St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 25th September 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 all the parents who attended one of our Meet the Teacher presentations this week. It was nice seeing so many of you. We hope you found the information shared, by class teachers, helpful. We have one further meeting scheduled for Years 3 and 4 parents. This meeting will take place, in our school Hall, on Wednesday 30th September - at 2.45pm.

We are also very much looking forward to seeing many of you at today's Macmillan Coffee Morning. If you are new to our school community, we would love to meet you and this would be an excellent opportunity to meet other family members. We will open up our front entrance to school (off of Rockingham Close) at 8.50am – just after the morning drop off.

Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade Fortnight 2026 started on Monday and is running up until 4th October. This year's theme is, "Do It Fair – for People, for Planet and for Fair Pay". The main focus is to promote fair pay, decent working conditions, and supporting farmers against global supply chain and climate challenges.

Our pupils took part in Fairtrade activities this week and two of our classes attended a special Fairtrade Fortnight Assembly on Tuesday afternoon.

A big thank you to Mr and Mrs Kirby for their ongoing support with our Fairtrade award and for sharing resources, stickers, badges etc. that we shared with our pupils this week. If you do take your child shopping over the weekend – please keep a look out for fairtrade products on the shelves displaying the Fairtrade logo.



Curriculum Information

Following our Meet the Teacher presentations, each teacher has updated their year group Curriculum Overviews on our school website. These overviews show you the topics your child will cover, each term, in each subject area. You can view them on our website here: https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Curriculum+Overviews&pid=60

Individual Pupil Photographs

Our school photographer (Tempest) will visit school on Monday to take all individual pupil photographs. Please ensure your child is wearing their full school uniform including a tie and that they only wear small, plain hair bands, bows etc. in their hair (please refer to the full Uniform Policy on our website): https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform+Guidance&pid=48

School Tours – Prospective Nursery/Reception Parents

From Tuesday 6th October, we will be offering school tours at 9.30am.

This is for new prospective parents only.

Please contact our school office if you are considering applying for your child to have a place in either our Nursery or Reception class.

Each tour will be limited to a maximum of four different families offered on a first come first served basis.

You can book a place, on a specific tour, by emailing our school office: office@stmarysuxbridge.org.uk

Fun Fest – October Holiday Club



Unfortunately, due to essential building work, we are unable to host another Fun Fest club over the October half term holiday.

Year 6 Pupils - Starting secondary school in September 2027

September 2027 admissions

If your child was born between **1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016**, they will be due to start secondary school in September 2027.

The application process for starting secondary school in September 2027 is now open and parents are able to submit their application online.

Further information, including our school admissions brochure, key dates and how to apply, will be available on this page:

https://pre.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions/starting-secondary-school

Primary school applications

If you have a child born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023, you must apply for your child to start primary school in September 2027 by Thursday **15 January 2027**.

Application must also be submitted, by the deadline date ,to the local authourity and to the school .

Schhol application forms can be collected from the school office or on the school website.

Application can be sent ,via email to admissions@stmarysuxbridge.org.uk. **The deadline for on-time applications was Friday 15 January 2027.** Further information, including our school admissions brochure, key dates and how to apply, will be available on this page:https://pre.hillingdon.gov.uk/schooladmissions/starting-primary-school



WhatsApp and Social Media

Pupils learn about online safety every term and we have been reminding our KS2 children of these age restrictions on social media. To use WhatsApp in the UK, you need to be at least 13 years old.

Due to these age restrictions, **we strongly recommend** that parents do not allow any child (attending our school) to use WhatsApp or any other social media platforms rated 13+ due to the risks involved. You may find this NSPCC website useful – it looks at how to set up parental controls on your child's phone: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/

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

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

Tiny Happy People

The BBC's Tiny Happy People website has been designed to help parents develop their child's language skills. You can explore their simple activities and play ideas here:
https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people

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

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/

Instrumental Lessons

We offer 1:1 music lessons, within school hours, through the Stage Talent music company.

Book a Free one-to-one taster Music Lesson today.

These lessons are for pupils aged 4+ wishing to learn piano, guitar, ukulele or violin in our school.

Register by text: 07782503260

Please include:

Your child's name, age, music instrument

Or

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



Ways to Support Our School

Easyfundraising – Shop through easyfundraising with over 8,000 retailers, including Sainsbury's, M&S, Argos and Just Eat, and raise money for St Mary's at no extra cost. Sign up today!
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk

School Lottery – Enter for your chance to win while raising funds for St Mary's. Every ticket helps!
https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/

Stikins – Order personalised name labels through our school fundraising link, and St Mary's receives a contribution too. Please use fundraising number (20871) and click YES at checkout!
https://www.stikins.co.uk/

Parent Kind webinars:

Parentkind offers free online webinars on supporting children with school, emotions, secondary school choices and more.

* Online via Zoom

* Registration required

You register online, select your child's school by postcode, choose the webinar, and complete a few questions. You do not need a PTA login or account.
Please follow the link for Autumn webinars:
https://www.parentkind.org.uk/your-pta-expert/parent-webinars

Warm wishes,
PTA team

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you for attending the Macmillan Coffee Morning. If you were unable to attend and would like to donate, please copy the link below:-

https://donate.justgiving.com/fundraising/cm26037230/donation-amount

Diary Dates:

Upcoming Diary Dates	
Date	**Event**
28/09/26	Individual School photos
19/10/26	Yr 6 Hyde Park Orienteering
19/10/26	Yr 5 Swimming
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