



# STELLA Spotlight

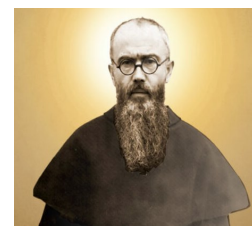


'Together we strive for excellence, inspired by the joy of the Gospel'.

## CAFOD's Big Lent Walk – Joining Together in Faith and Action



“Compassion for the suffering is the beginning of holiness.”  
St. Maximilian Kolbe





We had a truly wonderful time taking part in our Big Lent Walk. A special thank you to Mrs Bowden, Mrs McDonald and Miss Foster for organising the event so beautifully. We are also incredibly grateful to Ray from CAFOD, who delivered an inspiring assembly on Catholic Social Teaching and helped our children understand why we act for the common good and stand in solidarity with others. Well done to all of our children for such an outstanding achievement!

### Reception Class Assembly

Reception class will be presenting their assembly Tuesday 31st March. This will be in the school hall and parents are welcome to arrive from 8:30 for a 9:10 a.m. start.



### Guardian Consultations - 30th & 31st March

Thank you to those who have already booked their appointment for the up and coming parents evenings.

Can we please remind parents that these meetings are for parents only as we do not have any provisions for children to be unaccompanied.

If you were unable to make an appointment, you will be contacted by Miss Green throughout the week.

### Whole School Mass

There will be a school Mass on Thursday 2nd April, 9:05 in church. All are welcome to attend.

Please note that if they are still working on the roof, then this will be a school Mass for the children only in the school. We will inform you if anything changes.



### Year 5 Residential

Our Year 5 children will be attending their first school residential this coming week.

We hope that they have a great time and that the weather is good for them. All the best Year 5.



### Year 6 Football

As the school football league starts back up we wish our Year 6 football team all the best in the upcoming league as they defend their title and hope to bring the trophy back to Stella. Watch this space for updates.

### Stella Radio

The Wednesday Word Stella FM is once again up and running. Thanks to Miss Hall and Mr Patterson along with our Year 6 hosts, Logan and Molly as they delivered a reflection on this coming weeks Gospel. Please click on the image to take the opportunity to join us in prayer and reflection. It's the perfect opportunity to take a moment for yourself.



### Minnie Vinnies

A big thank you to all of our Minnie Vinnie's who have done a splendid job decorating school with bunting, posters and balloons for The Big Lent Walk which took place this afternoon. School looked fabulous and gave us the inspiration to go forward with hope and strength and to have a lovely walk.



## 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 **class 4** who won the trophy this week.

Week beginning: Monday 16th March 2026	
Year group	Attendance percentage
Reception	97.78
Year 1	94.64
Year 2	95.79
Year 3	98.65
Year 4	100
Year 5	98.26
Year 6	95.24

## Dear Parents and Carers,

As we look forward to the Easter period, we are eggcited to announce our **Easter Egg Competition!** We warmly invite all children to take part by designing and decorating their own creative Easter egg at home.

**Please ensure all decorated eggs are brought into school on: Thursday 2nd April 2026.**

Each class will have a **winner** selected, along with a **runner up**, and certificates will be awarded for their fantastic efforts. We encourage children to be as imaginative as possible — we can't wait to see their brilliant ideas.

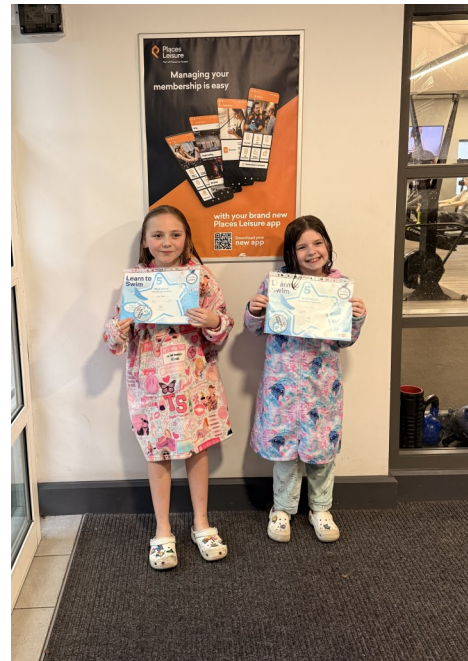
Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to celebrating the children's creativity.



## Spotlight Celebration



Leighton has been awarded his 50 metre swimming certificate this week.



Lucy and Ella passed stage 5 while taking part in water safety week in their swimming lessons! Super proud!



Euan passed his level 6 gymnastics badge.



Alfie has been awarded his 25-metre swimming certificate and medal this week.



Well done to Finn in Year 3 for achieving his 50 metres swim this week.

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

## Spotlight Celebration



"Penny, Martha and Sophie in year 5 all passed their Grade 1 tap exam with flying colours! Well done girls!!"



Hannah in Year 3 passed her recent tap exam with distinction. Well done Hannah.

Blake in reception getting his 10m swim certificate and medal on Sunday. He's very proud of it!



Fearne received her 400m swimming badge this week

Mason Lamb got his puffin badge as he passed his 5 metre swim this week. We are super proud of him.



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

## Spring Term

Wednesday 18th - 25th	Scholastic Traveling Bookfair in school
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>School Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church</b>
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Guardian Consultations
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Guardian Consultations
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Reception Assembly 9 a.m. in the school hall
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	School Mass (Easter) 9.05 a.m. in Church

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

## Summer Term

Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	School Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 5 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Polling Day - Inset Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 Celebration of the Word 2.30 p.m. in the school hall
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 Assembly 9 a.m. in the school hall
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Photographer in school taking class photographs
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	School Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Pentecost Parade

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

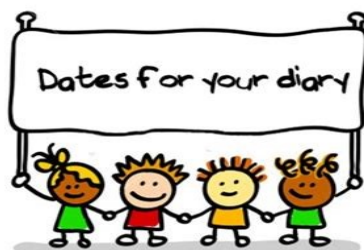
Monday 1st June	Inset Day
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Celebration of the Word 2.30 p.m. in the school hall
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 Assembly 9 a.m. in the school hall
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 1 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 and Reception Celebration of the Word 2.30 p.m. in the school hall
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	School Mass (Leavers) 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Production

**Summer holiday Monday 20th July until Friday 28th August 2026**

**Monday 31st August - Bank Holiday**

Tuesday 1st September 2026 - Staff Inset

Wednesday 2nd September 2026 - Staff Inset



**Amended or additional dates will be in bold**

# FOOTBALL AFTER SCHOOL CLUB - EVERY TUESDAY!

## NxtGen Soccer Stars

Exclusively for Reception,  
Year One & Two pupils of St  
Mary & St Thomas Aquinas

Sessions start Tuesday 21st April 2026 until  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026 -  
3.30pm until 4.15pm

5 sessions - £25 per pupil  
(Just £5 per session!)

### Activities:

- Technical footwork skills
- Teamwork skills
- Individual coaching
- Lots of games & fun!

### BOOKING INFO:

Spaces are STRICTLY allocated on a  
first come, first served basis (Only 4  
new spaces available)

To book, please contact us ASAP on  
07482723229 via WhatsApp or text  
message.

