALLENGE

Please remember to send in your jigsaw pieces

Fill the puzzle piece below with words, drawings or colours that represent you. This will symbolise that we all have a part to play during this difficult time and we are all part of the big picture. When you have completed your piece take a photo of it and email to [help@picture-news.co.uk](mailto:help@picture-news.co.uk) and to your school, then display it in your window and see who else has shared their part of the puzzle in their window! To be part of the gallery (available to view on Picture News Facebook and Twitter) please email photos by **Friday 5th February**.

Please send to Miss Buscombe.



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**Next Tuesday, 9th February is National Safer Internet Day. We will continue to celebrate it this year, albeit virtually.** Safer Internet Day (SID) is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. This year's theme is "**An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world**" and to celebrate SID 2021 we will have a **Tackling Misinformation Digital Storytelling Competition**. The competition aims to encourage the children to use their creativity in a visual, written or auditory format to explain what misinformation is, why it might be a problem, how we can recognise it, what we can do to protect ourselves and how to stop its spread. Misinformation is also known as fake news so you may choose to create a fake news story to show how easily this can be spread.

I would like you to be creative, in a visual, auditory or written format and create a digital story that explores the theme of misinformation. Misinformation is often known as fake news so you may wish to create your own fake news story.

**We will have prizes for the winners and will have 4 categories:**

EYFS

KS1

LKS2

UKS2.

**Thank you to our Safeguarding Governors who have volunteered to judge the competition for us.**

Digital storytelling should be a short form of digital media production and may be visual, written or auditory and submitted in the following formats



Visual stories should be a film (video or animation) and be no more than 4 minutes long.



Written stories can be submitted as a Google Doc or a photo of the written story and should be no longer than 500 words



Auditory stories should be an audio file and no more than 4 minutes long.



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Entries need to be submitted by **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February** can be shared via class dojo or emailed to [sbuscombe@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:sbuscombe@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk)

On Tuesday 9th February there will be live assemblies/lessons centred around this theme.

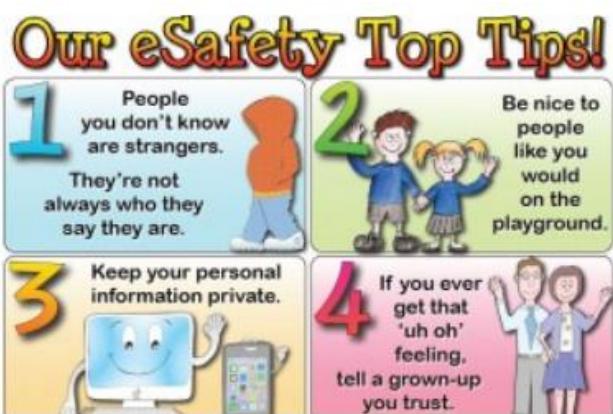
For EYFS and KS1 this will be at 10.30am and for KS2 this will be at 1.30pm. It would be great to see as many children as possible taking part.

With the increased use of online platforms to deliver remote learning, it is so important for everyone to understand the risks and the steps we need to take to reduce those risks.

Over the past few weeks, we have increased our provision of live lessons and live assemblies. It is important that our children understand how to interact during these live sessions and also, how to keep themselves and others safe.

Safer Internet Day will provide the opportunity for us to explore some of the ways we can keep ourselves safe and how to report any concerns or worries we have about our online experiences:

- To know that there may be people online who might make us feel sad, upset or embarrassed.
- To know who to go to if someone or something online makes us feel sad, upset, embarrassed or frightened.
- To know how to contact or speak to a trusted adult about online worries or concerns.
- To make the right decisions about how to behave online ourselves so that we don't cause upset.
- To know that we need to be considerate and kind to others online.
- To know that we need to show respect to others online.
- To know that when learning online, we need to be respectful and considerate of others.
- To know that during live lessons/assemblies, we behave as we would as though we were in school, following instructions and being polite and respectful to others.

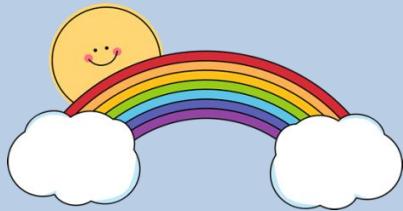


Teachers will be exploring these behaviours with their classes and agreeing Class Online Charters to ensure a shared understanding of online safety and protocols.



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# Health & Wellbeing

**Fun MINDFULNESS ACTIVITIES for children**  
by Big Life Journal

**1 JUST ONE BREATH BREATHING ACTIVITY**

- Find a relaxing place, sit comfortably, and set a timer for one minute.
- Breathe deeply in and out while paying attention to any sensations you notice or sounds you hear.
- Take another slow deep breath, imagine the air moving down into the lungs and back up.
- Take one more deep breath and hold for a moment, then release it.

**2 CREATE A GLITTER JAR**

- Finding a jar or plastic bottle and allow your child to decorate it however they like.
- Fill the bottle up 3/4 of the way with water. Next, add clear glue, food coloring, and glitter then shake.
- Seal the lid and you are ready to go.

**3 HEARTBEAT EXERCISE**

- Ask your child to stand up and either jump up and down or do jumping jacks for one minute.
- At the end of that minute, have them place their hand on their heart and pay attention to how their heartbeat and their breathing feels.

**4 GOING ON A SAFARI**

- Go outside on an exciting adventure, try picking up a small rock or touching a plant or flower.
- Notice the bugs or the birds. Take a moment to kneel down and touch the earth.
- Walk mindfully paying close attention to everything. Make sure you walk in silence because you want to notice all those little details.

**5 TENSE AND RELEASE MUSCLE RELAXATION**

- Starting at the feet, gently squeeze the muscles in the feet by tightening them, then slowly releasing.
- Next, squeeze the large muscles in the calves for 5 seconds, then gently release. Working your way up the body, squeeze the thigh muscles for 5 seconds then gently release.
- Continue moving up the body for more relaxation.

Big Life Journal - [biglifejournal.com](http://biglifejournal.com)



## Mindfulness

Children of all ages can benefit from **mindfulness**, the simple practice of bringing a gentle, accepting attitude to the present moment. It can help parents and caregivers, too, by promoting happiness and relieving stress.

Mindfulness meditation, at its simplest, is paying attention to what is happening in the present moment. It may be what you're feeling, hearing, or anything else you notice. There's no special place of calm you have to reach and it's not about clearing your mind, it's just an honest and kind look at what you're experiencing in this moment.

Studies show that the benefits of mindfulness for children may include:

- Increased focus**, attention, self-control, classroom participation, compassion.
- Improved academic performance**, ability to resolve conflict, overall well-being.
- Decreased levels of stress**, depression, anxiety, disruptive behaviour.

Be safe, be kind and look after each other.

Keep Smiling!

Mrs Gill

WellbeingBooklet\_2021.pdf  
(tts-group.co.uk)



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### **Breakfast Club/After School Club**

Breakfast Club and After School Club will continue from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February as we try our best to support our key worker parents. The cap of 10 remains on the number we can safely accommodate. Please make sure you have booked **one week** in advance. If you are not in need of the place, please cancel ahead so we can offer the place to someone who needs it.

After School Club finishes at **5pm**. Please drop off and pick up from the playground pedestrian gate and ring **07398477727** to notify staff of your arrival.



### **PUPIL RECORDS**

**If you have not notified us of new contact details please do so. We needed to make a number of house calls this week as telephone numbers were no longer active.**

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