



Friday 19th February 2026

Head Teacher's Weekly Update

Dear Families,

Firstly, thank you for your ongoing support this term. It has been a term filled with progress and opportunities for our community and these successes are only ever possible with your support. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, and it is a real privilege that we have been able to gather together as a school on such a significant day in school. After the half term we will begin our Lenten fundraising in earnest. I look forward to seeing what ideas our pupils come up with this year! Thank you in advance for any and all contributions to this year's chosen charity 'Significance' [Significance](#). Thank you to Fr Adrian for celebrating Mass with us on Wednesday. I would like to wish you all a lovely half term break and we look forward to welcoming pupils back into school on Monday 2nd March. Finally, safe journey to all of our pupils and staff on their way to Austria for their ski holiday!

SIGNIFICANCE
THE FR. DERMOTT DONNELLY FOUNDATION

Prayer Theme

'Now, now – it is the Lord who speaks – come back to me with all your heart, fasting, weeping, mourning.'

We have prayed together as a community:

Loving and compassionate God,

We believe that change is possible. And we believe that we can help to change the world. As Lent begins, we pray that, through our Lenten journey, you will change our hearts and help us to build a better world, where every person's dignity is respected, and everyone can live life to the full. We make this prayer, with faith, through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Lent Attendance Challenge

- Our Lent attendance challenge is back!
- Any pupil with 100% attendance over the next half term, during Lent, will receive 5 first dinner passes and they will have the chance to win an Easter egg.
- Good luck to everyone.
- We know that full attendance makes all the difference to future prospects.

LENT ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE



Anyone with 100% attendance during Lent will receive five first dinner passes to be used throughout the year. Pupils will also be entered into draw to receive an Easter egg!

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL,
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Half Term Holiday Activities / Ideas

- Keeping children occupied during the holidays can be a challenge. It is important that children still have good routines, alongside rest and fun.
- It is a good opportunity to re-set after a busy half term, and get organised for the next half term. Checking equipment and uniform ready for some nicer weather hopefully!
- Here are some ideas of what to do in the NE region next week.
- [Things to do this half-term in the North East whatever the weather - BBC News](#)
- [Exciting things to do this February Half-Term in... | NewcastleGateshead](#)



Public Examination Timetables reminder

- The generic A-Level and GCSE summer 2026 exams timetables are available on our website on: <https://www.stthomasmore.org.uk/curriculum/assessment-and-examinations/exam-timetables/>
- A reminder that **Friday 26th June 2026 is a contingency day and all students must be available up to and including that day.**

Year 10 Parents Evening Reminder

- We are holding our Year 10 parents/carers evening online on Thursday 5th March 2026 4:00 pm - 6.15 pm.
- Please see the letter below for further details.
- [Year 10 Parents' Evening Letter 25 - 26](#)

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-StCLQueries@stm.bwcet.com	STM-stjqueries@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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