

The Richard Crosse C of E (A) Primary School

Newsletter December 2025



Our Motto: Believe and Achieve

Our Values: Love - Respect - Friendship

Our Christian Vision: Philippians 4:13: 'I can do everything through Him who gives me strength'

Email: office@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk website: <https://www.richardcrosse.staffs.sch.uk/>

Instagram: richardcrosseprimary

Facebook: Richard Crosse

Telephone: 01543 472245

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of our final week of the Autumn term, I am delighted to reflect on the achievements and experiences of our school community. The commitment and resilience of our children have been truly exemplary, shining through in everything from their academic focus to their charitable spirit.

This half term has been defined by a strong sense of compassion and reflection. We began by exploring 'The Power of Good' during Anti-Bullying Week 2025, reinforcing our dedication to an inclusive environment. This maturity continued during our Remembrance Service, where the children demonstrated profound reverence. Beautifully balancing this solemnity was the joy of Children in Need Day, where we collectively raised £122.40. This spirit of giving was further echoed at our Christmas and Christingle service, which not only reinforced our spiritual values but raised a wonderful £152 for Save the Children.

Our connection to the wider community has been equally strong. Our choir has been spreading festive cheer at the Lichfield Cathedral Christmas Festival and Kings Bromley Nursing Home, emphasising the importance of intergenerational connection. Alongside this, our Worship and School Council shared insights from their visit to Uttoxeter Renew Church with the whole school, by exploring the Christmas story from the unique perspective of the Star of Bethlehem!

Inside the classroom, assessment week highlighted the extraordinary dedication of our children. I could not be more proud of the focus and determination they displayed. Learning also came to life outside the classroom; our Year 5 and 6 children gained profound insights into wartime Britain during their immersive World War 2 creative day and a visit to the Arboretum. They also wowed with their remarkable teamwork in a recent district indoor athletics competition.

Creativity was center stage during the Early Years and Key Stage 1 production. Their performance of 'Camalama-ding-dong' was a true testament to their confidence and provided a delightful twist on the traditional nativity.

I must also extend a huge thank you to the PTA. The Christmas Market was a tremendous success, it was a joyous event for all, raising vital funds that directly support our school's resources.

As we enter the final days of the term, preparations are in full flow for our community Christmas card delivery and whole school Christmas lunch and party day. We look forward to ending the term with joy, laughter and collective celebration.

On behalf of all the staff, a festive thank you for all of your support throughout 2025 and for the kind words and gifts that have been received this week. We look forward to seeing you all back on Monday, 5th January, ready for the new term and year. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kind regards,

Ms Bowring (Headteacher)

Reminders



Arbor - Please clear all outstanding debts by the end of this week and remember to keep on top of payments for the new year.

Reception 2025 applications - The deadline for places is January 15th. All children currently in pre school who would like to attend Reception need to apply.

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>



Time keeping - There has been an increase over the last few weeks of children coming through the office after the gates close. Please allow extra time in the morning to account for any unforeseen holdups.

Uniform - Please remember that full school uniform is always required. This includes a tie (KS1 & 2), blazer (KS2), black school shoes and correct PE kit for all. **Please name all items** - There has been a huge increase in unnamed lost property items this half term that are difficult to return when misplaced.

<https://richardcrosse.staffs.sch.uk/parents/uniform>



Playground collection KS2 - PLEASE come onto the playground at the end of the school day when collecting your children. Crowding the pavement makes it unsafe for all, especially the older children who walk home on their own.



Parking - Thank you! There has been a noticeable decrease in the amount of cars parked opposite the KS2 gates at the end of the school day. (There's still room for improvement though ;-))

What have we been up to? Take a look!!

School website Gallery - <https://richardcrosse.staffs.sch.uk/photo-gallery-category/school-gallery>

School Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/share/17c9arjK52/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

School Instagram Page - https://www.instagram.com/richardcrosseprimary?igsh=MW82a3g1Mmd0anc1dw%3D%3D&utm_source=qr



Christmas 2025



Autumn Art Gallery and Book Look



Class 4 World War 2 Creative Day



Class 4 NMA Trip 2025



Poetry Competition - Winners

We were blown away to have 3 children in the winners category from our school in the Stafford Grammar School Poetry competition. A huge congratulations, your poems were amazing and are now proudly displayed around our school to spread important messages!

The Magic of Thank You

Times when you've said thank you to people. in need,
Happy faces you received,
Another day of thankfulness.
Now people are happy because of us.
Kindness spread along the way.
You make people happy every day.
On and on the thankfulness spreads.
Unbelievable joy comes access us and that joy never ends

Year 4 - Charlotte
Stafford Grammar School Poetry Competition Winner

The Power of a Smile!

Did you know that the Power of a Smile...
Makes you feel warm inside and makes life worthwhile!
A smile is a gift it's a marvellous thing,
It can be used anytime, it's joy that you can bring!

When you feel that you want to burst into tears and shout,
A simple smile from someone is all you need to get rid of doubt!
It makes you feel that you can fly to the sky,
A smile is positive, it will ne never make you cry.

You have a warm feeling inside that makes you want to make you
dance,
You'll fly into the air and aross the skies, you'll prance!
A smile is for free, it's welcoming and kind,
And all you need is a positive mind!

Did you know that the Power of a Smile...
Makes you feel warm inside and makes life worthwhile!
A smile is a gift it's a marvellous thing,
It can be used anytime, it's joy that you can bring!

Year 6 - Tille
Stafford Grammar School Poetry Competition Winner



KINDNESS

Kind words lead to **K**ind feelings
Which lead to **k**ind actions
Encouraging, helpi**N**g and sharing,
Thoughtful, warm-hearte**D** and caring
Kindness like a ripple i**N** the water,
The bigger the **E**ffort the bigger the ripple
Compassionate, tru**S**ting and partnership,
Respectful generou**S** and friendship.

Year 5 - Emma
Stafford Grammar School Poetry Competition Winner

Values and 'The Big Question'

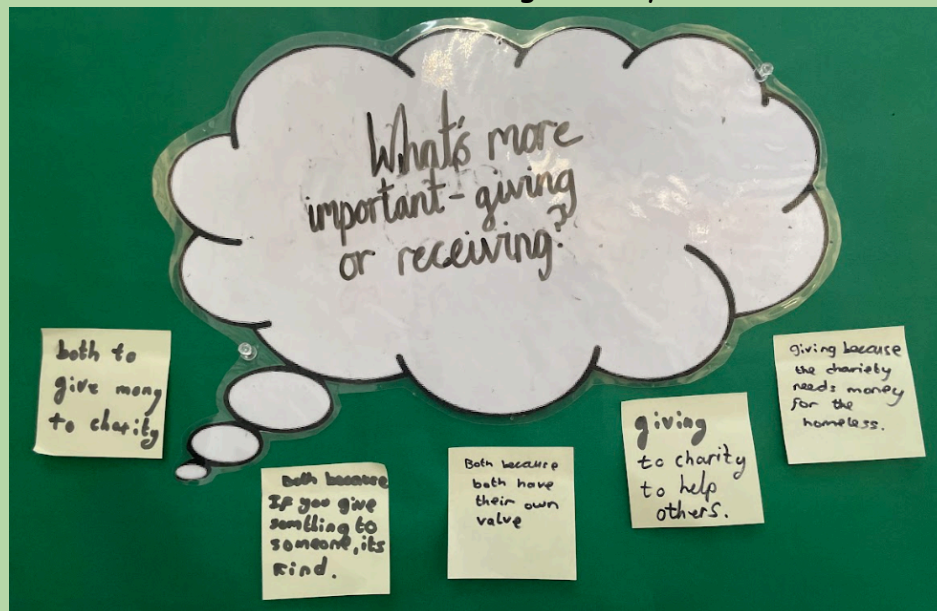
This half term's value has been 'service', the children have looked at how we can show this and what it looks like to others and in the bible.



'The Big Question' supports our children to become deeper thinkers by posing and discussing questions that have no right or wrong answer. This half terms question was

What's more important - giving or receiving?

As you can see the children came up with some amazing ideas and had some beautiful, respectful discussions along the way!



Next half term.....

Our BIG question is: Should we have expectations in life?

Our focus value is: Justice

What do they mean to you and your family? It would be lovely for the children to come to school with some ideas that you have discussed together over the holidays!

Safeguarding - Contact and support information for over the holidays

Staffordshire Families Integrated Front Door (SFIFD) if you have concerns or are worried for a child and wish to make a referral: **0300 111 8007**

NSPCC Helpline Call **0808 800 5000** or email help@nspcc.org.uk if you're worried about a child.

[NSPCC Christmas Support \[nspcc.org.uk\]](https://www.nspcc.org.uk)

Childline Free, confidential support for children and young people: **0800 1111** or [childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk)

Samaritans
116 123 [samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org)

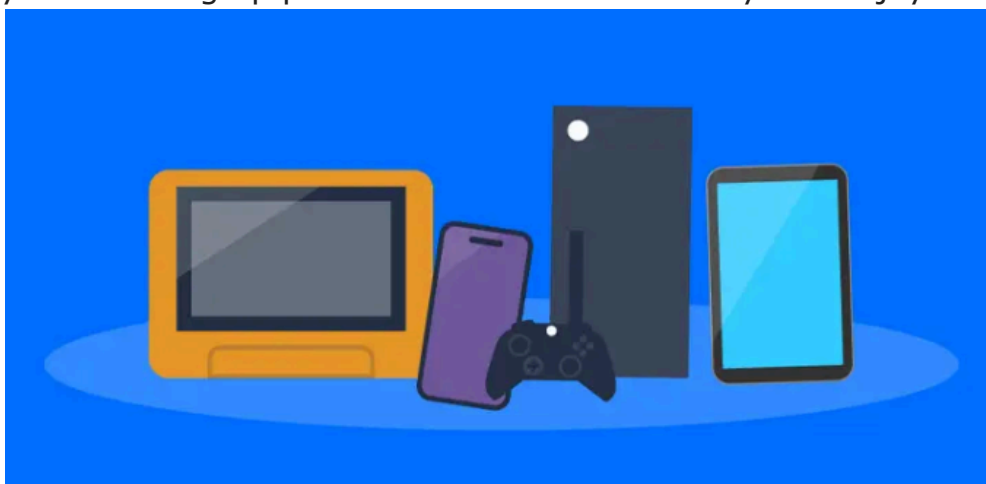
Citizens Advice Staffordshire – Debt, benefits, budgeting
0808 278 7874

StepChange Debt Charity – Free debt advice
0800 138 1111

Esafety

Because children deserve a safe digital world

If your child received an electronic device over the christmas period, here is a great link to support you in setting up parental controls so that they can enjoy them safely.



<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/broadband-mobile/>

CEO LETTER Autumn 2 2025



Welcome to my final update of the calendar year for autumn 2!



It feels like such a long time ago now - our Staff enjoyed their INSET day early November spending the morning with their respective schools looking at school priorities and they spent the afternoon learning more about safe and exciting use of AI for teaching and learning and administration.

We thank all our schools for hosting our Chair of Members, Mr David Grever and our two new Directors, Sophie Skelton and Jules Smith, across a whole day this half term. They had such a great time, were so complimentary about what they saw and experienced including school lunch! It put all of our discussions at Directors meetings into context.

Members of our Trust and Directors met for our annual AGM to look at the successes of the year, the challenges and our strategic plan going forward. We are grateful to these volunteers with amazing skill sets in their time and expertise to support our continual drive to improve.

We're pleased to confirm that we have received positive feedback from the 24/25 financial audit with an unqualified audit opinion. There were a small number of internal control issues which have been rectified immediately. We are grateful to the team at Daines and our central team for their hard work.

Our whole Trust continues to provide an excellent education for our children whilst trying to make savings in ways which impact the least on our children. We have taken on sourcing contractors for compliance checks which has taken away the service level agreement fee. This has been a significant amount of work and we are sure that this process will run smoothly going forward, it provides just one example of cost savings identified.

Children in Oak class at St Andrew's Primary led a wonderful worship on the theme of 'service'. We were so grateful to them for their methodical, clear and confident delivery, offering time for questions and answers and reflection. Some super poems and scripture, thank you and well done.



Our choir sang at Lichfield Cathedral, it was a truly beautiful evening - the children sang 'The Carol of the Bells', such a challenging carol and the children sang it absolutely wonderfully.

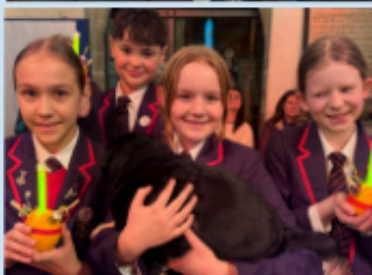




Several Richard Crosse children won a poetry competition and were invited to Stafford Grammar school, with Pep the Poet, to read their poetry and receive an award. What a fabulous evening.

The nativities, lunches, fairs and services I have been able to attend have been wonderful and, after this letter has been sent to our offices, I have the pleasure of Anson's, St Andrew's and Mary Howard's nativities and lunch at St Marys and Richard Crosse too! How wonderful.

There have been so many Christmas services, events and experiences for our children as well as trips and visitors which you can see in your school newsletters, on the school blogs and social media - do have a look!



Wishing you and all your families a magical, restful, peaceful, and yet fun filled time this Christmas and a happy and healthy 2026!

Regards, Charlene Gethin, our Central Team.

Shanie Cole - Finance Manager
Jacqui Bowman - Business Operations Manager
Nic Saint - Project Manager and Clerk to Governors



and Ralph

