



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Newsletter - 7th May 2020
Issue 27



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents,

Happy VE Day tomorrow! It seems a strange time to mark the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe but then again, times like these do make us think of sacrifices others have made. We will certainly come out of this situation more grateful and appreciative of others.

Since the last newsletter I have continued to be impressed with some of the learning that has been shared. I congratulate all endeavours to support your children. We all know it can be difficult for children to stay motivated without their classmates and friends so well done to all the children who are trying! I also want to thank the staff for all the work they are doing - planning appropriate learning tasks, sharing these, then constantly responding to the work being created. They really are putting in the hours and also trying to support families emotionally too. All this while also having to look after their own families in various ways! I hope you are enjoying the film sharing the week's work on Class Dojo.

The teachers have asked that you remind your children that, whilst they want to support all pupils in their learning, they too are allowed breaks and meals. The children can also post work whenever it suits them, but some of our teachers are also trying to juggle family life, so may not get back to them immediately.

A research document by John Hattie from New Zealand has been shared with us that looks at the impact of limited schooling following the Christchurch earthquakes. The information shows that schools were able to make up for those weeks 'lost' and there were no longer term gaps or slower progress. On return, we will be determined to do the same.

We await a government announcement on Sunday that should provide some kind of future plan for us. We are also working on a Return to School Action Plan where we are considering the impact on all areas of school life. I just want to assure you all at this time, that a lot of thought will be going into whatever the future looks like and priority number one will still be the health and safety of all. I will let you know more as we are given further information. We have been told there will be plenty of time to get whatever is required in place so nothing will happen quickly.

This isn't quite how I envisaged my last term as a Headteacher was going to be and the biggest thing I am missing is the daily contact with children! Mrs Cotter has also given in her resignation so we will both be enjoying some kind of new life in September. She has been at Holy Cross since 1997, so she has been a huge part of the school for a long time. I know she will be missed by so many - staff, parents and children - but I also know she deserves her own time - well at least shared with me!

You continue to be in our prayers. Here is our Ten Ten resources link for anyone who would like it to support with your own family worship.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/prayers-for-home/sunday-liturgy-for-families/>

Take care everyone and Godbless,

Mr Cotter
Headteacher

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Pirate Weekend at Yo Ho Home!

Why not have a pirate weekend at home on May 9th & 10th?

Visit the new Plymouth City Council Pirates microsite
<https://www.visitplymouth.co.uk/whats-on/top-events/pirates-weekend-plymouth>
and find out 'How to host your own pirate party' and 'Quizzes and Activities' section.

VE day - Great British bunting display

Plymouth is supporting BBC Local Radio who are asking people to 'do their bit' and celebrate the anniversary from home by making their own special VE Day 'Great British Bunting' to display in their windows.

The BBC are inviting people to create their own bunting designs to put in their windows for Friday 8 May, and over the Bank Holiday weekend. It's an easy activity to do and provides an opportunity to talk about the history of World War II and commemorate the sacrifices of previous generations. VE Day bunting can be displayed alongside children's beautiful rainbow pictures for the NHS frontline heroes of today.





This week Plymouth Argyle would like to encourage all children to design a football kit in rainbow colours to show their support to the NHS Frontline workers along with sharing a message of thanks to those frontline workers.

A bit short notice, but entries should be submitted by tomorrow **8th May**.
Entries to be submitted to plprimarystars@pafc.com. Every entry that is emailed into will be entered into a raffle to win a free block of sessions of their choice from After School Clubs, Development Centres or a Saturday Morning centre for 6 weeks.

Please find the template attached to this e-mailed newsletter.

Message from CAHMS

Is your child or the child you are caring for experiencing anxiety, worry or stress?

Are they experiencing psychological or emotional distress?

Do you need to talk to someone who can offer support and advice?

This service is open to Children, Young People, Parents, Carers and Professionals

The Urgent Mental Health Support Telephone line is open now 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 01752 435122 for advice and support

