



St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss. R. Quinn



Iona Star – 20th June 2025

St Columba's Families,

We hope that you have been enjoying the wonderful summer weather!



This week, the whole school has been supporting Refugee Week – with stories, videos and pieces of work exploring the lives of refugees. Children have been putting themselves in others' shoes to consider how they may feel if they were in this situation.

Also this week, Year 5 and Year 3 have continued their pedestrian training with hands on experience of how to be safe on the roads.

Year 2 took part in an Athletics family festival with other North Tyneside schools – they enjoyed the different activities and races! Well done!

Year 6 have had a busy week! They attended an event yesterday at Wallsend Boy's Club where they experienced football, cricket, rugby, dodgeball and some traditional games. The event showcased the fantastic sporting clubs and resources that are on offer to the children within Wallsend – we will be sharing further details of the supporting clubs in due course. Year 6 also enjoyed a 'Beekeeping Workshop' today from the comfort of their own classroom where they were able to learn about the honey making process. They've also created a scarecrow for the friends of the Rising Sun scarecrow trail and will be part of the Rising Sun Countryside Centre's summer fayre, which is taking place on Thursday 24th July. The theme was superheroes and princesses – they've gone for the 'BELONG BOSS' to match our BELONG values.



Today, Year 4 have 'taken over' Segedunum Museum and enjoyed showing their parents around and sharing their knowledge of Roman British History!

Below, you will find key dates and messages. Also attached to the newsletter is a leaflet for staff and parents, the focus this week is on 'YouTube Kids'. If you have any questions about anything in the newsletter, or if there is anything that we can help with, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Take care and enjoy the sunshine! Miss Quinn

Attendance and Punctuality



Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 for this week has been **93.2%**. We are in the **amber zone** and we are not meeting our targets set by the Department for Education (96%).

We are, however, delighted to announce that Reception are the winners of our attendance trophy with an attendance of 99.3% this week. Congratulations!

Wellbeing Hub

Through our partnerships with Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust, we are pleased to be able to offer all parents, staff and children aged 10+ access to a wealth of information through The Wellbeing Hub.

Positive mental health is fundamental to young people's ability to thrive and make the most of the opportunities available to them while at school. By collaborating with The Wellbeing Hub, we aim to equip all our staff and parents with the knowledge, understanding, and strategies to support our pupils effectively. To register, please use this link or QR code.

<https://club.teentips.co.uk/register/parents/?ca=1b5372e0e7384337b68bf150a0f7c597>



Parents at St Columbas' Catholic Primary School



The Wellbeing Hub
— from Teen Tips —



This week's content

Week commencing 23rd June 2025

PODCAST: Parenting for prevention - self-harm and eating disorders with Dr Tara Porter, Clinical Psychologist and International Bestselling Author

Listen now: club.teentips.co.uk

Ten Ten Parent Newsletter

Ten:Ten
Resources

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/>

Diary Dates for Parents – Summer 2025

Thursday 26th June – Year 5 visiting The Centre for Life

Wednesday 25th June – Year 6 visiting St Dominic's

Thursday 26th June – Year 3 parents who are interested in their children making their First Holy Communion in Year 4 are welcome to a short meeting with Fr David in the school hall at 9am

Friday 27th June – Year 6 at Youth Ministry Team festival

Friday 27th June – Year 2 class assembly. Family members are welcome to the hall for a 9.15am start.

Monday 30th June – Meeting for families of children starting Reception in September. 9.15am start

Tuesday 1st July – Year 6 at Holy Island with Our Lady of Lourdes parish schools with Fr David

Tuesday 1st July – Sports Day for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. This will be a 2.00pm start and family members are welcome to attend.

Wednesday 2nd July – Sports Day for Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. This will be a 2.00pm start and family members are welcome to attend.

Thursday 3rd July – Sports 'Stay and Play' for Nursery. Family members are welcome to stay for the first hour of the day

Thursday 3rd July – Year 2 visit to the watchtower at Tynemouth

Thursday 3rd July – Year 4 Holy Communion Mass and Celebration. Further information to follow

Friday 4th July – Year 3 visit to Sealife Centre

Friday 4th July – Senior leaders and governors will be available for parents to 'drop in' and discuss any issues, concerns or raise any suggestions for next academic year. Please join us if you can!

Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th July – Year 6 pupils who are transitioning to St Thomas More will have two days there, more information to follow

Monday 7th July – Nursery visit to Richardson Dees park

Monday 7th July – Year 1 visit to Sealife Centre

Tuesday 8th July – KS2 SATs results are made available to schools

Tuesday 8th July – Teddy Bear's Picnic for Year 5 and Nursery. Children need to bring a teddy bear or soft toy from home. They will meet their 'Buddy' for the new academic year

new Tuesday 8th July – Year 6 'Make £5 Grow' market. Year 6 are taking part in an enterprising experience called 'Make £5 Grow' – they will be setting up their own market stalls for the rest of the school on Tuesday afternoon. Other classes will need a small amount of money if they wish to purchase anything. Market stalls can also be visited by parents and children the rest of the week after school as the Year 6 children will be set up outside the building.

Wednesday 9th July – Year 6 and Reception buddies visit to Tynemouth Beach

Thursday 10th July – Year 6 leaver's mass with North Tyneside Roman Catholic family. This is in the afternoon at Our Lady and St Columba church. Unfortunately, we can not invite family members due to space restrictions

Friday 11th July – Reception and Year 6 final Buddy assembly at 9.15am. Family members are welcome to the hall

Friday 11th July – Reports will be given to parents

Monday 14th July – Report drop in (optional) for parents. Parents are welcome to drop in at any time, without an appointment from 4.00pm to 5.00pm

Tuesday 15th July – Whole school Mass in the hall with Fr David at 2.15pm. Family members are welcome to book a space through the school office.

Tuesday 15th July – End of year Disco. More information to follow from the PTA.

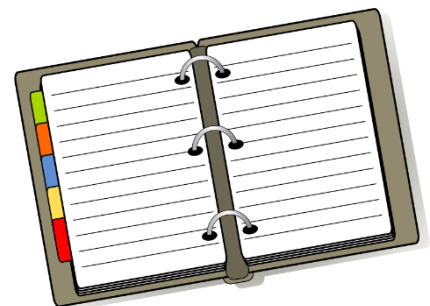
Wednesday 16th July – Year 6 Leavers Assembly in the school hall. Family members are welcome for a 6pm start

Thursday 17th July – Break the Rules. More information to follow from the PTA

Thursday 17th July – Year 6 parents will be welcome to join us in the afternoon for leavers activities. Further information to follow

Thursday 17th July – School closes to pupils and staff for the summer holidays.

School opens to all pupils on Tuesday 2nd September 2025.





HEATON STAN JUNIORS

UNDER 7 OPEN TRAINING SESSION

*For players going into school Year 2
in September 2025*

**Saturday 21st June
10am – 11am**

**Paddy Freemans Park, Freeman Road
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 2EY**

Contact 07715 207722 for more info

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS



YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

BE WARY OF ADVERTISING



Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE



YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED



YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION



There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading 'scientific' videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

DATA COLLECTION RISK



While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS



YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

SET TIME LIMITS



The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

CHECK WATCH HISTORY



YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Recommended' icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.

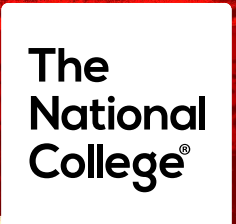
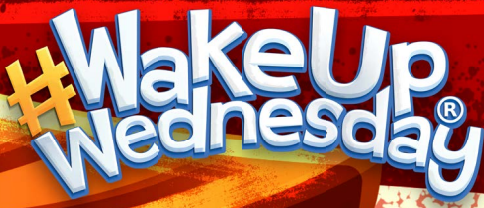
WATCH TOGETHER



It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, Tes, The INQUIRER, The Metro, Uswitch, and WIRED.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youtube-kids-2025>