



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

Millfield Avenue, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO32 6AS
Email: admin@holycrosscpri.iow.sch.uk Tel: 01983 292885

Headteacher: Mr T Eccles / Assistant Headteacher: Mrs S Collings

Friday 24th September 2021

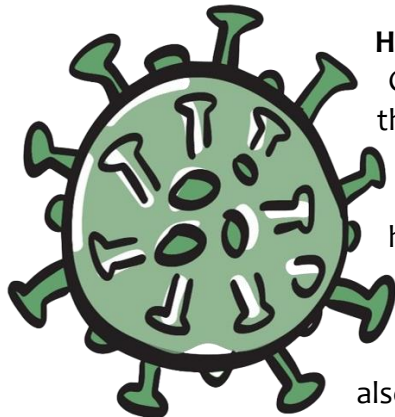
Dear Parents,

The new carparking arrangements and drop off seem to be working well and congestion appears to have eased.

Please could I take this opportunity of asking you to be extra vigilant when moving around the carpark area either on foot or in your vehicles. We will remind pupils at school about staying safe in the carpark area.



We have also just passed the autumn equinox and the nights and mornings will start to get darker so we will be reminding pupils of the need to have good road sense and to be seen. We would be grateful if you could reinforce this with your children at home.



Holy Cross Covid update – As we have all been instructed to learn to live with Covid I thought it might be of interest to you to know how the school is doing on the Covid front. Since we have returned back from the summer break we have had three members of staff who have tested positive and had to isolate, thankfully not all at the same time! All have now returned to school. We have had six confirmed cases amongst our pupils across Years 6, 5, 4 and 2. Three have since returned with three continuing to self isolate as per the guidance. We are very grateful for your support in helping us prevent the spread. If you think your child has Covid please keep them off and book a PCR test. We are also coming into the cold season which will make things even more interesting.

If your child has one of the main symptoms

- **A high temperature (38+)**
- **A new continuous cough**
- **A loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste**

Please keep them off and book a PCR test

We have included the school covid guidance at the end of this newsletter.



Holy Cross Autumn Charity- once again this year we will be supporting the Isle of Wight Foodbank. Pupils can bring in items for the food bank or families can make cash donations online. We will be celebrating Autumn Harvest Festival in school on the last Friday before the half term break. Items donated will then be taken to the food bank.

[Isle of Wight Foodbank | Helping Local People in Crisis](#)

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS - SEPTEMBER 2021

RICE PUDDING
TINNED SPAGHETTI
WASHING UP LIQUID
SHAVING FOAM/GEL
SPONGE PUDDINGS
TINNED POTATOES
SQUASH 750ML
TOILET ROLL
PAR BAKED BREAD
TOOTHBRUSHES (SINGLE)
RAZORS

Extract from the Portsmouth Diocese e-News

[E-News | Portsmouth Diocese](#)

This Friday, 24th September, is the Memorial of Our Lady of Walsingham. The story of Walsingham is enchanting, for it was in that tiny Norfolk village in the year 1061 that a noble lady called Richeldis had visions of the Blessed Virgin. In prayer, Our Lady showed her the Holy House of Nazareth, the home where Jesus, Mary and Joseph lived. She asked Lady Richeldis to build a replica of that house in the village, which she duly did, and so Walsingham soon became an international pilgrimage centre, after Rome and Jerusalem, one of the greatest in the medieval world. Thousands of pilgrims, from kings to the lowest, flocked there to pray to God, to honour Mary and to seek answers, often miraculous, to their prayers. Although destroyed at the Reformation by King Henry VIII, in 20C the shrine was revived and today flourishes as a place where both Anglicans and Catholics go to pray. Indeed, Walsingham is now England's national Marian shrine.

In the Middle Ages, more than any other land, England was known for its love of the Blessed Virgin: this is why it was called Mary's Dowry, and why so many churches were dedicated to St. Mary.



<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/>

Prayer

Hail, Mary,
full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women.
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

PLEA FOR UNWANTED LEGO!

Mrs Collings and Mrs Muncer are both running after school Lego clubs for
KS1 and KS2.

If you have any Lego that your children have outgrown, we would be grateful of any
donations! Please contact the school office if you are able to help us. Many thanks.



Our Catholic Schools need you!

Are you being called to serve as a foundation governor, helping our schools live out Bishop Philip's vision?

'Catholic parishes and Catholic schools exist to make Jesus Christ better known and better loved. The context for this mission in schools is always that they are places of educational excellence, where all can

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grow in holiness as stewards of God's creation. A school's concern is to support families in the education of their children, especially their responsibility to help their children develop a personal relationship with God in Jesus Christ. The school therefore uses all the resources and expertise available for the harmonious physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual development of the young people in its care. In cooperation with the bishop, with parishes and with families, the school coordinates its activity to bring to full potential the gifts, talents and personalities of those young people for whom it is responsible.'

'That They May Have Life', Bishop Philip Egan, 2015

Across the diocese we have 412 foundation governors, serving on the governing bodies of 56 maintained schools and academies. We are very grateful to them for the support and challenge they provide for our schools and for the work they do to help bring about the Bishop's vision of 'Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church'.

With this large number of governors to recruit we are always looking for suitable parishioners to join them. We currently have 69 vacancies for foundation governors across 25 of our schools.

What is a foundation governor?

Foundation governors are volunteers who serve as the Bishop's representative to assist in leading our Catholic schools. They work alongside other governors to form a governing body who are responsible for the strategic direction of the school. They are involved in decisions about all aspects of the school – such as buildings and budgets, monitoring standards and the Catholic ethos. Foundation governors take a particular interest and responsibility for admissions to the school, the employment of staff, Religious Education, Relationship Education, the prayer life of the school and for ensuring that the Bishop's directives are implemented. Foundation governors have the further duty of assisting the Bishop in his role as first teacher and leader of the diocese. The governors help determine the future for pupils attending our schools.

'I've been a foundation governor for a number of years, the role is incredibly fulfilling, being able to support and safeguard the Catholic ethos of our school is so important to me, to know that future generations will benefit from the grounding, love and care of the Catholic education that both my children and I received is well worth the time and commitment needed. I would encourage anyone to consider serving on a governing body.'

Sam Humphrey, St Walburga's Catholic Primary School, Bournemouth

Nominees would not be expected to have a direct knowledge of current education law, of school organisation or governance but should be willing to learn and dedicate reasonable time to their responsibilities.

Most governors will attend full governing board meetings (normally 3 or 4 a year) and additional committee meetings. There may also be tasks to be completed between meetings and opportunities to visit the school. It is important to recognise that for most new governors it can all be a bit baffling to begin with and all need support. Training and advice will be provided by the diocese, the local authority and most crucially by fellow governors. You are not on your own, governors work as a team supporting and challenging the school leadership.

'My Catholic faith is important to me and my family and when a vacancy arose at my local Catholic school, I applied to become a foundation governor. It was a surprise and a tremendous honour to be appointed as a Foundation Governor some 4 years ago. Over the years, I have found that you don't need a particular skill set or expertise in any subject matter or even a degree but you do need to be prepared to give your time, show commitment to the school and colleagues, a willingness to learn and take on new challenges, the ability to get along with people including stakeholders and a determination to see things through and

not leave it to someone else to do. I have tried really hard to make a difference and when my time as a foundation governor is at an end, I would like to be able to say, I had a positive impact on the school and left it in a better place than when I joined.'

Ian Anderson, All Hallows Catholic Secondary School, Farnham

Why am I needed?

Are you:

- A practising Catholic?
- Interested in the education of young people?
- Passionate about Catholic education and its vital role in advancing the mission of the Church?
- Prepared to work as part of a team responsible for the strategic direction of one of our Catholic schools?

Then you could be just what our schools are looking for!

'Being a governor is a great service to the local Catholic community, entails a consistent commitment of time and good will, being able to listen, ask questions, encourage and sometimes challenge. It is a rewarding role.'

Vicky Hummell, Christ the King, Reading

You do not need teaching experience and it is useful to bring skills from all areas of your life, such as financial, human resources, buildings, health and safety, safeguarding, parish work and community work. Schools are also looking for governors who reflect the ethnic, cultural and social background of their catchment area.

Foundation governors have an important part to play in ensuring the Catholic character of our schools and in building the community of Catholic schools throughout the diocese. Without them our schools are in jeopardy of losing their distinctiveness which will have a significant impact on the future lives of our children.

Governors are appointed for a 4-year term of office, after which they can be reappointed or pass the role on to someone else. Consequently, we are always seeking new foundation governors to serve in our schools. We currently have 69 vacancies across the diocese. To see if a school near you is looking for the right person to serve on their governing body visit www.casopportsmouth.org.uk/foundation-governor-vacancies/

'Being a foundation governor has allowed me to be a more practical, practising Catholic. I have always worked as a public servant and being in school governance has enabled me to not only broaden my public service but to do so within the context of my Church and my faith – it is a “win-win” situation.'

Captain Marc Evans, Chair of Governors, Oaklands Catholic Secondary School and Sixth Form College

Where can I find out more?

If you have any questions about being a foundation governor then you email the diocesan Catholic Academies and Schools Office (governors@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) and one of the CASO staff will get back to you.

If you are interested in a particular school then as a first step check out the school's website and if still interested make contact with them to find out more about becoming a foundation governor there. Visit the CASO website (www.casopportsmouth.org.uk) and look through the pages dedicated to governors.

How can I apply?

If you want to apply to a particular school, firstly, make contact to check the school still has a current vacancy, and to see if they are looking for applicants with a particular skill set. The next step would then be to complete a foundation governor nomination form, this can be obtained direct from the school, or from the CASO website.

We are also very interested in applicants who are prepared to give service in a locality further afield than their own parish school. As above, the next step would be to complete a foundation governor nomination form.

We look forward to receiving your completed nomination form and working with you in the future.

'I consider being a foundation governor to be a great privilege - it's fantastic having a window into a professional area of work that is so very different from my own area of expertise - even better when you know that your endeavours have had a positive impact on outcomes for children!'

Liz Holford, St Peter's, Waterloooville

Holy Cross Currently has vacancies for foundation governors. If you are interested in finding out more please contact our Clerk to Governors clerk@holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk who can guide you in the right direction.

CALLING PARENTS OF CATHOLIC CHILDREN - FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME

I am conscious that our children and young people have a right to their Catholic formation and access to the Sacraments — and that the parish priest has a particular obligation in this regard — I'm only too aware that the last joint parishes' First Communion course culminated in Masses in Eastertide 2018. At the moment I'm taking soundings, from parents with children of the right age (Year 3 and above), from existing catechists, and possibly potential new catechists, about availability and willingness to begin a programme of preparation for First Communion, hopefully in the near future, subject to any further Covid restrictions, etc. For the moment, I'm more than happy to gather details of potential candidates, and contact details. Fr Jonathan.

(Please contact via email – Fr.Jonathan@holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk)

After School Club Additions....

Skateboarding Club for year5/6 starts on Monday 27th September. Please contact the school office on 292885 or via email admin@holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk if you wish for your child to attend. There are a minimum of 8 spaces for the club to take place and it is at a cost of £32 for the term. Equipment is provided.

Spanish Club starting after half term with LCF. Fun Spanish for Children, Develop your child's potential. For KS1 and KS2. Please email Miss Lucas at admin@holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk to book your child a place.



Gold Book

Reception...

Felix Cook – For some super drawing and painting in class this week.

Ellie-May Williams – For working hard with different Maths activities with Mrs Rayner

Year 1...

Mikayla Lucas - for lovely manners, excellent listening and independence in her learning.

Sophia-Grace Cavner - for making an excellent effort with all her learning this week - Well done!

Year 2...

Poppy - for demonstrating a good understanding in maths this week.

Finola - for producing an excellent postcard during our shared writing session.

Year 3...

Rose Thompson – For being resourceful and independent in her learning.

Declan McGrath – For writing an excellent set of instructions.

Year 4...

Evlynn Harvey – For her creative, thoughtful and well-presented writing in English.

Your story was an excellent example.

Evie Knight – For her positive, helpful and thoughtful attitude in class. She always listens so well and makes excellent contributions to class discussions. She is a great example to others.

Year 5...

Jack Honey for continued effort in maths and for excellent football coaching skills during our recent P.E lesson.

Archie Flower for continued effort with his reading. Mr. Matthias is very impressed. Well done.

Year 6...

Freddie Taylor - For showing great resilience and confidence during our sailing trip. Freddie overcame his initial worries to have a really successful morning on the Solent.

Katie Wells - For demonstrating the CARES values when supporting her classmates. Katie shows good understanding of the needs of others and is always willing to help.

KS2 Lego Club:



This week in KS2 Lego Ms Muncer set the children a challenge to either build a bridge or a rocket! Here are some of their inventions.



School Notices

Term Dates

Autumn Half Term Holiday

Saturday 16th - Sunday 31st October

Christmas Holiday

Wednesday 22nd December – Tuesday 3rd January

February Half Term Holiday

Saturday 19th – 27th February

Easter Holiday

Saturday 9th - Sunday 24th April

Spring Half Term Holiday

Saturday 28th May – Sunday 5th June

Summer Holiday

Friday 22nd July – Monday 5th September



MENU – 6th September 2021 (Week two)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Specials	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Dough Balls	Beef Lasagne with Garlic & Herb Bread Wedge	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Sausage and Mash with Gravy	Fish Fingers & Chips
Specials	Veggie Bolognese	Mild Chickpea and Potatoe Curry	Creamy Vegetable Pie with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Noodles with Tofu and Veggies	Tomato Veggie Burger & Chips
Other Options	Jacket Potato ----- Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato ----- Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato ----- Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato ----- Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato ----- Tomato Pasta
Vegetables	Carrot sticks Cucumber sticks	Broccoli Peas	Cabbage Carrots	Green Beans Sweetcorn	Peas Bakes Beans
Dessert	Flapjack with Fruit Slices	Peach Shortbread Pudding & Custard	Raspberry Yoghurt Cake	Fruity Chocolate Brownie	Vanilla Ice Cream



HOLY CROSS SCHOOL LIBRARY!

We are super excited to be investing in our school library. We wanted to have a weekly post which includes our new book of the week and promote the library rules so parents and carers are able to support the school with the new Library Rules.

Mrs Neill has been busy reviewing the book stock in the library and trying to track down books which appear not to have been returned since the return from Lockdown. If you receive a reminder letter, please have a look at home to see if you can find any unreturned books. Thank you.

LIBRARY RULES

- Enjoy our library and the time you have to spend in there!
- No book will be issued until a book is returned.
- Any damaged books will be charged at the publisher's price.
- Please be respectful and quiet when visiting the library.

***Please note:** Books have been categorised into age appropriate sections. Children will not be allowed to borrow books from the older age groups, but may borrow books from anything categorised in the younger sections.*

ATTENTION YEAR6: 2021/22 Open Day/Evening dates

School/College	Date	Time
Carisbrooke College	23/09/2021	5-8pm Three talks per evening so school can limit number of people together and limited parent/pupils in classrooms. No need to register. Contact details will be taken on the day.

Christ the King College	28/09/2021	6-8pm 6.15-7pm Presentation by HT Parents requested to wear a mask and take LFD test before the evening. Only one parent to attend if possible. Presentation will be recorded for those unable to attend.
St George's School	28/09/2021	Sessions at: 3.30-5pm 4.30-6pm 5.30-7pm Parents/carers can book by ringing the school office on 524634 or email office@stgeorges.iow.sch.uk
Medina College	30/09/2021	5-8pm Three talks per evening so school can limit number of people together and limited parent/pupils in classrooms. No need to register. Contact details will be taken on the day.
Ryde School	02/10/2021	10-12.30pm Parents are requested to register via website https://www.rydeschool.org.uk/admissions/open-days-visits or by emailing admissions@rydeschool.net
Cowes Enterprise College	4-8/10/2021	Open week; commencing 4 October. Series of limited group tours am/pm. AM tours are at 9.15am, 9.30am and 10am. PM tours now fully booked. Separate SEN Tours by request. Please call 203103 to reserve am tour place or SEN tour.
Ryde Academy	06/10/2021	Online open evening including a tour of the school building. Further information to follow.
Island Free School	9/10/2021	10am-2pm Headmaster's talk at 11am and 12noon No need to register, turn up on the day.
The Bay CE School	13/10/2021	Details being finalised. Register your interest with Mrs Bricknell by email kbricknell@bayceschool.org
The Priory School of our Lady Walsingham	n/a	Don't hold open days. Ring up to make an appointment for a showround. Marion Ahmed – Tel: 861222 or email: mail@prioryschool.org.uk



ATTENDANCE
this week.

www.holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk

Holy Cross Primary target for whole school attendance is 96.5%
This week Holy Cross whole school attendance is 93.59%



Well Done Holy Cross!

Stay safe & Best wishes

Timothy Eccles
Headteacher



Covid -19 School Guidance

We continue to follow the current public health advice and government guidance around reducing the risk of spreading Covid -19 in school.

- Children will still be encouraged to wash their hands/use hand sanitizer frequently
 - The “Catch it, bin it, kill it” message will continue to be reinforced.
 - Rooms will still be well ventilated
- Classrooms and equipment /resources will still be cleaned using the appropriate products
 - Children will no longer be in bubbles

- For visitors to school, face coverings are no longer a requirement although it remains up to you if you wish to continue to wear one, especially in crowded places.

DfE guidance: What if someone tests positive or has symptoms?

Self-isolate straight away and get a PCR test immediately if you have any of these symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough,
- a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste

You should also self-isolate if:

- you have tested positive for C-19 either according to a PCR test or a lateral flow device test. A positive Lateral flow device test (LFD) means you must book a PCR test. A negative PCR test will override a positive LFD test.
- someone you live with has symptoms or tested positive (unless you are not required to self-isolate – see below if this applies to you)
- you've been told to self-isolate following contact with someone who tested positive – find out what to do if you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app. ([If you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk))

Pupils should only self-isolate if they have symptoms or if they get a positive PCR or Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test. If they develop symptoms or get a positive LFD test, they should book a PCR test. A positive PCR test cannot be overridden. If a pupil is asked to get a PCR test as a result of contact with a positive case, they may continue to attend education until they get the result of their PCR back.

And what will happen for people who have been in contact with positive cases?

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons. Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. They do not need to isolate while awaiting the PCR test.

We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal. If none of the above applies, people should self-isolate as per the instructions from NHS Test and Trace ([If you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk))

Fusion Arts Academy are running classes in their brand-new studio based at Osborne House Stable Block, East Cowes.

Established 2003

Qualified, experienced DBS checked staff

Ballet, Jazz, Acro, Tap, Hip Hop, Street / Commercial, Flexibility & Singing

www.holycrossrcpri.iow.sch.uk

Piano & Violin lessons

We also have an Adult Pop & Musical Theatre Choir!

For our full timetable or to book a trial follow this link <https://fusion-arts-academy.class4kids.co.uk>

07786 787322





COME AND JOIN US

Girls age 5-10



Your nearest Rainbow/Brownie unit is

Register your interest by visiting
www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus
 or you can ring
 Girlguiding on 0800 169 5901



S **CCER** **CAMP**

19TH – 22ND

OCTOBER

26TH – 29TH

OCTOBER

FOR 4–11 YEARS

£10 A DAY

10AM UNTIL 2:45PM

NINE ACRES PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEWPORT

ALL OF OUR COACHES ARE FA LEVEL

2 QUALIFIED AND HAVE ALL BEEN

CRB CHECKED.

073688 86639

LJRCOACHING97@GMAIL.COM

f LJR COACHING



S **CCER** **CAMP**

19TH – 22ND

OCTOBER

26TH – 29TH

OCTOBER

FOR 4–11 YEARS

£10 A DAY

10AM UNTIL 2:45PM

ST MARYS PRIMARY SCHOOL, RYDE

ALL OF OUR COACHES ARE FA LEVEL

2 QUALIFIED AND HAVE ALL BEEN

CRB CHECKED.

073688 86639

LJRCOACHING97@GMAIL.COM