St. Cross News

"Together we grow in God's love"

Thursday 19 November

Upper Marsh Lane,
Hoddesdon,
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EN11 8BN
Tel: 01992 467309
Executive Head: *Paul O'Rourke*

It has been a busy and happy week at St Cross.

We have now held two successful open mornings for prospective parents to visit the school. Thank you to everyone who has recommended us to friends, family or colleagues, and helped others discover what makes our school community so special.

A big thank you, too, to all the children who took part in Odd Socks Day on Monday to support Anti-Bullying Week. This year's theme, "Break the Silence", reminds us how important it is to speak up and take action if we see or experience bullying. The children's colourful socks were a lovely way to celebrate individuality and get us talking about how we can look after one another.

I hope you enjoyed visiting our Book Looks on Tuesday and sharing your child's work with them. We hope this gave you a chance to celebrate their learning, support them at home and help inform your conversations at this evening's parent consultations.

You will have received an important letter from the St Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust about Mr Maloney's appointment as the new Executive Headteacher of St Cross. I look forward to working closely with him over the coming months to ensure a smooth handover and to help him get to know and appreciate our very special community.

You will also have received a letter about the new Behaviour Points we are introducing. Please make sure you can access the Arbour App so you can keep up to date with your child's progress. This is an exciting opportunity to recognise and celebrate the positive choices and behaviours we see across the school.

I'm also looking forward to finding out what Decorate the Classroom Day is all about! I've heard so much about this much-loved St Cross tradition. There are still a few places available for parents who would like to take part.

Finally, a letter went home previously about our Travelling Nativity. There is still time to sign up if you would like to welcome this special spiritual resource into your home for a night.

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

Sunday 22 November 2026

34th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year
Matthew 25*31-46*



Next Week in School

Mon 23rd
School tour for prospective parents
1.30pm
Tues 24th
Choir at the Albert Hall
Weds 25th
HABs Coffee Morning
Thurs 26th
Celebration Assembly
Y5 Tuck Shop

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.

Mon 23 November 9.30am **Mon 30 November 1.30pm**

Attendance Award

Reception	95.6%
Year 1	93.7%
Year 2	90.4%
Year 3	96.3%
Year 4	95.2%
Year 5	**97.2%**
Year 6	91.6%

Congratulations Year 5

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** 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 Future Dates

November

Fri 20th	Christmas Disco (3.15pm/4.30pm) Non-uniform Day
Mon 23rd	School tours for prospective parents
Tues 24th	Barnardo's Choir at Royal Albert Hall
Weds 25th	HABs Coffee Morning 9-10am – Parents welcome
Thurs 26th	Advent Wreath Assembly Decorate the Classroom Day Year 5 Tuck Shop
Fri 27th	INSET day – school closed
Mon 30th	School tours for prospective parents

December

Weds 2nd	Year 6 Mass, 9.15am
Fri 4th	Rock Steady Concert 9.30am
Tues 8th	Reception Nativity, 9.30am KS1 Nativity, 2pm/5.30pm
Thurs 10th	Choir to Academy Carol Service
Fri 11th	Rock Steady Concert Christmas Fair 2pm
Tues 15th	KS2 Carol Service 2.00pm
Weds 16th	Christmas Dinner & parties
Fri 18th	Term ends 1.15pm

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	Mikaela	Year 3	Thomas
Year 1	Stanley	Year 4	Elijah
Year 2	Divine	Year 5	Ava
		Year 6	Finley

Happy Birthday

Wishing you another fabulous birthday full of God's blessing

Rec	Alexander
Year 1	
Year 2	
Year 3	Sanuki
Year 4	Lennie
Year 5	
Year 6	

*Don't forget that school is **closed** on*
Friday 27 November