



## 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. 3: 24th September 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

We were so proud of all the children this week! We had a very beautiful 'Start of Year' Mass with Father Victor and a visit from our Education Standards Manager, Mr Maslen, yesterday. Not only was he impressed by the children's reading and how well they listened and engaged with their learning, but he was also struck by how friendly and polite they were. Whenever he met children on his way between classes, they greeted him politely and with lovely, warm smiles. They made such a good impression, Mr Maslen is keen to visit us again!

Thank you to those of you who have heeded my advice about parking and access to the back gate through White Friar's Lane. I know that the vast majority of parents are parking away from school and walking rather than looking to park close to the school. However the issue is continuing and residents are becoming increasingly frustrated. White Friar's Road is a **private road** but at pick up time, there may be residents driving/parking so please remain on the footpath and form a line from the clock tower, whilst waiting for the playground gate to open.

Next week, our Year 5 children will be going swimming every morning at the Life Centre. They missed the opportunity for swimming lessons last year and so they are looking forward to the sessions very much. In the summer term, our Year 4 children will have their swimming lessons and we will continue each year to send the Year 4 cohort.

On Monday we would love to see you at our Macmillan Coffee afternoon to raise money for Cancer Research. Any cake donations would also be greatly appreciated!

Finally, please could I ask you to check your Parent Pay accounts and ensure your payments are up to date? The school is owed over £4000 for dinners, Breakfast Club and After School Club. It is worth remembering that once your child moves from Year 2 into Year 3, school dinners must be paid for unless you are eligible for Free School Meals. If you think you might be eligible please visit [Apply for Free School Meals](#) and register. Breakfast and After School Club can only be run if financially viable and it would be a great shame if we could no longer offer this valuable provision as we want to be able to help parents as much as we can.

Mrs F Gill  
Headteacher



### 27th September - 1st October

Bike/Scoot to school week

### 27th September

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

### 27th September-15th October

Year 5 Swimming  
See Dojo Classpages for further information.

### 1st October

CAFOD Harvest Fundraiser  
Go Green to Brighten Up MUFTI

### 1st October

Black History Month begins

### 1st-6th October

Food Bank Collection

### 6th October

Walk to School Day

### 7th October

Harvest Mass

### 8th October

Wear Yellow for Mental Health Day **MUFTI**

### 11-15th October

PANTS week

### 18th-22nd October

One World Week (Focus on Laudato Si)

### 22nd October

Wear Red Day-Show Racism the Red Card **MUFTI**



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### *Our Catholic Life –*

*This week we gathered for our first Mass in school in 18 months, a very special occasion. This was celebrated by Father Victor who told the children that he was originally from Nigeria and is now part of the Cathedral Parish. After Mass a group of children took him on a guided tour of the school. The theme for the first Mass of the school year was love and the children were very articulate about how they could show love by sharing, caring and showing kindness to those around them. Our children are a wonderful example of how we can live out the Gospel message each and every day.*

*In our Gospel this week Jesus' disciples are worried that someone is using Jesus' name to perform miracles. Jesus tells his friends not to worry; anyone who does something good in his name is on his side. People who are on Jesus' side will be rewarded. When we do right and love other people we will be happy with God forever.*

*On Friday 1st October we will be supporting Cafod and the Go Green Harvest fundraising campaign. For a small donation the children can wear green/bright colours to support this cause and to help communities who are protecting the Amazon rainforest. You can find out more by watching this film:*

*<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Harvest-resources-children>*

*During Harvest time we encourage the children to think of those who may be less fortunate than themselves and to support the local community we would like to make a collection for the Plymouth Food Bank. It would be great if each child could bring in an item for the food bank. Please bring in your donation from Friday 1st-Thursday 7th October. Plymouth Food Bank urgently need the following INSTANT MASH POTATO, INSTANT HOT CHOCOLATE, SHOWER GEL / BARS OF SOAP, SHAMPOO, DEODORANT/ROLL ON (MENS & WOMENS), TOOTHPASTE / TOOTHBRUSHES, WASHING UP LIQUID, LONG LIFE MILK (WHOLE), LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE, SIZE 5 NAPPIES*



### **Let us Pray**

Dear Jesus, help me show I'm on your side  
by using every part of me to share your  
love with the people I meet  
**Amen**



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### *Wonders of the Week*

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



**Julia Donaldson: Vihaan** - For working really hard in his RWI lessons.

**Allan Ahlberg: Callum**- For really showing his true ability in his learning this week.

**Simon James: Amen** - For putting in extra effort with her learning this week but especially with her maths.

**Judith Kerr: Loveday**- for super effort in all areas of her learning this week and remaining focused all week.

**David Walliams: Grace** for working so hard on comparing numbers in maths.

**Cressida Cowell: Olivia** -For persevering with her maths this week so that she can now confidently round to the nearest 10 and 100.

**Roald Dahl: Blake R** - for working hard to develop a neat, cursive handwriting style.

**Louis Sachar: Elijah** - has been a reading demon over the last two weeks. He has read and quizzed six books.

**Emma Carroll: Pison** - for realising that he wasn't trying his best and making a positive change.

**Malorie Blackman: Mica** - for making a great effort in Maths and being determined to master Roman numerals.

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

**Julia Donaldson: Nathan** - For helping his friends access different areas of the classroom.

**Allan Ahlberg: Methuja**- for showing care for his friend when they were hurt.

**Simon James: Jnr** -For looking to help, support and show kindness to those in the class who need a friend.

**Judith Kerr: Aston**- for being a kind, caring friend to everyone in Judith Kerr and always looking out for others.

**David Walliams: Lucas** for helping other children with their maths.

**Cressida Cowell: Ali**- For always caring about others and making a card for Miss Goddard to help make her voice better. Thank you Ali!

**Roald Dahl: Millie** - for always understanding how others feel and for looking for ways to spread happiness.

**Louis Sachar:** Rianna is consistently there to help others when they need it. She is a great listener

**Emma Carroll: Summer** - For being a lovely friend and thinking of others

**Malorie Blackman: Evan** - He always shows compassion to others, always looks for ways to help and support those around him



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# Bike to School Week 2021

27 September – 1 October

- ✓ **Be active** and feel more energised
- ✓ **Help the environment** by replacing a car journey
- ✓ **Improve local air quality** and reduce congestion



Let Sustrans know your family is  
**cycling or scooting to school** to be  
in with the chance of **winning a Frog bike**.

Visit [www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge)



#BikeToSchoolWeek

[www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek)

Registered charity no. 348032 (England and Wales) SC038022 (Scotland). Competition T&Cs apply: [www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge)

sustrans



Holy Cross invites our wonderful children to get active and come to school with their bicycles and scooters. Bikes and scooters can be stored for KS2 on the top playground and for KS1, the bottom playground.

**PLEASE BE SAFE WHEN RIDING TO AND FROM SCHOOL.**



On **Monday 27th September** at 2pm we will be holding a Macmillan Coffee Afternoon to raise money for this worthwhile cause. One in two of us will face cancer, and the money we raise will help everyone with cancer to live life as fully as they can. We would welcome donations of cakes on the morning of **27th September** and for as many of you to come along as possible. We look forward to seeing you all.





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# It's Good to Grow

**Welcome to It's Good to Grow**

At Morrisons we want to support you to get the next generation growing, because the more kids know about how food's grown and made, the better they'll eat, now and in the future.

In this pack are some items to place around your school to tell parents and children that you're collecting.

Included are...

- An awareness Banner to place at the front of your school
- An awareness Poster to place around the school entrances
- A collection goal Poster to show parents and children the equipment you're collecting for
- A target Poster to update parents and children on your school's progress

You also have your own school dashboard on [itsgoodtogrow.co.uk](https://itsgoodtogrow.co.uk)

Here you can...

- Find helpful resources
- View your token count
- See how many people are collecting for you
- View the products you'll be able to redeem

And much more!

Visit [itsgoodtogrow.co.uk](https://itsgoodtogrow.co.uk) to download resources

**How it works...**

- 1 Morrisons customers download the MyMorrisons app
- 2 They sign in or register to MyMorrisons and select the school they wish to collect for
- 3 They scan the app at checkout or use online when shopping
- 4 For every £10 spent they will receive a **Grow Token** to donate to their chosen school
- 5 Your school can exchange your **Grow Tokens** for free gardening equipment after the collection period

**Grow Tokens can be exchanged for things like...**

- Mini Greenhouses
- Wheelbarrows
- Plant Pots
- Watering Cans
- Trowels & Spades
- Seeds

...and much, much more!

We would love to get some free gardening equipment for Holy Cross! If you are a Morrisons customer you can help us! Simply download the **MyMorrisons App** and register, selecting Holy Cross Catholic Primary School as the school you wish to collect for. Then, when shopping, you just scan the app at the checkout or even use online! For every £10 spent, we will receive your donation of one **Grow Token**.

**The collection period runs from Monday 6th September until Sunday 24th October.**

### **RARING 2 Go Plymouth - A digital magazine full of treats!**



Follow the link below to find your way to a whole selection of things to do to keep the children busy for the Autumn season, with ideas such as preparing the garden for the Autumn, caring for Hedgehogs and having fun with some great outdoor activities, to name a few. Here's the link for the Autumn edition...

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/plymouth/autumn/>



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### *Our Learning*

**Julia Donaldson Class** have loved their first few weeks at Holy Cross. They have enjoyed making new friends and exploring their new classroom and garden!



**Julia Donaldson Class**



PIC•COLLAGE





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**In Year 1 and 2, we have been exploring our local area using aerial views. We created messy maps of a local landmark. Can you guess what it is?**



PIC•COLLAGE





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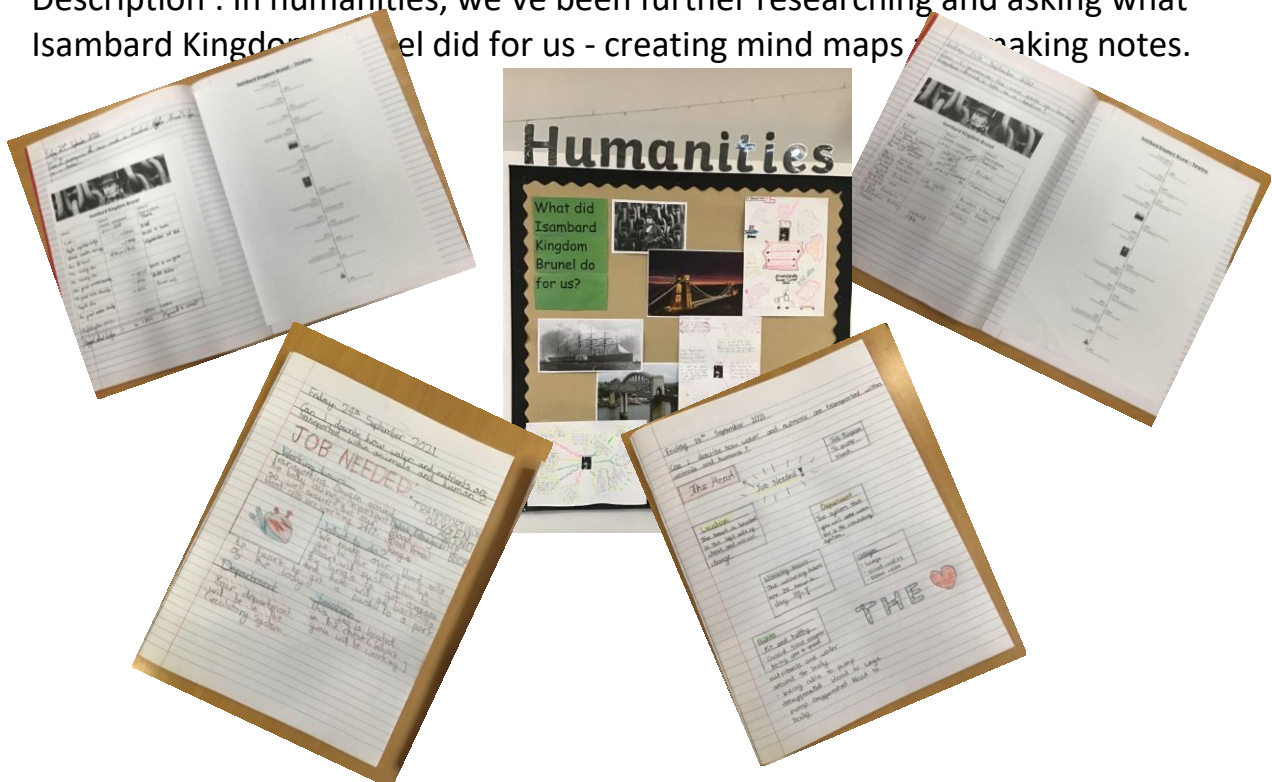
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**In Year 3 and 4** we have been learning all about rocks. Today, we tested the different properties of rocks. We tested permeability, durability and density. Ask us about our investigation at home and see what we can recall.



The wonderful and amazing **Year 5 / 6** have been exploring biographies in preparation for writing about someone they know, next week. They've also been investigating the circulatory system, with the children creating a heart 'Job Description'. In humanities, we've been further researching and asking what Isambard Kingdom Brunel did for us - creating mind maps and making notes.







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### COVID19 Information

As Lateral Flow Testing continues in schools and homes, could we remind you to report any positive results to [covid@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:covid@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk) or to **ring the school office immediately**, with self-isolation taking place until a confirmatory PCR test result is received. If the PCR comes back negative, your child can return to school. If the PCR is positive, your child will need to isolate for the full ten days from the onset of symptoms or the date of the test is asymptomatic. Any positive PCR tests should also be shared with us along with the date of the positive test.

*See flowchart for further explanation.*

#### **The guidance has now changed.**

If a child or member of staff tests positive, NHS track and Trace will carry out contact tracing.

Close contacts will be contacted by NHS Track and Trace and advised appropriately.

If there is a positive case in school, we will inform the parents of the affected class **but** we will not do contact tracing or send whole classes home.

If not contacted by NHS Track and Trace, you can assume that your child has not been identified by them as a close contact.

**However**, we all know how closely children interact within the classroom so we would advise you to book a PCR test for your child when informed of a positive case in their class. They can continue to attend school whilst waiting for either the test or the result. If the PCR is positive, then they should isolate.

We would also advise you to be vigilant and to monitor your child for symptoms if informed of a positive case within their class. They should not attend school if they develop symptoms and should book a PCR test immediately.

Use this link to book: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

You should not take a **Lateral Flow Device** (LFD) test if you are symptomatic even if LFD testing is part of your routine. **LFD tests are for people who are asymptomatic** – i.e. not showing any symptoms. If you are not sure whether you have one or more of the symptoms then book a **PCR** test.

Please note that this applies to anyone in your household as well.

For further information on testing go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>

If your child presents with a new continuous cough, a fever or is experiencing any loss of or change in their taste/smell, please do not send them to school.

If your child presents with any of these symptoms while at school, we will call you immediately. You should have your child tested and the whole household should self-isolate until you get the result.

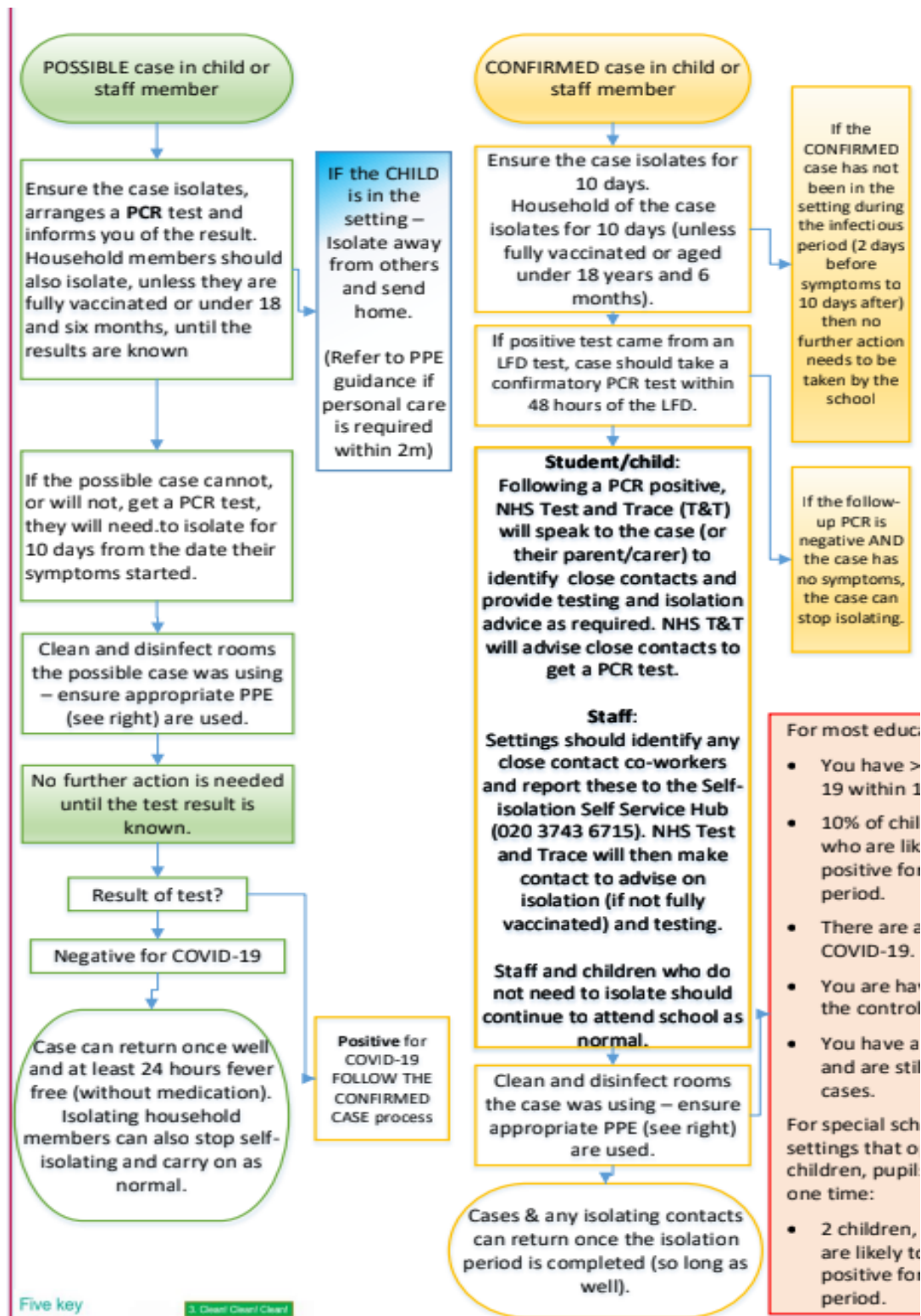
Further action will depend on the result of the test.

**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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### 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.

Please do not book places unless you think you need them as our staffing is based on numbers. High numbers means we need to pay more staff and if the children do not then turn up, this is a cost to the school. It also means we have to unnecessarily turn away parents who actually do need a place.

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!***