



Parental communication and engagement September 2024-Now

Communication	Details
Platform Studybugs- September 2024	Studybugs is a system that allows parents to report their child's absence. This also informs the parents immediately if their child needs longer off of school due to sickness bug/ chicken pox giving them the information in real time. Allowing parents to communicate with the school even when we may be closed. This automatically imports the absence to the MIS system
Newsletter	Every Friday a newsletter with dates and information is sent to the parents via email. This also includes any weekly uploads keeping everything together making it easier for parents to refer back.
Website - Calendar	There is an up to date calendar on the website that parents can sync their phones/Alexa to so that any dates are added to their phone calendars. This is updated weekly and dates are put on there as soon as we have them.
Website - Letters	All letters that are sent via email throughout the week- Mainly Friday's and are uploaded to the website along with the newsletter.
Website - Class pages	These are updated as and when necessary and this is where teachers upload the weekly signposts.
Reminders	Emails to remind parents to book their children's school lunches are set up to go out every Sunday. Other reminders for things such as uniform changes, church visits and school activities are set up at the relevant points throughout the year.
Phone Calls	Parents are able to call the school between the hours of 8-4 and able to leave a message at any time. These calls are returned in a timely fashion.
Emails	Parents are able to email at any time we aim to respond to emails within 48 -72 hours. Parents are also able to request a meeting with their child's teacher via email.
Parents evening system	In order to book parents evening parents have access to a booking system that enables them to book an in person or online appointment.
Proformas	Parents have access to a range of proformas such as



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	Leave of absence form via the website and copies from the office. Consent to administer medication Year 5 & 6 walking home consent form
Arbor	Parents are able to update particular aspects of their child's record from the Arbor app. This is things such as change of address or phone numbers. (This has to be approved by a member of the office in order for it to override any previous information. Parents are able to make payments via this app and book their children on to clubs and trips.
Select- Aspens	Parents are able to pre book all school dinners via this website and are sent reminders every Sunday including additional communication when there are themed days and Christmas dinner.
Signpost	Teachers upload a weekly document to the website giving an overview of what the children have been up to during the week. Topics they have covered and what they are learning in each subject. This also includes spellings and homework information.
Reports	Parents are provided a full report on their child's academic progress in July.
Attendance	At the end of each half term parents of children whose attendance is under 96% are sent a letter. Some parents are invited in for a meeting with the headteacher to discuss how we can help them improve their child's attendance.
Lateness	This is communicated with parents on a need to basis. If we notice a pattern or that children are consistently late we will first send them an email and then they may be invited in to discuss it further with the headteacher.



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Friday Assemblies	Parents have been invited to attend Celebration assembly on a Friday if their child has a special birthday or a certificate to share. This enables us to let parents know if their child is presenting something (Chaplaincy team, eco team, head boy & head girl) and invite them to attend.
Come and read with me	Parents are invited once a term to come and read with their children. This gives parents an opportunity to read with their children in the school environment and for the Parents to get a look at their child's classroom.
Decorate the classroom day	Parents are invited into school for an allotted time slot or all day if they wish to support the children with making a Christmas decoration and decorating their child's classroom ready for Christmas.
Nativities	Parents are given an allowance of tickets to come and watch their child/ren perform in a nativity. Parents of Reception and Nursery are given 2 tickets and there is one performance. Parents of Year 1 & 2 are given 4 tickets over two performances. Performances are also recorded and are available for parents to buy.
Easter Play	Parents are given an allowance of tickets to come and watch their children perform an Easter story. Parents are given 4 tickets across 2 performances. Performances are also recorded and are available for parents to buy.
Mass	Parents are always invited to Mass this ranges from each class when they attend on Wednesday mornings or whole school mass which happens at the beginning and end of each term. Parents are invited in for the leavers mass in July.
Trust Choir event	The parents of the children in the choir are invited to the Trust choir concert that happens before Christmas each year.
Curriculum evening	This is held as close to the new academic year as possible where parents are welcomed in to hear about what their children will be learning, see their child's classroom and meet their new teacher.



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Tie Ceremony	Parents of reception children were invited to church to celebrate welcoming their child to the St Cross family. Each child was gifted a tie. Any children who were not there on that day or who joined later were given the same during a Friday assembly and their parents were invited.
Fashion Show-Summer	Parents were welcomed to the school playground to watch the children in a fashion show. The children walked the catwalk in their one of a kind designs that they had created during art and DT day.
Stations of the cross	Parents are welcomed to join with the children and Father Julian in hearing about the stations of the cross. This is once a year.
Leavers play	Parents are allocated 4 tickets for this event as it is only offered to year 6 parents.
Leavers assembly	Year 6 parents are invited in.
Parents Evening	Parents are able to book either an online or in person parent consultation with their child's teacher
Trips	Parents who hold a DBS are sometimes invited to accompany their child's class on the class trip.
Worry Workshops - November December 2025	Organised by the SENco parents were invited to attend this workshop for parents to help their children with any anxiety or worries about attending school. This is lead by the MHST Team – held at St Augustine's School
Traveling Nativity	Parents are welcomed to sign their family up to take home the traveling nativity. They then have the opportunity to set it up and have it in their home returning it to school to go to the next family.
School Talent show	Parents of the finalist are welcomed in to watch the final in school.
First Holy Communion assembly	Parents of those children who have taken their first Holy communion are invited in and their children are dressed in their outfits and participate in a whole school assembly celebrating their journey with God.



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Rocksteady Music concerts	These are held at the end of each term to showcase the children who have been having music or singing lessons.
Sporting events	Parents are invited along to sporting events such as district sports, football tournaments, cross country, netball tournaments and many more. This is dependent on the hosting schools rules.
Voice in a million/ Young Voices	Parents of children who have been chosen for the choir are able to purchase tickets to watch their children participate in the biggest choir events in the country. Parents have also accompanied the children on the trip dependant on numbers.
Sports Day	Parents are invited to school late morning on sports day to watch and cheer on their children, they are then invited to join their children for a picnic and more races in the afternoon.
May Procession	Parents were invited to walk with the children to St Cross where this year's May Procession took place.
PGL/SPEC Meeting	Year 6 PGL and Year 5 SPEC parents were invited in to discuss the residential trip and so that staff could answer any questions and give relevant information. Any parents who were unable to attend the meeting had the option to look at all the resources discussed which were available the next day on the school website.
Lego club- Year 2	Parents were invited to accompany the children who took part in 6 weeks' worth of Lego workshops at Hoddesdon Library.
Ukulele Assembly	Year 4 children put on a show of what they had learned during their Ukulele lessons and parents were invited to attend.
Book Fair	Parents were invited to accompany their children at the end of the day
Open mornings/ afternoons- Yearly	Parents of prospective nursery and reception children are invited to come in to school to have a tour. The headteacher takes the parents on the tour and is available to answer any questions.