

FOCUS

on

ST MARY & ST THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
www.stmaryandthomasquinas.co.uk



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

16th July 2021



Year of St Joseph

St Joseph, most watchful guardian and loving father.
~ pray for us ~



Goodbye & Goodluck

This week we say goodbye and good luck to our amazing Year 6 children as they leave us here at St Mary & St Thomas Aquinas and embark upon their new journey.

Our Year 6 children have been outstanding, not just in their academic achievements but in the progress they have demonstrated around our school core values of respect, tolerance, understanding and responsibility. They are a credit to themselves, their families and our school and we would like to wish each of them every future success.

Goodbye & Goodluck to.....

Indiana Bainbridge
Charlie Baxter
Isabelle Grimes
Millie Hillard
Owen Leigh
Cody Martin
Abbie Proud
Harry Robinson
Harry Spoors
Sophie Woroniak

Isaac Baker
Adam Cooper Snaith
Lewis Grimmond
Nicholas Jokelson
Charlotte Lisgo
Joseph Martin
Cora Ramsey
Charlie Shaw
Oliver Thompson
Eva Zorlutuna

Thea Baker
Caleb Gardener
Sunni Heslop
Jak Jones
Sophie Main
Ellie McNestry
Luke Ritson
Ananth Smulders
Max Troiano



Happy Retirement

Mrs Lyn Humble retires this week after working 15 years at Stella as a Teaching assistant. All of her working career, Lyn has worked in schools across the diocese as a very successful Teaching Assistant. She has touched the lives of so many children, giving them a fantastic start to their education.

We are sad to say goodbye to Lyn as she has been an enormous help to all teachers and is a very popular member of staff with both children and their parents. We thank Lyn for her years of commitment and dedication to our school and wish her a very happy retirement.



Thank you

What a year!!

A huge and sincere thank you to all of our parents and carers for your fantastic support over the past year. We certainly faced many new challenges and sometimes turbulence, but it is thanks to everyone for working together in the face of the immense changes to our lives that the battle against the Covid-19 pandemic has caused.

In spite of everything, we have had a very successful year at Stella and that is why we must thank all of our amazing children across the school as well as our hard working staff.

We wish you and your families a very relaxing, well-earned and enjoyable summer holiday. Thank you

Goodbye & Goodluck

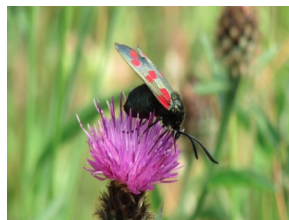
We also say goodbye and goodluck to a few other staff who are also soon to start on their new journeys in schools across Northumberland and Durham. We sincerely thank Mrs Bishop, Mrs Wilders and Miss O' Sullivan for their great teaching and support here at Stella over the past years. We thank them all for their commitment to Stella and wish them luck as they move to pastures new!



Stella Wildlife Project - June 2021

At St Mary & St Thomas Aquinas Primary School we are embarking on a very exciting project to regenerate our wildlife and pond area. It was once a beautiful haven of tranquillity and wildlife. It is now derelict and overgrown. We would like this area to be made available to our school children and the local community. It will be an area of beauty, peace, interest and educational benefit. It's an exciting and large project, so we require your help. Please complete the attached form to let us know how you might be able to help. There are many aspects of the project and we hope that our school community will offer their assorted skills to help.

<https://forms.office.com/r/FGUVNNwEHm>



Summer Holidays

School closes at 3.15 p.m. on Friday 16th July for the summer break and will re-open again on Tuesday 7th September 2021.

Positive Covid Results

If your child displays any of the three symptoms from **Friday 16th July until Monday 26th** it is still really important that you;

- Keep your child and *any* siblings at home
- Book a test *immediately* using this [Online Form](#) or ring **119**
- Notify school *immediately* using both these dedicated e-mails
theresacostello@gateshead.gov.uk
stmaryandstthomascatholicprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk

We will not need to notify any other parents of positive cases where the symptoms or positive test occur after Sunday 18th July as it will have been 48 hours since the last close contact.

These continues to be an important time in our combined fight against COVID-19 and your part in keeping everybody safe cannot be underestimated. Working together, we hope to minimise the transmission of this virus and protect everyone in our school, and the wider community, as much as we can.

Families - Newcastle and Gateshead

Just click on the link below to view July / Augusts monthly magazine

<https://bit.ly/FamiliesNewcastleGateshead-JulAug21>



Sims Pay Important Information

The system you use to make payments to school is changing names. From 26th July **SIMS Pay** will be known as Pay360 Education Payments.

- The way you make payments will remain the same - you'll just notice a different logo (Pay360 by Capita) on the login page and in the portal.

The link to log in will be updated

to www.pay360educationpayments.com

- When you make a payment, you'll notice the details on your card statement will show as 'Pay360*school_name' (rather than 'Capita*school_name').

- We would recommend that you add the new email address noreply@pay360educationpayments.com to your contacts/whitelist to ensure the emails are not marked as spam.

