

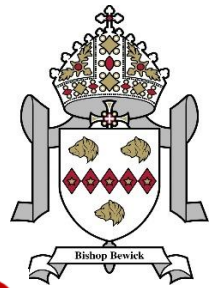
St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

Station Road, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear. NE28 8EN

Telephone: 0191 262 3098 Website: www.stcolumbasprimary.co.uk

Email Address: scpschool@stcolumbasprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Miss. R. Quinn



Iona Star – 4th October 2024

St Columba's Families,

We have had a great week at St Columba's!

Our Year 5 and Year 6 children had a fabulous time at High Borran. They climbed a mini mountain, canoed on the lake and scrambled up a ghyll (as well as getting soaking wet!) The children were a credit to their families and the school – well done everyone, we are so proud of you.

We had a jumpacked 'good work' assembly this morning with lots of lovely things to celebrate in each class. We also appointed some new BELONG ambassadors who have been spotted living out our school values around school. Keep up the great work!

Throughout the week, each class has been supporting NSPCC's 'Kindness Week' as well as National Poetry Day. Some classes even combined the two and wrote poems about being kind!

Year 6 have completed the week with a CAFOD lunch and assembly for their parents to support family fast day. They prepared soup, served their families and helped raise some money for charity in the process.

Below, you will find key messages and information. Attached to the Iona Star is a guide for both parents and school staff – this week's focus is on supporting children with worry and anxiety.

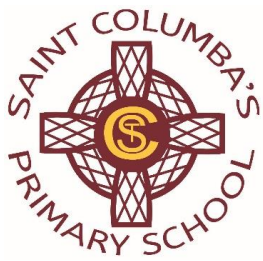
If you have any queries about anything in the Iona Star, or anything else that we can help with, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Have a lovely weekend and see you on Monday!

Take care,
Miss Quinn

CAFOD
Just one world





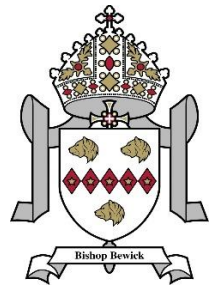
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Attendance and Punctuality



Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 for this week has been 95.5%. This is a SLIGHT improvement on last week, but means that we are still the amber zone and we are not meeting our targets set by the Department for Education (96%).

We are, however, delighted to announce that Year 6 are the winners of our attendance trophy with an amazing overall attendance of 98.9%. Congratulations!

Dogs on School Premises

A polite reminder that dogs are not permitted on school premises at pick up or drop off. This was a decision made by the Local Governing Committee at St Columba's due to health and safety, as well as pupil wellbeing. Many thanks



Thank you from Mrs Watson and the Mini Vinnies



Thank you to everyone who has bought our Fairtrade Tiffin over the last 2 weeks. We have made around £200! We have already given Father David £100 of this, as he headed off to Muhoroni last Monday. He was very grateful for the contribution which will be an amazing bonus to the facilities for the women working in the village.

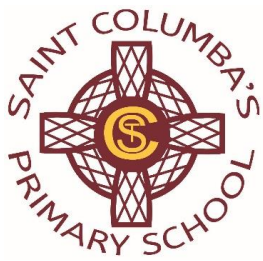
The rest will be donated to the Macmillan Nurses. We are sure there will be many families in our community who have benefitted from their amazing support during difficult times.

The Mini Vinnies have worked really hard selling the tiffin during afternoon breaks. As always, they are an amazing bunch of kids! Thank you!

School Car Park

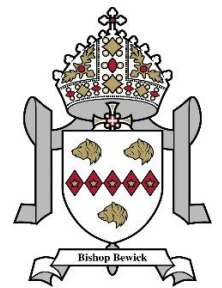
A reminder to parents and family members to exercise caution when using the school car park. At present, this is only to be used for breakfast club and after school club when necessary. Please be mindful that children may be walking through the car park and that school staff need clear access at all times. Thank you.





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Black History Month



Black History Month takes place every October in the UK. Throughout the month of October, St Columba's will be listening to stories, taking part in lessons, attending assemblies and having social discussions to mark this event.

Please follow the link to find a list of recommended books to share with your child during Black History Month and beyond: [Black History Month Books for All Ages | Scholastic](#)

Safeguarding at St Columba's

Our latest safeguarding policy and information can now be found on our school website: [Safeguarding | St. Columba's](#)

You can find information on this page about how we continue to be an Operation Encompass school; this means we work alongside external agencies, such as the police and children's social care to support children who have witnessed domestic abuse. There is also information about how we continue to be an Operation Endeavour school; this means we work alongside external agencies, such as the police and children's social care to support children who go missing from home.

Within school, we have key adults who can help with safeguarding concerns that you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact one of these staff members if you have a concern about a child's safety, no matter how small. These members of staff are shown on posters around school, like this one. By working together, we can help keep children safe and offer support when needed.



Safeguarding

St Columba's Catholic Primary School



If you have a worry or concern about a child's safety, please speak to one of our designated safeguarding leads or deputies without delay

The Safeguarding Team within school:



Miss R Quinn
Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs N Meddison
Deputy Headteacher
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs C Harris
EYF5 Phase Leader
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

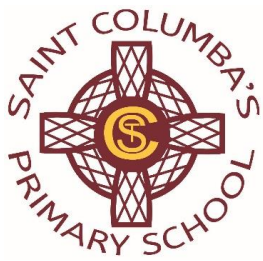


Mrs C Harman
SENDCo
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



To report your concern please contact the Front Door on 0345 2000 109





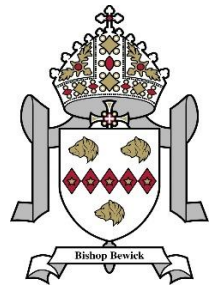
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St. Columba's Curriculum

Updated yearly and termly overviews for each year group can now be found on our website. You will also have received a copy of these at each classes welcome evening.



Year group specific information can be found here: [Year Groups | St. Columba's](#)

Subject specific information can be found here: [Our Curriculum | St. Columba's](#)

If you have any questions about your child's learning, or how to best support this at home, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Diary Dates

Thursday 10th October – World Mental Health Day. Wear something yellow to school to support YoungMinds. 'Because We Stand Brighter Together'.

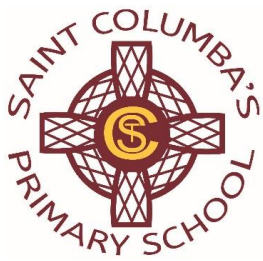
Friday 11th October – Year 4 assembly. Family members are welcome in the school hall for 9.15am

Friday 18th October – Year 6 and Reception Buddy assembly. Parents of both classes are invited to the school hall for 9.15am

Thursday 24th October – Year 4 to be visited by North Tyneside Fire and Rescue education team.

Thursday 24th October – Halloween Disco, more information to follow

Friday 25th October – Break the rules day! More information to follow via PTA



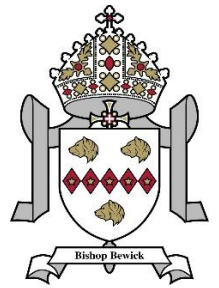
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Friday 25th October – Year 5 assembly. Family members are welcome in the school hall for 9.15am

Friday 25th October – School closes to staff and pupils for October half term

Monday 4th November – School reopens to staff and pupils

New Wednesday 6th November – Tempest photography will be taking individual school photographs of all children. They will also take class photographs for Reception class and Year 6.

New Friday 8th November – Northumbria Police education team will be delivering workshops to Year 5 and Year 6 children around the use of social media.

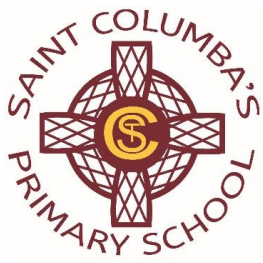
WB Monday 11th November – SEND parent review meetings. Parents will be invited to book an appointment with Mrs Harman and their class teacher via SchoolCloud two weeks before this date.

WB Monday 11th November – Internal school assessment week. All pupils in KS2 will complete assessments.

Friday 15th November – Children in Need. Wear your spots to school!

Friday 15th November – Year 3 assembly. Family members are welcome in the school hall for 9.15am

Monday 25th November and Wednesday 27th November – Parents Evenings. All parents will be invited to book an appointment with their class teacher via SchoolCloud two weeks before this date. Appointments are in person, for 10minutes and will be available from 3.45pm onwards.



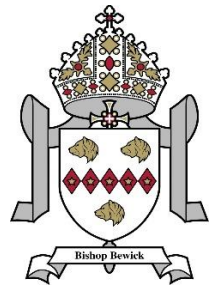
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Christmas Performances – further information to follow

Nursery – Monday 9th December at 10am

Reception – Monday 9th December at 2pm

Year 1 – Wednesday 11th December at 2pm

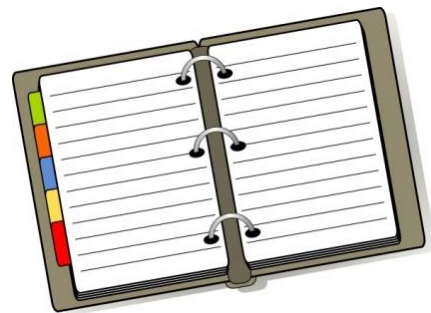
Year 2 – Friday 6th December at 2pm

Year 3 – Friday 13th December at 2pm

Year 4 – Tuesday 10th December at 2pm

Year 5 – Thursday 12th December at 2pm

Year 6 – Monday 16th December at 2pm



WB Monday 16th December – further information to follow

Family members will be invited into school to make a Christingle with their children and take part in a liturgy with their creations.

Friday 20th December – School closes to staff and pupils for the Christmas break.