



St. Cross News

"Together we grow in God's love"

5th December 2025

Upper Marsh Lane,
Hoddesdon,
Hertfordshire.
EN11 8BN

Tel: 01992 467309

Executive Head: Joanne Walsh

Dear Parents,

As we journey through Advent, our school has already become alive with the spirit of the season.

We were delighted to welcome our School Executive Advisor (SEA) from Hertfordshire, who came to monitor learning across Maths and Science. During the visit, lessons were observed, and our children had the opportunity to share their learning and books. The SEA was particularly impressed with how our pupils demonstrated a clear understanding of their learning - a testament to the hard work of both our staff and pupils.

Reception/KS1 Nativity tickets will be sent home with your child today. If your child is absent, please collect your tickets from the school office. Note: for Health & Safety regulations, a ticket is required per visitor, including children.

One of the highlights of the year is our Choir's performance in Hoddesdon Town Centre. Their beautiful singing on Wednesday was a testament to the hard work and talent of our pupils. I would like to express my gratitude to Mrs. Daynes, Miss Judge and Mr. Dance for their guidance, and to all the parents who came along to support our young singers. Your presence meant a great deal to the children and added to the joyous atmosphere of the event.

Looking ahead, I am also excited to announce that next week our St Cross Choir will participate in the Academy Advent Service. This special event will bring together Academy schools to sing in celebration of the advent of the Lord (a separate letter was emailed to all choir members yesterday).

Another highlight was our Chaplaincy Team's visit to Westminster Cathedral for the Catholic Children's Society Advent Service. It was a truly memorable occasion, with two donkeys and a goat walking down the aisle to visit the baby Jesus. Bishop Paul led the service, and afterwards, we all enjoyed a lovely lunch together. I must commend our Chaplaincy Team for being exceptionally well-behaved and representing our school with such grace.

Last Friday our Year 6 football team took part in the St Edmund's tournament accompanied by Mrs Burke and Jack from Bows Soccer. The team showed true sportsmanship and impeccable behaviour throughout the afternoon with encouragement and support for each other as well as other schools within the tournament. After a tough start the team made it through to the final of the Shield Cup and won! Jack named his superstar player of the tournament as Max Sc, well done and congratulations team!

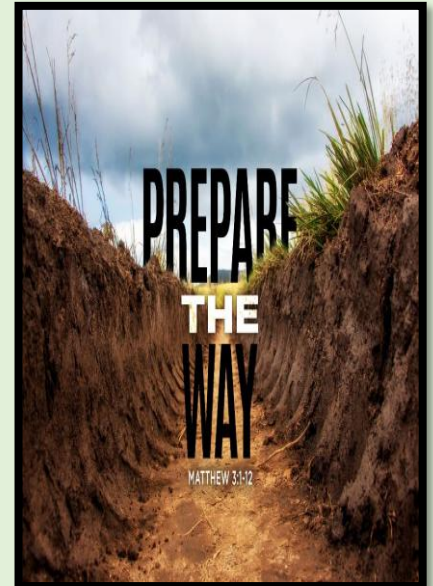
Please be reminded that we have a flu vaccination catch up on 10th December for those children that consented but were absent on the day. If your child has not been vaccinated yet but you would now like them to be, please follow the link to consent:- <https://bed.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/hertfordshire>
If your child has been vaccinated for flu elsewhere, we have been asked that you please inform the Vaccination UK office of this - 01462 427008.

Finally, I am delighted to inform you that purchases have now been selected by Mrs James and our School Council following their recent cake sale. An amazing £330.00 was raised to buy additional playtime/playground equipment. Thank you children, and parents, for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend. **Mrs. Joanne Walsh**

Sunday 7th December

Matthew 3:1-12



Attendance Award Congratulations to Year 3

Reception	93.2%
Year 1	84.6%
Year 2	88.0%
Year 3	96.7%
Year 4	90.0%
Year 5	91.3%
Year 6	93.9%

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/>

- 9 Dec KS1 Nativity, 2:00pm & 6:00pm
- 10 Dec Y6 Mass 9.15am (Church), Parents Welcome
Flu Vaccination (catch up)
- 11 Dec Reception Nativity, 9:30am
Choir - Academy Trust Carol Service, 2:00pm
Friends School Disco - Rec/Y1/Y2 – 3:15-4:15pm
Y3/Y4/Y5 & Y6 – 4:30-5:30pm
- 12 Dec Rocksteady Musicians Concert, 9:00am (in school)
Christmas Fair – School Hall, see separate letter issued
- 15 Dec Carol Rehearsal (Church), 12:30pm
Whole School Carol Service (Church), 6:00pm
- 16 Dec KS2 Shakespeare Day
- 17 Dec Christmas Dinner - Christmas Jumpers may be worn
with school uniform
- 19 Dec End of Year Mass, 9:15am (Church) Parents Welcome
School Closes at 1:15pm

Note: The above dates/times are subject to change

- 6th Jan Children return to school
- 9th Jan Friends AGM 2pm School Hall

Gold Book

- Reception: **Bella**
- Year 1: **Gray**
- Year 2: **Mia**
- Year 3: **Glory**
- Year 4: **Teddi A.**
- Year 5: **Mason**
- Year 6: **Ava B.**

Happy Birthday

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

- Year 3: **Edith-Jean**
- Year 4: **David Lincu**
Maximus
Vaughn

Reception Admissions 2026

Please note if you currently have a sibling in the school and are applying for a place in Reception 2026, you must also complete a School Information Form (SIF) available on the website or from the School Office. Thank you.

Christmas Dinner – 17th December

The Christmas Dinner Menu has been finalised and is now open on Aspens for bookings. If your child is having a school dinner on this day, please ensure your order is placed by **Friday 12th December 2025**. In addition, please be reminded children may wear Christmas jumpers on this day with their school uniform.

Christmas Rainbow Hampers

Thank you for your wonderful contributions for this year's hampers. Tickets will be on sale after school from Monday 8th to Thursday 11th December. Winners will be drawn on Friday 12th December.

