



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 6th 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 the national Storytelling Week - a celebration of the power of sharing stories. This year's theme is: 'Soundtrack your Story'.

Throughout this week, each class explored the magic of storytelling through sound, lyrics and rhythm. Activities included free online events led by representatives from the National Literacy Trust.

Our Year 4 pupils performed their class assembly for their family members on Tuesday. The children told us how the various post-Roman invaders jostled for power, then divided Angle Land into kingdoms and eventually settled down to become The Anglo-Saxons. They performed a dramatic presentation of the story of Beowulf The Brave, acted out the story of King Alfred's burning of the cakes and they taught us all about life as an Anglo-Saxon. We hope visitors enjoyed the three catchy songs and dances – the children performed their parts brilliantly! Well done to Year 4, Miss Haji and Mrs Horswood for all their hard work.

Year 3 will perform our next class assembly on Tuesday 10th March.

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



No Chocolate Please

We have been reminding the children not to bring in any food items containing (or covered in) chocolate in their lunch boxes. Items of food containing chocolate often contain hidden traces of hazelnuts which could cause some of our pupils, with nut allergies, to have an adverse reaction. Our school is a NUT FREE ZONE. Thank you in advance.



Places to Explore – February Half Term Holiday

Children often learn best when they can see, hear and experience things for themselves. Across the UK, you'll find countless castles, ancient forts and heritage sites that bring the past vividly to life.

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/>

Visits to museums and heritage sites could be based on 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 this Term:

St. Thomas

1,189

Parents Prayer group

Please join us on Wednesday the 11th of February at 2.45pm for the parent's prayer group. Angela will be joining us to lead the prayer group. It was lovely to see so many parents at our last prayer group. Everybody is welcome, even if you have never attended the prayer group before please come and join us.

Smart Watches

Reminder: We ask that pupils do not wear smart watches to school. Pupils may wear an analogue watch from Year 1 to Year 6 to help them practise telling the time. Thank you in advance.

Fidget Tools



Fidget tools are used in our classrooms to support pupils with SEND, ADHD, and sensory needs by improving concentration, reducing stress, and enabling movement. Effective classroom tools are typically quiet and discreet. Proper implementation involves treating them as learning aids rather than toys. We only allow pupils to use fidget tools in class if this has been recommended by our school Occupational Therapist, Educational Psychologist or another SEN professional working in school.

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.

We will send out further details about some of these events closer to 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.

Safer Internet Day

**Safer
Internet
Day 2026** | **Tuesday
10 February**

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

Tuesday 10th February is the national Safer Internet Day. Each class will use their computing lesson to teach about online safety and our KS2 classes will attend a live online workshop in the morning. Most classes will bring home homework, this week, 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>

Phones in School

Pupils are not allowed to use mobile phones on the school premises. This includes using mobile phones (in the playground) after they have been collected from their classroom. Thank you.

Lunches

We still have some pupils bringing in a packed lunch even though they have a school lunch order. This is causing confusion for staff and the school is part funding these school meals which are going to waste at the end of each service. Please only order a school meal for your child if you intend for them to eat it. Thank you in advance.

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/>



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

QR code: Fun Fest Uxbridge

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://hillingdonpcf.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.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.

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
11/02/26	Parents welcomed for the Prayer meeting at 2:45pm
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.