



Holy Cross Stars Academy

Where Every Child Shines

November 2025 Newsletter

Good Afternoon Parents,

After two months of school, it is wonderful to see how well your children have adjusted to a school setting. Routines have been established. Transitions are less challenging. Children are becoming more engaged and interactive during our circle activities. Friendships are being formed. Learning is taking place!

November brings colder weather and shorter days. However, your child's education will become more challenging and exciting. In October, both classes started their first unit of study, "Balls". The Tiny Stars are continuing to focus on size and texture. Through gross motor activities they are learning how to roll, kick and toss a ball. Their language should include naming the different types of balls and describing the texture soft, hard, rough, squishy, bumpy. The Little Stars are learning vocabulary that includes hollow, solid and circumference. The children will continue their investigation as they engage in "roll the ball" activities and measure distances as balls roll down various ramps. Our Rising Stars have begun using the new PreK curriculum. They are doing an in-depth study of grocery stores and have even used blocks to design their own store. They are learning new vocabulary with an emphasis on syllables and are in the beginning stages of our phonics program, Foundations. The staff is eager to share your child's successes during our upcoming parent teacher conferences.

I am thrilled to announce our class parents, Sammy Sellas, Jenny Hadjimina and Anna Skeptaris. They will be making outreach with you as they support Joanne and me in providing opportunities for parents and grandparents to have interactions within our school and with other parents and family members. Creating strong family partnerships is a key component of our small but growing school.

Please make note of our special events for the month:

November 4 Election Day - School closed for children. Staff professional development day.
November 6 Picture Day
November 11 Veteran's Day – School closed.
November 14 Parent Teacher Conferences – 11:30 dismissal for all students.
November 21 Isodia tis Theotokou (Entrance of the Theotokos to the Temple)-Liturgy and Communion.
November 26-28 (Wed-Fri) – Thanksgiving Break - School closed.

To adhere to Department of Health Guidelines, your children will play outdoor most days. When it is colder than 42 degrees, raining, or snowing they will remain inside. Please remember to send them to school with hats and gloves as the weather gets cooler so they can enjoy the fresh air. If a child is not dressed appropriately, he/she will have to remain inside with one of the staff.

An additional requirement by the Department of Health is that your child has a flu vaccine by December 31, 2025. Please remember to send the vaccine documentation to school.

Thank you to all the parents and families for supporting our Books Come Alive celebration, the fall decorations for our school building, and for classroom donations.

Please feel free to contact me or Ms. Joanne or me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Cathy Helfrich