



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 10th February 2023

Morning Drop-off

All pupils (from Reception to Year 6) come into school from 8.40 a.m. via our Rockingham Road entrance. Please try to arrive before 8.45 a.m. so we can start our morning lessons on time (this gate will be locked at 8.50am).

Pupils arriving at the main entrance (after this time) will be marked in the register as late.

Collection Times

All classes (Reception to Year 6) finish school at 3.15pm.

Please use our 1-way system to avoid congestion in our narrow alleyway into school:

Parents can access the school through the Rockingham Close entrance and then walk through the KS1 playground to leave through the green gate on Rockingham Road.

P.E. Lessons

All pupils (Years 1 to 6) get changed in school for their PE lessons. The children have been asked to bring in their PE kits every Monday and then take them home again every Friday.

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week is the national Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is 'Let's Connect' and all pupils took part in a range of whole school activities with a focus on friendship. This included a fun 'iMoves' movement task to help our children reflect on what it means to be a 'good friend'. Year 1 to Year 6 also took part in an assembly and workshops last week called, 'From Worries to Wellbeing'. Our Early Years pupils have a workshop after the half term called, 'I've got magic inside of me'.

To coincide with this week, Safer Internet Day was held on Wednesday. We explored the theme of online bullying and all pupils watched an online film 'Be a Cyber Smart-y' developed by Bigfoot Arts Education.

Below is a link to a series of videos that may help parents to support their child's mental health:

<https://www.dragonflyimpact.com/MHweekvideos>

Further details about Children's Mental Health Week can be found here:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

Half Term Holiday

We break up today for the half term holiday. We hope you enjoy the time off with your family. All pupils are due back to school on Monday 20th February. **All 8.30am groups will resume on this day.**

February Holiday Fun

The archives team, at Uxbridge library, are holding this event next week:

Victorian Toys – Family Event – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Uxbridge Library – Level 6

Friday 17 February: 2pm to 4pm

A family event where you can explore and play with Victorian toys, including some from the museum's collection.

Cost: Free, but booking is essential

Book: archives@hillingdon.gov.uk

Fairtrade Fortnight

Monday 27th February is Fairtrade Fortnight.

This year's campaign will highlight the message that whatever your budget and wherever you shop, when you choose Fairtrade, you support farmers to take care of the environment. The two-week annual celebrity-backed campaign runs from 27 February – 12 March. This year it will focus on the climate crisis and the increasing threat it poses to some of the planet's most beloved food products as well as the livelihoods of the farmers and agricultural workers who grow them.

Helping Children Understand Earthquakes: A Guide for Parents

After the tragic news that major earthquakes struck central Turkey and northwest Syria earlier this week, young people may well have questions about natural disasters that they will raise.

This blog, Helping Children Understand Earthquakes: A Guide for Parents on Talking about Natural Disasters, may help if you would like to talk about this with your children.

<https://www.firstnews.co.uk/talking-points/in-the-news/earthquakes/>

Book Week 2023

Read With Me

This year's Book Week in school will take place the week beginning 6th March. As part of this celebration, we would like to invite parents, carers or grandparents to read with their child/children in their classroom. This event will take place on Wednesday 1st March at 8.40am to 9.10am. Join your child in their classroom to read to them or to a small group of their peers. Your child can choose a book from their class collection that they would like to share with you.

Bedtime Stories

We will be inviting children in Reception to Year 6 back to school for bedtime stories on Tuesday 7th March from 4pm to 4.45pm. Children can return to school in their pyjamas with their favourite book from home (cuddly toy optional). In class they will share stories and enjoy milk and cookies. While your child is enjoying bedtime stories in their classroom we invite parents to the hall to browse some children's books and reading advice materials and to enjoy a tea or coffee. Pupils in Nursery can come into school on this day with their favourite book and teddy bear.

Author Visit

We are really lucky to be welcoming Mini Grey, children's author and illustrator on Thursday March 9th. I'm sure (most) of you will agree what an amazing opportunity and experience for our children this will be.

To make the most of the visit and to enthuse the children each class are planning their English work around one of her stories.

EYS: Toys in Space or Egg Drop

Year 1: Traction Man and the Beach Odyssey

Year 2: The Pea and the Princess (not on teaching ideas)

Year 3 and 4: The Adventures of the Dish and the Spoon

Year 5 and 6: Hermelin

Class Assembly Dates

Date	Class	Time
Tue 7 th March	Year 4 (The Ancient Egyptians)	2.45pm
Wed 29 th March	Year 5 (Easter Assembly)	2.45pm
Tue 25 th April	Year 1 (Explorers)	2.45pm
Tue 20 th June	Year 2 (The Great Fire of London)	2.45pm
Tue 4 th July	Nursery and Reception	2.45pm
Mon 17 th July	Year 6 (WW2)	2.45pm

Steam – Uxbridge Library

Friday 17 March to Friday 14 April, during library opening hours

All aboard! Come along to learn about the days of steam!

This Archives and Museums Service exhibition tells the story of local railway travel – the stations, trains and locomotives – before the advent of diesel or electricity.

Cost: Free, no need to book

Useful SEN Websites and Information

Hillingdon SENDIASS website: Hillingdon SENDIASS is a free, confidential and impartial support service for parents and carers, children and young people up to 25 years where the child or young person has or may have special educational needs. Their website includes useful information and links to a range of support groups available:

<https://www.hillingdonsendiass.co.uk/>

Hillingdon Local Offer

The Hillingdon local offer provides information for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents/carers. It allows families to see what they can expect from a range of local agencies and how to access them.

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/4654/SEND-local-offer>

Hillingdon Talks, Moves, Plays

Children's Integrated Therapy Service (CITS)

Information from the NHS team of Speech and Language Therapists, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, technicians and administrators, who deliver a community service for children and young people.

<https://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/children-integrated-therapy-service>

Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support (HACs)

A charity providing support for children with a diagnosis of autism and their families:

<https://www.hacs.org.uk/>

Upcoming events from HACs:

Autism Surgery Morning Face to Face

Who can attend an Autism Surgery? Members, non-members and professionals who are supporting children/families with autism. This session is free to attend. Please arrive at the start of the session.

Wed Feb 01, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Hayes, Dudley Pl, Hayes UB3 1PB, UK

Register here: <https://www.hacs.org.uk/events-1/autism-surgery-morning-f2f-01-02>

*** Coffee Morning with Hillingdon Home-Start***

Join us Wednesday 8th Feb 10 am- 12:00pm for our coffee morning with Hillingdon Home-Start.

*Home-Start is a local community network of trained volunteers and expert support helping families with young children through their challenging times. We are there for parents when they need us the most because childhood can't wait. **(please arrive at the start of the session)***

<https://www.home-start.org.uk/Pages/Category/things-we-can-help-with>

Book here: <https://www.hacs.org.uk/events-1/coffee-morning-18-01-with-hillingdon-talking-therapies-mindfulness-session>

Project Search HILLINGDON CIVIC CENTRE Virtual Open Evening

Are you 17-24 years old with a learning disability or autism and looking for a job? Come along to our virtual open evening to find out more about our Project Search "Transition to Work" programme based at the Civic Centre, Uxbridge in partnership with Hillingdon Council & Orchard Hill College

Tues Feb 21, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Virtual Open Evening

Register here: <https://www.hacs.org.uk/events-1/project-search-hillingdon-civic-centre-virtual-open-evening>

Instrumental Lessons

We offer the following instrumental lessons:

- Piano,
- Guitar,
- Violin,
- Singing
- Ukulele

You can register by text at: 07782 503260

Online at: www.stagetalent.co.uk/register



Autumn / Winter is coming.....

If your child has asthma and a preventative inhaler (Beige/Brown/Orange/Red/Purple/Pink) please make sure it is being taken regularly **EVERY DAY** even if your child is well as we are heading towards the most troublesome time of year for children with asthma.

The Hillingdon Champions of Asthma Team.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For a list of diary dates and TERM DATES - please visit our school website:

You can now subscribe to our Calendar, which will add these events to your device's calendar.

Please click on the following tabs on our school website to create this link:

'Upcoming Events' - 'View all events' - 'Subscribe' - 'Add school events to Calendar'

Date	Event
Fri 10 th February	Last Day of this half term (finish at usual time)
Mon 13th – Fri 17th February	HALF TERM BREAK
Mon 20 th February	All pupils return – all 8.30am groups resume