



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 18th September 2020

Morning Drop-off

Please arrive within these time slots-

UEYs: 9.00 - 9.05am

Yr1: 8.55 - 9.00am

Yr2: 8.50 - 8.55am

Yr3: 8.45 - 8.50am

Yr4: 8.40 - 8.45am

Yr5: 8.35 - 8.40am

Yr6: 8.30 - 8.35am

The register for each class will be taken 5 minutes after the times list above. Any pupil arriving after this time will be marked in late.

Siblings should be dropped off at the earliest time for any of their brothers and sisters.

Collection

UEYs: 2.55pm

Yr1: 3.25pm

Yr2: 3.20pm

Yr3: 3.15pm

Yr4: 3.10pm

Yr5: 3.05pm

Yr6: 3pm

Please ensure that your child stays with you after you pick them up - pupils should not be playing on the playground

Dear parent/carer,

It's been a busy first few weeks, for everyone, getting used to the new school routines - the children have adapted really well. Thank you for your help putting these changes into place.

All classes have completed activities this week illustrating what our Mission Statement means to them. The children have completed some fantastic work including collages, posters, poems and art work. We have asked each class to contribute some of this work to a whole school display.

Remote Parents' Evening

Following on from our 'Meet the Teacher Presentations' we will hold our Parents' Evenings remotely over a two week period:

Monday 12th October - Friday 23rd October

We will send home a letter, inviting parents to request a convenient time for a consultation over the phone.

Music Lessons

We are very fortunate to have employed Mrs Mariela Cingo as our new KS2 Music teacher. Ms Cingo has previously worked with our pupils, over the last few years, teaching piano lessons. Due to government COVID guidance, all lessons are being held in the school hall with increased social distancing. As we have been unable to lead a whole school Hymn Practice, Mrs Cingo has been practising hymns with the children as a part of her lessons (using sign language). This not only helps them to remember the lyrics and learn quicker but enriches them with an extra skill and helps raise awareness of special needs.

We will publish these hymns each week, with a YouTube link, in case any pupils wish to practise them at home:

Last week's hymn: 'More love, more power'

This week: 'How great thou art' (see link below)

<https://youtu.be/1-VsNGBI-SI>

New Intake - Instrumental Lessons

Enrolment for Piano, Guitar, Base Guitar, Recorder and Flute is now open.

Please contact Stage Talent directly to register your interest:

www.stagetalent.co.uk

Online Autism Conference

This year, The Cork Autism Conference will take place on Sunday 11th October - ONLINE. This conference may be of interest to any family members who may wish to find out more about autism.

Further details:

<https://www.autismcork.ie/>

European Day of Languages

We will celebrate 'European Day of Languages' on Friday 25th September. If your child has any books at home, in a European language, they may like to share these. We would love pupils to bring these books into school to read them to other pupils in their 'bubble'. Each class will also complete activities based on European languages. Thank you in advance, Mrs Parry (Languages Subject Leader)

VIPERS

In school we are helping children to improve their comprehension using the following the acronym: VIPERS.

VIPERS stands for

Vocabulary

Inference

Prediction

Explanation

Retrieval

Sequence or Summarise

What are Vipers?

VIPERS is an acronym to aid the recall of the 6 reading domains as part of the UK's reading curriculum. They are the key areas which we feel children need to know and understand in order to improve their comprehension of texts.

The 6 domains focus on the comprehension aspect of reading and not the mechanics: decoding, fluency, prosody etc. As such, VIPERS is not a reading scheme but rather a method of ensuring that students are familiar with, a range of questions. They allow the teacher to track the type of questions asked and the children's responses to these which allows for targeted questioning afterwards.

It would be very beneficial if this was also reinforced at home. Attached (Newsletter email sent home) you will find some key questions linked to each of the domains and these can be used when you are listening to your child read at home. For older children it is probably best to ask questions at the end of the chapter/book so as not to disrupt their flow or enjoyment of the story/text they are reading. I hope you find these questions useful.

Sickness - Absence from School

Pupils should not be sent into school if they have any of the following [coronavirus symptoms](#).

- **a high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

We sent home a checklist this week providing further guidance regarding self-isolating.

PE Lessons (Extra Year 1 Lesson)

All classes now have 2 days each week for PE:
Year 6 Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 5 Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 4 Monday and Thursday
Year 3 Monday and Thursday
Year 2 Monday and Friday
Year 1 Wednesday and Friday
Reception: Do not have a separate PE kit
Pupils should wear their PE kits to school on these days.

Secondary School Applications

If you have not already done so, the closing date for applications is Saturday 31st October 2020.

To give your child the best possible chance of being offered their preferred school(s), please ensure your application is received on time. Hillingdon council cannot be held responsible for any problems with internet providers:

<https://archive.hillingdon.gov.uk/secondary>

Starting Primary School in September 2020

If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, please make sure to apply at your local Borough's website and complete the St Mary's supplementary application form and bring originals of birth certificate, baptism and Certificate of Catholic Practice and proofs of address of both child and parent on a Tuesday **only** to the school by **15th January 2021**.

<https://archive.hillingdon.gov.uk/primary>

Lunches

Just a reminder that all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a FREE lunch at lunchtimes.

To order your free packed lunch - please visit our school meals provider website (the Pantry):

<https://www.thepantrycatering.co.uk/school-meals/login.php>

If you do not currently have a log-in to this website, please click on REGISTER and then follow the onscreen instructions.

The Pantry are not currently providing drinks in lunch boxes so it would be helpful if your child has a water bottle in school.

Eligibility for Free School Meals

If your financial circumstances have changed recently, your child may be eligible for Free School Meals or Early Years Pupil Premium. *This is different to the Universal Free School Meals that Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive.*

To check your eligibility for pupil premium assistance please submit your details to <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/>

If eligible, you are able to download a certificate to provide to us to support your application for Free School Meals. This certificate should then be emailed to jtaberer@stmarysuxbridge.org.uk Please also inform us if you are a military services family or if your child has been adopted or fostered as the school receive funding to support pastoral care. *This information is in the strictest confidence* and Miss Shevlin will be happy to speak to you in private.

'Meet the Teacher' Presentations

All of our teachers have produced a short 'Meet the Teacher' presentation providing various details about school routines, homework, curriculum etc. These presentations are available to view on our school website:

<https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Our+Classes&pid=10>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Date	Event
Mon 5 th Oct	Start of Black History Week
Mon 19 th Oct	Start of One World Week: Class based workshops
Mon 12 th - Fri 23 rd Oct	Remote Parents' Evening
Mon 26 th - Fri 30 th Oct	Half Term Break