



St. Cross News

"Together we grow in God's love"

28th November 2025

Upper Marsh Lane,
Hoddesdon,
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Tel: 01992 467309

Executive Head: *Joanne Walsh*

Dear Parents,

Today we began with the blessing of the Advent Wreath Assembly. The Travelling Nativity began its journey to the Burke family. To all the families receiving the Travelling Nativity we would love to see your own liturgy at home - please send us photos of your Nativity setup!

Decorate the Classroom was a huge success! The children have absolutely loved having you involved in our Decorate the Classroom project. Thank you so much for giving your time and creativity - the classrooms look fabulous, and the joy it has brought to the children is priceless!

Tickets for the Nativity performances for Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 will be sent out next Friday. If you have any unused tickets, you are welcome to share them with friends and family. Parents of Reception, Year 1 and 2 please could you complete the consent form on Teams. Thank you.

For the Nativity productions, we are offering a Christmas card featuring a photo of your child along with a recording of the performances for **£5.00**. Please make payment via Arbor (which opens on Monday) if you would like to receive this package.

Well done to Year 2 for taking part in the Football Festival at St Edmund's College! They reached the quarter-finals and narrowly missed out in the Golden Ball round. The team played brilliantly and showed fantastic sportsmanship.

Last Thursday morning, Mrs James and myself met with Parents, please find [the minutes](#) on the website. Parents, thank you again for your time.

On Thursday, we celebrated our Academy Year of Hope Liturgy. Children from all schools came together to share readings and prayers, creating a truly special and reflective occasion. After the liturgy, each child wrote a personal prayer on a dove, symbolizing peace and hope for the year ahead. A special thank you to Myla in Year 6 for confidently reading a bidding prayer during the service.

The KS2 children are looking forward to watching *Romeo and Juliet* on **16th December**. Please assist the Friends with your contribution on Arbor to make this event possible, thank you for your support.

A Special Thank You - We extend our gratitude to a past family, the Wales, for bringing joy to the children by donating a huge Christmas tree!

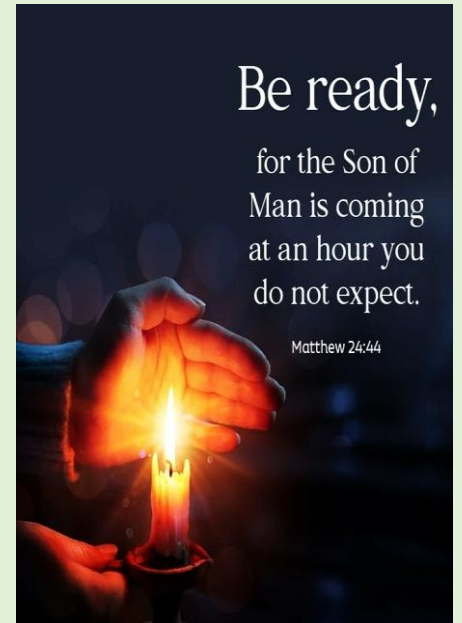
Starting Monday, you can read your child's prayer and thoughts for the Advent season. Each family will receive an Advent Calendar (sent home with the eldest child), offering ideas and reflections to prepare your hearts during the next four weeks.

Have a warm weekend!

Mrs. Joanne Walsh

Sunday 30th November 2025

Matthew 24:37-44



Attendance Award Congratulations to Reception

Reception	94.5%
Year 1	92%
Year 2	96.3%
Year 3	91.7%
Year 4	96.9%
Year 5	89.1%
Year 6	96.9%

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/>

- 3 Dec 10:30 Chaplaincy Team DOW Advent Concert
Festival of Carols (Choir), Hoddesdon Town, 11:30-12:00
- 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 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 Jumper Day, to 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: Pippa
Year 1: Divine As.
Year 2: Jack
Year 3: Elijah
Year 4: David
Year 5: Aliyah
Year 6: Mason

Happy Birthday

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

- Year 2: Helen
Year 3: Owen
Year 4: Rocky
Year 5: Harry



Dear God,

Thank you for this year and all the
reason we have to **hope**. Please help
us to understand you and believe in
you more. Thank you God for all my
family and friends and to let me
continue to have hope.
Amen.

We are all Pilgrims of Hope

Milan - Year 4



Thank you from Strength in Mind

I would like to take this opportunity to
send the staff and students our
heartfelt appreciation for your efforts
on fundraising for HABS Strength in
Mind. Your donation helps to continue
our mission to bring support and
guidance to local families and help
vulnerable families to provide
Christmas gifts to their children during
the festive season.

Thanks to all the amazing students
who have been so generous.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.

Leigh Cole