



St. Cross News

"Together we grow in God's love"

7th November 2025

Upper Marsh Lane,
Hoddesdon,
Hertfordshire.
EN11 8BN
Tel: 01992 467309

Executive Head: **Joanne Walsh**

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back after Half Term! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half term break. It is lovely to have the children back and full of enthusiasm for the exciting weeks ahead.

Our Key Stage 1 and Reception children have already begun learning their songs for this year's Christmas Nativity plays - we cannot wait to see their wonderful performances! We will be sending home closer to the time the tickets for each performance.

If you would like to help with Decorate the Classroom Day, please email your preferred times for Friday 28th November. We will have three sessions throughout the day following Celebration Assembly and blessing of the Advent Wreath. Your support makes such a difference in making our classrooms feel festive and welcoming. Please email admin@stcross.herts.sch.uk with your preferred session.

Please also see the attached Travelling Nativity Letter. The nativity will begin its journey from school on Friday 28th November, visiting families over the Advent season. This is a new Nativity scene for children to assemble at home. We would love to see your photos as you welcome the Holy Family into your home.

We are delighted to share that this year's Carol Service will take place on **Monday 15th December at 6:00pm** in the Church and will include the *whole school*. All children are expected to attend in full school uniform. It will last an hour. Our Reception and Key Stage 1 children will be performing their favourite songs from their nativity plays, while Key Stage 2 will lead us in traditional carols, playing of the bells, and bible readings as we prepare our hearts for Christmas. It promises to be a joyful celebration of the birth of Jesus and a wonderful way to come together as a school community in prayer and song.

To our Key Stage 2 cross country runners, we would like to wish all the children taking part at Broxbourne School this afternoon the very best of luck! We are so proud of your hard work and team spirit. Run your best and enjoy the experience – we will be cheering you on all the way!

We will be supporting 'Children in Need' on Friday 14th November. To mark the day, children are invited to wear spotty socks, hairbands, badges or ties! Thank you for raising awareness and show support for this cause.

Finally, a special thank you in advance to our Head Boy William, and Head Girl Lydia, who will lay the wreath on behalf of all our governors, staff, and pupils at the Hoddesdon Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. We are very proud of them for representing our school community.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs. Joanne Walsh

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica Sunday 9th November 2025



Attendance Award Congratulations to Year 3

Reception	87.4%
Year 1	94.6%
Year 2	91.7%
Year 3	96.3%
Year 4	77%
Year 5	80.6%
Year 6	87%

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/>

- 10 Nov Anti Bullying Week in school – **all children can wear odd socks with their school uniform today**
- 14 Nov Children In Need - **add spotty accessories to your school uniform**. Donation accepted under the Arbor School Shop Products/Children in Need tab
- Y5/6 Netball & Football Tournament – JW School
- 19 Nov Y3 Mass 9:15am (Church), Parents Welcome
- 27 Nov Y2 Football Festival – St Edmunds College
- 28 Nov Decorate the Classroom Day: 9:30–10:30, 10:30–12:00 and 1:15–3:00pm - **children can wear their own clothes/Christmas jumpers**
- Y6 Football Tournament – St Edmunds College
- 3 Dec 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. Tickets must be purchased (via Arbor under the School Shop Tab) by 1st December at the very latest. Thank you.
- 12 Dec Rocksteady Musicians Concert, 9:00am (in school)
- 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

Spring Term 2026

- 5 Jan** Inset Day 2 (School Closed)
- 22 Jan Choir – Young Voices Concert, 02 London
- 10 Feb Y2 Gunpowder Mills Trip, Waltham Abbey

Gold Book

Congratulations on your efforts this week

- Reception: Teddy S
- Year 1: Aria
- Year 2: Alessia
- Year 3: Luca
- Year 4: Lilah
- Year 5: Isabelle C.
- Year 6: Aurora

Happy Birthday

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

- Year 1: Kyla.
- Year 4: Bobbie H.

Arbor Payments

Just to advise that when making payments that are not for clubs or trips, (such as Friends events, Cafod/ Children in Need donations) these can be made under the 'School Shop Products' tab.

Absence Reporting

Please be reminded to report all absences by 8.45am on the Studybugs system, which updates the registers automatically with reasons for absence before registers are taken. Thank you.

School Dinner Reminder

All dinners must be ordered in advance, if required, or by 8:00am on the day if booking daily. Thank you.

Note: The above dates/times are subject to change