



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## School Newsletter

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> 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, Our Year 6 pupils went on their residential trip this week. They spent 3 days at the Ufton Court site in Reading. There was a range of fun activities for the children to enjoy including archery, outdoor pursuits, den building and a night disco in the forest. The children (and staff) came back exhausted but had lots of positive things to say. A big thank you to Mr Morris, Mrs George and Mrs Inkpen for accompanying the children. Well done to all the pupils who represented our school at this year's Hillingdon District Sports event on Wednesday. Lots of children came into school, yesterday, proudly showing off the medals they had won. Thank you to Mr Stringer and Mr Morris for organising and to all of the teachers who helped at the event. Our Year 1 pupils visited the Look Out Centre, in Bracknell, today to take part in lots of practical hands-on Science workshops and activities. We are looking forward to hearing about their visit!

### Year 1 Class Assembly

Year 1's Class Assembly will take place on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July (next week), at 2.30pm**, in our school hall. All family members are more than welcome to attend. We will open up our main entrance, shortly before 2.30pm, for all visitors to make their way to our school hall.

### 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 15<sup>th</sup> of July, at 2.15pm, in our school hall for their family members.

### Year 6 Graduation Ceremony

The Year 6 pupil Graduation Ceremony will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Year 2 Built This City

Our Year 2 pupils have produced some amazing 3D maps, as a part of their work in Geography, including human and physical geographical features they have been studying. Last week the children put their maps together, in our school hall, to create their own city. Well done to Year 2 for this amazing creation – please see the photograph below:



### 8.30am – Before School Groups End – Next Week

All 8.30am pre-teaching and booster groups **end next Friday (11<sup>th</sup> July)**. There are no groups taking place during the last week of this term. 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. Thank you.

## Our Lunch Box Policy – From September 2025

Following our recent parent survey and Pupil School Council consultation we have updated our Lunch Box Policy (from September)-

**The majority of parents/pupils felt that the following items should not be included in lunch boxes on any day each week (this is in keeping with our Healthy Schools Award and Healthy London School accreditation):**

- 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.
- Crisps.
- Nuts (due to allergies).

**\*The majority of parents felt that pupils should be allowed to bring in cakes, or biscuits, on any day (as long as they don't contain chocolate) as this is the same as the lunches provided by our school caterers (Accent).**

A really big thank you to all the parents who took the time to complete our Lunch Box Survey – your feedback was really helpful.

### Year 2 – Extra Sports Coach Session – Monday

Yr2 have an extra Sports Coach session on Monday and can come to school wearing their PE kit. Thank you

### Last Day of Term

This term ends on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July - at the earlier time of 12.15pm. There are no hot lunches provided on this day.



### 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/>

### **Non-Uniform Day – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

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

### **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/>

### **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>

### **Summer Holiday – FunFest Holiday Club**



### **Getting in Contact**

Tel: 01895 232814

Email: [office@stmarysuxbridge.org.uk](mailto: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.

## **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**

## **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/>





## **Well Done Órlaith**

We are delighted to announce that Órlaith (Year 6) danced in the show Celtic Throne, at The Eventim Apollo performance venue in Hammersmith, yesterday evening. She danced with her dance school the Angela O'Connor Academy. Well done Órlaith – this is an amazing achievement – we are all really proud of you!

## **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](http://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.

<b>House Point Winners this week:</b>	<b>St. Bernadette's</b>	<b>222 Points</b>
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The House Points were very close this week.

St. Bernadette's won with 222 points – St. Thomas were only 1 point behind with 221. Well done to both House Groups!

**Diary Dates:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
10/07/2025	Year 1 Assembly at 2.30pm
15/07/2025	Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 2:15pm
17/07/2025	Year 6 Graduation at 2:15pm
18/07/2025	Early Finish 12:15pm. No hot meals.