



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## School Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### **Morning Drop-off**

All pupils (from Reception to Year 6) 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 lessons, this often changes due to wet weather and extra sports coaching 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 for your help.

Dear Parent/Carer,

Tuesday was **Safer Internet day** and each class looked at a specific area of online safety. The Safeguarding Training Centre has created a safeguarding hub that allows parents to access interactive guidance on setting up parental controls on their child's devices, as well as guidance on apps like TikTok, YouTube, Instagram and more. Please click below to access the 'Parent resource hub':

<https://parenthub.thekeysupport.com/?uud=f9bbd4fe-87eb-494e-a7ba-2fbf9d30069d>

### **All Year 5 pupils took part in an intensive 5-day swimming course**

this week. It is a government expectation that all pupils are able to swim 25m unaided by the end of KS2. The children had a short swimming assessment this morning. Any pupil who was unable to swim 25m will be able to attend further swimming lessons next term.

This morning, our **Year 6 pupils** travelled, by Tube, to the Science Museum in London. They took part in a 'Power Up' workshop looking at the history of video games and coding and they then had the opportunity to explore the interactive exhibits in the Wonderlab gallery.

This week was the national **Children's Mental Health Week** organised by the charity Place2Be.

This year's theme was "My Voice Matters." We held a mental health assembly, at the beginning of the week, followed by PSHE activities in each class. Yesterday, pupils were invited to 'Express Themselves' by dressing in non-uniform that makes them unique.

We were greeted in the morning by dancers, footballers, a farmer, dinosaur hunter, rugby player (to name a few) as well as pupils wearing their favourite colours and comfortable clothes.

We are currently working with Place2Be to promote good mental health. This work has included training for staff and other support setting up interventions.

Place2Be also offers support for parents – you can find out more here:

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/>

### **Parents Prayer Group**

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for our prayer group, with Angela, on Tuesday. It was a chance for parents to have some quiet time, away from their busy schedule, praying together.

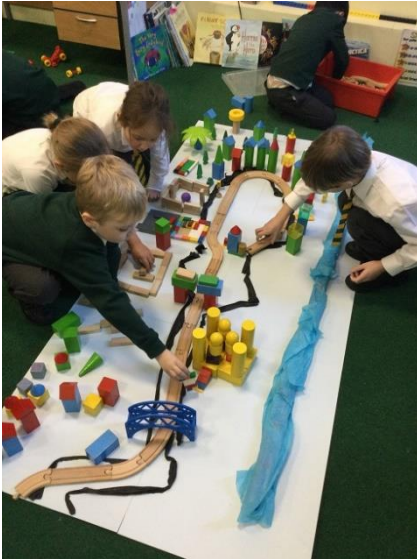
### **Mass in the Church for Year 1 and Year 6**

Please join us to walk to Mass in the church with Year 1 and Year 6 on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> of February. We will leave the school at 9am to walk to church.

### Half Term Holiday

We break up today for the February holiday. We hope you enjoy this time with your family. We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Mon 19<sup>th</sup> February. If your child attends a 8.30am Booster group – they will resume on this day.

## Year 1 Visit and Messy Map



Year 1 walked to Fasnidge Park last week, as a part of their local area topic, taking photographs of different landmarks along their journey. They then used their observations to make a class Messy Map including models of the different physical and human features they saw on their journey.

You can view the finished results in the photo Gallery on our website:

<https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/gallery/?pid=11&gcatid=2>

### 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. Thank you

### Book Week

This year we will be celebrating Book Week in school, the week beginning Monday 11th March. This year's theme is growth mindset 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

On Friday 15th March, children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character. 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.

Happy reading,  
Miss Gahan

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

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

### **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](http://www.schoolfriendclub.com)

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

Tel: 0333 355 7374

<b>House Point Winners this week:</b>	<b>ST.Thomas</b>	<b>1045</b>
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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

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

### **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:**

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