



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

School Newsletter

Friday 26th January 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,

Thank you to our Reception and Year One parents who attended our Phonics and Reading Workshop on Monday. This session explored how we teach reading and how parents can support this learning at home. Our school uses the Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS) phonics programme and the workshop looked at the scheme and how it supports the teaching of reading.

There is more information for parents on our school website:

<https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/page/?title=English&pid=64>

We hope you had the opportunity to attend one of our Parents' Evening meetings this week and that you found it useful. Mr Stringer will contact Yr5 parents when he returns to work to rearrange his meetings missed.

Our Lady Mary Portrait Art Competition 2023

I would like to say a massive thank you to all the children who entered into the competition across the school. Father Nicolas and Angela came into school to judge the entries, which was extremely difficult, as all the art was of such a high standard. I am proud to announce the winner from each class-

- Lower Early Years: Selene
- Upper Early Years: Elizabeth
- Year 1: Nicolas
- Year 2: Twinkle
- Year 3: James
- Year 4: Antoni
- Year 5: Oliver

Thank you to everyone who entered,

Mrs Bowen

Parent Mental Health Day – Saturday 27th January

Stem4, a charity that supports young people to build positive mental health, is proud to be the UK founder of Parent Mental Health Day. The Cost of Living Crisis, which so closely followed the pandemic, and increased concerns about digital harms, rising rates of mental ill health and the impact of stretched services have further increased parent and carer anxiety and, in some cases, helplessness and hopelessness.

Parent Mental Health Day 2024 is an opportunity for parents and carers to acknowledge and discuss their struggles and share in their achievements of connecting positively with each other and the whole family, and to learn ways to connect positively to maximise young people's mental health.

We sent home details of a free webinar that took place yesterday evening. You may also find this website useful:

<https://stem4.org.uk/parentmentalhealthday/>

Please do not block the footpath by the school gate on Rockingham Close as this is obstructing neighbours with wheel chairs.

Football team

Well done to the Football Team who won 2-1, against Colham Manor, on Wednesday. The match was 1-1 but went into extra time.



Yr1 Fassnidge Park Trip

On Wednesday afternoon, our Year 1 class walked to Fassnidge Park taking photographs of human and physical features on their journey. They will use this fieldwork to create a Messy Map of the park and surrounding area. This supports the work they have been doing in Geography exploring their local area.

Lip Balms

Please only send your child into school with a lip balm if they really need one. These should be clearly labelled with your child's name, plain (not flavoured/coloured) and preferably a stick lip balm so your child doesn't need to apply it with their fingers.

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
New booking portal: <https://schoolfriendclub.magicbooking.co.uk>
Tel: 0333 355 7374

House Point Winners this week:	St. Thomas	216
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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

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

- 26th 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>

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.

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:

Date	Event
Mon 5 th Feb	Start of Yr5 Swimming week
Mon 5 th Feb	Start of Children's Mental Health Week