



St. Cross News

"Together we grow in God's love"

24th April 2026

Upper Marsh Lane,
Hoddesdon,
Hertfordshire.

EN11 8BN

Tel: 01992 467309

Executive Head: **Joanne Walsh**

Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying the field at break and lunchtime in this beautiful sunshine. Their happiness and energy outdoors have been a joy to witness.

The children continue to work hard in their learning, and this week, Mrs James and I completed final meetings with teachers to monitor Spring Term progress. It is very clear how much of a difference regular support at home with reading and homework makes - thank you for all you do to help your children succeed.

This is a particularly busy term, not only academically but also with sporting tournaments and enrichment activities. Please keep an eye on the Key Dates.

On Monday, Year 5 and Year 6 will be taking part in a STEM K'NEX Challenge which is held across all the local primary schools. We kindly ask for your contributions to help cover the cost of this exciting opportunity, as it would be a great shame to have to cancel it.

Please could all parents check Arbor and ensure that any outstanding balances for Wraparound care are settled. Thank you for your cooperation.

We have begun receiving photographs of children with their pets, which will be added to our display St Francis of Assisi tree in the hall. If you would like to contribute, please ensure photos are sized 10 x 15 cm.

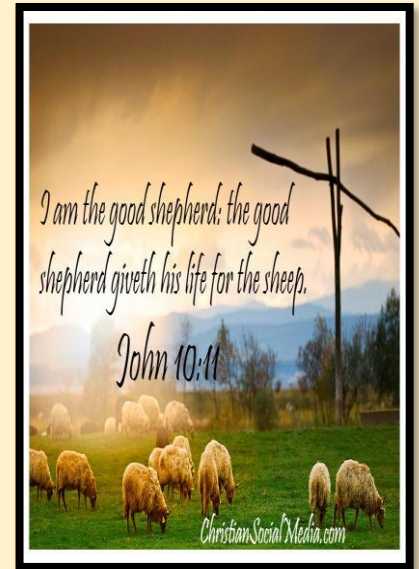
On Saturday 25th July, thirteen of our Key Stage 2 pupils will take part in the iconic Mini Marathon, part of the TCS London Marathon. They will start at Horse Guards Parade and finish along The Mall, earning the coveted Mini Marathon medal. We wish Evelyn, Harry H, Luca M, Blake, Ella, Freya, Teddy G, Katia, Louis G, Isabelle F, Freddie ST and Evie-Rose the very best of luck in their 2.6km run. Thank you to Mrs Satwick for entering our children. We look forward to celebrating your achievements—please do bring your medals to our next Celebration Assembly. In conjunction with this event, we will be hosting our own Mini Marathon in school next Friday. All children may come to school wearing their PE kit. The event will conclude at 2:45pm, followed by our Celebration Assembly on the playground.

On Thursday, we held a lockdown drill. Thank you for your continued support. The children responded calmly, asked thoughtful questions, and demonstrated maturity throughout the procedure

Tatiana in Year 1 is being christened this weekend. May His light always shine upon Tatiana, guiding her every step and filling her life with love, joy, and faith, today and always."

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. *Mrs Joanne Walsh*

Fourth Sunday of Easter John 10:1-10



Attendance Award Congratulations to Reception

Reception	96.6%
Year 1	94.8%
Year 2	96.3%
Year 3	96.5%
Year 4	94.6%
Year 5	94.5%
Year 6	96.3%

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

Key Dates for your Diary

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

27 Apr	Knex Challenge Workshop Y5/6 (donations on Arbor)
28 Apr	Y3 – Fr Julian
30 Apr	Class Photos Y2 Come & Read, 2.45pm (parents only please)
1 May	School Mini Marathon Celebration Assembly 2:50pm Y3 Tuck Shop Y3/4 High Five Netball & Football Tournament (John W)
4 May	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
5-6 May	Y5 SPEC Residential
5 May	Y2 – Fr Julian
6 May	Girls A Team Football – Cranbourne School
11-14 May	SATs Week
14 May	Ascension Mass, 2.00pm
15 May	World Mental Health Day (see below)
19 May	Y1 – Fr Julian
20 May	Girls B Team Football – Cranbourne School Y6 PGL Meeting, 2.45pm
21 May	Y3 Come & Read, 2.45pm (parents only please) Maths Challenge Event
22 May	Y2 Tuck Shop
25-29 May	Half Term Week
31-3 Jun	Y6 PGL Residential Journey
2 June	Reception – Fr. Julian
4 Jun	Y4 Come & Read, 2.45pm (parents only please)
12 Jun	Sports Day & Parent Picnic (further details to follow)
16 Jun	Y6 – Fr Julian
18 Jun	Reception Come & Read (parents only please)
19 Jun	St Mary's Tournament Father's Day Sale
23 Jun	Y4 – Fr Julian
3 rd Jul	Friends – School Fete 2pm- 5pm

Note: The above dates/times are subject to change

World Mental Health Day – Friday 15th May

Children may wear an item of yellow with their uniform on this day, eg. socks, headband, bow, cap etc., in support of World Mental Health Day. Donations of £1 per child (payable on Arbor) will be sent to our local support group HABs. Thank you in advance of your support.

Class Photographs – Thursday 30th April

I ask that all children wear smart summer school uniform on this day. Year 3 please bring your PE kits in a bag on this day. Thank you.

Gold Book:

Well Done Children

Reception:	Olivia
Year 1:	Mireya
Year 2:	Ivy
Year 3:	Lily S
Year 4:	Eve
Year 5:	Evie
Year 6:	Lois

Happy Birthday

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

Year 3: Leo



St. Francis taught that God created the world good and beautiful. But it needs healing because of human sin. He saw God in nature. "St. Francis was a great lover of God's creation." In his prayer, the Canticum of the Sun, he thanks God for Brother Sun, Sister Moon, Brother Wind, Water, Fire, and Earth. He saw all these as praising God. Many stories about Francis show his great love for animals and nature.

At the side of the school gate, we are creating a St Francis of Assisi Garden.

We are looking for garden animal statues to help bring our space to life. If you are redesigning your garden and have any statues you no longer need, we would be very grateful for your donation.