

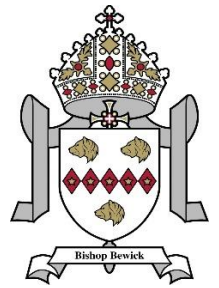
St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

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,

This week, we took part in the 'Great Big Live Assembly' to celebrate Black History Month. We have also had lots of AMAZING contributions to our competition asking children to represent 'Similar but Unique'. All entries will be shared with the children next week and we will be asking them to vote for a winner!



On Wednesday, Year 4 represented us in the North Tyneside Tag Rugby family festival. They worked together as a team brilliantly and also helped to trial new team sports hoodies! Thank you to Mrs Maddison and Mrs Weir who accompanied the children on this trip.

On Thursday, members of Mini Vinnies attended Mass at St Columba's parish and then helped with their MacMillian Coffee Morning. The children were a credit to the school and the parishioners commented on their excellent manners and social skills. Thank you to Mrs Watson for taking the children on Thursday.

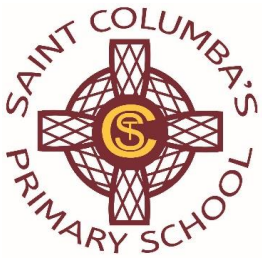
We've also elected our school council this week – well done to all those who have been voted to represent their class!

We have reintroduced house points across the school for children who display behaviour that relates to our BELONG values. Well done to everyone who has collected house points this week! All children have been allocated to 'St Aidan' (green), 'St Bede' (blue), 'St Cuthbert' (red) and 'St Hilda' (yellow).



And, finally, Reception and Year 6 parents were treated to a gorgeous buddy assembly this morning to introduce our buddy system. We look forward to seeing the special friendships between Reception and Year 6 children develop across the year – there were already some big hugs in assembly this morning!

Phew! What a busy week!



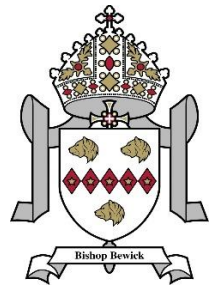
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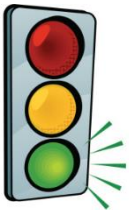
Below, you will find key messages and information. Attached to the Iona Star is a guide for both parents and school staff – this week's focus is on 'Sharing Photos Online.' Also attached are posters from the PTA about our Halloween Disco, Pumpkin competition and Break the Rules day next week.

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 93.5%. 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 5 are the winners of our attendance trophy with an amazing overall attendance of 98%. Congratulations!

Keep an eye out on X (@stcolumbasrc) for Mrs Craggs' attendance updates!

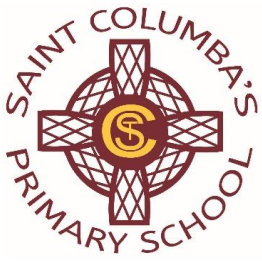
Pupil Permissions and Parent Contact Information



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.



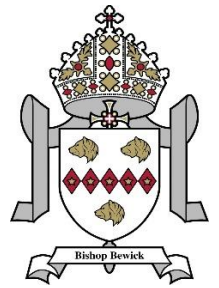
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Mini Vinnies – Food Bank Collection

As part of our Harvest Festival Celebration, Mini Vinnies are asking you to support their Food Bank collection.

It will run all next week and the week after the half term. We know many families are finding the cost of living difficult, however, if you can donate even one item to the Food Bank we would be very grateful. Items needed include tins, rice, flour sugar, coffee, biscuits, shampoo, soap and toothpaste. Thank you for your continued support.



School Uniform



Hopefully, all parents received an email yesterday reminding them of the expectations for school uniform and PE kit.

We will be working to address any uniform issues that are not following the policy after October half term. Please do let us know if you need any support with this.

Forest School Grant

We are delighted to be shortlisted for a 'Community Funding' grant to make improvements to our 'Forest School' area. The application has now gone to a voting system. It takes two minutes to log a vote! Please share far and wide!

<https://form.jotform.com/242891475932366> Thank you so much!

Miss O'Connor (Forest School Lead)

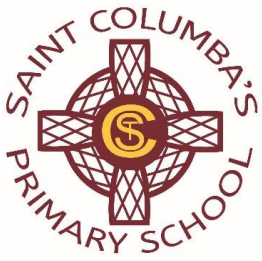
Hayley Revell (Parent Governor)



EYFS Outdoor Area and Forest School Provision



We would be grateful for any donations of any items for our outdoor and forest areas. Miss O'Connor is seeking: frying pans, woks, saucepans, old utensils, silicone cookware, camping cups, grow bags and planters. Please could any donations be brought to her at the Nursery door. Thank you.



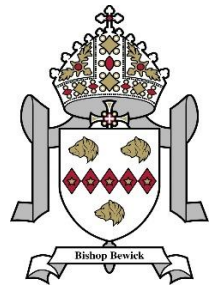
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Ten Ten Parent Newsletter

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/>



Parent Feedback



At St Columba's, we are keen to continue working with parents to ensure that our school community thrives. If you ever have any questions, queries or concerns, the door is always open for you to discuss this with staff.

Appointments can be made via the school office on scpschool@stcolumbasprimary.co.uk or 01912623098

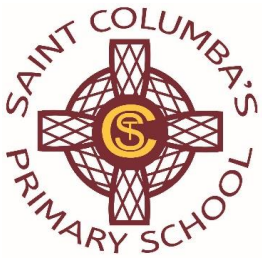
Diary Dates

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. **As this will take place in the classroom, this event is limited to one family member per child, thank you**

New - **Wednesday 23rd October** - Year 2 - Year 6 will be taking part in film workshops with BigFoot Arts

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

Thursday 24th October - Halloween Disco, please see the posters attached for more information



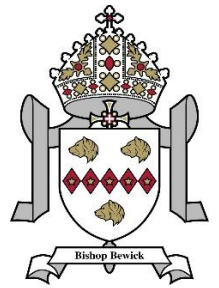
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Thursday 24th October – PTA Decorate a Pumpkin competition please see the posters attached for more information

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.

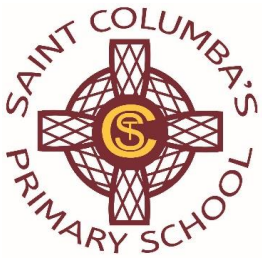
Friday 8th November – Northumbria Police education team will be delivering workshops to Year 5 and Year 6 children around the use of social media.

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.

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



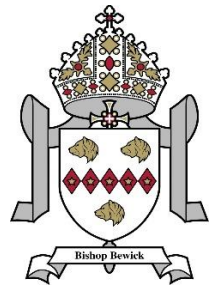
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Monday 25th November and Wednesday 27th November – Parents Evenings. All parents will be invited to book an appointment with their class teacher via SchoolCloud two weeks before this date. Appointments are in person, for 10 minutes and will be available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

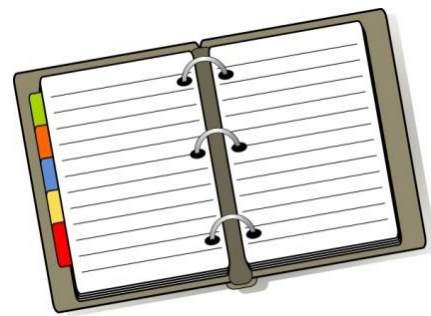
Year 2 – Friday 6th December at 2pm

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.

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