



# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## School Newsletter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

### 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 at the end of the day on 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,

Welcome back – we hope you enjoyed the Christmas break with your family. We're looking forward to a busy term ahead in this new year. Please see the list of upcoming dates in the table at the bottom of this Newsletter.



Today, all pupils took part in an 'Eat the Rainbow' healthy eating session where they found out about the importance of eating different coloured fruits and vegetables and how they benefit our bodies. This was led by a nutritionist from our school catering team at Accent. The session ended with pupils making and eating their own fruit kebab.

### Inclusion Quality Mark – School Award



We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the prestigious Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM) for a sixth year running.

Our assessment visit took place last term and included observations of classroom lessons, SEN intervention drop-ins, book looks and parent, governor, pupil and staff interviews.

In her report, the assessor commented that:

***'St. Mary's provides a warm and caring environment for both pupils and staff. Inclusion is high on the agenda and care is given to ensuring that there is real understanding of pupil needs.'***

The recommendations, mentioned in the IQM report, are already in our School Development Plan for this year and many of them we are working on as a part of this year's PINS project aimed at making our school as inclusive as possible for all pupils - regardless of their needs.

This award recognises our ongoing commitment to providing the very best education for all of our pupils irrespective of their differences.

We've uploaded a copy of the Assessment Report to our school website (please click on 'School Information' and then the SEN page):

<https://www.st-marys.hillingdon.sch.uk/>

Thank you to all of the parents who spoke to our assessor on the day of her visit and for all of the ongoing support we receive from our family members on a daily basis.

Hope you have a happy new year, Mr Ellis

### Uniform

Pupils are required to wear black school shoes (not trainers) and a tie to school every day. Please refer to our uniform guidance - available to view on our school website.

### Parents' Evening Meetings – Next week

These meetings will take place, next week, on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January. You should have received a letter, this week, inviting you to choose a convenient time for you to meet with your child's class teacher. These meetings will be an opportunity to discuss the results of our recent Test Week, targets and planned support. There will also be time for parents to have a look through their child's work books. We hope you find these meetings useful.



### **Science Workshops**

On Wednesday, all pupils attended Science themed workshops led by two representatives from the Inventors and Makers education team.

These workshops were designed to teach key STEM concepts through inspiring and engaging hands-on activities as pupils also developed skills in team work and problem solving.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.inventorsandmakers.com/workshops>

### **Parents' Prayer Portal**



Please remember there is an online parent platform so that you, as parent and carers, can engage as a family developing your child's prayer life. To access the online parent platform please visit:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/prayer-and-liturgy/>

School Username: st-mary-ub8

School Password: jesus-mum

The resources include videos, information and music to help develop prayer life and liturgy. The January parent's newsletter is online now.

### **8.30am Support Groups**

Our Senior Management Team, class teachers and support staff met, before Christmas, to plan interventions for this term including our before school (8.30am) pre-teaching and booster groups. If your child has been invited to attend one of these groups, you will have already received a letter from their class teacher. All groups, for this Spring Term, start on Monday.

### **Late pick-ups after school**

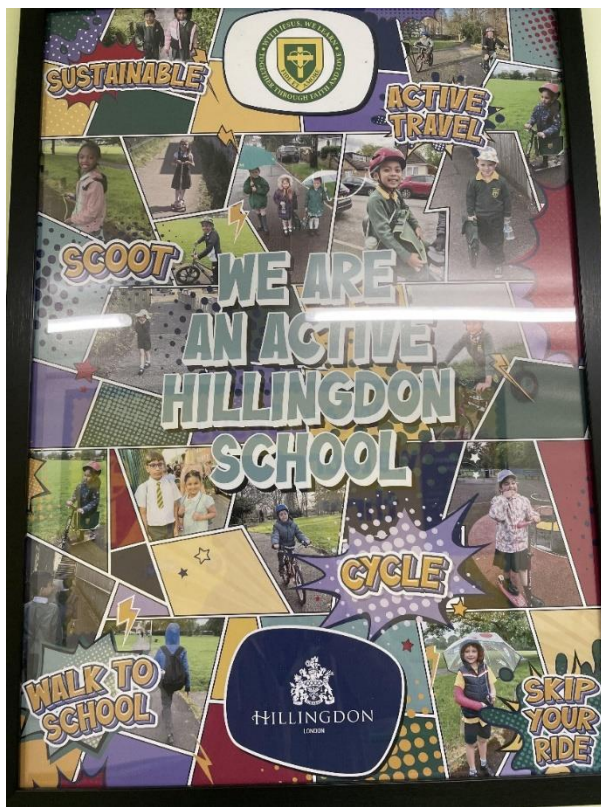
We ask that parents book their child into our after-school club if they know they will not be able to pick them up on time:

<https://www.schoolfriendclub.com/our-clubs/st-mary-s-rc-primary-school-hillingdon/>

Any child who has not been collected by 3.30pm (15 minutes late) will automatically be taken to our after-school (School Friend) club. The School Friend Club admin team will then charge parents the session fee along with a non-booking penalty charge of £5.

Due to budget cuts this academic year, we do not have cover in our school office from 3.30pm on 3 days each week (and 2.30pm on the remaining 2 days). This means that our teachers, or senior staff, have been left looking after pupils who have not been collected on time and on occasions they have missed staff meetings or other work commitments.

Thank you for your understanding and to all those parents who do pick their children up on time every day.



### We are an Active Hillingdon School

Our Active Travel collage has finally arrived in school. Thank you to all the family members who contributed by sending in photographs of their child/children walking, cycling or scooting to school. This collage has been proudly displayed in our corridor for visitors to view on their way to our school office.



### PSD Multi-Sports Taster Sessions

Pupils from Years Reception to Year 6 took part in fun sports taster sessions yesterday.

PSD are leading two multi-sports sessions (Mondays and Fridays) each week of this term. Both of these sessions are now open to pupils in Reception to Year 6.

You can book a place for your child here:

<https://thepsdgroup.org.uk/psd-clubs/>

### Starting Reception in 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.

You must apply by: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (next week).

You can find further information on the Hillingdon LA website:

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

You also need to complete 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: 07925 033120

### 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://hillingdonpcf.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>

## 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/>

## Fun Fest – February Holiday Club

Fun Fest are now taking bookings for their February Half-Term Holiday Club which will be held on our school site. Please refer to the Fun Fest website for further details:

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

# FEBRUARY HALF-TERM

## FUN FEST UXBRIDGE!



**fun fest**  
HOLIDAY CLUB

**Upcoming  
Holidays**

**February Half-Term**  
17th- 21st February  
Monday - Friday  
8am - 6pm

*Follow  
-US-*





BOOK THE BEST HOLIDAY CHILDCARE NOW!

### Booking Info

We are taking bookings

🌐 <https://fun-fest.co.uk/uxbridge>

📍 St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
Rockingham Close UB8 2UA Uxbridge

☎ 07399 880319

✉ [uxbridge@funfestholidayclub.co.uk](mailto:uxbridge@funfestholidayclub.co.uk)

## 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)

**Instrumental Lessons**  
Register Today!



Piano



Guitar



Singing



Cello



Flute



Violin

Book Your Free Lesson Now!

Register by Text: 07782 503 260  
Booking: School + Instrument + Child's name + DOB

www.StageTalent.co.uk

## 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 Bernadette's</b>	<b>360</b>
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## Spring 2025 - Diary Dates

Date	Event
14/01/25, 16/01/25	Parents Evening
20/01/2025	Jubilee Year Pledge Day
24/01/2025	Year 5 Assembly
03/02/2025	Children's Mental Health Week
10/02/2025	Year 6 Test Week
17/02/2025	Half Term
17/03/2025	Test Week
24/03/2025	Year 5 Swimming
24/03/2025	World Autism Awareness Week
02/04/2025	Year 2 Trip Roald Dahl Museum
04/04/2025	End of term. School finishes at 12:15pm
22/04/2025	Term starts at 8:40am

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