



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 11th July 2025

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 when collecting, after school, to avoid congestion in our 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 large rucksacks** or other similar bags. Thank you in advance.

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,

On Tuesday, pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in Lego Robotics STEM workshops. The children found out how to use the Lego block coding software to control motors, lights, sounds, pictures and text using a tablet. They then followed instructions to build a model robot which they programmed. The children were encouraged to be creative by 'upgrading and improving' their models. Pupils in Upper KS2 were taught how to write algorithms to program a motion sensor. The sessions were great fun and packed full of learning!

Year 1's Class Assembly took place yesterday. The children performed for pupils, in the morning, followed by their family members in the afternoon - teaching us lots of interesting facts about different explorers through time. Their performances, singing (and dances) were fantastic. Well done Year 1!

Our Year 4 pupils also visited the British Museum, in London, on the same day. They took part in an Ancient Egyptian workshop and they explored the Egyptian galleries hunting for different artefacts from this period of time.

Today, our Year 5 pupils visited Ruislip Manor to take part in an event called Global Lullabies. They have been practising a musical piece, over the last few weeks, and then presented this to an audience this morning. Our Reception and Year 1 pupils are due to attend a free Rugbytots sessions this afternoon – we will be offering a new Rugbytots after school club in the new academic year.

Annual Pupil Progress Reports

Our end of year teacher reports will be sent home after school today. Please share your child's report with them and celebrate their success whilst also discussing the elements that they may need to focus on in the future. If you have any comments to make, please complete the reply slip at the end of your child's report and return this to school before the end of this term. If you would like to discuss your child's report with their class teacher – please contact our school office to arrange a meeting. It has been wonderful to be able to celebrate the achievements of our children and especially their efforts to improve and develop this year.

Transition Morning - Tuesday

We are holding a Transition morning (on Tuesday). All pupils will spend a lesson with their new teacher (for September) in their new classroom. Following this lesson, they will spend their breaktime in their new playground. Staff have spent this half term preparing the children for this transition and we have been doing extra work with those pupils who find transitions more difficult - including some of our SEN pupils. Please speak to your child's current teacher if you have any concerns.

Non-Uniform Day – Wednesday 16th July

We will be holding a Non-Uniform Day on Wednesday 16th July (no football tops please). Pupils may wear their own clothes in return for a £1 donation to the Catholic Children's Society (CCS). Teachers will collect the £1 donations (from pupils) in their classrooms. Thank you.

Crazy Hair and Crazy Sock Day

Our PTA are holding a Crazy Hair & Sock Day on Friday 18th July (last day of term). Pupils are encouraged to style their hair in wild, wacky, and unusual ways. Our PTA will collect £1 donations at our school entrance before school. The children can wear crazy hair/socks alongside their full school uniform. It promises to be a 'Wacky Day'!



Year 6 – End of KS2 SATs Tests

We were sent our school's end of KS2 SATs results this week. Individual pupil results will be included in the Yr6 reports (sent home today). Our pupils did extremely well with our school achieving well above the National averages in the Reading, Maths, Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling (GPS) tests. There was a very high % of pupils working at Greater Depth across all subjects. Well done Year 6 (and Mr Morris and Mrs George) for all of their hard work. You can see a summary of our school's results below:

Subject	% of pupils achieving the expected standard: school 2025	% of pupils achieving the expected standard: nationally 2025	% of pupils working at Greater Depth: our school 2025
English Reading	90%	75%	63.3%
English grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS)	93.3%	Waiting to be published	56.6%
Mathematics	96.6%	74%	53.3%

8.30am – Before School Groups Ended TODAY

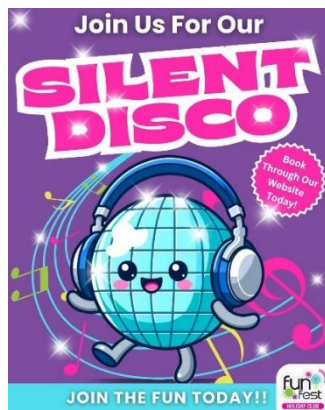
All 8.30am pre-teaching and booster groups ended this morning. There are no groups taking place next week. All pupils need to be dropped off at the Rockingham Road green gate between 8.40 and 8.45am during our last week of school. Any pupils who are invited to attend our Autumn term groups will receive a new letter in September. Thank you.

Year 6 Leavers' Production

Since their return from Ufton Court, our Year 6 pupils have been busy practising for their Leavers' Production. This will take place on **Tuesday 15th of July**, in our school hall for their family members.

The performance will now start at the **earlier time of 2pm** to allow for photographs at the end.

Fun Fest – Summer Holiday Club



Fun Fest are once again holding their summer holiday club (at our school) over the summer break and they have planned lots of special events for the children to enjoy.

Silent Disco

On Tuesday 12th August, Fun Fest Uxbridge is turning up the fun with a Silent Disco like no other – headphones on, good vibes only! Whether it's pop, rock, or party classics, everyone gets their groove on with music they love. Get ready to dance like nobody's watching!



Summer Bake Off

Ready, steady... Bake Off! This summer, Fun Fest is running a cross-club baking competition over 4 fabulous weeks, and the excitement is rising! Each week has its own delicious theme, from Italian classics to indulgent treats and party favourites. Every participating club will whip up a tasty recipe from the weekly theme, and there'll be one overall winner in each age group - each winning a special prize from the Fun Fest Head Office. The Bake Off is an optional activity, so children can choose whether to join in the fun or simply enjoy the other amazing activities on offer.

Here are our scrumptious themes:



Italian Week (week commencing 28th July): Chocolate tiramisu, homemade pizza, carbonara & more.



Summer Pudding Week (week commencing 4th August): Eton Mess Cheesecake, Lemon Biscuits, Pavlova.



Indulgence Week (week commencing 11th August): Banoffee Pie, Chocolate Mud Cups & more chocolatey delights.



Party Week (week commencing 18th August): Funfetti cupcakes, cake pops, sausage rolls, party rings!

Does your child love to mix, bake, and get creative in the kitchen? Visit the Fun Fest website for more info or to book their place for this summer holiday activity! We can't wait to see what your star baker creates!

Fun Festival

Step right up for the Fun Festival Carnival Party at Fun Fest Uxbridge on Wednesday 21st August!

Think colourful games, face paint, prizes, music and summer celebration galore – it's a carnival kids will remember!

Make this summer one to remember at Fun Fest Uxbridge!

Summer Holiday – FunFest Holiday Club

Fun Fest are still taking bookings for the Summer at:

<https://fun-fest.co.uk/uxbridge/>



Year 6 Graduation Ceremony

The Year 6 pupil Graduation Ceremony will take place on Thursday 17th of July, at 2.15pm, in our school hall. Our whole school will join together, at this time, to celebrate our Year 6's achievements before they leave St. Mary's. Year 6 parents are invited to watch the children receive their graduation certificate at this special event.

Plastic Free July



Our Eco Council would like to remind parents that this month is Plastic Free July.

Do you want some tips to find out how you can reduce plastic waste?

The good news is, anyone can get involved. You can start out small, or really challenge yourself! Get inspired using the menu options on the Plastic Free Foundation website:

<https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/get-involved/what-you-can-do/>

Last Day of Term

This term ends (next week) on Friday 18th July - at the earlier time of 12.15pm. There are no hot lunches provided on this day. This is our final Newsletter for this term – there will not be a Newsletter sent home next Friday. We would like to wish you a happy Summer and we would also like to wish our Year 6 pupils all the best starting their new secondary schools. We will miss all of the help they have given us this year!

REMINDER: Teacher and Teaching Assistant (TA) allocation for September:

Class	Teacher	Support Staff
Nursery	Mrs Bowen	Mrs Austin Miss Power
Reception	Mrs Chandarana	Mrs Still
Year 1	Miss Gahan	Mrs Inkpen Mrs Spindler
Year 2	Mrs Rowland	Mrs Charlton Mrs Wall
Year 3	Mrs Parry	Mrs Sullivan
Year 4	Miss Haji	Mrs Horswood
Year 5	Mr Stringer	Miss Bradford Mrs O'Conner
Year 6	Mr Morris	Mrs George
Teacher PPA Cover	Mrs Kumar (1 day a week) Mrs Goodheart (2 days) Mrs Park (2 days)	

School Reading Books

All school reading books and library books should have been returned to school, by today, so staff can carry out an audit in preparation for the next academic year. If you still have any books at home – please can these be returned, as soon as possible, next week.

It is imperative that your child/children continue to read throughout the summer. Please find a list of useful links below to help with this, including a free e-book library from Oxford Reading Tree and a really great list of seven tips to keep children reading throughout the summer.

Happy reading, Miss Gahan:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/resources/find-resources/7-tips-for-keeping-children-reading-through-the-summer-holidays/>

https://www.readaloudchallenge.co.uk/?utm_source=Cornerstones&utm_medium=qr&utm_campaign=uknrac25

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

<https://discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/11044/Summer-Reading-Challenge-2025>

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/how-we-help/have-fun-at-home/storybooks-and-games/>

Year 6 Pupils - Starting secondary school in September 2026

From Monday 1st September, you can apply for a school place if your child is due to start secondary school in September 2026. You can find more information on the Hillingdon LA website:

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/secondary>

Summer Reading Challenge

This year's theme is called the 'Story Garden' - children can now take part online as well as at their local library. Parents can find out more here:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

Our Lunch Box Policy – From September 2025

The following items should not be included in lunch boxes on any day each week:

- No sugary soft drinks including squash/juice and fizzy drinks. We will be a 'water only' school from September.
- No confectionery such as chocolate bars or sweets.
- *No cakes, biscuits or cereal bars containing or coated in chocolate.
- No Crisps.
- Nuts (due to allergies).

***Pupils are allowed to bring in cakes, or biscuits, on any day as long as they don't contain chocolate (this is the same as our school hot lunches).**

What are the age restrictions on social media?

13	13+	16	18
Facebook Twitter Instagram Snapchat TikTok Kik Ask.fm Houseparty Periscope Tumblr Reddit Pinterest	Whatsapp YouTube WeChat Whisper Yubo (13+ means with parental consent)	LinkedIn	Tinder Bumble

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/>



District Sports

Well done to all of the pupils who represented our school at the Hillingdon District Sports event – held last week in Uxbridge. The children won lots of medals on the various athletics events and their behaviour was a credit to our school. Thank you to Mr Stringer and Mr Morris for organising this event and to all of the teachers who helped at the competition.

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>

Getting in Contact

Tel: 01895 232814

Email: office@stmarysuxbridge.org.uk

All enquiries should be referred to our school office

Amazon Wish List – School Supplies

Please help support our school by donating school supplies from our Amazon Wish

List <https://amzn.eu/fqZpVLv>

Any purchase would be greatly appreciated.

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://hillingtonpcf.com/>

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

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

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.

House Point Winner this week:	St. Francis	158
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Diary Dates:

Date	Event
15/07/2025	Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 2pm
17/07/2025	Year 6 Graduation at 2:15pm
18/07/2025	Early Finish 12:15pm. No hot meals.
04/09/2025	School starts at 8:40am