



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 13th February 2026

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, after school, to avoid congestion in our narrow 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 rucksacks** or other bags. Thank you.

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,

This week was Place 2 Be's Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is 'This is My Place', with the aim of helping pupils feel they belong to our school community. Our school works closely with Place2Be and our staff regularly attend their training and make use of their online resources to support pupils. Place2Be have got some resources for you and your family to take part in Children's Mental Health Week 2026 - including their top tips for parents:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/#family>

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day. Each class used their computing lesson to teach about online safety and our KS2 classes attended a live online workshop on Tuesday morning. Thank you to all the parents who helped their child complete the homework activity linked to internet safety.

You can find lots of helpful information for parents on our school website here:

<https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Online+Safety&pid=52>

Years 2 and 5 Fire Safety Workshops

All pupils in Years 2 and 5 took part in workshops, on Tuesday, learning about important fire safety messages. These sessions were led by a representative from the London Fire Brigade (LFB). The LFB have asked us to share the details of their online **Home Fire Safety Checker** which you may like to try:

<https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home/home-fire-safety/home-fire-safety-checker-hfsc/>

If the result recommends that a Home Fire Safety Visit is required, the service is booked by parents/carers to their home and will be carried out either by Firefighters from your closest local fire station or by Community Safety Officers from London Fire Brigade. They will provide fire safety advice to the adults and children in the home and fit smoke alarms where needed. The visits and smoke alarms are completely free of charge.

The Year of St. Francis 2026

Pope Leo has proclaimed a Franciscan Jubilee Year for the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi. The Holy Father has arranged that, from the 10th January 2026 to the 10th January 2027, this Year of St Francis will be celebrated, during which we are invited to follow the example of the Saint of Assisi. We will let you know about some of the events we have planned closer to their dates.

Places to Explore – February Half Term Holiday

The Primary Times has lots of ideas for places that you may like to explore with your child over the February Half Term holiday.

You can find out further details online here:

<https://www.primarytimes.co.uk/>

You might like to visit a museum or other place of interest associated with one of the topics your child will be studying in school next term.

You can view curriculum topics for each class here:

<https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=Curriculum+Overviews&pid=60>

House Team – House Point winners

--	--

Half Term Holiday

We break up today (usual time) for the February holiday. All pupils are due back to school on Monday 23rd February – all 8.30am groups reume on this day. We hope you have a fantastic break with your family.

Year 4 Swimming

We have planned for our Year 4 pupils to take part in swimming lessons during the first week back after the half term holiday. These sessions will take place, every morning, throughout the whole week. Our Year 4 pupils will also take part in swimming lessons next year (Year 5). Swimming is a part of the statutory PE curriculum. By the end of Key Stage 2 (Year 6), the UK government requires that all pupils must be able to swim competently, confidently, and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres unaided. Pupils must also use a range of strokes effectively (e.g. front crawl, backstroke, breaststroke) and perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.

The Year 4 pupils require their swimming costumes/trunks, a towel and swimming hat every day during their swimming week.

Support Our School with Easyfundraising and School Lottery!

Whether you are booking your next holiday, or entering our School Lottery, there are easy ways to support the school to raise extra funds for the school.

Sign up to Easyfundraising and raise FREE donations when you shop with thousands of retailers, or book your holidays with Booking.com, TUI and many more — at no extra cost to you.

(<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/retailer-category/travel/holiday-packages/>)

Plus, don't forget to take part in our School Lottery for a chance to win a Luxury City break. (<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-marys-catholic-primary-school-uxbridge>)

Every little help makes a big difference — thank you for your support!

Warm wishes and have a lovely half-term break.

PTA team

Book Week 2026

This year's Book Week will begin on Monday 2nd March. We have planned lots of exciting activities for the children to enjoy as detailed below -

Tuesday 3rd March:

Read With Me (Parents are invited to join their child in class to read to them) at either 9 to 9:20am or at 2:40 to 3pm.

Bedtime Stories 4 to 4:45pm: Reception -Year 6 Children are invited back to school in their pyjamas to enjoy milk and cookies and of course a bedtime story.

Thursday 5th March (World Book Day):

Year 1 have an online workshop linked to The Snail and the Whale book.

Year 2 have a trip to the the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre.

Friday 6th March: Children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

Our KS2 (Years 3 to 6 pupils) have an online Charlotte's Web themed workshop.

Thursday 19th March: Author visit

We are delighted to inform you that Caryl Hart, children's author, will be visiting our school on Thursday 19th March. Her books have won, or been shortlisted, for many national and regional awards including the Teach Early Years Award. Many of her titles have also received acclaim from Waterstone's, BookTrust, Welsh Book Trust, Durham Book Festival, Books for Topics and other agencies. In 2020, she was nominated for the RUTH RENDELL AWARD which honours the author or writer who has had the most significant influence on literacy in the UK in the past year.

Caryl will be running workshops throughout the day and will have a book sale after school at 3:15pm. The book sale will take place in the Year One classroom which can be accessed from the Junior playground and exited through the main entrance leading to Rockingham Close.

Dinosaur Competition



In her book *Meet the Dinosaurs*, Caryl Hart invites us to ‘Jump into a Jeep and head back in time to the Jurassic to meet all sorts of friendly dinosaurs who inhabited our world long, long ago!’

In preparation for Caryl’s visit we would like to invite you to design and make or draw your own dinosaur.

Prizes for the most unique and original dinosaurs.

What size is your dinosaur? What colour is your dinosaur? Has your dinosaur got any special features or abilities? What does your dinosaur eat? Where did your dinosaur live?

Research and read about dinosaurs that existed long ago, as well as animals that are alive today, to help you imagine your unique creature.

Bring your creation back to school by Tuesday 3rd March 2026.

FEBRUARY HOLIDAYS
FUN FEST UXBRIDGE!

fun fest
HOLIDAY CLUB

Upcoming Holidays
February Half-Term
16th February to 20th February
Monday - Friday
8am - 6pm

Follow -US-

Bookings Open!

Booking Info
We are taking bookings:
<https://fun-fest.co.uk/uxbridge>
 St Mary's Catholic Primary School
 Rookingham Close UB8 2UA Uxbridge
 07399 880319
uxbridge@funfestholidayclub.co.uk

February Holiday Club

Our popular Fun Fest holiday club is once again returning to St. Mary's for the February half term break.

This club will take place, every day of the holiday, between 8am and 6pm.

Fun Fest are currently taking bookings:

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

Year 3 Assembly

Year 3 will perform our next class assembly on Tuesday 10th March at 2.45pm. All family members are most welcome to attend.

You can view a full list of class assembly dates at the bottom of this Newsletter.

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>

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 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 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>

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>

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/>

Safeguarding

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 of our responsibility to safeguard children.

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.

Class Assembly Dates

We have planned for each class to lead an assembly either this, or next term. All class assemblies will take place in our school Hall on the dates listed below. All family members are most welcome to attend – please save the dates in your diaries:

Date	Class	Time
Tues 10 th March	Year 3	2.45pm
Tues 24 th March	Year 5 (Easter Assembly)	2.30pm
Tues 28 th April	Year 2	2.45pm
Tues 19 th May	Year 1	2.45pm
Tues 14 th July	Year 6 (Leavers' Production)	2pm
Thur 16 th July	Year 6 Graduation Assembly	2.30pm

Diary Dates:

Please check our school website for a complete list of diary dates.

Date	Event
13/02/26	School finishes for half term (usual time)
23/02/26	School opens at 8:40am
23/02/26- 27/02/26	Swimming - Year 4
03/03/26	Year 6 Test Week
03/03/26	Read with me-Parents invited -9-9:20am: 2:40-3pm
03/03/26	Bedtime stories 4-4:45pm -Reception to Year 6
05/03/26	World Book Day- Year 2 Trip- Roald Dahl Museum
06/03/26	Children to dress as favourite book character
09/03/26- 13/03/26	Test Week
10/03/26	Year 6 - Parents Evening
10/03/26	Year 3 Class Assembly
12/03/26	Year 6- Parents Evening
23/03/26	Test week-Year 6
27/03/26	End of term -School finishes at 12:15 for Easter break
13/04/26	School opens at 8:40am
21/04/26	Parents Evening online
23/04/26	Parents Evening online
04/05/26	May Bank Holiday
11/05/26- 15/05/26	SATS week
18/05/26	Class photographs
25/05/26-29/05/26	Half Term
01/06/26	School opens at 8:40am.
08/06/26- 12/06/26	Swimming-Year 5
15/06/26-17/06/26	Year 6 Residential trip
18/06/26	Sports Day -EYS
18/06/26	Year 2- Windsor Castle Trip
30/06/26	Sports Day-KS1
02/07/26	Sports Day-KS2
03/07/26	Year 3 Chiltern Open Air Trip
10/07/26	Year 5 School Trip
14/07/26	Year 6 – Leavers Production 2:00pm
16/07/26	Year 6- Graduation
17/07/26	Last day of term. School finishes at 12:15.