



St. Cross News

"Together we grow in God's love"

Thursday 24th September

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Executive Head: **Paul O'Rourke**

It was a joy to lead this week's Gospel assembly for the first time on Monday and to reflect with the children on the Parable of the Sower. We talked about choosing to be like the 'good soil': when things are difficult, keep going (don't be rocky); when you feel worried or distracted, ask for help and put God first (don't let thorns grow). When God's love grows in you, share it — be a little sower: help a friend, include someone new, say a kind word.

Congratulations to our two pupils who were nominated for the St Francis of Assisi Academy Trust Franciscan Values Awards and received special certificates in assembly. In Key Stage 2, Aliyah Leukes was chosen for the Gratitude Award, and in Key Stage 1 Alexio Kitipos was chosen for the Kindness Award. Well done to you both.

A few reminders:

- The local authority will be administering the flu vaccine on Wednesday 30 September. You will be contacted from the NHS/ Vaccination UK about participation in this.
- The Reception Tie Ceremony is tomorrow; the weather currently looks favourable so we hope to hold the event in the school grounds as is our custom.
- The Chaplaincy Team will be travelling to St Mary's, Bishop's Stortford, for a special celebration to welcome them into this important role for the year ahead. We wish them well.
- There will be a special lunch menu on Thursday 1 October: Chicken nuggets and homemade pizza. The more children who have a meal on this day (census day), the more funding the school receives, which directly benefits our pupils.

Don't forget to look out for the full school newsletter on Thursdays. We publish then so any issues can be followed up on Fridays.

With every blessing,

Mr P O'Rourke BA (Hons), NPQH, NPQEL, MA
Executive Headteacher

School Tours

If you, or any of your friends or family, have children ready to start school in September next year, our school tours have been arranged for the dates and times below. Please encourage your friends and family to come along and see our wonderful school in action. Please call the school office to book your date:-

Mon 9 November 9.30am	Mon 16 November 1.30pm
Mon 23 November 9.30am	Mon 30 November 1.30pm

Sunday 27 September 2026

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A**

Matthew 21²⁸⁻³²



"Our actions speak louder than our words. It is always better to change your mind and choose what is right than to say you will help and then walk away."

Next Week in School

Fri 25 Sept

Reception Tie Ceremony (9am)

Weds 30 Sept

Flu Vaccinations

Thurs 1 Oct

Chaplaincy Team welcome liturgy

Attendance Award

Reception	94.5%
Year 1	91%
Year 2	90.4%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	98.8%
Year 5	98.6%
Year 6	91.9%

Congratulations Year 4

Whole school target 96%

Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any parent have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform the school's Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSP): **Mr O'Rourke, Mrs. James, Mrs. Norton and Mrs. Panter**. In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a statutory duty to discuss the issue with one of the DSPs to seek further advice.

Gold Book

Congratulations to our Golden Book pupils, one child from each class who has lived our values this week through kindness, effort or faith. Together we grow in God's love. Well done to you all.

Reception	Scarlett	Year 3	Oliver V
Year 1	Luca	Year 4	Sonnie
Year 2	Grace	Year 5	David
		Year 6	Elizabeth

Happy Birthday

Wishing you another fabulous birthday full of God's blessing

Rec: **Diego**

Year 1 **Daisy**

Year 2

Year 3 **Oliver**

Year 4 **Jack**

Year 5 **Olivia**

Year 6 **Olivia**

Pupil Leaders

Congratulations to the following children who have been awarded some particularly important responsibilities in school:

Chaplaincy Team (Year 6): Evelyn, Elizabeth, Aliyah, Evie-Rose, Cecilia, Pixie, Lorena, Isabelle and Katia.

School Council: Oscar and Leyla (year 1), Zac and Grace (Year 2), Tommy and Sanuki (Year 3), Sonnie and Leo (Year 4), Lilah and Freddie S (Year 5), Isabelle C and Ali (Year 6)

Eco Council: Peaches and Luca (Year 1), Jude and Anna (Year 2), Charlie and Oliver V (Year 3), George E and Billie (Year 4), Max and Blake (Year 5), Katia and Harry B (Year 6)

These pupil leadership roles carry real responsibility and play an important part in school life. We wish every representative well as they begin their duties and look forward to seeing the positive ideas and contributions they bring. Thank you to everyone who put themselves forward. Your courage, commitment and readiness to serve at such a young age reflect our values of respect and trust and make our community stronger.

Scooter Safety

For the safety and wellbeing of all pupils, please ensure that children do not ride bikes (including small balance bikes) or scooters on the playground, track or field after school once they have been dismissed. We ask that children walk their bike or scooter to the gates at home time.

We make this request because riding on the playground or field can unintentionally cause collisions or trips with other pupils who are leaving the site or waiting with adults. Keeping bikes and scooters off the play areas helps everyone move safely and shows respect for our shared school environment.

Cross Country

In a few weeks' time we will have our first house event of the year. House Cross Country will take place on Monday 19th October for KS1 and KS2. This is an inclusive event that all children will participate in to earn points for their house. Children should wear their PE kits to school that day with a T-Shirt in their house colour. As children will be running at different times throughout the school day, we are not able to open this event up to spectators. Mrs Stewart will be leading a lunchtime running club on Tuesdays for children who would like to practise, starting next week. Please could children who wish to take part in the running club bring in their trainers. In KS2, the top performers at the House Cross Country event will be chosen to take part in the Inter-school cross country competition at Broxbourne School, taking place on Friday 6th November.