

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.25: 25th March 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for coming along on Wednesday to our Celebration of Learning. The children were so excited to see you all and to share their learning with you. Year 1 and 2 were able to spread out into the playground and enjoy the sunshine at the same time - there was a very summery feel to the afternoon!

We were also delighted to be able to introduce Helen Newton to so many of you. Helen is our new Parent Support Advisor and she will be starting very soon. She is really looking forward to getting to know you all.

A special thanks to Karen, our wonderful cook, and to CaterEd for providing tasty nibbles - just a small sample of the dishes Karen provides on a daily basis. If your child hasn't yet tried a school dinner, maybe you might like to encourage them to have a go.

We have had a few COVID challenges to deal with this week and I want to thank the Holy Cross team for pulling together and all going above and beyond to make sure everything is covered. With so many COVID cases across the city, it is impossible to get supply teachers so I am very grateful to all the staff for their hard work this week.

Next week we will be welcoming Miss McCalley back - we have all missed her but the children especially! Malorie Blackman Class are excited to have her back and have helped today to set up their new temporary classroom in the library so that Miss McCalley doesn't have to struggle up and down the stairs! They love their new room and are looking forward to having so many books to read!

Just a quick reminder about class photographs next week. These will take place on Tuesday throughout the morning so please ensure your child is in their full uniform that day as they always look so smart! We are still in winter uniform until after Easter. Classes who have PE on Tuesday should come in uniform and bring in their PE kit to change into.

Please can I remind you that on PE days, children need to wear school PE kit - black or blue tracksuits or shorts with a white tshirt or their house colour with a plain navy/black top.

Mrs F Gill
Headteacher



7th March - 1st April
'Eat them to Defeat them'

28th March
School Games KS2
Change4Life Festival

29th March
Tempest Class Photos

30th March
CC Class to the Box

31st March
DW Class to the Box

1st April
RockSteady Concert

4th April
Archery Event

21st -1st April
Big Walk and Wheel Week

5th April
End of Term Mass

6th April
RD Class to the Box

7th April
RC Football Festival

8th April
Egg Hunt

*5pm finish for After School
Club on Friday 8th April.*

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Our Catholic Life

In the Gospel this week we hear another of Jesus' parables and the message that it has for us all. The younger son asks for the money that he is due to receive when his father dies. He doesn't want to waste his time working at the farm with his older brother. He wants to go and enjoy life! It doesn't take long for this young son to waste all his money. When hardship comes to the country, he has no money left and has to search for a job wherever he can. He ends up feeding the pigs-so hungry that he wants to share the pigs' food. Then he comes to his senses. Having realised how wrong he has been, the wasteful son sets off home, in the hope of putting things right. His waiting father sees him when he is still in the distance and runs to meet his son, hugging and kissing him. No one could be happier! God always welcomes everyone home.

Let us Pray

Thank you Jesus, that if things go wrong for me, like the prodigal son, you will still be with me.

I know that my loving Father is always waiting to welcome me back with open, loving arms.

Amen



Action: Think about all the ways that you can make the most of what you have

Wonders of the Week

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

Julia Donaldson: Jax - for working really hard in all his learning and blowing us away with his independent reading and writing!
Allan Ahlberg: Vanessa - for showing confidence in applying her sounds when writing independently.

Simon James: Treh - For showing resilience with her sounds when writing her invented story this week.

Judith Kerr: Jefrin - For always using his manners and being a lovely, kind friend to others.

David Walliams: Katie - For improving the quantity of her work and maintaining concentration especially in our RE writing this week.

Cressida Cowell: Ziva - For working independently to improve her times table score.

Roald Dahl: Brody for his independent work in class today. Mrs King was teaching him from home and was very impressed with his engagement!

Louis Sachar: Alexander - demonstrating and sharing such great scientific knowledge.

Emma Carroll: Pison - You've worked incredibly hard with our new unit of fractions in Maths this week and it's been great to see. Keep up the great work!

Malorie Blackman: Lily - For always being a reliable, kind friend to others and giving 110% in her learning.



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Gospel Values Awards:

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

Julia Donaldson: Evelyn J - for building her confidence and becoming more involved in group time.

Allan Ahlberg: Rory- For growing in confidence in all areas of school life,.

Simon James: Oscar - For starting to build his confidence by getting more involved with answering questions when we are learning together.

Judith Kerr: Florence - For building her confidence when writing her amazing story this week.

David Walliams: Anastazja - For showing confidence in her reading assessment after months of hard work reading at home and quizzing on Accelerated Reader.

Cressida Cowell: Olivia- for growing in confidence over time and applying her knowledge across all subjects! Well done Olivia!

Roald Dahl: Maya for having the confidence to think for herself and always stand by her convictions.

Louis Sachar: Marcus - It just shows what you can achieve when you start believing in yourself.

Emma Carroll: Charlie - Your confidence with our computing has been amazing to see and incredibly valuable in the classroom. Well done!

Malorie Blackman: Theresia - For showing confidence when welcoming parents in for our celebration of learning, even though she previously said she was nervous.



Top Table Awards



Julia Donaldson: Amayra for her lovely manners.

Allan Ahlberg: Poppy-Rae for beautiful table manners.

Simon James: Ethan for his lovely, polite manners.

Judith Kerr: Oscar for trying his food at lunchtime and eating some water melon.

David Walliams: Toby for playing nicely in the playground this week.

Cressida Cowell: Olivia Jones for being such a wonderful role model for others.

Roald Dahl: Bonnie for always being happy and sharing that happiness with us all!

Louis Sachar: Shaliththi for being a kind, compassionate and caring friend to everyone!

Emma Carroll: Joseph for being a good team player.

Malorie Blackman: Xander for his polite manner to adults in the dinner hall.

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Celebration of Learning



PIC•COLLAGE

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The Pupil Chaplains have been busy organising our Easter Egg Hunt for the last day of term. They are planning it to be a grand event as it will be one of the first opportunities in two years that the children have been able to work with children from other year groups. The Easter challenge that will be set will certainly require the children to use our learning behaviours of **confidence, resilience, independence, creativity and curiosity.**

Thank you to those parents and governors who have already volunteered to help out on the day. Your support is very much appreciated. If you would like to help on 8th April in the morning please send me an email to sbuscombe@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

Volunteers Needed!



We are now able to have volunteers back in school to support the children. If you feel that you have some time and you would like to volunteer to support in class, hear children read, accompany the children on school trips or support with events such as school discos we would love to hear from you. As our volunteers haven't been in school for a while, all volunteers would need to have a new DBS check which we can arrange. If you would like to know more please contact me via [dojo](mailto:dojo@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk) or email on sbuscombe@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk

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 **We Made It Through to 2022.**  **Scouts**

Plymouth Scout and Guide Gang Show 2022





The Barbican Theatre

THURSDAY 14TH TO SATURDAY
16TH APRIL 2022
7.30PM AND 2.00PM MATINEE
SATURDAY

Ticket Prices : £10.00 Adults £8.50 Concessions
Group discounts available.
Tickets available now:
or online at: www.barbicantheatre.co.uk

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After Easter, from Thursday 28th April there will be a drop in session for parents every Thursday morning from 9.00-10.00 in the hall to speak to Miss Buscombe, our SENCO and/or Helen Newton our PSA. This will be an opportunity to ask any questions or concerns about the individual needs of your child or family. They are always available via dojo and email throughout the week. Tea/Coffee will be available, if you would like the opportunity to chat and/or meet with other parents.



Choir

After Easter, starting Wednesday 27th April Mrs. Shaw and Miss Buscombe will be starting a choir. It will be open to children from all classes and run from 3.15pm until 4.15pm. All are welcome. If you would like your child to join please send a dojo message to Miss Buscombe or Mrs. Shaw or email us.

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There are lots and lots of families going through tough times who can't get away together. We want to make the biggest difference we can to as many families as we can. We focus our holiday offers on families who:

- Are on a low income (a household income of less than £24,000)
- Haven't had a holiday together in the last 4 years
- Have at least one child under 18 who will go on the holiday

What's available?

Holidays available now that include **school holidays** and **bank holiday weekends** as well as everything in between! The perfect opportunity for families to get away with the kids as early as Easter if they want to. With the cold winter months soon slipping away, it's time to get them excited and have something in the diary to look forward to!

The good news is that this year we are offering these breaks entirely through a voucher model so that families have as much flexibility as possible to choose the date that works for them.

Families cannot self-refer but we can refer you if you feel you meet the criteria. Please contact me at fgill@holycross.plymouth.sch.uk if this would be something you feel would benefit your family and you satisfy the eligibility criteria.

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A **funded STEM club starts this Saturday** in collaboration with St Budeaux & Barne Barton Wellbeing Hub in Plymouth and there are **a few spaces left**.

What is it?

~ A **5 week Saturday Wellbeing club for ages 8-12**.

~ The theme is **Science**, in particular experiments and activities will be focussed around the amazing microscopic world around us.

~ **9am-12pm** on the following Saturdays:

March 26th

April 2nd

April 9th

April 23rd

April 30th

Cost?

£5 for the whole 5 weeks includes breakfast!

Where?

St Budeaux & Barne Barton Wellbeing Hub, William Sutton Memorial Hall, 6 Shelley Way, Plymouth, **PL5 1QF**.

Who's running it?

We are www.sciencedipity.co.uk and will be leading the clubs activities in collaboration with St Budeaux & Barne Barton Wellbeing Hub. **Sciencedipity is a Devon based non-profit company**, who has been delivering science workshops and clubs to schools and the community for 7 years across the south west. The company is led by scientists & qualified teachers, and supported by experienced staff.

How to book?

Booking is essential as we have only 20 spaces.

Book directly here: <https://Sciencedipity.as.me/sciencewellbeingclub>

Or read more and see the flyer here:

<https://sciencedipity.co.uk/for-parents/community-science-events/>

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The Uniform Store Plymouth is a free service for families to kit out their children for school. Through donations of good quality school uniforms, we give these items out to those in need, free of charge – no referral is needed.

We run a pop-up shop in Plymouth City Centre throughout the school summer holidays, and a Click and Collect service that runs throughout the year, where parents/carers can order the uniform that they need for their children and collect it from our collection point.

To place an order for school uniforms, families should [use our website](#).

Our collection point is at Redeemer Church, St Barnabas Terrace, Plymouth PL1 5NN.

For more information, please email hello@uniformstoreplymouth.co.uk



The Rock Pool Project has launched a new 'Blue Recovery' project to inspire and connect people from disadvantaged areas in Plymouth and Falmouth with their local marine wildlife, after receiving almost £150,000 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Every year, millions of people are drawn to the South West's spectacular coastline. However, a rising number of locals are becoming disconnected from their nearby beaches and marine heritage, missing out on this coastline's numerous benefits: fresh air, sea views, discovery, exercise, restfulness and fun.

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Today, The Rock Pool Project begin their exciting two-year Blue Recovery Project aimed at addressing this issue, made possible with a grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Thanks to National Lottery players, the innovative not-for-profit organisation will help hundreds of local people to explore, understand and care for their local wildlife and coastline. People living in relevant postcodes can join the Blue Recovery Community and enjoy free events and training as: Citizen Scientists: for adults and children over 16; Rock Pool Families: for families with younger children; Blue Recovery Rangers: leadership roles for a small number of dedicated adults.

Find out more here:

<https://www.visitplymouth.co.uk/invest/news/read/2022/02/major-new-project-to-connect-people-from-disadvantaged-areas-in-plymouth-to-their-coast-and-coastal-wildlife-b986>

COVID19 Information

Update 21st February: 'Living with Covid-19'.

At school we can now

- hold whole school assemblies, Masses and other events.
- no longer wear face coverings in school or in the playground at drop off/pick up times.
- cease routine asymptomatic testing of staff (LFTs).

We will however continue with our hand/respiratory hygiene, ventilation and cleaning regimes as a first line of defence as in the case of all infectious diseases.

We will continue to follow PHE advice whereby staff and pupils who are symptomatic or have a positive C-19 test result should stay off school for a minimum of 5 days, returning after two consecutive negative results on Day 5 and 6. Please let the office know if your child tests positive or is symptomatic. They should have a PCR test if they have a fever, a new, persistent cough or experience a loss of taste/smell.

In the event of an outbreak, we will implement measures in line with DFE/PHE advice which may include the re-introduction of face coverings/daily LFTs or the temporary suspension of whole school gatherings.

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Should we need to re-introduce these measures, I will inform you. We will no longer inform you of positive cases.

Breakfast Club/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. (Early finish of 5pm on 8th April 2022)**

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.

After School Club on Friday 8th April will finish at 5pm.

Have a lovely weekend.