



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 10th July 2026

Morning Drop-off

All pupils (from Reception to Yr6) 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.

Please use our 1-way system, after school, to avoid congestion in our narrow Rockingham Close alleyway.

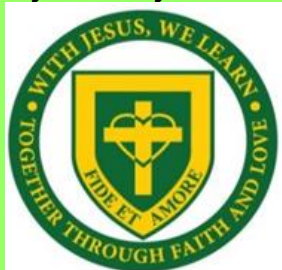
Pupil Bags in School

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 rucksacks** or other bags. Thank you.

PE Kits

Each class has two set days for PE each week. Pupils may wear their PE kits and trainers to school on the days they have PE.

Pupils should not wear their trainers to school on any other day – thank you.



Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you to everybody who came along to our Year 6 Leavers' Mass on Monday. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our Year 6 pupils and to wish them all the best in their transition to their new secondary schools.

It was also lovely to see so many of you at Miss Shevlin's Celebratory Mass on Tuesday evening. We were also joined by past parents, governors and staff. Throughout her 20 years as our Headteacher, Miss Shevlin has worked incredibly hard leading our staff and pupils. Her patience and kindness will be greatly missed next year. Miss Shevlin is retiring after 35 years in the teaching profession. We hope you will join us in wishing Miss Shevlin all the best in her retirement.

Transition Day on Tuesday

The majority of our Year 6 pupils visited their new secondary schools on Tuesday. We also held our school transition day on the same day. All pupils got the opportunity to visit their new classroom and they spent time in the afternoon with their new teacher and support staff.

Summer Fair

Thank you to all the parents who helped organise and run the various stalls at our Summer Fair yesterday evening. There were lots of attractions to enjoy including a BBQ, games, tombola stalls, penalty shoot out, cake sales and refreshments. It was a lovely opportunity to come together as a school community! We really appreciate the hard work of our PTA and their fundraising efforts to support all of our children. A special thank you to Miss Gidley (Tyler's mum year 5) for volunteer to organise our Summer Fair when it looked like we might have to cancel the event for this year. It was a big success! We will keep you updated on the amount raised.

Summer Holiday – Last Newsletter

This is our last Newsletter for this academic year. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Year 6 pupils the best of luck in their new secondary schools. We have a few families leaving us this year. Thank you for all your support during your time at St. Mary's.

KS2 Sports Day Survey - RESULTS

Thank you to all the parents who completed our KS2 Sports Day Survey. We are delighted to announce that **96% of parents (who responded) said they preferred this year's new format** of rotating events. Only three parents said they preferred the old format. Some of the positive comments we received mentioned there was less waiting around and the event was more inclusive with all pupils taking part in more events. Due to this positive feedback, we aim to plan a similar KS2 event for next year.

Thank you - Mr Herlihy

A big thank you to Mr Herlihy (dad of Tyler Yr5) for putting up shelves in our new PTA shed. Following our Summer Fair, we are moving all of the PTA equipment to this new shed and this new shelving has really helped us to organise all of the PTA equipment.

8.30am Groups – Ending Today

All 8.30am support groups end today. There are no before school groups taking place next week.

Year 6 Events

Parents and family members (of our Year 6 pupils) are invited to the following events this half term:

Date	Event	Time	Location
Tues 14 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Production	2pm	School hall
Thur 16 th July	Year 6 Graduation Assembly	2.30pm	School hall

End of Year Reports

Pupil end of year reports were sent home on Wednesday. If you would like to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss the strengths and targets identified in their report – you can arrange a meeting to do so by emailing or phoning our school office.

office@stmarysuxbridge.org.uk

Gaelic Football Tournament

Our Gaelic football team played brilliantly at last week's tournament. Although the event was not competitive (scores not recorded) – our school team won all 4 games.

They also got to meet Jarlath Burns - a former gaelic footballer, now president of the GAA.



Well Done to Eve – Miss Saigon Tour

We are incredibly proud of Eve (Reception Class) for her outstanding achievement in being selected to perform in the UK Tour of *Miss Saigon*. Since joining the production, she has completed in an amazing 36 performances across nine renowned theatres in Aberdeen, Belfast, Nottingham, Liverpool, Bradford, Norwich, Cardiff, Glasgow and Blackpool. With just two tour locations remaining, Eve has created memories that will last a lifetime, gained invaluable experience in professional theatre, and represented both herself and our school with dedication and enthusiasm. Well done Eve for such an amazing achievement!



School Lunches – From September

We are delighted to announce that we will be working with the Orchard Contract Catering company to provide our school lunches from the first day back in September.

The Orchard have over 20 years industry experience, glowing references from their current schools and we are confident that they will provide our pupils with healthy, good quality meals in the new academic year.

Account information will be emailed, to all parents, by Friday 31st July. You will receive login details and instructions for how to order meals.

All pupils are currently entitled to free school meals: make use of this free entitlement by ordering your child a meal.

Please see the 'Parent Welcome Flyer' below providing further information.



A WARM WELCOME TO THE ORCHARD



ABOUT US

We are excited to introduce ourselves as The Orchard Contract Catering, the dedicated school meals provider at St Mary's Catholic Primary School starting from September 2026.

We warmly welcome you to our catering services and look forward to working with you.

The Orchard Contract Catering is a proud family-owned business, bringing more than two decades of industry experience to the table. We are dedicated to the mission of providing each and every child with a wholesome, fulfilling meal. We believe that a school dinner is not just an essential part of a child's development but also a vital part of their wider schooling experience.



MEAL ORDERING PROCESS

There's no need to worry about setting up an account, your school meals account will be automatically created as part of your registration.

Your account information will be emailed to you by **Friday 31st July 2026**.

You'll receive an email with your login details and instructions. Simply log in, confirm your child's dietary requirements and start placing meal orders. Meals can be ordered or cancelled up until **9am** each day.

Please note - If you do not receive your login details by Monday 3rd August 2026, please email our office team.



CONTACT DETAILS

Our customer service team is available to assist you Monday to Friday, between 8am and 4pm using the contact details provided below.

 **01895 917 777**

 **office@theorchardcontractcatering.co.uk**

DID YOU KNOW?

At present, every child (**Reception - Year 6**) are eligible to receive a complimentary school meal **every day**.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Thursday 16th July 2026**
You will receive a welcome email from our team.
- **Friday 17th July 2026**
If you haven't received the welcome email by this date, please email our office team as there may be an issue with the contact details we have on record.
- **Friday 31st July 2026**
You will receive your account information by this date.

Summer Fete – A Huge Success!

Dear parents/carers,

Our Summer Fete was a fantastic success despite the heat, and we would like to say a **huge thank you to Karen and her amazing Summer Fete team**. Their dedication, enthusiasm and many hours of planning and hard work made the event such a wonderful day for our whole school community and a memorable occasion for Miss Shevlin at her last Summer Fete. Your commitment and support were truly appreciated.

A **big thank you also to all of our volunteers** who gave their time, helped on the stalls, donated items, and to everyone who came along to support the fete by visiting the stalls.

We are incredibly grateful for everyone's generosity and support, which helped make the day such a memorable event.

Thank you Miss Shevlin

We would also like to thank Miss Shevlin for her dedication, care and love for our children throughout her time at St Mary's. We wish her every happiness and success for the future.

Raffle Draw

On Monday 13th of July 26, we will have our Raffle draw. Good luck to everyone :)

Many thanks,
PTA team



Highlights of St Mary's Summer Fete 9th July 26

- Thank you everyone :)



Mrs Chandarana - Musical Toys Wanted



If you have any unwanted musical toys at home (that are in a good working condition) – Mrs Chandarana would be delighted to receive any donations. Our early years pupils would be grateful to receive any moving or light up toys. Thank you in advance.

UN Rights of the Child

Pupils took part in a Create and Dance programme this week - created and delivered by the Royal Ballet and Opera Schools, This session was inspired by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: the activities were designed to explore children's rights and the session was led by Royal Ballet artists.



Mrs Rowland's daughter is fundraising!

The Little Princess Trust provides wigs to children to help restore their confidence and identity. All costs, including the making, fitting, and styling of the wig, are met by the charity, and this free service is available to any young person up to the age of 24 with hair loss. As part of its Hair and Hope mission, The Little Princess Trust also funds childhood cancer research aiming to find kinder and more effective treatments.

'A few years ago Sophie told us that she wanted to grow her hair to be like Rapunzel. She has loved growing her and learning how to take care of her curls. She then made the decision that she wanted to donate her hair to charity. Here we are now... with the weather getting hotter and her hair long we have made the decision to have the big chop!' Mrs Rowland

Scan the QR code to donate.

<https://fundraise.littleprincesses.org.uk/fundraising/sophies-fundraising-page1077>

Thank you to all of you who donate!



Applications for First Holy Communion 2026-27

Applications for First Holy Communion 2026-27 will be available from Angela after weekend Masses in July and August, with enrolment on 12th/13th September. If you would like your child to make their Holy Communion please make sure you are getting a Mass Attendance Card signed.

Year 6 SATs Results – DfE Delay

We have just been informed by the Department for Education (DfE) that there will be a delay in sending this year's Year 6 SATs results to schools. Unfortunately this means that this year's SATs results will be sent home after their end of year reports which has never happened before (SATs results will be sent home on Thursday 16th July).

Brunel University – Free Summer Holiday Camps

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We are delighted to share that KidSpace at Brunel University London will be offering a series of **free summer holiday camps** for children and young people.

These will include:

- **Skills for secondary school** (supporting transition, developing skills for secondary school and confidence-building)
- **Handwriting clubs**
- **Typing clubs**
- **Bike skills groups**

These sessions are designed to support children's participation, confidence, and development in a supportive and engaging environment. They will be facilitated by occupational therapy students under the supervision of qualified occupational therapists.

Please note that **places are limited**, and we expect high demand.

Families can find more information and register their interest here:

[Register your interest in KidSpace holiday activities](#)



To be considered, please ensure you **tick the box for “Interested in school holiday activities to help children with skill development.”**

Please see the attached poster for more information.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch.

Kind regards, Caroline McHugh KidSpace@brunel.ac.uk

Invitation to Years 5 & 6 Parents – Secondary School Transition Talk

‘Is your child anxious about the move to secondary school?’

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are pleased to invite you to attend a Years 5 and 6 Parent/Carer transition support session delivered in partnership with the Hillingdon Inclusion Team (and the Centre for ADHD and Autism Support - CAAS). The workshop is designed to support parents and carers of young people who may feel nervous or anxious about the transition from primary school to secondary school (including children diagnosed with Autism and/or ADHD). This session will be delivered by representatives from the local charity CAAS.

This parent/carer workshop will provide a safe and supportive space to discuss many of the common worries and concerns families experience when preparing for the move to mainstream secondary school. The session will also provide an opportunity to ask questions and gain practical strategies to support your child through this important transition.

Topics may include key differences between primary and mainstream secondary school, behaviour systems and detentions, realistic expectations, reasonable adjustments, and supporting friendships. This session will also explore positive communication with schools, where to access support, and practical strategies to help children prepare over the summer holidays.

The aim of the workshop is to help reduce anxieties around transition and help families feel more prepared and supported moving forward. We recognise that every child is different and the session is designed to offer reassurance, understanding and practical guidance.

This parent workshop will take place, in our school Hall, as follows –

Date: Wednesday 15th July 2026

Time of session: 9am – 10am (parents can come into school from 8.50am after the morning drop off).

Please buzz into our office at our main entrance off of Rockingham Close.

Fun Fest Holiday Club

Looking ahead to the Summer Holidays...



Summer Holidays clubs will run from 23rd July to 18th August at Fun Fest Uxbridge.

Book here:



www.fun-fest.co.uk/uxbridge

Kooth

Kooth.com, NHS-commissioned and BACP accredited, offers free, safe and anonymous online mental health support and counselling for 11-25 year olds across north central London:

<https://www.kooth.com/>

Children's Centres

Children's centres offer a range of services to support parent/carers and 0 to 5-year-olds.

You can view the Hillingdon centres here:

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/10473/Contact-details-for-our-family-hubs-and-childrens-centres>

Safeguarding

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 of 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 Autistic Care and Support (HACs)

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

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

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>

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.

Please use our 1-way system after school



We would like to encourage as many parents as possible to use our 1-way system at our pick-up time. Please enter our school using the main pedestrian entrance and then leave school via our Rockingham Road gate (the entrance pupils use every morning). Using this 1-way system helps to prevent congestion in our narrow alleyway leading into school.

Thank you for your consideration.

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.

Upcoming Diary Dates	
Date	Event
14/07/26	Year 6 – Leavers Production 2:00pm
16/07/26	Year 6- Graduation
17/07/26	Last day of term. School finishes at 12:15.
01/09/26-02/09/26	Inset Day
03/09/26	School commences at 8:40am
26/10/26-30/10/26	Half Term
02/11/26	Inset Day
03/11/26	School commences at 8:40am
18/12/26	School finishes at 12:15pm
04/01/27	Inset Day
05/01/27	School commences at 8:40am
15/02/27-19/02/27	Half Term
22/02/27	School commences at 8:40am
25/03/27	School finishes at 12:15pm
26/03/27-09/04/27	Easter Break
12/04/27	School commences at 8:40am
03/05/27	Early May Bank Holiday
31/05/27-04/06/27	Half Term
07/06/27	School commences at 8:40am
20/07/27	School finishes at 12:15pm for Summer holidays