

Meet the Teacher 2025-26

Upper Juniors

Welcome to Upper Juniors

These are the staff in our phase

Upper Junior 1

Mr Eaves

Mrs Waite

Miss Perera

Mrs Craig



Upper Junior 2

Mrs Derdeche

Mrs Davies



Upper Junior 3

Mrs Barnard

Miss Fisher



Ms Garcia
(Maths & Spanish)

Pastoral Support Team

- **Miss Florez** is our **Pastoral Support** at St Mary's. To contact Miss Florez please email pastoral.support@stmarys-maidenhead.org.uk
- **Mrs Mack** is our **Parent Support advisor** at St Mary's. To contact Mrs Mack please email the main school office.



Our Mission Statement

Learning and loving on our journey with Jesus

Our school aims:

- Provide the experience of belonging to a Catholic community
- Promote active commitment to the wider community
- Provide an education of the highest quality

Our Catholic Values

Our broad and balanced curriculum is underpinned by Gospel values, Catholic Social Teaching and permeated by our Catholic values of:

Stewardship

(Caring for God's world, the environment and our community)

Teamwork

(Celebrate diversity, show patience, humility and compassion to all)

Agape

(Love of one another, love of life and living, love of learning)

Respect

(Tolerance, co-operative learners, growth mindset culture, curious and ambitious learners)

STAR

Our focus in Upper Juniors:

- All children have a new beginning
- Promote increased independence
- Expectations on behaviour and attitudes
- Develop reading skills and continue promoting reading for pleasure
- To develop writing and spelling, including writing for pleasure – St Mary's Big Year of Writing
- Times tables focus
- Problem solving in maths

Expectations

- Uniform(only 1 set of gold or silver stud earrings to be removed for all games/ PE lessons. Black school shoes, no trainers or boots. Long hair tied back. No bracelets, or other jewellery except for a rosary necklace or cross. Nails clean of polish.)
- Homework
- Behaviour
- PE kits (please ensure this is named) - Arrive at school in PE kit with school uniform to change into please
 - Upper Juniors 1-Thursdays (PE kit), Friday (Swimming Kit 1st term)
 - Upper Juniors 2-Thursdays (arrive in PE kit), Friday (PE kit in school),
 - Upper Juniors 3-Thursdays (arrive in PE kit), Friday (PE kit in school)

Equipment

- Pencil
- Rubber
- Handwriting pen (blue fibre tip) x 2
- Colouring pencils
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Glue Stick
- Purple biro
- Pencil Sharpener
- White board pen x 2
- Water bottle (named)

EQUIPMENT CHECKS DURING HALF TERM AND REMINDERS TO CHILDREN TO REPLENISH

Curriculum coverage(Please click for website link)

Please try and note upcoming DT and Art topics as we made need resources

*Reminders will be given

English Writing	The man who walked between the towers Mordcai Gerstein Biographies, Wikipedia pages, letters of advice, interviews, news reports, persuasive speeches	Rain Player-David Wisniewski Analytical essays, instructions, posters, missing scenes, diaries, newspapers, debates	The Lost Thing-Shaun Tan Narratives, diaries, letters, adverts, character and setting descriptions, reports Freedom Bird-Jerdine Nolen Biographies, writing in role, dialogue, postcards, recounts, poems	The Three Little Pigs Project The Guardian Discussion texts News reports, persuasive speeches, interview scripts, diaries, debates, narratives	The unforgotten Coat-Frank Cottrell Boyce Own version narratives, diaries, explanations, dialogue, nonchronological report	The Tempest-William Shakespeare Playscripts, character descriptions, setting descriptions, diaries, dialogue (The Strange Case of Origami Yoda Tom Angleberger Discussion texts Instructions, persuasion, diaries)
	The Promise Nicola Davies Sequels, figurative language, reports					
Upper Junior CYCLE A						
English Reading						
Maths	Year 5 Place value, addition and subtraction Year 6 Place value, addition	Year 5 Multiplication and division, fractions Year 6 Fractions, decimals, units	Year 5 Multiplication and division, fractions Year 6 Fractions, decimals, units	Year 5 Decimals and percentages, perimeter and area statistics Year 6 Decimals and percentages, perimeter and area statistics	Year 5 Shape, position and direction Year 6 Shape, position and direction	Year 5 Decimals, negative numbers, converting units, volume Year 6 Decimals, negative numbers, converting units, volume

Please note that this is subject to change throughout the year

Homework: Assigned on Microsoft Teams (check on Friday that work can be accessed)

Weekly homework

- Reading* (2 Chapters/day/20 minutes). **Sign reading record please. Checked in class – must be brought in everyday.** We can assess progress based on books which are quizzed on. Child to quiz using AR platform when book is completed. Quizzing on books must be completed at home. Please see Reading Record for log in details.
- SPAG, READING, MATHS (10 minute tests) Friday for Friday. Found in TEAMS each week. Either answer questions from screen in books or print out and complete in books. **PLEASE DO AS MUCH AS YOU CAN IN 10 minutes** (We will discuss answers in class)
- Spellings (Friday for Friday). These are looked at in class as well. **Expectation to complete in books**
- KIRFS (see website) /timestables (use TTRS to practise)
- Occasional other tasks, e.g. collecting materials, readings for collective worship.

Accelerated Reader Quizzes

Practice



Accelerated Reader

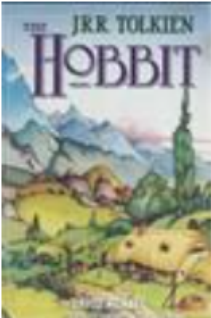


Search for Books, Articles, or Quizzes

Enter a Title, Author, Quiz Number, or Keyword

Search

Help me find a book



The Hobbit (Graphic Novel)

Book

By J.R.R. Tolkien

This comic book adaptation tells the story of Bilbo Baggins, a quiet and contented hobbit whose life is turn...

ATOS Level **5.5**

Lexile® Level **840**

Interest Level **MY**

Points **6.0**

Quiz **226940 EN**

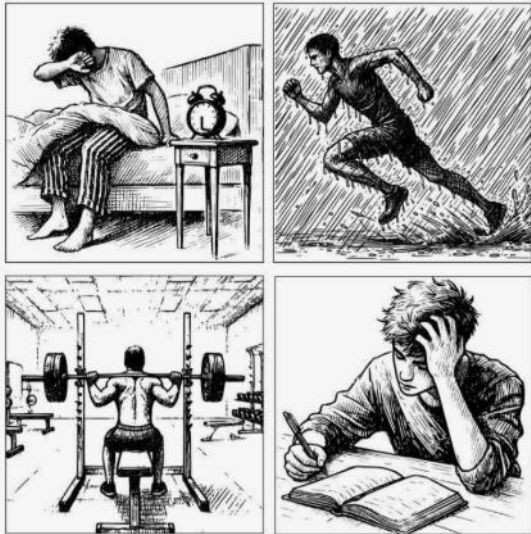
Language **English**

Take Quiz ▼

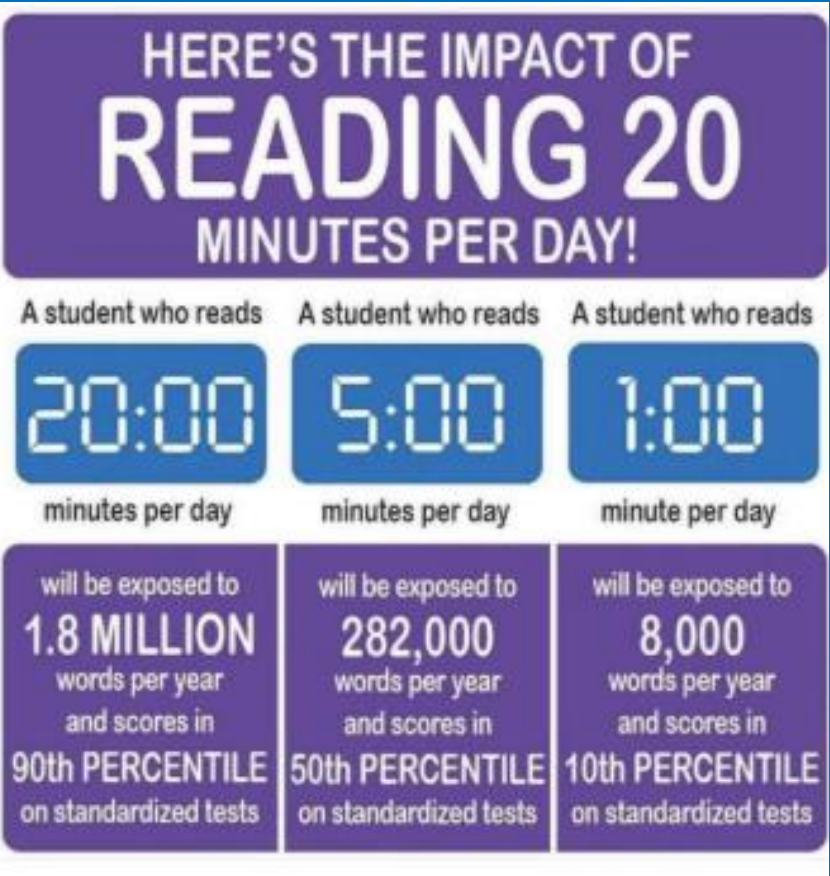
St Mary's Big Year of Reading-Continuing

Daily reading-stamina and time

The Key To Life: Show Up



Show up when it's hard. Show up when it's messy. Show up when no one's watching. Show up when you don't feel like it. Show up when the rewards are uncertain. Just show up. You can never bet against the person who just keeps showing up.



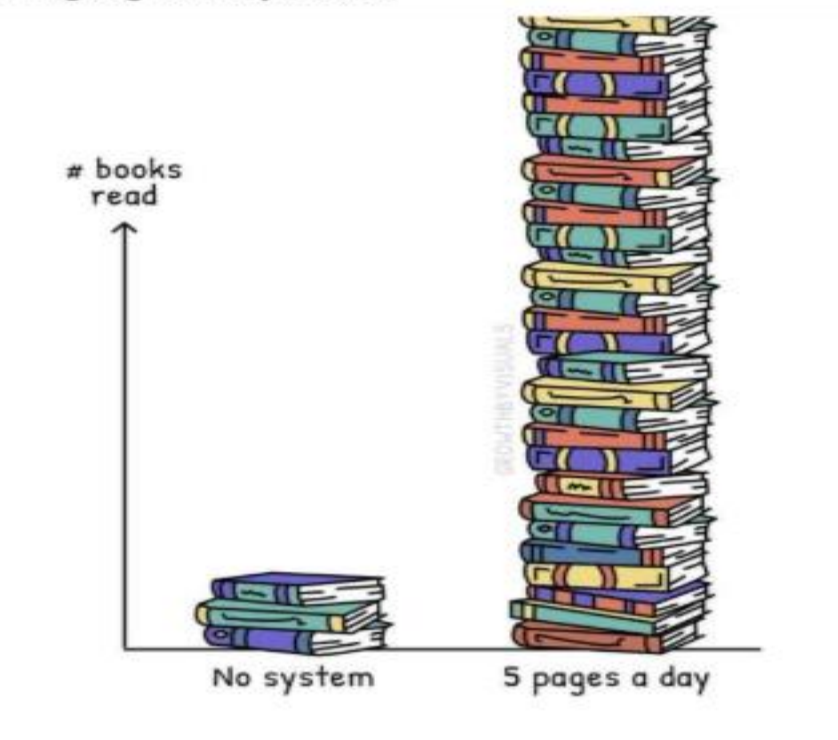
5 pages a day doesn't seem like much, until you realise it's over 1,800 pages a year.

That's 6 to 8 full books, just from showing up daily.

Systems beat motivation.

Progress compounds.

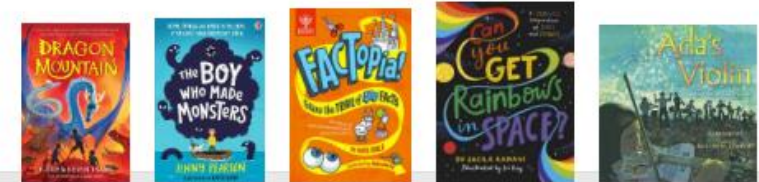
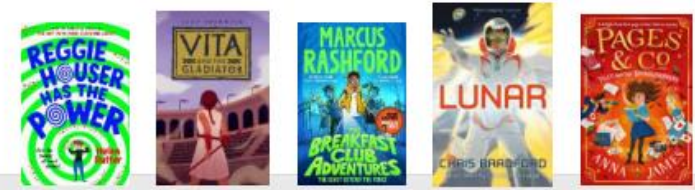
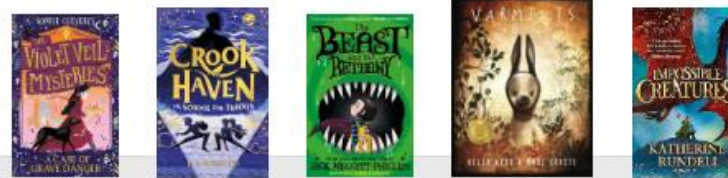
Image: growthbyvisuals



This can be found on the Class Page on the school website.

Books for Topics

50 Recommended Reads for... Year 5 (ages 9-10)



Or visit www.booksfortopics.com/year-5

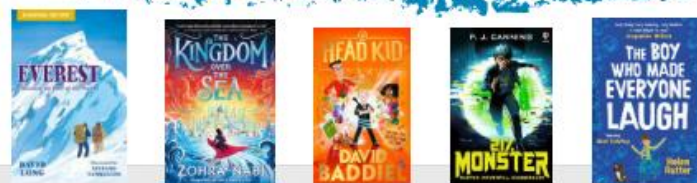
For more primary school booklists, visit booksfortopics.com



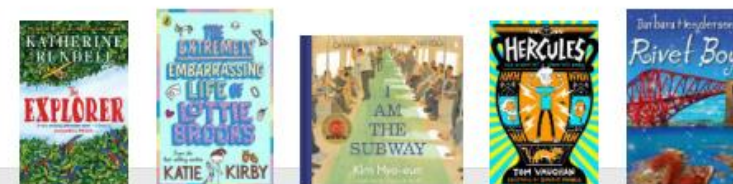
This can be found on the Class Page on the school website.



50 Recommended Reads for... Year 6 (ages 10-11)



Or visit www.booksfortopics.com/year-6



For more primary school booklists, visit booksfortopics.com

**Dedicated days e.g.
National Poetry Day
3rd October**

**Special holiday
tasks**

St Mary's Big Year of Writing



Writing competitions

**Opportunities to
write for pleasure**

2025-26

**Author and writing
workshops**

**All whilst keeping reading
high on the priority list!**

Thursday 9th
October @ 9.00am
and 5.30pm in the
hall.

Parent Writing Workshop

Find out more about St Mary's Big
Year of Writing and how YOU can
help to support your child with
their writing!

St Mary's Big Year of Writing



Statutory assessments

Year 6

SATS-Week commencing 11th May

Children will sit assessments in Reading, Maths and SPAG. Writing will be teacher assessed.

Key Information

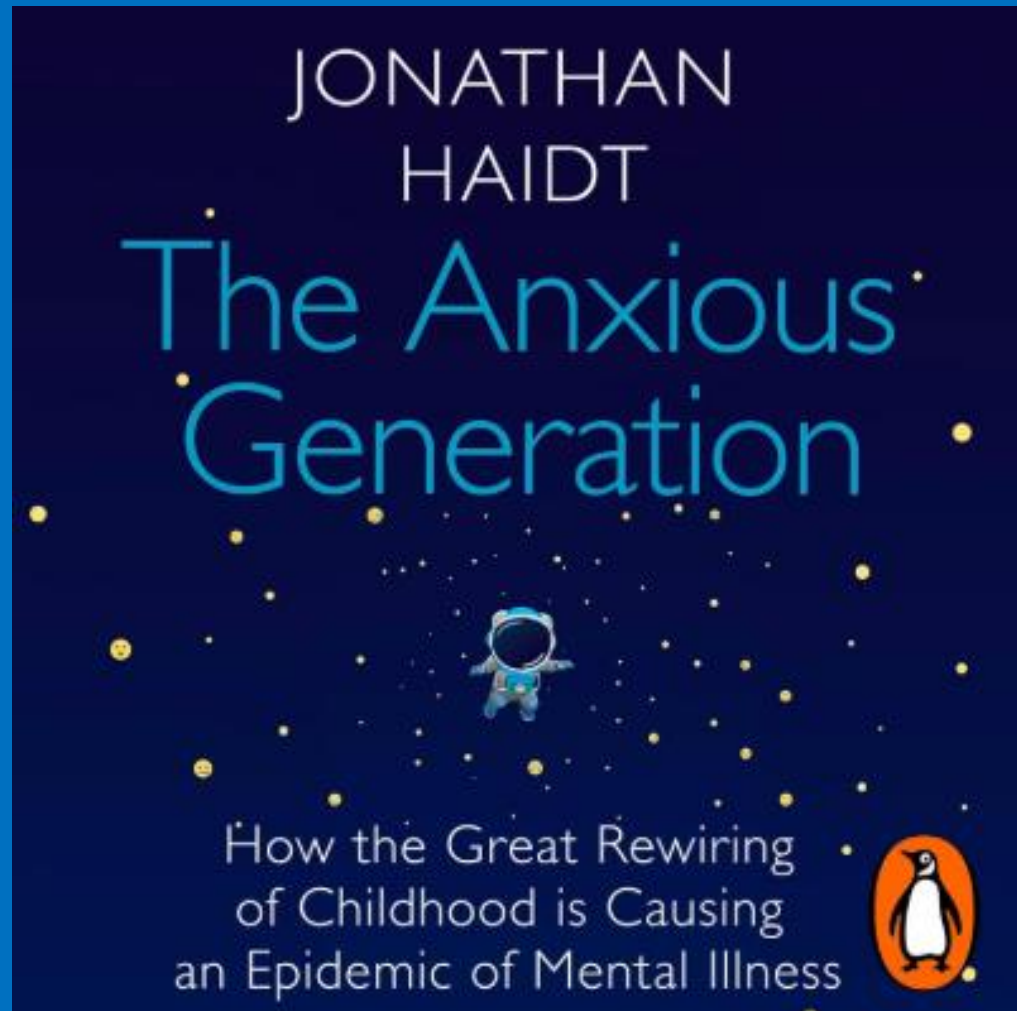
Interventions

- Led by either teacher or TA
- Aim to support progress / fill any gaps in learning

Examples of interventions:

- Writing / spelling
- Maths
- Handwriting / OT

Key Information and discussion about digital impact and resilience



Residential Trip

Year 6 will be able to go on a residential in the Summer term. Please ensure payments are kept up to date and speak to school office if there are any issues

Bikeability November 2025-Year 6 given first option

Other trips-Viking trip, Science Trip

Medical Information

Medicines

Bring to the office

- Medical form to be completed
- Children shouldn't administer medicine themselves
- If on antibiotics – wherever possible, ask GP for 2 or 3 doses per day so that it doesn't have to be administered at school

Inhalers / epi pen

- Medical labels on the box and the inhaler / epi pen

Sickness

- Report to office
- 48 hours off for Sickness and Diarrhoea.
- Covid follow government guidelines – currently 3 days off school and until no longer unwell / with a temperature.

Attendance

- Attendance is very important and has an impact on your child's achievement
- Please do not book holidays in term time, including the last day of a term
- If in doubt whether to send your child into school, please do and we will monitor them and call home if required
- Attendance is monitored closely

Communication

- We will be using Arbor as primary contact with regards to medical issues and school information. Please ensure that you regularly look at this for school information.
- The school website will have additional information about curriculum maps and events www.stmarys-maidenhead.org.uk
- Twitter @mhstmarys
- **Day to day/quick class/phase specific notes will be sent via TEAMS. Please log into child account so that you can see notifications (this is purely information from school to home)**

Communication

- Class teachers are usually busy welcoming children into school and setting up for the day, so please avoid speaking with them at this time unless an emergency.
- If you need to make the class teacher aware of anything please send a note with your child or contact via the school office - email / phone.
- Any questions / queries or worries, please speak to class teacher first of all.
- Mrs Conroy (Assistant Headteacher) is responsible for Lower Juniors, Mr Eaves (Assistant Headteacher) is responsible for Key Stage 2, should you need to speak with them about any further concerns.
- Mrs White is our SENDCo
- Safeguarding concerns, please contact Mrs Akehurst

Parent reps

To aid communication we would like a volunteer from each class/phase to be willing to forward messages seen on TEAMS/school through Whatsapp/text messages.

If we have volunteers (please make yourself known to class teacher), please put name and number down if you wish to be on communication Whatsapp/messages.

Parent helpers

If any parents or grandparents are interested in coming into school on a regular basis, please speak to the class teacher or email the office. We will notify you as soon as we are able to invite you into school to help (subject to DBS).

We are looking for a parent / parents that would be interested in volunteering in the library 8.35-9.10am daily)



An introduction to Friends of St Mary's (FOSM)

We are fortunate at our school to have a **Friends of Society** that's an integral part of the school community. Over the last few years we have raised thousands of pounds, which has been spent on equipment and resources to enhance our children's educational experience and the school's facilities. Our main aim over the past academic year was to assist in creating a library space for our children to use & support the implementation of a new reading scheme.

Our association is about much more than simply fundraising. **FOSM** exists to provide closer links between home and school and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the school, working towards a common goal. It's fun too - just ask any of the Committee members or volunteers.

All parents and members of the school community are encouraged to get involved, even if they only have a small amount of time available. All families are automatically members of FOSM when their child joins our school.

The Committee

Our current Committee consists of **Chair (Jennifer Doswell)**, **Treasurer (Louise Rance)**, **Secretary (Jessica Simmonds)** and **2 Ordinary Committee Members (Katherine Daly & Rebekah Jasniewski)**

The Committee meet on a regular basis with smaller working groups meeting as necessary when we are planning larger events.

The Committee also hold open PTA meetings, any member can come along, find out what the association are planning, share ideas and get involved.

How we raise & spend funds

Like most PTAs, the majority of our funds are raised through the events that we run. Some of our most popular events are:

Termly Discos, Easter, Summer & Winter Fairs, Secret Santa Shopping Day

The committee are responsible for deciding how our PTA funds are spent. Usually the School Leadership Team make a request for something that the school would like us to consider funding.

Some of the items we have funded are listed below

Reading schemes & books, Refurbishment of the Library, annual Pantomime production

Upcoming Dates

- Monday 25th September - Committee Meeting - 3.30-4.30pm - School
- Friday 13th October - Bingo & AGM - 8-10pm - School Hall
- Thursday 19th October - Bags to school collection - school drop off
- Friday 10th November - School Disco - 4.30-6pm infants, 6.15-7.45pm juniors
- Saturday 25th November - Winter Fair - Time tbc - School
- Monday 4th December - Secret Santa shopping day - school event - children only

Our Ongoing Fundraisers

Did you know you can support FOSM without even coming to an event...here's how...



Your School Lottery

(www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-marys-catholic-primary-school-maidenhead)

Sign up to your school lottery to support FOSM, pay for a line (or more) to be entered into the weekly draw and you could be in with a chance of winning up to £25,000 and other monthly prizes. For every line that is purchased in support of FOSM, we receive a % of the sales. Tickets cost £1 per week.



Give as You Live

www.giveasyoulive.com

Register FOSM as your preferred charity on Give as You Live. Whenever you need to complete an online purchase, if you first locate the retailer via the Give as You Live App, any purchase you make on that visit will be tracked and the retailer will donate a % to FOSM!



Stikins labels

www.stikins.co.uk

We all learn the importance of labelling everything when our children start school (and I mean EVERYTHING!!!) Stikins labels are great - you can have the name printed in a variety of ways, first name & surname, initial & surname etc so choose what works best for you & your family. They can be used on clothing, bags, lunch boxes, water bottles, they're waterproof - they simply stick on and stay on! Visit www.stikins.co.uk and use our fundraiser code **20943** when you order.

Keep in touch & up to date

PTA Events Webpage



We use our PTA events page to recruit volunteers and we hope to move forward with online sales for ticketed events and sending newsletters this year.

Our Facebook page is used by us to advertise our events and send reminders as well as by other parents/community members for a range of notices.

Facebook



Thank you!

We look forward to a great year with you and
your children.

Any questions, feel free to ask.