

ST IGNATIUS NEWSLETTER

05.12.2025



'Achieving our best by learning together and serving one another with Christ by our side'



Gardening Club

Dear Parents / Carers,

Christmas has officially arrived at Saint Ignatius!

This week I had the privilege to watch the Reception classes nativity play. I'm sure parents would agree this was a beautiful and very special occasion both for families pupils and the school. I started my career with Early Years and still secretly have a special place in my heart for our youngest members of the school. Their confidence, enthusiasm and smiles really puts into perspective the importance of life. Huge well done children and to all the staff for their preparation for a first class performance!

I look forward to watching what all of the other year groups have prepared to remind us about this important time of the year in our Catholic Church. I will also be attending my own daughters nativity where she is playing a key role of being one of the sheep! She is an extremely enthusiastic sheep I must say.

Next week Father Christian will be coming in to work with some of the older classes so that they can receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is a very important Sacrament and an opportunity for the children to share things they may have done that they feel are not right and to ask for God's forgiveness.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER
Year 6 Bikeability Level 2
Flu Vaccination (catch up sessions)

TUESDAY 9TH DECEMBER
Year 6 Bikeability Level 2

WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER
Year 6 Bikeability Level 2

THURSDAY 11TH DECEMBER
Year 6 Bikeability Level 2
KS1 Nativity (parents invited) @ 9.30am

FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER
Year 6 Bikeability Level 2
KS1 Nativity (parents invited) @ 9.30am
PTA Elfridges Christmas Shop / Raffle
Year 5 Swimming

This is another chance for the children to understand that Advent is a time of preparation and that this Sacrament enables them to be fully ready for the gift that we receive on Christmas Day, Gods son, Jesus.

This Sunday, marks the second week of Advent and where the second purple candle will be lit. Week two of Advent carries the theme of 'Peace' and sometimes called the Bethlehem candle. I'm sure we can all agree that peace is what yearn for in our world and how signs of peace within our school community are a great example to our children.

Over the next few weeks, we will be delivering the boxes that you have prepared and created as a gift to another child or an elderly person. We will take photographs for you to see this faith in action but also for you to see as a school community, what you have achieved. It is truly moving how giving you have all been and to see the mountain of boxes that have been assembled. This is truly a sign of service for others and I am so proud of every single person within this community.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to 2 special services that will be taking place on top of the year group assemblies and nativities. The first is our **Stay and Pray Session** (Wednesday 10th December) and the second is the **Carols around the Crib** (Thursday 18th December). Everyone is invited to the sessions, even if your child is not taking part, please come along and I can promise you that you will find them fruitful experiences for the children who have been joining myself and Mrs Evans to learn songs. A huge thank you for your commitment that I'm sure extends to home and I promise it will all be worth it in the end!

**God Bless,
Ms Murphy, Headteacher**

Saint Ignatius School - a place of peace and respect

I was saddened and shocked to hear this week, two members of my staff were shouted at. This is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. This time of year especially, we are all tired, cold and weary but to raise your voice to any other person, is not acceptable. How we conduct ourselves especially in front of children, is of vital importance and I will meet with any parent who addresses staff in such a way.

Ms Murphy - Headteacher

School Lunch Orders

Please can we request that parents log onto IFG to check their child's lunch orders for the remainder of this term. The menu for December was only made available to parents on Monday last week and due to the technical errors IFG have experienced this week they have requested that parents logon to reconfirm their orders.

Thank you for your support and sorry for any inconvenience caused.

School Office

Westminster Cathedral Trip

On Wednesday afternoon, myself and some Year 6 pupils visited Westminster Cathedral for the Catholic Children's Society Celebration of the nativity. Some of our amazing children were asked to act.

Well done to **Angelina R-K, Jemima S-C** and **Dominic P** who were so graceful and brave.

Mrs Vander Vloet
Prayer and Liturgy and RSE Lead



Year 5 Library Trip



On Wednesday, Year 5 pupils enjoyed a visit to Sunbury Library. The children spent time exploring the wide range of children's books and discovering the different genres on offer. They also learned how the library organises its books and heard about the various events held throughout the year.

The librarian explained how to sign up for a library card and that members can borrow up to 25 books at a time. The visit left everyone excited to read, explore, and return for more!

Miss Brown and Mrs Whittington
Year 5 Class Teachers

New Club for Spring Term

A letter about spring term clubs will be sent on **Monday 8th December**.

We will be adding 2 new sporting clubs:

- Tennis Club for KS1 on a Friday
- Tennis Club for KS2 on a Monday

This will be provided by an external company (PLG Sports Coaching). On Wednesday this week, two of the coaches from the company visited the school and provided tennis sessions for the children to try during their lunch play. Lots of children enjoyed taking part in this. Please speak to your child and ask them if they'd like to join these new clubs and look out for their information in the clubs letter.

Miss Grady - PE Lead

Headteacher Awards

Each week our pupils are recognised for following our school values. This week's value was **Helpful Harrison**. During our Celebration Assembly today the following children were awarded a Headteacher Award:

Reception:

Badgers - Layan M
Hedgehogs - Myla F

Year 3:

3V - Israh R
3BF - Skylar W

Year 5:

5W - Matthew M
5B - Lana M

Year 1:

1G - Jacqueline-Rita I
1OS - Phoebe V

Year 4:

4AP - Kaitlyn H
4P - Freya P

Year 6:

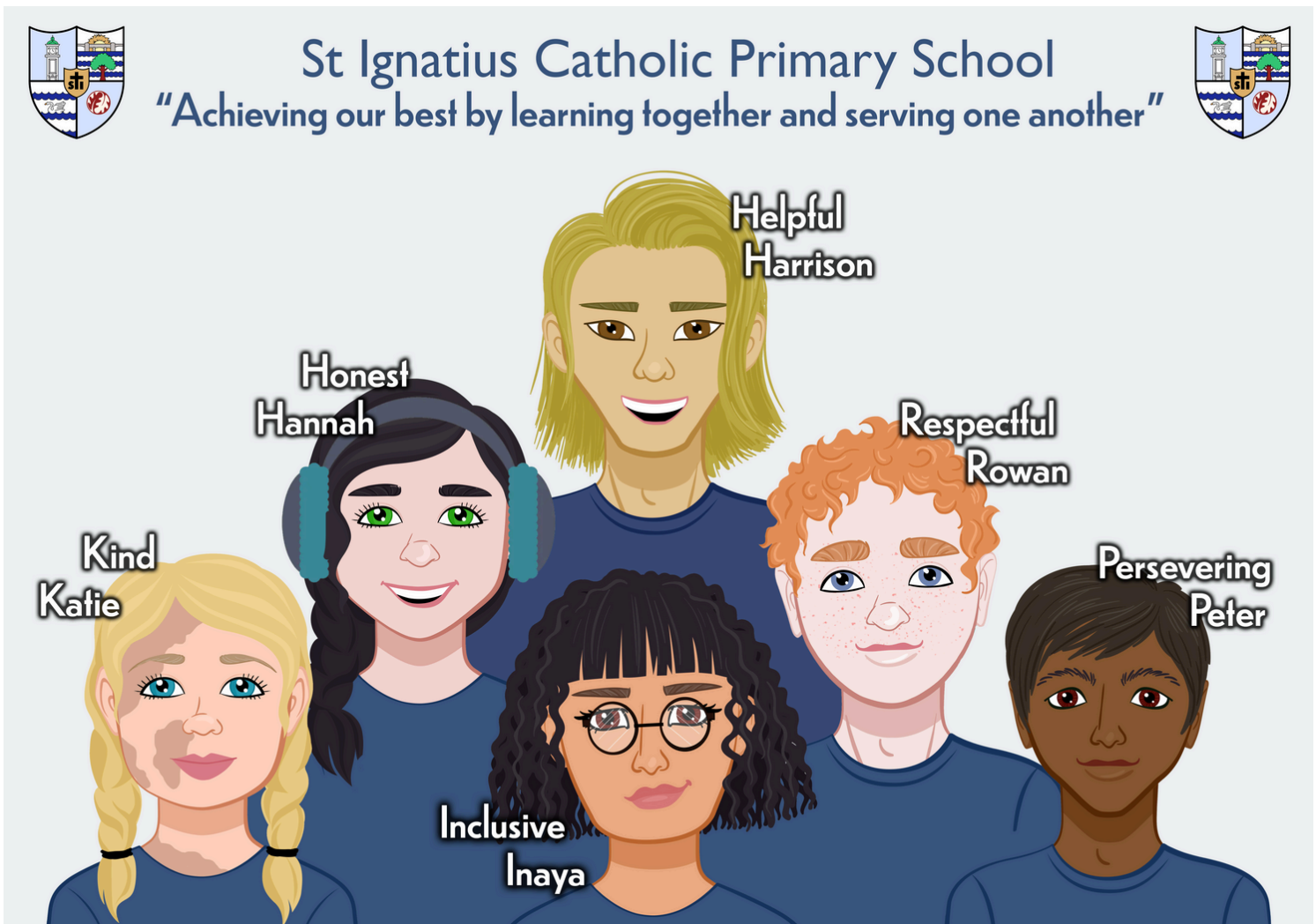
6N - Neve C
6S - Sophia R

Year 2:

2C - Tariq J
2BP - Freddie K

I am so very proud of each and every one of you!

Ms Murphy - Headteacher



PE Notices

Years 5 & 6 Boys A Team Football

There will not be any more fixtures this year. I will share the arranged matches in the New Year.

Years 5 & 6 Girls A Team Football

The following matches have been arranged:

- Friday 5th December - home game
- Tuesday 16th December - home game (letter will be sent next week)

Years 5 & 6 Indoor Sports Hall

This competition will take place on the morning of **Wednesday 28th January** at Eclipse Leisure Centre in Staines. We will be asking parents to transport their own child. Indoor Sports Hall is great fun and involves a range of running, jumping and throwing activities.

If your child enjoys athletics, please encourage them to try out for the team. I will hold trials on Wednesday 7th, Thursday 8th and Friday 9th January at 12.15pm in the court. Please ensure your child has their trainers in school if they would like to try out.

Years 5 & 6 Girls Netball Team

As a number of children were not in school last Wednesday, I have rearranged this for **Wednesday 10th December**. If your child would like to try out for the team, please ensure they have their trainers with them. I will hold the trials at 12.15pm on the netball court.

Miss Grady - Year 1 Class Teacher / PE Lead

Wake Up Wednesdays

This edition of WakeUpWednesday explores essential electrical safety habits for homes and schools. This week's guide highlights simple steps that can prevent overheating, fires and other hazards linked to everyday electrical devices. It offers clear, reassuring advice to help adults spot risks early and model safer routines.

It explores common risk areas, including unsafe charging habits and overloading sockets, and explains how to identify early warning signs such as damaged cables or poorly ventilated devices. The guide also touches on protective measures like RCDs and safe power bank use, supporting families and educators in creating safer environments for young people.

Miss Partington - Year 4 Class Teacher

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

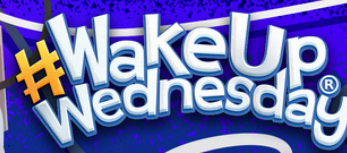
Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



The National College®

See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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Stay and Pray



Please gather with us for Prayers around the crib, Advent Wreath and Christmas Tree on **Wednesday 10th December**. This event will be held in the school hall at 3.30pm and led by the Apostles in Year 6.

Mrs Vander Vloet - Prayer & Liturgy and RSE Lead



Advent and Christmas

This time of year we are approaching the beginning of a new Liturgical Year, which starts on the 1st Sunday of Advent, Sunday, 30th November.

As the days shorten and winter comes upon us, we consider the light of Christ who came into the world at Christmas.



Advent is a season of **'joyful hope'** in which we prepare to welcome Jesus. For Christians, hope in Christ's promises and knowing that God is with us, helps us look forward in the difficult times we are facing. We will encourage the children to think about and respond to the question, **'What do we hope for, especially this Christmas?'**



Activities to try at home

In Advent, make a wreath and pray for the coming of God in Jesus.

God of hope, who brought love into this world, be the love that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought peace into this world, be the peace that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought joy into this world, be the joy that dwells between us.

God of hope, the rock we stand upon, be the centre, the focus of our lives always, and particularly this Advent time.

Talk to your children about any particular practices you and your family might have, particularly if and how your culture might be evident in what you do. **If you can, encourage your children to share your cultural customs with their peers at school.**

Mrs Vander Vloet - Prayer & Liturgy and RSE Lead





December

Loving God,
as we await Christmas day by
celebrating Advent, help us to
become patient in waiting.
Please teach us to realize that Jesus
is the most precious gift You have
ever given to the world.
May we imitate Him as a child, and
may we grow in wisdom and grace.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Month of preparation for
the coming of Christ





ADVENT WREATH COLORS & MEANINGS

The 5 Candles of the Advent Wreath



1 FIRST SUNDAY

Prophet's Candle: HOPE

This purple candle represents the HOPE of the prophets who foretold the birth of Jesus.

2 SECOND SUNDAY

Bethlehem Candle: PEACE

This purple candle represents the coming PEACE as Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem.



3 THIRD SUNDAY

Shepherd's Candle: JOY

This pink candle represents the Joy of the Shepherds upon hearing of Jesus's birth!

4 FOURTH SUNDAY

Angel's Candle: LOVE

This purple candle represents God's endless LOVE in the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus..



5 CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY

The Christ Candle

This white candle represents the purity of Christ, our sinless and loving Savior.

Joy of Advent
www.joyofadvent.com



LUNCH MENU

Please see below next week's menu. Please discuss with your child their preferred lunch options and book via [IFG](#).

MENU WEEK 1
SERVED W/C: 27th Oct | 17th Nov | 8th Dec | 19th Jan |
9th Feb | 2nd Mar | 23rd Mar | 13th Apr
Cucina IFG

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">MAIN MEAL</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">VEGGIES</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">PASTA</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">FILLED ROLLS</div> | OPTION 1 Cheese & Bean Lasagne | OPTION 1 Margherita Pizza & Wedges | OPTION 1 Vegan Lentil & Stuffing Pastry Roll | OPTION 1 BBQ Quorn & Peppers & Rice | OPTION 1 Vegan Vegetable Nuggets & Chips |
| | OPTION 2 Sticky Chinese Chicken & Vegetable Rice | OPTION 2 Traditional Creamy Beef Lasagne | OPTION 2 Roast Gammon with Roast Potatoes & Gravy | OPTION 2 Chicken in a Katsu Curry Sauce & Rice | OPTION 2 MSC Approved Fish Fingers & Chips |
| | Carrots & Peas | Broccoli | Roasted Carrots & Parsnips | Peas | Beans |
| | Cheese Sauce | House Tomato Sauce | Cheese Sauce | House Tomato Sauce | Creamy Pesto |
| | Ham Cheese | Chicken Egg | Ham Cheese | Tuna Mayo Cheese | Egg Cheese |
| AVAILABLE EVERY DAY Our crunchy colourful salad & jacket potatoes with cheese, beans, tuna mayo or cheese and beans | | | | | |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">SWEET TREATS</div> | Blueberry Cookie Bar | Chocolate & Banana Brownie | Strawberry Yoghurt & Strawberry Sauce | Apple & Cocoa Sponge | Raspberry Jelly |
| AVAILABLE EVERY DAY Desserts available every day – a choice of jelly, fruit or yoghurt | | | | | |
| KEY Nutritionist's Choice Vegetarian Vegan Added Wholewheat | | | | | |

Merry Christmas

CHRISTMAS MENU

Main Course:

Roast Turkey Breast, Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Pigs in Blankets & Gravy

or

Sage & Onion Pastry Roll, Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy (VG)

Followed By:

Festive Chocolate Cookie

JOIN US ON DECEMBER!

BOOK NOW

KEY TERM DATES

Monday 8th December - Year 6 Bikeability Level 2

Monday 8th December - Flu Vaccinations (catch up)

Wednesday 10th December - Stay and Pray (Led by Year 6 Apostles) @ 3.30pm

Thursday 11th December - Years 1 & 2 Nativity (parents invited) @ 9.30am

Friday 12th December - Years 1 & 2 Nativity (parents invited) @ 9.30am

Friday 12th December - PTA Elfridges Christmas Shop / Raffle

Friday 12th December - Year 5 Swimming

Monday 15th December - Year 6 Bikeability Level 2 (all week)

Monday 15th December - Years 3 & 4 Christingle (parents invited) @ 1.45pm

Tuesday 16th December - Years 3 & 4 Christingle (parents invited) @ 1.45pm

Tuesday 16th December - Years 5 & 6 Carol Concert at St Ignatius Church

(parents invited) @ 6.30pm

Wednesday 17th December - Years 5 & 6 Carol Concert at St Ignatius Church

(parents invited) @ 1.45pm

Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Lunch Day

Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 17th December - Years 5 & 6 Carol Concert (parents invited) @ 1.45pm

Thursday 18th December - Carols around the Crib (parents invited) @ 4.15pm

Friday 19th December - End of Autumn Term - finish @ 1.15pm

EXTERNAL NOTICES

Please be advised that whilst we share external advertisements, St Ignatius does not personally endorse/recommend any of these companies.



FREE

Discovery Day

New class

Saturday 10th January 2026
Thomas Knyvett College, TW15 3DU

| | |
|---|--|
| Main Stages ages 6-18 yrs split into age appropriate groups 10.15am - 1.15pm | Early Stages ages 4-6 yrs 2.30-4pm |
|---|--|

To register your child's **free** place, email staines@stagecoach.co.uk

www.stagecoach.co.uk/staines **07802 800633**

live brass
band

This Christmas we're bringing The Snowman to life

Saturday 13 December
Salesian School, 1:30pm
Guildford Rd, Chertsey, KT16 9LU

3
showings



Sunday 14 December
St. Michael Catholic Primary Sch, 3 & 5pm
Feltham Hill Rd, Ashford, TW15 2DG

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/
staines-brass-band](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/staines-brass-band)

£12 adult, £6 child
£30 family of four



STAINES BRASS



Safeguarding

Governors and staff of St Ignatius share an objective to help keep children safe by:

- Providing a safe environment for them to learn
- Identifying children who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, and taking appropriate action.

Please read through the safeguarding guidance documents on this page, which include those designed for children. Please contact the Designated Safeguarding Leads below should you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of a child.

You can do this by calling the school directly, or emailing: dsl@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk

You can also find out more about how we teach safety to children on our [Safety Curriculum](#) page, in the Curriculum section of the website.

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (DSL):

Mrs E O'Neill - Deputy Headteacher

DEPUTY DSL:

Ms H Murphy - Headteacher

Miss T Frew - Assistant Headteacher

Mrs I Barkworth - SENDCo

Mrs L Whittington - KS2 Lead

Miss Z Palmer - KS1 Lead

Any concerns can be discussed with a DSL. If you have any concerns that involve the Headteacher, please contact the **Ascension Catholic Academy Trust** via email at admin@ascensioncat.org or by telephone on 0208 325 4630. The LGB details are being updated.

You can read our **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy** [here](#).

Contact Us

St Ignatius Catholic Primary School
Green Street, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6QG

Telephone: 01932 785396

Email: admin@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk

Website: www.st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk

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[@stignatiussun](#)