



Friday 26th September 2025

Head Teacher's Weekly Update

Dear Families,

Firstly, thank you to the family members who were able to join us to celebrate Mass this morning with our year 7 pupils, and thank you as always to Fr Rose for his continued commitment to the Catholic life of our school. It has been another lovely week in school and our pupils continue to make us proud. It has been great to see so many extra curricular activities up and running and pupils taking advantage of what is on offer. As explained in the welcome evenings, it is important to us that pupils are supported to develop as a whole person, not just academically. Please see a reminder of the Autumn term timetable at the bottom of this letter.

Prayer Theme

The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?

Luke 16

- We have prayed together as a community:

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the gifts that you have placed in my life – my friends, family and the world around me. Help me to be honest and dependable even in the small things that no one else notices. Teach me to use what I have wisely and to respect what belongs to others. Give me the courage to put You first, and to make choices that build trust, hope and kindness.

Amen

Year 5 & 6 Open Evening Reminder

- Families with children in years 5 or 6 are invited to our Whole School Open Evening
- It is being held on Wednesday 1st October, 5:30pm - 7pm
- You will get the chance to hear about our school and to visit subject areas, talking to staff and getting an idea of what we are all about - our ethos, values and commitment to academic excellence and personalised pupil development and support

St Thomas More Catholic School
Croftdale Road,
Blaydon,
Tyne & Wear,
NE21 4BQ

Year 5 & Year 6 Open Evening
For prospective families & students

Wednesday 1st October
5:30pm - 7:00pm

Our Year 5 & 6 Open Evening gives families a valuable chance to experience our school first-hand. It will include opportunities to meet teachers, our pastoral team, and school leaders who will all offer a tour of the school and discuss the opportunities, facilities and choices available at St Thomas More. It also gives families the chance to explore the excellent facilities we have to offer our pupils.

It also provides an opportunity to ask questions, understand the curriculum, progress, and to share how our school supports our pupils.

Meet regularly. It helps families gain a clear sense of our school's ethos and values.

'A school where everyone can reach their full potential.'

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Virtual Parental Evenings

- Thank you to year 11 families for joining us online on Wednesday evening for our first parental support session of the year
- We hope you found it useful and understand our RAP process
- A reminder that we have a full calendar organised over the year:



Parental Engagement Opportunities 2025 - 2026 [Family]...

Virtual Parental Support Session

Raising Achievement Plan [RAP] Launch: Year 11



Our Raising Achievement Plan is the 6 week period building towards an assessment. Over the next 6 weeks your Year 11 child will be preparing for their first Year 11 exam. This session is designed to give you an overview about the different things happening in school - including opportunities for revision and further study outside of lessons - and ways that you can support at home.

Wednesday 24th September
[5.00pm - 5.30pm]

Extra Curricular Activities 2025 - 2026

- Yet again we have a wide range of activities available to our pupils, we appreciate your support in encouraging your child to sign up for at least one activity.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES 2025-2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
BEFORE SCHOOL					
Other Activities	Breakfast Drop In (LS1)	Breakfast Drop In (LS1)	Bacon Brekki Reading Club (Literacy Hub) Breakfast Drop In (LS1) Table Tennis (Sports Hall)	Breakfast Drop In (LS1)	Breakfast Drop In (LS1)
LUNCHTIME					
Sport/Leisure	Fitness Suite Year 9-13	Cheer Club (Gym) All	Girls Football (Field) All	Football (Field) Year 8	Fitness Suite Years 9-13
	Football (Field) Year 9	Girls Football (Field) Years 7-9	Netball (Sports Hall) Year 8	Dance Club (Gym) Year 9-13	Year 10 Football (Field)
	Year 9 Netball (Sports Hall)	Year 7 Netball (Sports Hall)		K54 Netball (Sports Hall)	
Performing Arts	Chamber Choir (MU1) K54 - K55	K53 Drama Club (Drama Studio)	Junior Choir (MU1) K53		Jazz Band (MU1)
Other Activities	Lego Club (LS1) SEND students	Forum Club - All	Chapel Club All	Lunchtime Readers (Literacy Room) All year groups	Lunchtime Readers (Literacy Room) All year groups
	Chaplaincy Team (Chapel) All	Faith in Action (Chapel) Year 7-9	LS Polkemon Club (LS1) SEND students	Year 12 Maths Club (MA4) fortnightly	Geography Club (GY1) All
	Scripture Club (Chapel) All	History Club (RE6) Year 7 - 8	Debate Club (J2) All year groups	Year 13 Maths Club (MA4) fortnightly	
	Lunchtime Readers (Literacy Room) All year groups	Chess Club (LA3) All	Wellbeing Champions	Creative Space (H3) All	
		Lunchtime Readers (Literacy Room) All year groups	Lunchtime Readers (Literacy Room) All year groups	Art Club (A2) K53	
		Somatic Quieting - Calm Club (LS)	Business Homework Drop-in (K54) B51		
		John Paul 2 (Chapel) Year 7-9	Young Vincentians (Chapel - All)		
AFTER SCHOOL					
Sports/Leisure	Youth Club (Sports Hall) SEND students	Climbing Club (Sports Hall) All year groups		Badminton Club K54 & 5 (Sports Hall)	
		Netball Club (Sports Hall) K53		Fitness Suite (Year 9-13)	
		Fitness Suite (Year 9-13)			
Performing Arts		Orchestra (MU1) All year groups		School Show (Drama Studio) All year groups	
Other Activities	Homework Club (IT4) Year 7-11	Supportive Study (SEND students)	Dungeons and Dragons (Canteen) All year groups	Homework Club (IT4) Year 7-11	
				Supportive Study (SEND students)	

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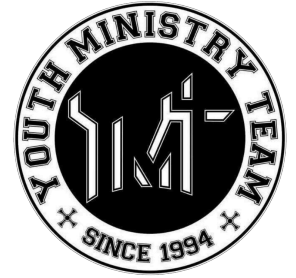
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Year 7 Retreat - Save the Date!

- Year 7 pupils will have the opportunity to attend a retreat at the Youth Village in Allensford next February 2026
- Leaving from school on **Wednesday 11th February and returning Friday 13th February**
- Becca, our chaplain, will be distributing expression of interest letters soon
- Places do fill up quickly, but once a child has secured a place further details will be shared



The Source event - for Year 9 pupils +

- When? Thursday 23rd October
- Where? St Mary's Cathedral Newcastle
- The Source event team look forward to welcoming back their LIVE band for worship and some festival favourites
- Bishop Stephen will introduce and lead a time of Adoration
- Becca will share more information with pupils



St Bernadette	St Catherine Laboure	St John Fisher	St Therese	Sixth Form
STM-StBQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-StCLQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-stjfqueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-sttqueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-SixthFormQueries@stm.bwcet.com

Please follow us on social media (**Facebook, Instagram and Twitter STM_CS_Blaydon**) where we share regular updates from our school community.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Turner
Head Teacher

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