



St. Cross News

"Together we grow in God's love"

10th July 2026

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Executive Head: **Joanne Walsh**

Dear Parents,

What another hot week we have had, as we reach the penultimate week of the school academic year! Our children represented the school brilliantly at the District Sports on Tuesday at John Warner. They demonstrated great skill, determination and, most importantly, excellent sportsmanship. It was wonderful to see them encouraging and cheering one another on throughout the day. We are proud of both their achievements and their exemplary behaviour.

Our Year 6 children also gave a fantastic performance of their end-of-year production, "I'm an 11-Year-Old – Get Me Out of Here!" The play was a wonderfully entertaining reflection on the trials, challenges and memorable moments experienced by 11-year-olds, their teachers and their parents throughout the primary school journey. The children delivered their lines confidently, timed the many puns perfectly, and sang their songs with enthusiasm and confidence. It was a fitting celebration of their time with us.

On Thursday, Year 6 attended their secondary school transition day. It was lovely to hear their stories and experiences when they returned. They are clearly looking forward to the next stage of their education. Across the school, all of our children spent time in their new classrooms, getting to know their teacher and teaching assistant for September. They had a wonderful morning and it was fantastic to see the excitement and enthusiasm as they began preparing for the new academic year. Thank you to our Mrs Satwick and the Friends of the School for organising the pre-loved uniform sale for our new Reception families. It was wonderful to meet so many of you, to welcome our new parents into the school community, and to catch up with familiar families as well.

I hope many of you had the opportunity to meet Mr Paul O'Rourke at the school gate today. We have been working closely together and have already planned the entire Autumn Term, including key dates and much loved events, to ensure a smooth transition for both staff and children.

On Monday afternoon, as part of their PSHE Enterprise Project, our Year 6 children will be running a variety of fun stalls and games for the rest of the school. Each class will have the opportunity to visit the stalls throughout the afternoon and take part in the activities organised by Year 6. If you would like your child to participate, please send them to school with a named envelope containing a small amount of coins. This will enable them to enjoy the games while supporting the Year 6 Enterprise Project. Thank you for your support.

I also hope you have had a chance to explore our new school website. We are delighted with its fresh new look and hope you find it easy to navigate. Please do take a look, and remember that the calendar will be updated shortly with all of the important dates for Autumn Term 1.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Mrs Joanne Walsh

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Matthew 13:1-23



Attendance Award Congratulations to Year 2

Reception	91.1%
Year 1	92.7%
Year 2	97.3%
Year 3	96.4%
Year 4	94.4%
Year 5	89%
Year 6	90.5%

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, Mrs. Norton, 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/>

13 Jul	House Captain Charity 1pm All children to bring in an envelope of coins.
14 Jul	9:15 am Leavers' Mass for Year 6, Miss Cattell, Mrs. Burke and Mrs. Walsh – All parents welcome
16 Jul	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2pm - Year 6 parents 2:45pm Final Celebration Assembly
17 Jul	School closes 1:15pm

Summer Holiday

1 st Sept	Inset Day
2 Sept	Pupils return to school
26 Oct	Half Term
4 Nov	Pupils return
18 Dec	School closes at 1:30pm

Gold Book

Congratulations on your efforts this week

Reception:	Teddy N
Year 1:	Anna
Year 2:	Sanuki
Year 3:	Emilia
Year 4:	Ted
Year 5:	Jack
Year 6:	Max

Happy Birthday

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

Reception:	Caterina, Adele, and Harper
Year 2:	Sophia
Year 3:	Elis

Afterschool Activity Clubs

Details of next half term's clubs will be issued at the beginning of next week, when finalised. Thank you.

A huge Thank you!

It is almost impossible to capture in a few short paragraphs what St Cross has meant to me. Serving as Headteacher for the past six years, and spending a total of seventeen years in Catholic education, including five years at Longlands Primary School, has been the greatest privilege of my career.

I would also like to thank our parents and families for the kindness, encouragement and support you have shown throughout my time here. When people ask me what I will miss most, they often expect me to say the Harvest celebrations, Christmas performances, sports days or the many special events that have filled our school calendar. Of course, I will treasure those memories. But what I know I will miss most are the ordinary days—the smiles, the conversations, and standing at the school gate each morning, welcoming the children as they arrived. Those simple moments have always reminded me why this vocation is so special.

It has been a privilege to watch our pupils grow in confidence, faith and kindness, and to work alongside such dedicated staff and supportive governors, all committed to giving every child the very best start in life.

Although saying goodbye is not easy, I do so with complete confidence in the future of St Cross Catholic Primary School. It has been an honour to serve this community, and I know the school will continue to flourish in the years ahead.

Thank you for welcoming me into your lives, for your friendship, your support and your trust. St Cross will always hold a very special place in my heart, and I will carry the memories of this remarkable community with me always.

May God bless you all and continue to guide and protect St Cross for many years to come.