



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

Holy Communion

Congratulations to the children who made their First Holy Communion last weekend.
A wonderful moment in their faith journey.
We celebrated as a whole Year 4 class on Thursday with Mass and a class party.



Stella Fest 2026

In preparation for our upcoming StellaFest, on Wednesday 15th July, we are kindly asking for your support. To use as part of our Tombola, we would ask that every child brings in a prize that can be used on the stall at 'StellaFest'.

This could be anything from sweets in a jar, chocolate items - bars/boxes/tubes, toiletries, gift sets, jewellery, toys that your children are getting too old for (in good condition), books or bottles - alcoholic/non alcoholic.

Each class has been allocated a specific colour which their donation should be e.g. if your colour is orange, you could bring in a Terry's Chocolate orange! If you can't find anything in your allocated colour, an idea could be to wrap your gift in coloured paper or tissue paper.

Nursery- Purple
Year 3- Red

Reception- Blue
Year 4- Pink

Year 1- Yellow
Year 5- Orange

Year 2- White or Black
Year 6- Green

Additionally, we are reaching out to local businesses for their support with raffle prizes such as vouchers. If there are any Stella family or friends who can kindly donate any vouchers etc for StellaFest raffle, we would be extremely grateful. Please could all tombola colour donations be brought in on **Wednesday 8th July**. Raffle donations may be brought to the school office anytime before this date.

Thanks again, as always, for your support
TeamStella



"The kingdom is hidden within you; it is found in your own soul."
St Isaac of Nineveh



Year 2 Class Assembly

On Tuesday 16th June there will be a Year 2 class assembly in the school Hall, parents and carers are welcome to attend. 9.00. a.m.



Class Assembly

Sports Days

Please see our dates below for our annual Sports Days

Monday 6th July - Keystage 1 & Reception Class Sports Day

Gates will open at 1 p.m. For the event to start at 1.15 p.m.

Tuesday 7th July - Keystage 2 Sports Day

Gates will open at 1 p.m. For the event to start at 1.15 p.m.

Wednesday 8th July - Nursery Sports Day

This will take place in the morning with times to follow.

World Cup Fever 2026

It's coming home, or at least Mr Craig thinks it is. We've set up a wonderful celebration of World Cup football in one of our school library areas for children to enjoy. Books include football stories from the likes of Harry Kane, Bukayo Saka to Lucy Bronze and Kylian Mbappé.



Girls Cricket

Our Year 5/6 girls performed excellently at the girls' cricket tournament on Monday. They came 3rd due to some outstanding batting. They even scored 120 runs in 1 game! We're very proud of them.



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 **Reception Class** who won the trophy this week.

Week beginning: Monday 8th June 2026	
Year group	Attendance percentage
Reception Class	100
Year 1	97.04
Year 2	98.47
Year 3	98.99
Year 4	95.70
Year 5	97.22
Year 6	96.47

Parents afternoon for new starters

Tuesday 23rd June - Reception open afternoon for parents of children attending Reception class this academic year 26/27.

This meeting will be in the school hall commencing at 4 p.m. and is for parents only.

Tuesday 30th June - Nursery open afternoon for parents of children attending Nursery this academic year 26/27. This meeting will be in the school hall commencing at 4 p.m. and is for parents only.

Recycling Children's Magazines

Nursery are looking for any used children's magazines or comics that you may have and would like to donate / recycle them to school. These can be left at the school office.

Many thanks, the nurse staff.

Class Photographs

If you wish to purchase your child's class photograph, you return the proof copy with the child's name on together with payment to the school office. Photographs will be collected on Monday morning so last minute ones can be handed in first thing on Monday morning.

Peter Rabbit

Thank you to those who have kindly donated to our Peter Rabbit St. Oswald Fund.

Peter will be going out on the trail at the start of July, we will keep you informed where you will be able to see him.



Spotlight Celebration



Dixie competed in the midlands at the midland club national and the unique snow sports British championship - she placed 2nd at the club national and 1st at the unique snow sports championship. Excellent weekend of racing for this skier !



Agnes and Nate attended the presentation for their team at Ryton Rugby Club on Sunday. Agnes was recognised for her tough tackling, while Nate was recognised for designing engaging training sessions for the team. Both achievements reflect their dedication and commitment to the team. Well done Agnes and Nate!



Scarlett Year 5 took part in the junior Blaydon Races (1 mile)
Well done.



Jack in Y2 earned his first parkrun volunteering credit in his role as tail walker this week (he even chose a dinosaur tail to wear to fully show his dedication!)

Penny and Martha in Y5 helped to load up goody bags onto the van for the runners running the Blaydon Race!

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

Dates for you diary

Tuesday 16 th June	Year 2 Assembly 9 a.m. in the school hall
Tuesday 23 rd June	Reception Parents afternoon - 4 p.m. - Please note the change of date
Friday 26 th June	Year 6 visiting the YMT for the Primary Festival
Friday 26 th June	Gateshead Athletics Festival
Tuesday 30 th June	New Nursery Parents afternoon - 4 p.m. - Please note the change of date
Tuesday 30 th June	Year 6 visiting St Thomas More
Wednesday 1st-3rd July	Year 6 Residential at Robinwood Activity Centre
Thursday 2 nd July	Year 1 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 2 nd July	BWCET Celebration of Sport for Year 5
Friday 3 rd July	Year 1 visiting The Discovery Museum
Monday 6 th July	Keystage 1 Sports Day in the afternoon
Tuesday 7 th July	Keystage 2 Sports Day in the afternoon
Wednesday 8 th July	Nursery Sports Day in the morning
Thursday 9 th July	Year 2 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 9 th July	Children's Cancer North Run
Friday 10 th July	Year 6 and Reception Celebration of the Word 2.30 p.m. in the school hall
Wednesday 15 th July	StellaFest
Thursday 16 th July	School Mass (Leavers) 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 16 th 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

Super Saturday next month – a shopping event exclusively for St Thomas More, Blaydon.
Please see the flyer below for parents and carers of the students who will be going from St Thomas More in September.

VIP Shopping Event






SUPER SATURDAY!

exclusively for St Thomas More Catholic School

JULY 4TH 2026

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open
9am - 5pm

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