



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## School Newsletter

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### Morning Drop-off

All pupils (from Reception to Yr6) should arrive from 8.40am via our Rockingham Road entrance.

**This gate is locked at 8.45am each morning.**

### Collection Times

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

Afternoon Nursery finishes at 3.30pm.

### P.E. Lessons

Although each class is timetabled for set days for PE, this sometimes changes due to wet weather and/or extra sports sessions.

All pupils (Years 1 to 6) should bring their P.E kits into school **every Monday** and then take them home every Friday. Thank you.

### Pupil Bags in School

We ask that pupils only bring in book bags (and draw string P.E bags for their P.E uniform). Each child only has a single peg for these bags (in most cases in the main corridor) and we do not have the space for large rucksacks or other similar bags. Thank you in advance.



Dear Parent/Carer,

On Wednesday, our Year 1 pupils walked to Fassnidge Park to find out more about features in our local area as a part of their Geography unit of work. They took photographs and sketched the different landmarks they saw and then created a Messy Map back in their classroom using pictures, Lego, blocks and art materials to represent the different features.

In the afternoon, all pupils were treated to a pantomime. The production of Snow White was performed by M&M Productions in our school hall.

### School Lunches – No Orders

Please continue to order online through the iPay website. Lunches are delivered to school each day based on parent orders as of the cut off time (of Midnight) the day before. We have seen an increasing number of pupils this week without meal orders or packed lunches. As we are not sent any extra food, each day, we have been ringing parents asking them to bring in a packed lunch from home. **We are unable to provide meals for pupils if their parents do not order online.**

Please log-in to our online ordering system (iPay) here:

<https://www.ipayimpact.co.uk/IPI/Account/LogOn>

### Parents' Evenings – Next Week

Our next Parents' Evenings will take place, next week, on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Mrs Rowland (**Year 2** teacher) is meeting parents on Tuesday and Wednesday evening (instead of Thursday).

Mrs Bowen (**Nursery** teacher) is seeing parents over three nights: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

These meetings will be a good opportunity for you to discuss how your child has been getting on and any planned support for this term.

### 8.30am Pre-teaching Groups

Each class leads a pre-teaching group before school (8.30am) for targeted pupils. It is really disruptive if pupils arrive late as the teacher/TA then needs to repeat their introduction and modelling again. We ask that pupils attending these groups **be ready at the front entrance by 8.30am each morning**. If a child frequently arrives late, their place will be offered to another child. Thank you in advance.

### Curriculum Afternoon - Wednesday

We would like to invite all parents/carers to our next Curriculum Open Afternoon on Wednesday (23<sup>rd</sup> October). Our Year 6 pupils will be giving parents tours of our school between 2pm and 2.30pm whilst classes are working. There is no need to book a place – **please arrive at our front entrance between 2pm and 2.15pm** (last four time).

The class tours will be followed by refreshments and curriculum information in our school Hall from 2.30pm. Our Year 6 'Rights Knights' pupil steering group will also be giving a short presentation about the Rights Respecting Schools project we have signed up to be a part of this year. We hope to see you next week.

## Half Term Break & INSET Day

The Half Term Holiday is fast approaching.

School will be closed between Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Oct and Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Nov. The FunFest company will once again be offering a holiday club on our school premises – further details below.

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November is a staff training day and school is closed to all pupils.** The LA Inclusion Team will spend the whole day in school leading SEN training with our teachers and Brunel University lecturers will be working with our staff to carry out a School Sensory Audit.

All pupils return to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.



## 500 Words Competition

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

On Monday children from Year one to Year Six will be taking part in the BBC's 500 word story writing competition. Children will take their completed story home on Wednesday or Thursday for parents to submit online (before 9pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November). Please follow the link below to submit your child's work and remember to read all the guidelines.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/articles/zqc8mbk>

**'500 Words is finally open for entries, it's time to get writing! Submit your stories here before 9pm on Friday 8 November 2024.**

There are two age categories: **5-7 and 8-11 year-olds**. All children need to do is write a story they would love to read in 500 Words or less.

We would love children of all abilities to enter; **spelling, punctuation and grammar** are not marked - it's all about creativity!

50 finalists will be invited to go to a glamorous **grand final** at Buckingham Palace in February next year, where the bronze, silver and gold winners in each category will have their stories read out by celebrities. There are also lots of **prizes to be won** - each winner will take home a bundle of books and the gold winners also win 500 books for their school library.

Not only that, the winning stories will receive an original **illustration** from **Dapo Adeola, Nigel Parkinson, Lydia Monks, Momoko Abe, Rob Biddulph or Yasmeen Ismail**.

It's incredibly important to us that children of all abilities and backgrounds are able to take part in the competition; therefore each school that enters a story and receives 50% free school meals or more, is entitled to a £50 National Book Token and three £10 book tokens for their pupils.' (BBC 500 Words Competition)

Kind regards,  
Miss Gahan

### **Starting Secondary School 2025**

If you have a child born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014, you must apply for your child to start secondary school in September 2025.

You must apply by: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 – further information here:

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/8758/Starting-secondary-school-September-2025>

If you regularly attend Our Lady of Lourdes church and your child has been baptised, the CCP school forms can be signed on the following dates only: -

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – 4pm- 5:30pm

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – 3:30pm – 4:30pm.

Appointments now available on sheet at the back of the church.

### **Starting Reception School 2025**

If you have a child born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, you must apply for your child to start Reception in September 2025.

If you regularly attend Our Lady of Lourdes church and your child has been baptised, the CCP school forms can be signed on the following dates only: -

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024- 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – 11:30 am – 1.00pm

You must apply by: 15<sup>st</sup> January 2025 – further information on to the links below:

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions) or email [admissions@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@hillingdon.gov.uk).

You also need to fill the Supplementary forms for our school that can be obtained from the school website or the school office.

***For the Nursery Children, the CCP school forms, for Nursery 2025, can be signed on the following dates: -***

***Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – 3pm – 5:30pm***

***Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2025- 11:30am \_ 12:30pm***

**Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership**

**Wednesday, 16th October 2024**

**Face to Face Information sessions at**

**9:30-10:30am  
or  
11-12noon**

**at the  
The Beck Theatre, Grange Road, Hayes  
UB3 2UE**



### **Place2Be – Parenting Smart**

The Parenting Smart website is open to all parents and includes practical tips to support children's wellbeing and behaviour:

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/index>



## Age Restrictions on Social Media

Pupils cover work on online safety every term. We have been reminding our KS2 children of these age restrictions on social media.

### Getting in Contact

Tel: 01895 232814

Email: [office@stmarysuxbridge.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysuxbridge.org.uk)

All enquiries should be referred to our school office

For Special Educational Needs: Mr Ellis (using the contact details above)

Chair of Governors: Mrs Maureen Thorpe (using the contact details above)

### Amazon Wish List – School Supplies

Please help support our school by donating school supplies from our Amazon Wish List <https://amzn.eu/fgZpVLv>

Any purchase would be greatly appreciated.

### School Friend Clubs -our onsite breakfast and after school club provider:

Website: [www.schoolfriendclub.com](http://www.schoolfriendclub.com)

Booking portal: <https://schoolfriendclub.magicbooking.co.uk>

Tel: 0333 355 7374

### Safeguarding Our Children

If you are worried about a child's safety please do not hesitate to contact the school straight away. You can always speak to Miss Shevlin, the Designated Safeguarding lead, if you have any concerns about a child. You can also call Hillingdon Stronger Families Hub on [01895 556006](tel:01895556006). If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police immediately on 999.

**It is all our responsibility to safeguard children**

### 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**

Hillingdon Talks, Moves, Plays: Children's Integrated Therapy Service (CITS) is a team of Speech and Language Therapists, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, technicians and administrators, who deliver a community service for children and young people aged 0 to 19. CITS operates an open referral system, which means anyone can refer a child or young person to any of the therapy services.

We recommend parents, carers and professionals contact the advice line on 01895 488 200 to speak with a therapist for advice and to decide whether a referral is needed.

You can find further information and parent advice on their website:

<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/>

### **Stronger Families Hub**

The Stronger Families Hub operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to provide families in Hillingdon with information, advice and support.

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/stronger-families-hub>

### **Hillingdon Parent Carer Forum (PCF)**

A team of volunteer parents/carers whose aim is to improve services and processes for Hillingdon SEND children. They exist to harvest the voice of parents/carers in Hillingdon, to help shape the services accessed by SEND children, by way of engagement with parents and co-production with the Local Authority.

If you wish to receive information emails, please sign up to their database. They have different levels of volunteering options:

<https://hillingdonpcf.com/>

### **Speech Link – Parent Portal**

Speech and language support for parents and carers:

<https://speechandlanguage.info/parents>

### **Tiny Happy People**

The BBC's Tiny Happy People website is here to help you develop your child's language skills. Explore our simple activities and play ideas and find out about babies and toddlers' amazing early development:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

## Instrumental Lessons

Instrumental lessons

Book a Free one-to-one Music Lesson

For children aged 4+ wishing to learn piano, guitar, ukulele and violin at our school.

Register by text to: 07782503260 and include:

Child's Name, Age, Music Instrument

Or

register at: [www.stage talent.co.uk/register](http://www.stage talent.co.uk/register)



## Attendance

We are sure that like us, you as parents and carers, realise the importance of attendance and punctuality. At St. Mary's, we continue to work hard to try to raise attendance levels and to reduce instances of lateness. There is much evidence to show that good attendance plays a vital role in helping your child to achieve their potential. We also know that poor attendance can lead to other problems for children. How can you help your child attend school regularly?

- Talk to your child about school. Make sure your child understands why school is important;
- Get everything ready for school the night before;
- Arrange appointments before or after school or during the school holidays;
- Take holidays during school holidays and not during term time;
- Set your alarm and your child's alarm clock- see who can beat the clock!
- Only grant days at home for genuine illness (you will know!)
- If your child is slightly under the weather, still send them into school- children often start feeling better as the day goes on and they get busy, and if the school is worried, we will call you.

<b>House Point Winners this week:</b>	<b>St. Thomas</b>	<b>292</b>
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## UPCOMING EVENTS - Autumn Term Dates 2024

Please visit our school website for Term dates:

<https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=45>

Date	Event
22/10/24	Parents Evening: - All years
23/10/24	Parents Evening: - Nursery and Year 2 Annual Curriculum Afternoon
24/10/24	Parents Evening: - All years excluding Year 2
28/10/24 - 1/11/24	Half Term Holiday
4/11/24	Teacher INSET (school closed to all pupils)
05/11/24	Pupils back to school - Kindness Week
05/11/24	Open morning at 9.15am for prospective parents
18/11/24 - 22/11/24	Swimming -Year 5
19/11/24	Open morning at 9.15am for prospective parents
25/11/24	Test Week -Year 6
29/11/24	National No Pens Day
02/12/24 - 06/12/24	Test Week
12/12/24	Early Years Christmas Production (2:15pm)
18/12/24	KS1 Christmas Production (2:15pm)
20/12/24	End of term. Finish at 12:15pm (no hot lunch)
06/01/25	School opens - start of Spring Term 2025