St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Fortnightly School Newsletter

Friday 6th November 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,

Welcome back! We hope you had a safe and restful break with your family. Although school was closed to pupils last week, it was very busy with lots of building work going on. The flat roof across our school has now been replaced (we previously had a few issues with leaks during heavy rain). We are sure you will have noticed the new cabin room that has been built on our KS1 grassed area. This room will be used to offer support groups, for pupils across our school, including a before school intervention. The project to replace our KS1 and KS2 washrooms is going well and we are looking forward to this work being completed in the next six weeks.

Our teachers returned to school on Monday for our third INSET Day. We were visited by Dr Quinton (EP) who led literacy training with a specific focus on supporting pupils to be more independent using adaptions and scaffolding. Our final teacher training day is scheduled for Monday 4th January (the first day back after the Christmas holiday).

We are looking forward to a busy half term ahead including trips, workshops, Christmas performances as well as our Carol Concert (further details and dates are listed below).

Bonfire Night took place yesterday, if you plan to go to a fireworks event, this weekend, we hope you have a safe and enjoyable night.

Christmas Events in School

Date	Event
Fri 20th November	PTA Santa's Grotto – pupils can wear Christmas jumpers or Christmas clothes to school on this day
Wed 2nd December	PTA Christmas Movie Night (further details to follow)
Wed 9th December	Christmas lunch day (please order your child's lunch through the Orchard portal)
Wed 9th December	Early Years Christmas Production at 2.15pm
Thu 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Tue 15th December	Christmas Carol Service in Church (Years 3 and 4 leading) at 4pm
Wed 16th December	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Production at 2.15pm

Year 5 Hampton Court Visit

Yesterday, our Year 5 pupils visited Hampton Court Palace to find out more about Tudor life, Henry VIII and his six wives. The children explored the palace and took part in a workshop exploring historical sources.

Year 3 Volcanoes and Earthquakes Workshop

Our Year 3 pupils are very much looking forward to their Geography based workshop on Monday. This session will support the children in finding out more about volcanoes and earthquakes and how they occur. The workshop will be led by a representative from the Freshwater Theatre Company.

Remembrance Day



This weekend marks Remembrance Sunday followed by Remembrance Day on Wednesday. Thank you to all the family members who purchased poppies, and other items, from our Year 6 stall over the last two days. All donations will go to the Royal British Legion. Each class has been finding out more about the significance and meaning of Remembrance Day in class. We will have a two minute silence on Wednesday morning at 11am.

School Lunches – Christmas Lunch Order

Please continue to order your child's FREE school lunch through the Orchard Contract Catering website. Your child will only receive a free school lunch if you order one for them online. Please only order a lunch for your child if you intend for your child to eat it. A few pupils have been bringing in a packed lunch despite ordering a hot meal and then not eating it . Unfortunately, these meals have then been thrown away after service. Thank you in advance.
https://www.theorchardcontractcatering.co.uk/#

Well Done Emma – Yr5

Congratulations to Emma (Year 5) who recently competed in a British Dance Organisation competition. Her group won the bronze award which is an amazing achievement. Well done Emma!



UPCOMING PTA CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING EVENTS!!!!

A BIG THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our cake sale before half-term! A special thank you to all those who baked, donated and purchased the delicious cakes. Your generosity and support helped make the sale a great success. We have raised **£190.60.**

CHRISTMAS ONLINE ORDERS

Our Christmas online orders such as mugs, tea towels, etc have arrived! Our busy elves are sorting orders by year group. Some already have received theirs, whilst others will get theirs soon. Thank you for your patience and support.
If you have any questions please email us: ***stmaryspta-uxbridge@outlook.com***

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS EVENTS

We have lots of festive fun coming up over the next few weeks!

NOVEMBER

- **Monday 16th November 26 - Global Education week/Non-uniform Day** – We invite all children to come dressed in their international attire that represents their country or come in normal uniform and create a country flag. Every child can take part in their own way!
  A voluntary £1 contribution to the PTA would be greatly appreciated and will help raise valuable funds for our school!
- **Friday 20th November 26– Santa's Grotto** – Get ready for some Christmas magic and a special visit from Santa during school hours (8.45am to 3.15pm)! Children will have the chance to **snap a special picture with Santa and receive a lovely festive treat! Please note:** Christmas Jumpers/Clothing Day!

DECEMBER

- **Wednesday 2nd December 26 – Christmas Movie Night**
  - After-school event -3.15pm-5.15pm
  - A lovely festive opportunity for the children to enjoy a Christmas movie with their friends!

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!

Further details about each event, including arrangements and how to take part, will be shared through event posters and our regular communications.
Please keep an eye out for updates via:

- School WhatsApp communications *(if you want to be added to your WhatsApp Year group, please email us)*
- Email updates
- PTA noticeboards

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!
The PTA Team

School Uniform

It was lovely to welcome the children back to school on Tuesday looking very smart in their school uniform. We have been reminding the children of these school uniform rules:

- White shirt MUST be worn with the **yellow/bottle green school tie.**
- All pupils must wear **black shoes** that do not have coloured laces or decorations (not boots or open-toe sandals).
- Pupils should only wear **small, plain coloured hair bands, bows, beads and hair clips** that are in keeping with the school uniform colours (green, black or grey).
- Below shoulder length hair should be tied up for safety reasons.
- In colder weather, girls are able to wear grey trousers or dark grey tights to school **(no leg warmers or wide leg/ bootcut trousers please).**
- Pupils should only wear their PE kit (and trainers) to school on days they have PE.

You can view our full School Uniform Policy on our website including photographs of what this looks like in practice:
https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform+Guidance&pid=48

School Tours – Prospective Parents

We are now offering school tours every Tuesday moring 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

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 is 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

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.

Please follow the link for Autumn webinars:

https://www.parentkind.org.uk/your-pta-expert/parent-webinars

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Diary Dates:

Upcoming Diary Dates	
Date	
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