



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

Year 5 & 6 girls football

Last night, our girls' football team competed in a round-robin tournament against local schools and put in a fantastic performance, finishing second in their group. The girls played brilliantly throughout the evening, showing great teamwork and resilience. They even spent their lunchtime plaiting each other's hair and all wore matching navy and orange scrunchies - they looked absolutely fabulous and were a real credit to the school, both on and off the pitch! We are so proud of each and every one of you for representing our school so well.



School Mass

Children from Year 4 will be leading Mass on Thursday 11th June, 9:05a.m. in church. This will be a Holy Communion Celebration Mass. Year 4 children are welcome to come into school dressed in their outfits.

Can they also please bring their uniform to change into once Mass is over.



Year 3 Celebration of the Word

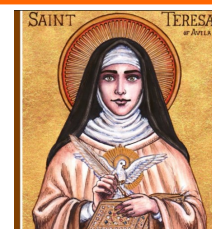
Children from Year 3 will be celebrating the word of the Lord.

This will take place on Friday 12th June at 2.30 p.m. in the school hall followed by coffee and a chat.



"Prayer nourishes the friendship of the soul with God."

St Teresa of Ávila



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 1st June 2026	
Year group	Attendance percentage
Reception	92.00
Year 1	96.67
Year 2	99.51
Year 3	98.27
Year 4	100
Year 5	94.64
Year 6	93.37

National Fish and Chip Day

The children celebrated National Fish and Chip's day with a scrumptious portion of fish and chips. A wonderful reason to have these for tea today!



Medical and Alternative Diets

All forms will need to be returned to the school office by Friday 12th June, as these will need to go to Gateshead to enable them to prepare specialised menus for September.

Class Photographs

If you wish to purchase your child's class photograph, an you return the proof copy with the child's name on together with payment to the school office by Friday 12th June.

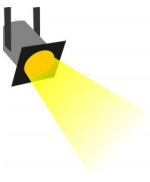
STELLA FEST

Our annual Stella Fest will be on Wednesday 15th July. Clear your diary for this wonderful event.
More information will follow.

First Holy Communions

On Saturday 6th June some of our children will be taking their First Communion. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.





Parker had a great week with sports passing his stage 1 swimming and getting his first ever football star of the week trophy.



Aila and her dance team competed in Kendal dance festival last week winning 12 medals and 4 trophies. Highest scoring cabaret duet and trio, highest scoring classical trio and highest aggregate score for her age group.

Una from reception received her level 2 certificate for swimming over half term, we are so proud of her.



Emilia in Year 2 had her football presentation at the weekend and wanted to share some photos. Her team Heddon United under 8 girls won the Europa League and she won a personal award for most improved team player. They also came runners up in their Northumberland tournament at the weekend, which is great for only the second one they entered.



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

Spotlight Celebration



A huge [congratulations](#) to those who successfully passed their Dan Gradings today under the guidance of Ian Willis Sensei. The performances were outstanding, and the attitude and spirit were a credit to yourselves and your club.



Ella and Zach climbed Snowdon last week. What an achievement!



Jonas and his Newbiggin Hall under 9 team went to Filey for a tournament and they were the cup winners.



Freya completed in the Mezzo Cup qualifiers in Edinburgh. Well done Freya, we are so proud of your hard work, commitment and practice.

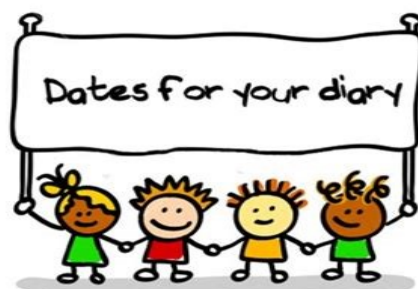
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Dates for you diary

Saturday 6th June	Holy Communion in Church
Thursday 11th June	Year 4 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Friday 12th June	Year 3 Celebration of the Word 2.30 p.m. in the school hall
Tuesday 16th June	Year 2 Assembly 9 a.m. in the school hall
Tuesday 23rd June	Reception Parents afternoon - 4 p.m. - Please note the change of date
Friday 26th June	Year 6 visiting the YMT for the Primary Festival
Friday 26th June	Gateshead Athletics Festival
Tuesday 30th June	New Nursery Parents afternoon - 4 p.m. - Please note the change of date
Tuesday 30th June	Year 6 visiting St Thomas More
Wednesday 1st-3rd July	Year 6 Residential at Robinwood Activity Centre
Thursday 2nd July	Year 1 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 2nd July	BWCET Celebration of Sport for Year 5
Friday 3rd July	Year 1 visiting The Discovery Museum
Monday 6th July	Keystage 1 Sports Day in the afternoon
Tuesday 7th July	Keystage 2 Sports Day in the afternoon
Wednesday 8th July	Nursery Sports Day in the morning
Thursday 9th July	Year 2 Mass 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 9th July	Children's Cancer North Run
Friday 10th July	Year 6 and Reception Celebration of the Word 2.30 p.m. in the school hall
Wednesday 15th July	StellaFest
Thursday 16th July	School Mass (Leavers) 9.05 a.m. in Church
Thursday 16th 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