

# Lower School Newsletter

January 2021

## From the Principal's Office



Dear parents, students and staff,  
Happy New Year!

I hope that everyone enjoyed a blessed and safe Christmas, New Year and Three Kings Day!

Although in a different way and having to cancel normal and traditional celebrations, the spirit of Christmas was truly present throughout December in Lower School. We enjoyed visiting the chapel with Father Mario and had a beautiful and heartwarming Christmas Mass.

We were so looking forward to welcoming everyone back last Monday, but Filomena had unexpected plans for all of us. Even though the snow is fun and exciting, it also brings out safety issues, collapsed roads and highways, closed airports and cancelled flights. Schools all over the Comunidad de Madrid have been closed for in-person teaching and we have moved to online classes until sufficient snow removal can ensure safe traveling from home to work and school.

I have had the opportunity to visit all the online classes and I'm happy to convey how all our students and teachers have become extraordinary tech wizzes. Our students are engaged and learning, while showing digital citizenship and independence. This makes me extremely proud of all of them and confirms that online learning is running smoothly.

We hope to return to campus on Wednesday the 20th, but there's still some snow that needs to be removed and roads around school need to become accessible and safe. Our maintenance staff have been working hard these past days clearing walkways, removing fallen trees, assessing damages and repairing them to ensure a safe return to school.

May God bless you and your families with good health and peace during this 2021.

Warm regards,

*Mrs. Carbo*





# Happy Birthday



Claudia Ferreira  
 Amanda Toledo  
 Javier Aparicio  
 Lola Jimeno  
 Lucas Martín  
 Julia Buzanello  
 Nicolàs Borrego  
 Jaime García del Pozo  
 Inés Lamas  
 Carmen De Horna  
 Sergio De Horna  
 Alfonso Marqués  
 Sebastian Capuano  
 Gabriela Puertas  
 May Rodríguez  
 Julia Pérez  
 Jorge Kaiser  
 Javier Rodríguez



## January

20	Back to school
28	St. Thomas Aquinas Mass

## February



19-22	<b>No School</b> —Skiing Week
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**St. Thomas Aquinas**  
 January 28

*Grant me, O Lord my God,  
 a mind to know you,  
 a heart to seek you,  
 wisdom to find you,  
 conduct pleasing to you,  
 faithful perseverance in waiting for you,  
 and a hope of finally embracing you.  
 Amen.*

- St. Thomas Aquinas -





# Safe Return to School



As we return next week to School, it is important to remember the procedures that kept us safe, healthy, and active as a school community during these past month. Keeping us safe is a combined community effort of care, responsibility, and support.

The keys points continue to be:

the use of **face masks, ventilation, hygiene– washing hands, regular cleaning and disinfecting,** and **keeping distance.**

It is extremely important that you report of any positive test result to our COVID Coordinator, Nurse Laura - [nurse@aquinasmadrid.es](mailto:nurse@aquinasmadrid.es)– immediately who will instruct you on how to proceed.

Do not come to school if you or your child shows any of the COVID related symptoms as:

- \* Fever or chills
- \* Nasal congestion or runny nose
- \* Shorten of breath
- \* Diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea
- \* Headache
- \* Cough
- \* Loss of smell or taste
- \* Sore throat
- \* Muscle or body aches
- \* Stomach ache



Remember that the correct way to wear the mask is to keep it comfortable secured around your face **covering your nose** and chin at **all times**. Your mask should only be off while eating. Always have a back-up mask kept in a plastic/paper bag in your backpack or cubby in case your breaks or gets wet. Parents entering the school premises should also be wearing face mask at all times.

**Let's keep our school a safe place!**



The situation of the roads has improved and access to campus is safe now. Our main sidewalk and access to campus is plowed but there's still snow and ice in the surrounding sidewalks.

Parking may be an issue on Poniente and Transversal streets, so please be extra careful while parking and backing up.



Drive safely!



## School uniforms and more ...

All students are expected to come to school appropriately dressed; that is with the school uniform and always neat and clean. Due to weather conditions, we are allowing during this week the use of rain/snow boots with the uniform. Remember that ventilation is a key factor in our Covid prevention protocol and students should be prepared by dressing in layers.

PE shorts are only to be used during warm weather. Girls should wear the proper winter PE uniform, which consists of long pants and the school sweat shirt. **NO** stockings under shorts are allowed.



Please remind your child that while playing with snow is fun, throwing snow balls or ice is potentially dangerous and this will **not** be acceptable at school. The safety of all is our main goal!



## RECOMMENDED READINGS

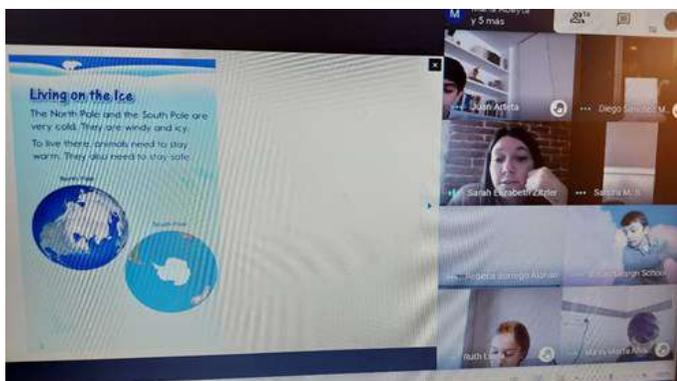
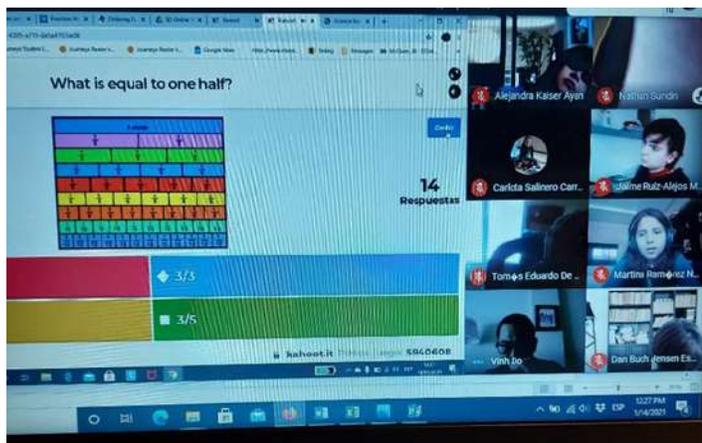
**“Why my child bounces back from the coronavirus crisis?”**

<https://www.understood.org/en/friends-feelings/managing-feelings/stress-anxiety/will-child-bounce-back-from-coronavirus-crisis?>

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# What's been going on in Lower School?



## Virtual Class Rules

- Mute your mic
- Raise your hand to speak
- Be kind and respectful
- Find a quiet spot





# What's Been Going on in Lower School?



## Christmas

