



St. Cross News

"Together we grow in God's love"

9th January 2026

Upper Marsh Lane,
Hoddesdon,
Hertfordshire.
EN11 8BN
Tel: 01992 467309
Executive Head: Joanne Walsh

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome back to school. It has been a joy to see the children return looking so smart in their winter uniforms. A gentle reminder that our school colours are navy blue and black for scarves, hats, coats, and gloves - thank you for your continued support with this.

On Wednesday, we celebrated Epiphany Mass together with St Augustine's School. It was a beautiful celebration, and we would like to thank the parents who supported us with the walking bus. During the Mass, Fr Julian reminded us that Epiphany calls us to reflect on how we worship Christ as King - by presenting ourselves as gifts to Him through our actions, kindness, and service to others.

This term, our Catholic Social Teaching focus will be Solidarity and Peace, encouraging the children to recognise their responsibility towards one another and the wider world. Our school value for the term is Courage, and Gold Heart Awards will be presented during Celebration Assembly to recognise children who live out this value in the classroom and on the playground.

I am sure that by now, you will be aware of the news that was released on 19th December, that His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has appointed the Right Reverend Richard Moth to become the 12th Archbishop of Westminster, succeeding Cardinal Vincent Nichols since his appointment in 2009. Archbishop-elect Moth is installed at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday, 14 February 2026. We give thanks for Cardinal Vincent's inspiration which has helped transform our education communities under his stewardship.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Norton back to Year 6, and we look forward to wishing Mrs Milner all the very best as she begins her maternity leave on 21st January. We wish Miss Kendrick all the best in her contrasting placement at St Joseph's. Miss Kendrick enjoyed having lunch with her class today, as she will miss them while she is away. We look forward to welcoming Miss Kendrick back on 9th February.

Please take time to read the letter from Mrs Hill, our Science Leader, who is seeking parental support during Science Week - your help would be greatly appreciated.

We are also looking for volunteers to support reading in class during afternoon sessions each week. If you are available, please email admin@stcross.herts.sch.uk with your name and the subject "Reading Volunteer".

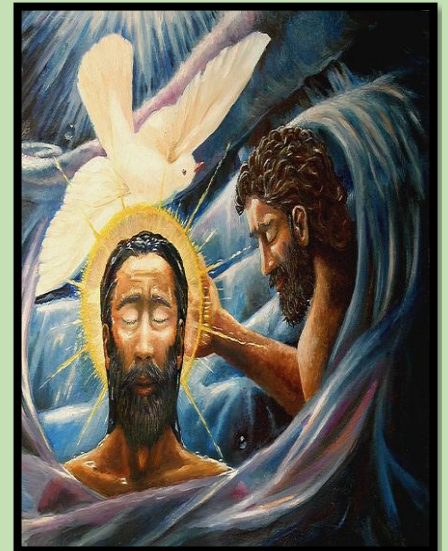
Finally, I am delighted to inform you that £400.00 was raised at our Christmas Fair. Well done to our Year 6 children who hosted the fair and thank you parents for your generosity and ongoing support.

Mrs Joanne Walsh

Sunday 11th January 2026

Matthew 3:13-17

The Baptism of our Lord



Attendance Award Congratulations to Year 4

Reception	90.8%
Year 1	80.8%
Year 2	90.7%
Year 3	91.3%
Year 4	94.1%
Year 5	86.1%
Year 6	91.4%

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), members of Senior Leadership Team: **Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. James 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.

Key Dates for your Diary

<https://www.stcross.herts.sch.uk/diary/list/>

13 Jan	Fr Julian – Year 4
16 Jan	JW Netball/Football Tournament
19 Jan	KS1 Maths Parent Workshop, 10.00am
20 Jan	Fr Julian – Year 5
22 Jan	Choir – Young Voices, 02 London
27 Jan	Fr Julian – Year 6
29 Jan	NHS 1 st Cohort – Reception
3 Feb	Fr Julian – Year 3
9 Feb	Rec/KS1 – Midnight in the Toyshop
10 Feb	Y2 Royal Gunpowder Mills
16th to 20 Feb	Half Term Week
24 Feb	Fr Julian – Year 1
25 Feb	Year 3 & 4 Mass, 9.15am – Parents Welcome
27 Feb	Y5 & Y6 Knex Workshop
3 Mar	Fr Julian – Year 2
4 Mar	Year 5 & 6 Mass, 9.15am – Parents Welcome
5 Mar	World Book Day
6 Mar	NHS 2 nd Cohort – Reception
9 Mar	Science Week
10 Mar	Football Tournament, Cranbourne School
13 Mar	Mother's Day Tea
17 Mar	Stations of the Cross, 9.00am Y6 Reconciliation, 1.30pm
19 Mar	Netball A & B Tournament, The Broxbourne School
20 Mar	Rocksteady Music Concert
23 Mar	Y4 Reconciliation, 1.30pm
24 Mar	Y5 Reconciliation, 1.30pm Y3/4 Easter Play, 2pm/6pm
27 Mar	School Closes at 1.15pm

Note: The above dates/times are subject to change

Gold Book:

Well Done Children

Reception: Harley

Year 1: Alexander

Year 2: Thomas

Year 3: Sonnie

Year 4: Florence

Year 5: Cecilia

Year 6: Mason

Happy Birthday

**Wishing you, another fabulous
Birthday full of God's blessing**

Year 2: Sloane

Year 3: Alex Mi

Year 4: Ada