



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 1st December 2023

Morning Drop-off

All pupils (from Reception to Year 6) come into school from 8.40 a.m. 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.

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

Parents should 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

Although each class is timetabled for set days for PE lessons, this often changes due to wet weather and extra sports coaching 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 for your help.

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are very much looking forward to today's PTA Christmas Market in our school Hall. Please join us in our school hall from 3.15pm.

Thank you to our PTA for organising and our family members for the donations of luxury items and sweet cups. These donations will be used on our tombola stalls.

It's been another busy week. On Monday our Year 5 pupils started their swimming lessons, our Yr2 children carried out fieldwork in Uxbridge town centre mapping the high street and Yr4 attended a live 'Romans History Lesson' streamed online by the BBC.

PTA Christmas Market - TODAY

Your school PTA are busy preparing for the most wonderful time of the year!

A key highlight will of course be a visit from Father Christmas, with a Christmas 'Crafternoon' & Market planned in the hall from 3.15pm.

We hope you and your children will enjoy all the festive fun!

Thank you for your support, it is very much appreciated.

PTA Team

A Year of Prayer

In 2025, the Church will celebrate the next Jubilee Year! Pope Francis has invited us to spend a year preparing, starting in Advent 2023. He has called this period of preparation, a Year of Prayer.

Please log on to the TEN TEN parent's portal which has our December newsletter for parents and prayers to say as a family.

<http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>



Lord, help me each day to share the gifts you have given me to make a big difference to other people's lives.
Amen

Test Week

Our Test Week will take place next week. All pupils, in Years 1 to 6, will take various age appropriate tests. The results will be analysed and used to plan targets and support. The results will be shared with parents at our next Parents' Evenings scheduled for 23rd and 25th January.

Fire Brigade Workshops

On Wednesday, a representative from the London Fire Brigade will visit school to lead age appropriate workshops with our pupils in Years 2 and 5. These will focus on fire safety.



Read With Me



Parents and the home environment are essential to the early teaching of reading and fostering a love of reading; children are more likely to continue to be readers in homes where books and reading are valued (Clark and Rumbold, 2006).

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

We know that reading for pleasure is strongly influenced by relationships between teachers and children, and children and their families and this in turn impacts children's outcomes. With this in mind we would like to invite parents to read with their child(ren) in their classroom(s) on Thursday 21st December 8:50 to 9:10am or 2:45 to 3:05pm. We know from past experience how enjoyable this is for children and parents alike. This will be a festive themed 'Read With Me' session and we invite you to bring festive themed stories, children's bibles or poems from home. Don't worry if you do not have any festive themed books there will be plenty to choose from in school, these books will then be available in the school library for children to take home and share. Miss Gahan

Early Years: "Come and play with me"

We invite all Early Years parents to come and join their child / children in their learning through play on Thursday 7th December from 2:15pm – 2:45pm and then join together for tea and coffee in the school hall until 3:10pm.

Christmas Events in School

In the lead up to Christmas we have organised the following events:

Tue 12 th December	Early Years Christmas Production at 2:15pm
Tue 19 th December	KS1 (Years 1 and 2) Christmas Production at 2:15pm
Tue 19 th December	Christmas Carol Concert (in our Church) at 4pm Our Year 3 pupils will lead the singing in our Church

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.

House Point Winners this week:	St. Thomas	567
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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/>

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.stagetalent.co.uk/register



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Date	Event
Mon 27 th November	Year 5 Swimming lessons start
Fri 1 st December	PTA Christmas Market, Crafts & Father Christmas (3.15pm – School Hall)
Thu 7 th December	Early Years Come and play with me
Tue 12 th December	Early Years Christmas Production at 2:15pm
Tue 19 th December	KS1 Christmas Production at 2:15pm
Tue 19 th December	Christmas Carol Concert (in our Church) at 4pm Our Year 3 pupils will lead the singing in our Church
Fri 22 nd December	Term ends at 12.15pm

Wildlife Watch

This year, our school will be investigating how the recreational ground behind the school (Rockingham Park) changes during the year.

We have already started investigating and discovered lots of interesting things:

- We found parakeets eating fruit in a rowan tree next to the river.
- We observed red kite birds circling above waiting for their prey to emerge.
- We found slugs, worm, woodlice and flies in different parts of the park.
- We used tree guides to name some of the trees and found evergreen trees, rowan trees and sycamore trees.

We will be returning to the recreational ground in the spring term but in the meantime it would be wonderful if the children could continue to observe and record the following:

- The names of birds they see, a description of its features (e.g brown feathers, long beak), where they saw it and what it was doing
- The names of trees they notice, a description of their leaves (e.g. colour, size, shape) and where it is in the park (e.g. near houses).
- The names of animals and insects they find, or see evidence of. They might not see an animal but they might see signs of a burrow where an animal lives. Add a description what you find.
- The names of plants they see. Are they flowering? Are they sprouting, healthy plants or are they dying? Describe what you see and where you see it.

We would love to learn about what you've found so please record it or take a picture to email to the office. You can write down your observations on slip at the bottom of this page. Every observation returned to school will be entered into a draw at the end of term and you could win a science book! I have books, guides, binoculars and some minibeast investigation pots that children can borrow if they would like to go exploring. The children have loved looking for

parakeets and red kites so I hope they enjoy noticing more exciting things in our local area!

Mrs Park

Wildlife Watch	
Child's name:	Year:
What did you find?	
Describe what you've found:	
Where did you find it?	
If it was doing something, what was it doing?	
Any extra information:	