

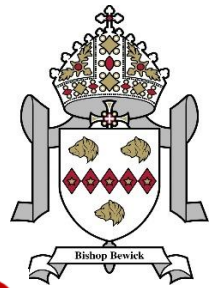
St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

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 – 11th October 2024

St Columba's Families,

We hope that you have all had a great week. This week, we wore something yellow on Thursday to promote World Mental Health Day. The children looked so bright and explored age appropriate activities linked to emotions and healthy minds.

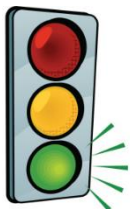
A huge 'thank you' to all of the family members who came to support Year 4 this morning in their class assembly; the children did a wonderful job of informing us all about the importance of Fairtrade.

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 'Fire Safety.'

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.

Take care and have a lovely weekend!
Miss Quinn

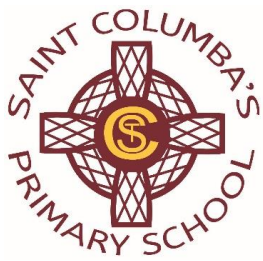
Attendance and Punctuality



Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 for this week has been 95.6%. This is an 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 Nursery are the winners of our attendance trophy with an amazing overall attendance of 98.6%. Congratulations!

We have also had a number of classes with 100% on certain days this week – keep an eye out on X (@stcolumbasrc) for Mrs Craggs' attendance updates!



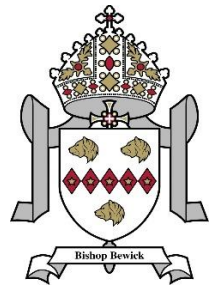
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Black History Month – Art Competition



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](https://www.scholastic.co.uk/black-history-month-books)

Mrs Maddison launched an Art competition in school this week, encouraging children to represent and celebrate that we are 'Similar but Unique'. We have already had some absolutely fantastic entries. We would love as MANY entries as possible – if you need to borrow any paper or pencils, just let us know. *The closing date is Friday 18th October. Get creative!*



Pupil Permissions and Parent Contact Information



A reminder to parents that pupil permissions and contact information roll forward from the previous academic year.

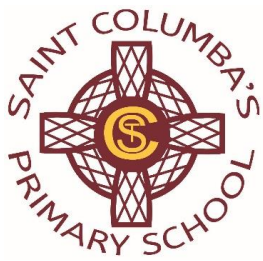
Therefore, if families do have a change of circumstance, or you require a change of permissions for your child, we do ask that you contact us as soon as possible.

We also ask you inform us of any updated telephone numbers, home addresses and contact information – ideally, we request at least two members of family to be listed as contacts. Thank you.

Class 'Reading for Pleasure' Scrapbooks

From next week, all classes will be giving a bag which contains a scrapbook, stationery and craft materials. One child per week will be asked to take the scrapbook home and decorate a page with their families to showcase a book that they enjoy reading. Further information can be found on X (@stcolumbasrc) and on SeeSaw. We look forward to sharing some fabulous books together!





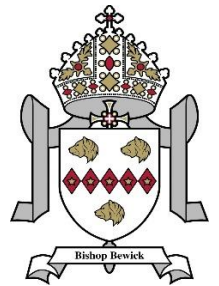
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Parent Governor – Drop In Session

Our new parent governor, Hayley Revell, can be contacted at any time via her email address: hayley.revell@stcolumbasprimary.co.uk

Alternatively, you can contact the school office and ask for a message to be passed to her.

Hayley is offering a parent drop in session next Friday (18th October) and will be available from 2.30pm in the meeting room within school. No appointment is necessary, so drop in for a cuppa, a chat or to ask a question. We hope to see you then!

Father David's Work in Muhuroni

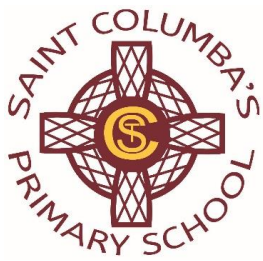
Father David has made his annual visit to Muhuroni to continue his charity work out there. He keeps school regularly updated with news, events and photos from his travels. This week, he has been: visiting members of the community in hospital; providing support for those who live in basic housing by purchasing beds, mattresses etc to make their accommodation more comfortable; saying Mass for the local community (whilst learning how to dance!); purchased fruit trees for the orphan refuge and even had a go at weaving his own basket with the women who work there. We send him our best wishes and ask you to keep him, and the community of Muhuroni, in your prayers.



Ten:Ten
Resources

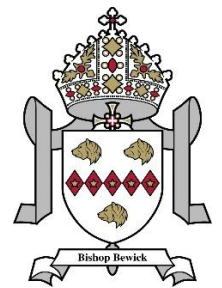
Ten Ten Parent Newsletter

You can access the latest parental newsletter from Ten Ten which shares the key messages, prayers and opportunities for worship at home by clicking this link <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>



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Admissions – Year 7

A gentle reminder that application deadlines for a Year 7 school place is 31st October 2024.

Full details of the council's admission procedures, and how to apply, are available at my.northtyneside.gov.uk and in 'The Essential Guide to North Tyneside Schools' brochure



Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle – Year of Prayer

October encourages us all to pray through imaginative prayer or meditation.



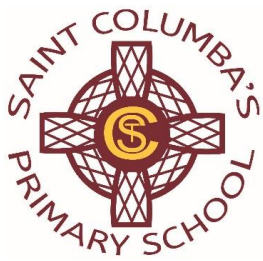
In meditation, we use this quality to free ourselves from defects, limitations and mould ourselves into what we truly wish to become. By meditating on love, little by little, we are transformed into love. By meditating on God, little by little, we are transformed into God. Thus, through meditation, we can realise our unlimited potentialities.

This link offered a guided meditation that can be done with children: [Guided Meditation for Children | THE GRATITUDE TREE | Kids Meditation for Happiness \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Diary Dates

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

New **Friday 18th October** – Drop in session for parents from 2.30pm. Any parents are welcome to drop in to talk to our new parent governor, Hayley Revell.



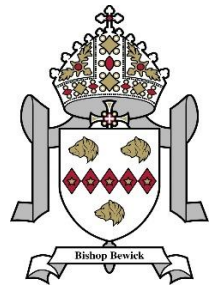
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New - **Wednesday 23rd October** - Year 4 Fairtrade breakfast at 9.15am. Family members of Year 4 are welcome to come and sample the children's fairtrade cereal bars that they have been making in Design and Technology.

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

New **Thursday 24th October** - PTA Decorate a Pumpkin competition

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

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

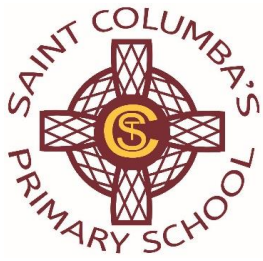
Friday 25th October - School closes to staff and pupils for October half term

Monday 4th November - School reopens to staff and pupils

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.

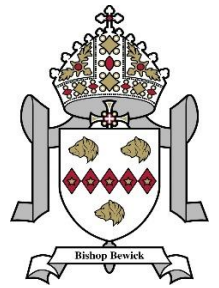
Friday 8th November - Northumbria Police education team will be delivering workshops to Year 5 and Year 6 children around the use of social media.

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.



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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.

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

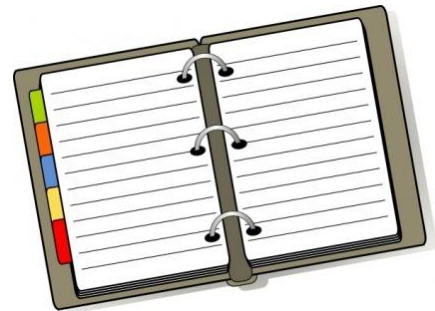
Year 2 – Friday 6th December at 2pm

Year 3 – Friday 13th December at 2pm

Year 4 – Tuesday 10th December at 2pm

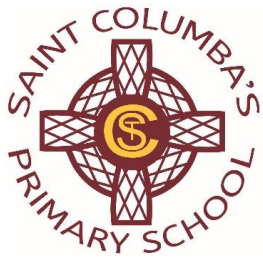
Year 5 – Thursday 12th December at 2pm

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.



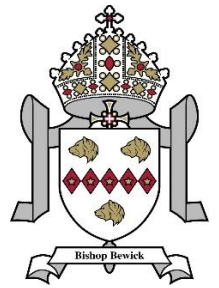
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Friday 20th December – School closes to staff and pupils for the Christmas break.