



7th November 2025

Travelling Nativity



Dear Parents

We are fast approaching Advent, the time of preparation before the coming of the Lord. Over 2000 years ago, Mary and Joseph made the journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem for the census. We do not know exactly what route they took but the approximately 100-mile trip would have taken them 8-10 long days of walking. This must have been a tough journey for young, pregnant Mary.

At St Cross we offer families the opportunity to focus on that journey made by Mary, Joseph and the donkey by taking part in our Travelling Nativity. A box containing the new figures of Mary, Joseph and the donkey, a candle, order of service and advent activities for children to complete is passed from family to family each day in Advent so that families can take part in their own Advent Reflection. You may choose to invite your friends to welcome the 'visitors' with the short service, and follow this with refreshments. The following day, the host family passes the 'visitors' on to the next home on the list.

This year, Advent begins on Sunday 30th November and the Blessing of the Advent Wreath will take place in school on Friday 28th November 2025 at 9.00am to which all parents are welcome. Following the service, the Travelling Nativity will be sent out to the first family and then passed to different homes each day. Mary and Joseph will return to school on Friday 19th December, and they will be placed in the crib, together with baby Jesus, during the Christmas Mass.

If your family would like to enrol in this experience, please inform the school office by emailing consent@stcross.herts.sch.uk with the subject 'TRAVELLING NATIVITY' and the names/years of your child(ren). Emails will be logged on a first come first served basis, and those families wishing to partake will receive further details once a timetable has been scheduled.

Please note that there are 15 available days, we do hope many of you will sign up - past experience has shown that taking part helps to fill us with expectation and hope for the coming of the Christ child.

Yours sincerely

J Walsh
Executive Headteacher