



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 8th March 2024

Morning Drop-off

All pupils (from Reception to Yr6) 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, 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 (most often in the corridors) and we do not have the space for large rucksacks or other similar bags.

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been a busy week including a visit from two Ofsted inspectors. Thank you to all the parents who completed their online survey. As soon as we are sent their report we will publish this on our school website. Unfortunately, we needed to postpone some of our Test Week assessments as the Ofsted representatives understandably wanted to spend time observing lessons, looking at books and talking to children and staff. These tests will continue next week.

Eco Council Cake Sale – Today

Today's cake sale will take place, from 3pm, at our main entrance (next to the Early Years entrance). Please bring some loose change if you would like to buy cakes. Our pupil Eco Council are holding this sale to raise money to buy bird feeders, a new outdoor recycling bin, planters and flowers to develop nature areas in our school. Thank you to all the family members who donated cakes (they look amazing) and to our PTA members for their help.

Year 4 class assembly

Year 4 taught us lots of interesting facts about the Ancient Egyptians on Tuesday afternoon. They recited their lines and performed the lively songs brilliantly. Thank you to Mr Beacham for planning this assembly and to all the parents who came along to support their child.

Building Work

We are still waiting for our builders to complete work re-building the wall next to our staff car park entrance. Please continue to use the Rockingham Road alleyway after school.

Years 3 and 4 Mass

Thank you to all the family members who accompanied Years 3 and 4 to Church on Tuesday.

Police Talks – Parents – 2.10pm

On Tuesday 12th March, a representative from the police will give a talk for parents about child exploitation and grooming. Due to the sensitive issues that will be covered, no children (including younger siblings) are allowed. This session will run from 2.10pm until 3.10pm in our school hall. If you have any questions about internet safety, grooming etc. there will be a drop-in session from 3.15pm.

Book Week

We will be celebrating our Book Week in school throughout next week. This year's theme is growth mindsets and all classes, in the school, will be reading a book linked to this theme, in order to help develop their resilience and determination to succeed.

Parents are invited to read to their child(ren) in class on Monday 11th March from 8:55am to 9:15 or 2:40pm to 3pm.

On Wednesday 13th March children are invited back to school for our ever-popular Bedtime Stories. Children from **Reception to Year 5** can return to school in their pyjamas at 4pm to 4.45pm. In class they will enjoy stories, milk and cookies.

Year 6 Please note: Only the Year 6 librarians should attend this session to help with our younger classes.

Dress-up Day Costumes – CHANGE DATE

On **Thursday 14th March**, children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character (please note this change of date). There will be a whole school assembly on this day to share costumes and one child from each class will receive a prize for the best costume.

Please see the links attached for ideas for homemade costumes.

<https://childrenslibrarylady.com/save-money-book-character-costume/>

<https://www.busythings.co.uk/blog/easy-world-book-day-costume-ideas/>

Some libraries are offering an opportunity for **Book Week costume swaps**.

Further details here:

<https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/news/library-service-hosting-costume-swap-world-book-day>

Place2Be – Parenting Smart

Practical tips to support children's wellbeing and behaviour

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

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 – Updated contact details

Website: www.schoolfriendclub.com

New booking portal: <https://schoolfriendclub.magicbooking.co.uk>

Tel: 0333 355 7374

House Point Winners this week:	St. Thomas	289
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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/>



Hillingdon Special Education Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) offers free, impartial, and confidential information, advice, and support. We aim to empower and enable parents/carers to be able to take an active role in decisions made about their child/young person regarding their education. Our drop-in sessions are for parents/carers to ask questions and share experiences.

Drop-in sessions for January and February

- 31st January 1 – 3pm
McMillan Children's Centre, Judge Heath Lane, Hayes UB3 2PD
- 7th February 9 – 11am
Cherry Lane Childrens Centre, West Drayton, Middx UB7 9DL
- 19th February 12.30 – 1.30pm
Nestles Early Years, Nestles Avenue, Hayes, UB3 4QA
- 26th February 1 – 3pm
Hayes End Family Hub, College Way Hayes UB3 3BB

Please use the link below to register with the setting before attending, you will be asked to sign in. You do not need to print, please just register electronically. Do not worry about the age of your child when registering for these drop ins, all parent/carers of children and young people 0-25 welcome.

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/7409/Hillingdons-childrens-centres-Registration-form>

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.stagetalent.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.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Date	Event
11 th March to 15 th March	Book Week
Monday 11 th March	8:55am to 9:15am or 2:40 to 3pm- Parents invited to read to their children.
Wednesday 13 th March	4pm-4:45pm: Reception to Year 5. Bedtime stories
Thursday 14 th March	Book character dress-up day