



Friday 19th December 2025

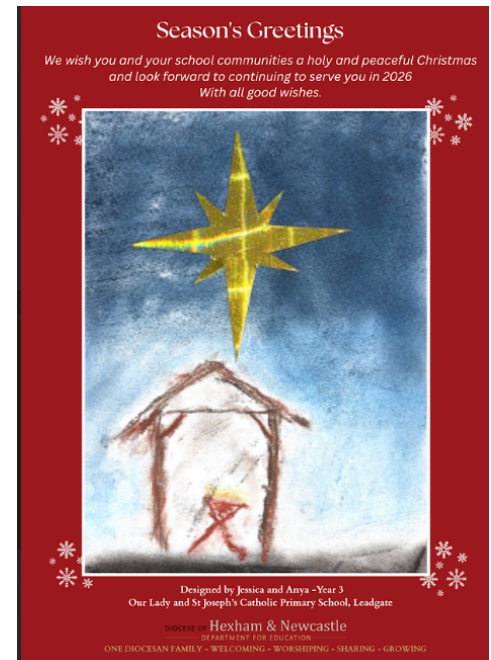
Head Teacher's Weekly Update

Dear Families,

Thank you to everybody who joined us at our Carol Service on Tuesday, it was a lovely evening and our pupils were fabulous as ever. This morning's Masses were an important way to celebrate our end of term with pupils thanks to Father Whelan and Deacon Bell. Their support is truly appreciated, as is the support of all clergy throughout the year.

I would like to extend my thanks to you all for your ongoing support this term and I wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year. We look forward to welcoming pupils back on Monday 5th January 2026.

This Christmas card, shared by our Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle this week, was designed by two of our Trust primary school pupils. I am sure you will agree that it captures the joy and hope of Advent, awaiting the coming of the Messiah celebrated on Christmas Day. *Please follow the link to some excellent prayer and reflection resources for Advent: [Advent Reflections](#)*



Prayer Theme - Gaudete Sunday

Take a moment to thank God each day, maybe when you wake up or before bed. Spread joy, say something kind to someone who looks down, help a friend, or forgive someone. Prepare your heart, Advent isn't just about decorations and gifts; it's about making space for Jesus. Remember: Joy isn't about pretending everything is fine. It's about trusting that God is close and cares for you. So today, smile, share kindness, and let your heart be ready for the best gift, Jesus.



ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL,
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Year 7 Theatre Trip

- Our Year 7 pupils had a great time at the Theatre on Tuesday
- They watched a performance of Cinderella and were a credit to the school
- What a great experience for them all and a special thank you to Ms Elliott and staff for organising it



Year 12 Iceland Trip

- Our Year 12 Iceland Trip continues to be an amazing opportunity for any pupil in year 12, irrespective of the subject they are studying
- It proved to be another wonderful trip this year and the Northern Lights were in full display too
- Any current year 11 pupil will have the opportunity to go in December 2027!



Year 10 and 12 Formal Assessments - January

- Year 10 have their formal assessments week commencing 5th and 12th January in lessons. They have their revision materials and instructions. I would like to wish them luck in advance.
- Year 12 have their formal assessments week commencing 12th January, prior to their work experience week commencing 19th January 2026.

A reminder to use our house email addresses if you have any queries.

St Bernadette	St Catherine Laboure	St John Fisher	St Therese	Sixth Form
STM-StBQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-StCQueries@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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