



*'Together we strive for excellence, inspired by the joy of the Gospel.'*

### Parent Code of Conduct

Dear Parents and Carers, Please click on the link below to our Parent Code of Conduct. Mr Craig shared this with you all via Arbor earlier this week and we feel it is important to share on all platforms. We share this code of conduct annually with all parents and carers to remind ourselves of the importance of relationships built upon mutual respect for one another. These are values we teach here to our children at St Mary and St Thomas Aquinas, it is only fitting that these values are shared among our community as we interact with one another on a daily basis.

Many thanks for your continued support in providing a safe, warm and supportive school environment.

Mr Craig

[Parent-Code-of-Conduct-Final-June-23-1.pdf](#)

### Autumn Term Online Safety Talk for Parents & Carers

We're pleased to invite all parents and carers to our **Autumn Term Online Safety Talk**, which will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams this year.

The session will be led by our very own online safety expert, Mr Patterson, who will share practical hints and tips on how to help keep your child safe online. From managing screen time to understanding the latest apps and trends, the talk will cover a range of useful topics.

There will also be an opportunity to ask questions throughout and at the end of the session.

This will take place during Anti-Bullying Week on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 4.00 p.m.

If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to get in touch via the school office.

### Polling Day

Please note that our school will be used as a polling station on Thursday 7th May 2026.

This will now be an inset day where the school will be closed to children only.



### Guardian Consultations

We will be holding parent evenings on 10th and 11th November. Parents will have the opportunity to have a chat with their child's teacher. Parents can book their 10 minute slot on Arbor. This will be available from Monday 20th October at 8a.m. and will close on Monday 3rd November at 12 noon. Anyone who does not book a slot will be allocated one by Friday 7th November.

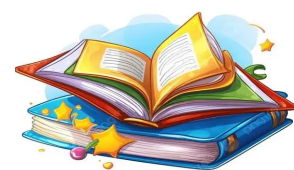
Please note that these appointments are for parents and carers only and we only have enough appointments for one per family. If you are new to Arbor and would like some assistance with this, please contact the school office.

### School Photographs

These will be collected on Monday morning. If you have not handed yours in and would like to purchase them, your last chance to hand them in will be first thing Monday morning.

### Scholastic Book Fair

Opening times will be Monday and Tuesday from 8.30 a.m. until 9.00 a.m. and 3.15 p.m. until 4 p.m.



*"Prayer brings us not only nearer to God but also nearer to one another."*  
Pope Benedict XVI



## JUST ONE Tree Day 2025

As part of our ongoing efforts to educate one another in the area of environmental sustainability and caring for our common home, our school will be taking part in **JUST ONE Tree Day on Friday 24th October 2025**. Each child is being encouraged to wear something green or nature colours and bring in £1 to fund the planting of their tree.

JUST ONE Tree, an official partner in the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, is an award-winning non-profit removing CO2 from the atmosphere and reversing biodiversity loss through global reforestation.

JUST ONE Tree supports reforestation projects in areas severely affected by deforestation such as Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique & Brazil. In doing so they have the greatest positive effect on limiting global warming whilst simultaneously alleviating extreme poverty within local communities through the provision of training, agricultural education and sustainable incomes.

JUST ONE Tree makes it simple for everyone to take collective action on the climate crisis because Just £1 plants 1 Tree.

We're sure you will agree that tree planting is absolutely essential at this critical time for the planet. We will therefore be joining children, parents and teachers around the world on this day to demonstrate that an individual's actions can have a positive impact on the environment.

Please bring your suggested donation of £1 to school on 24th October 2025.

More information can be found at: <https://www.justonetree.life/>

We look forward to counting the number of trees that our school community can plant!

Our school will be taking part in **JUST ONE Tree Non-Uniform Day.**

Each child will be encouraged to bring in £1 to plant a tree - uniting children, parents and schools across the world in taking positive action for our climate.

***Together let's plant a future for our children.***

**JUST ONE Tree** is an award winning non-profit removing CO2 from the atmosphere and reversing biodiversity loss through global reforestation.

**JUST £1 plants 1 Tree**



**JUST ONE Tree** supports reforestation projects in Madagascar, Haiti, Indonesia, Mozambique, Nepal, Kenya and Zambia.

  
JUST ONE TREE.

And in the process helps to provide training, agricultural education and stable, fair incomes....



...reducing extreme poverty within local communities.

[www.justonetree.life](https://www.justonetree.life)



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON  
**ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION**  
2021-2030

**JUST  
ONE  
TREE.** 

## Safeguarding Reminder

Safeguarding the children in our care is one of the school's main responsibilities, one that St Mary and St Thomas Aquinas take very seriously.

As you are already aware from previous updates, our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr Craig. You can speak to him by phone, make an appointment via the school office, or catch him when he's outside greeting/saying goodbye to children, if you ever have a concern. We also have our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead in school, Mrs Bennison (Assistant Headteacher/ Year 2 class teacher and senior leader), Mrs McDonald (Year 4 teacher) and Miss Foster (School Business Manager).

If you are unable to speak to Mr Craig, you can speak to Mrs Bennison or any other member of staff about your concern (s).

The school has an updated Safeguarding policy, that can be found on the school website, or paper copies can be requested from the school office.

All staff receive annual safeguarding refresher training, as well as other training throughout the year on key areas, including record keeping and reporting. Our school also has a termly visit from our Safeguarding Consultant, who completes an audit of the school's safeguarding and identifies any future improvements or training needs.

### Why do parents need to know this information?

- To reassure you that we take keeping our children safe in school very seriously at St. Mary and St. Thomas Aquinas.
- It's good to remind parents/carers of the key members of staff, in case new parents did not know who they were.
- To highlight the continual work that the school puts into keeping our children safe in school.

## Attendance

During celebration assembly on Friday, we have been celebrating whole class attendance and each week the class with the highest attendance will receive our Attendance Trophy, well done to **Year 4** who won the trophy this week.

Week beginning: Monday 13th October 2025	
Year group	Attendance percentage
<i>Reception</i>	91.25
<i>Year 1</i>	97.22
<i>Year 2</i>	98.08
<i>Year 3</i>	97.98
<i>Year 4</i>	<b>99.28</b>
<i>Year 5</i>	98.21
<i>Year 6</i>	98.81

## Year 5 Assembly

Children from Year 5 will be presenting their assembly to parents on Tuesday 21st October at 9.00 a.m. in the school hall. All are welcome to attend.



## Year 4 Liturgy

On Friday 24th October, Year 4 children will be hosting a Liturgy for their parents at 2.30 p.m. in the school hall followed by coffee and a chat.

It would be lovely to see you all there.

## Spotlight Celebration



Sophie from Year 5 had a great time at the UDO dance competition in Darlington at the weekend with her dance school. Well done Sophie



Casper won player of the week at his football club on Monday night.



Patrick competed in the NERC Feis this weekend. He came away with 2 second places and 2 third places in his grade dances and a second place on the podium in the Under 6 Open Championship.



Elodie Dalziel in Y2 competed in the UKA "Performer of the Year" competition in Wythenshawe on Sunday. She competed against circa 25 dancers per category and got 3rd place in ballet, 3rd in modern jazz and 4th in tap!

We would love to see more achievements, works of art or an event that you are proud of. Please send them to [hgreen@stmb.bwcet.com](mailto:hgreen@stmb.bwcet.com)

## Spotlight Celebration



Darcey competed in the UKA Performer of the year in Manchester at the weekend, where she took part in battle type rounds. Darcey came 3rd from over 30 children in her Modern dance. We are very proud of you Darcey.



Last Sunday Elena travelled to Manchester for UKA Performer of the Year. She danced amazingly well and received a trophy for 2nd place in Tap. She had so much fun with her dance friends.

Luca takes part in the Junior Parkrun on Sundays and he ran 2km in a speedy 9 minutes 50 seconds!

What fantastic achievements from everyone. If you want to show your friends at school what you have been taking part in, or what competitions you have entered, don't forget to send them to Miss Green by Thursday afternoon on [hgreen@smtb.bwcet.com](mailto:hgreen@smtb.bwcet.com)



## Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 21st Oct	Year 5 assembly 9 a.m. in the school hall
Friday 24th Oct	Year 4 Liturgy 2.30 p.m. in the school hall
<b>School Holiday Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025</b>	
Monday 10th Nov	Parents Evening
Tuesday 11th Nov	Parents Evening
Tuesday 11th Nov	Reception assembly 9 a.m. in the school hall
Friday 14th Nov	Year 2 Liturgy 2.30 p.m. in the school hall
Tuesday 18th Nov	Year 3 assembly 9 a.m. in the school hall
Friday 21st Nov	Year 5 Liturgy 2.30 p.m. in the school hall
Tuesday 25th Nov	Year 1 assembly 9 a.m. in the school hall
Monday 8th Dec	Reception Nativity (p.m.)
Tuesday 9th Dec	Keystage 1 Nativity (p.m.)
Wednesday 10th Dec	Nursery Nativity (a.m.)
Wednesday 10th Dec	Keystage 1 Nativity (p.m.)
Thursday 11th Dec	Keystage 2 Performance (p.m.)
Friday 12th Dec	Keystage 2 Performance (p.m.)

**School Holiday Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 2026**

### Spring Term

Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Whole School Mass
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 5 Assembly
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 Mass
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Year 4 Mass
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Reception Liturgy
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 4 Assembly
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 2 Mass
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5 Mass
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 2 Liturgy
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 6 Assembly
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 Mass
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Ash Wednesday Service

**Half Term Monday 23rd February to Friday 27th February 2026**

Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 Liturgy
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Assembly
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	School Mass
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 Liturgy
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Reception Assembly
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	School Mass (Easter)

**Easter Holidays Friday 3rd April until Friday 17th April 2026**

### Summer Term

Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	School Mass
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 5 Mass
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Polling Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 Liturgy
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 Assembly
Thursday 21 <sup>nd</sup> May	School Mass
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Pentecost Parade

**Half Term Monday 25th May to Friday 30th May 2026**

## Dates for Your Diary

Monday 1st June	Inset Day
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Mass
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Mass
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Liturgy
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 Assembly
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 1 Mass
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 Mass
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 and Reception Liturgy
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	School Mass (Leavers)
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Production

Summer holiday Monday 20th July until Friday 28th August 202

Tuesday 1st September - Staff Inset

Please note that if any of these dates change we highlight the new date in **Red**.

