

Headteacher's Report February 2026

Staffing:

Once again, we partnered with Brunel University to host three Occupational Therapy students. They have worked with individual children and small groups across the school.

We have hosted seven ex-pupils from a variety of secondary schools for their work experience placements.

A group of St Helen's School volunteers have been in the school to help with reading and other classroom-based activities.

All the teachers had a pay review in October/November. Their increases (where applicable) were confirmed in writing to them.

Unfortunately, we had a spate of staff members needing to attend family funerals in November. This required a lot of cover by others to make sure the smooth running of the school was not impacted.

Mrs Chada has had visits from her tutor as part of her teacher training.

As part of the school's financial recovery plan staff were asked if anyone was considering reducing their contracted hours. Ten staff members applied to reduce their working hours by either an afternoon or a day/week. Mrs Harris, Mrs Aslam and Mrs Trotter are reducing their working weeks to 4 days/ week from February half term. There are six further staff reducing hours from the Easter holidays and 1 in September. All applications have been considered on their own basis, in line with the appropriate HR policy, and have been assessed against the needs of the school educationally.

We are hosting a trainee Teaching Assistant from Buckinghamshire New University and a Trainee Teacher from St Mary's University.

Staff Development:

TAs/Teachers – Dyslexia Training
Teachers – RE Scheme of Work
S Mistry – ECT Mentor training
C Khan – 1st Aid
S Trotter – ELSA (Speech and Language) training
C Quigley – New to Subject Leadership training
S Tosdevin – Cluster SENCo meeting
S Jones – LBH Ofsted seminar

S Mistry – Deputy Headteacher Network meeting
V Lawer – Selective Mutism
N Jones – Selective Mutism
S Trotter – Selective Mutism
R Smith – Developmental Language Delay
S Tosdevin – SEND EHCP Annual Review process Training
T Harris – Attendance Cluster meeting
Z Radia – Speech Sounds
S Doll – Speech Sounds
S Tania – Visual Support for Early Communicators
S Jones – LBH Health & Safety Training for Headteachers
L McGlaughlin – Art Subject Leader's training
S Quigley – VAT course
A Blakeley-Cox – RE Leaders Network
C Khan – Diabetes Awareness
S Tosdevin – Diabetes Awareness
S Jones – Ofsted Data Briefing
E Griggs – North West London Lead Music Schools meeting
S Mistry – Hillingdon Learning Partnership Data Analysis

Curriculum

Before Christmas each Year Group held bespoke Parent workshops/information sessions. In most, the parents came into to work with their child in a lesson based on an aspect of the children's learning that we wanted to 'train' the parents in too e.g. up to date Maths calculation methods and English grammar and punctuation.

Termly assessments were completed in Maths and English across the school before the end of the Autumn Term.

October's INSET Day saw a continuation of the whole school's development of the planning and focus of each curriculum subject. The subjects that were not part of July 2025's INSET days were targeted. All subjects have now had their progression, cross curricular links, chronology and teaching programme reviewed for the Autumn and most are complete for the Spring and Summer terms too.

We held two Parent's Evening in October which were well attended by parents. Some appointments were held by phone and parents who did not attend were contacted directly with a view to arranging a phone call or after school meeting at other times.

The children in Years 1-6 met in their House Groups to listen to speeches from some of the Y6 children vying to be elected as the captain. The children voted and chose the candidate they felt would be the best person.

Danielle Roberts, SEND Team Manager (Primary Team) at the Council, visited school and spent a morning getting to know our case load and some of our individual SEN children.

Glenn Smith carried out a Governor visit to both Nursery and Reception.

We took part in Joint Subject Leader meetings and Writing Moderation sessions with our cluster schools. Leaders focused on 'good practice' exchanges, resources and other issues relevant to their subject. It was also a good chance for networking.

February's INSET day was used, as always, to review responses to the School Improvement Plan (SIP) questionnaires and to draft the new SIP. The process was similar to that used in the past but had been updated to reflect the new terminology and headings from the latest Ofsted framework.

The school was recognised by Hillingdon and Music Mark for its expertise in Music, gaining certificates for 'Ambition & Quality' and 'Dedication & Improvement'.

Curriculum Enhancements since the last report:

Y2 – Library visit
Y5 – Victorian Day
Y1 – Library visit
Nursery - Librarian visited them
Rec – Library visit
Y4 - Sleepover
Y4 & Y6 – Virtual Reality Headsets
Y3 – Egyptian Day
Y6 – RAF Hendon
Y3 – Pedestrian Training
Nursery - Christmas Crafts
Group – Swimming Gala
Y6 – WW2 Day
Y4 – Swimming
Y6 – Junior Citizen
Choir – Young Voices
Y5 – Road Safety Workshop
Group - St John's DT Challenge

Other:

The school nursing service visited twice to administer the flu vaccinations to all pupil whose parents had signed up for it. The vaccination was a mixture of nasal sprays and injections.

The school photographer took individual and sibling pictures in November.

The FRA held a variety of events including a disco, family photographer session, a fireworks display and a doughnut sale.

Our LBH School Improvement Partner, Richard Woodfin, held three sessions with us to support the school's response to the deficit budget. *Details of which will be covered outside this report.*

Our Autumn Term Head Boy and Girl attended the Remembrance Sunday service at the War Memorial in Northwood. They laid a wreath on behalf of the pupils, staff and governors.

Miss Griggs led our choir at the annual Northwood Hills Residents association Christmas lights switch on in November. Once again, our choir shone!

We supported BBC Children in Need, the Poppy Appeal and took part on Christmas Jumper day.

KS1 and Reception performed their Christmas Concerts in December.

Advance warning – you are invited to the Spring Term Parent's Evening on March 17/18th and to the Lower KS2 Concert on 24th March. Please let me know if you would like to attend any of these events.

Pupil Numbers:

N – 30 (This includes the January intake)

Rec – 26

Y1 – 46

Y2 – 53

Y3 – 50

Y4 – 48

Y5 – 54

Y6 – 58

Safeguarding

There are 0 children subject to Social Services involvement via either a Child Protection Conference or Child in Need Plan.

Current Whole School Attendance - 95.29%

Behaviour – Nothing significant to report. No serious breaches of the Behaviour Policy have occurred. There has been one racist and no bullying incidents since the last report.

Simon Jones

February 2026