



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## School Newsletter

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### 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.

### P.E. Lessons

Although each class is timetabled for PE lessons, this often changes due to wet weather and/or extra sports coach 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 (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.



Dear Parent/Carer,

Sorry for any inconvenience caused by our school closure on Monday. The majority of the school was without electricity (including lights), heating or internet connection. As we didn't have a working fire alarm, we were unable to stay open. Our power was restored in the early hours of Tuesday morning but we still had issues with our phone line, photocopiers and printers. Thank you for your understanding.

### World Children's Day

Due to our closure on Monday, we celebrated World Children's Day yesterday. World Children's Day is UNICEF's global day of action marking the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Pupils marked this special occasion by wearing blue coloured non-uniform to school and completing linked activities in their individual classes. They have been looking at a different 'right' (Article of the Month) during whole school assemblies.



### No Pens Day

Today is the National No Pens Day. It's a chance for children to put their pens down, talk, listen, and take part in lots of pen-free activities, all whilst promoting the importance of speech and language skills. Each class has planned different activities ranging from debates to performance poetry.

### Thank You – Thursday's Coffee Morning



Thank you so much to the group of parents who attended our Coffee Morning on Thursday led by the Occupational Therapy (OT) Team from Brunel University. Our school is lucky to have received this valuable outreach from the Brunel KidSpace Team and we really appreciate parents taking the time to attend. KidSpace are a university-based research clinic led by Occupational Therapists dedicated to

understanding and promoting participation & key skills in childhood. They run various events for children, at Brunel, including handwriting sessions, Yr7 transition support and workshops developing gross motor control. You can find out more on their website here:

<https://www.brunel.ac.uk/occupational-therapy/research-and-phd-programmes/kidspace>

**A few parents told us they wanted to attend but were unable to do so due to work and other commitments. We've uploaded the PPT onto the SEN page of our website. You can view it here:**

<https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/site/data/files/documents/sen/D420A3791C5CEBB757BE864525C12F10.pdf>

### Test Week

Years 1 to 5 are completing various tests in English and Maths next week. We will analyse the results and plan pupil targets and next steps including support.

We will share the results at our next Parents' Evenings scheduled for Tues 14<sup>th</sup> and Thu 16<sup>th</sup> January. This will also be an opportunity to look through your child's exercise books.

## Christmas Events in School

The next few weeks are set to be very busy in the lead up to Christmas. We have planned these events for parents:

<b>Thu 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Early Years (Nursery and Reception) Christmas Production for all parents at 2.15pm – school Hall
<b>Tue 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Father Christmas visits to each class (organised by our PTA) Carol Concert (in Church) at 4pm – led by Year 3
<b>Wed 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	KS1 (Years 1 and 2) Christmas Production for all parents 2.15pm – school Hall
<b>Thu 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Year 4 Carols for Parents – 2.30pm followed by refreshments and mince pies – school Hall
<b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>TERM ENDS at 12.15pm</b>

Alongside these parent performances, the children will also be performing their productions to the other classes at various times in our school Hall (as dress rehearsals).

## Christmas Jumper Days

This year, we will be taking part in the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Pupils may also wear their Christmas jumper to school on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December when Father Christmas will visit each class.

## Netball Win 5-4

We are delighted to announce that our netball team won 5-4 against St. Helen's School on Thursday. Well done to our netball team for such an excellent result.

## 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/>

## School Lunches

You can order your child's school lunches up to 6 weeks in advance.

Please continue to order online through the iPay website:

<https://www.ipayimpact.co.uk/IPI/Account/LogOn>

## Starting Reception School 2025

If you have a child born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, you must apply for your child to start Reception in September 2025.

If you regularly attend Our Lady of Lourdes church and your child has been baptised, the CCP school forms can be signed on the following dates only: -

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024- 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – 11:30 am – 1.00pm

You must apply by: 15<sup>st</sup> January 2025 – further information on to the links below:

[www.hillingdon.gov/schooladmissions](http://www.hillingdon.gov/schooladmissions) or email [admissions@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@hillingdon.gov.uk).

You also need to fill the Supplementary forms for our school that can be obtained from the school website or the school office.

***For the Nursery Children, the CCP school forms, for Nursery 2025, can be signed on the following dates: -***

***Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – 3pm – 5:30pm***

***Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2025- 11:30am \_ 12:30pm***

## **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>



## **Age Restrictions on Social Media**

Pupils cover work on online safety every term. We have been reminding our KS2 children of these age restrictions on social media.

## **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

For Special Educational Needs: Mr Ellis (using the contact details above)

Chair of Governors: Mrs Maureen Thorpe (using the contact details above)

## **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 -our onsite breakfast and after school club provider:**

Website: [www.schoolfriendclub.com](http://www.schoolfriendclub.com)

Booking portal: <https://schoolfriendclub.magicbooking.co.uk>

Tel: 0333 355 7374

## **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/>

### **Speech Link – Parent Portal**

Speech and language support for parents and carers:

<https://speechandlanguage.info/parents>

### **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>

## 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>

## 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.stage talent.co.uk/register](http://www.stage talent.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. Francis</b>	<b>326</b>
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# Christmas Art Competition 2024

I would like to invite all the children from Lower Early Years to Year 6 to design a Christmas themed poster. The winner's art work will be displayed in the school. The winners from each key stage (EYFS, Key stage 1 and 2) will receive a certificate and prize.

The poster should not be any larger than A3 and please clearly label the poster with the child's name and year group.

The winner's will be announced in the last week before we break up for Christmas.

**Many thanks to Brook in year 5 for the inspirational idea for this competition**

All entries to be sent in via your child's class teacher by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

Good luck

Mrs Bowen

(Art and Design Technology Lead)

What's  
on...

at Uxbridge Library

## Christmas Craft Workshop

Join us to make some fun  
festive decorations



Tuesday 3rd December



3.45pm to 4.45pm  
For ages 4-7 years



For more information please speak to any of our staff  
or visit [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries).

To book a free place please call 01895 250714  
or email [uxbridge-library@hillington.gov.uk](mailto:uxbridge-library@hillington.gov.uk)

## UPCOMING EVENTS - Autumn Term Dates 2024

Date	Event
02/12/24 - 06/12/24	Test Week (Years 1 to 5)
12/12/24	Early Years Christmas Production (2:15pm)
17/12/24	Carol Concert in the Church for the whole school at 4pm. Year 3 will lead the carol concert.
18/12/24	KS1 Christmas Production (2:15pm)
20/12/24	End of term. Finish at 12:15pm (no hot lunch)
06/01/25	School opens - start of Spring Term 2025

Please visit our school website for Term dates: <https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=45>