

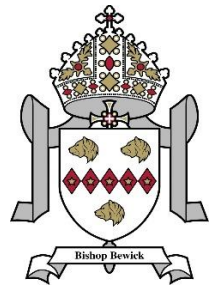
St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

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 – 8th November 2024

St Columba's Families,

We celebrated the end of our first week back after half term with our 'Good Work' assembly this morning – there were certificates for academic work, for children's personal qualities and personal successes. We also appointed some further BELONG ambassadors for demonstrating our core values. It was also fantastic to appoint our new house captains and vice captains for St Aidan, St Bede, St Cuthbert and St Hilda.

Year 2 enjoyed a workshop all about George Stephenson on Thursday to support their History learning.

Year 5 and 6 had classroom visits from Northumbria Police this week to help educate them on the safe use of social media and the risks involved.

Our outdoor Remembrance display is taking shape. All children will be adding to this on Monday. We are asking for 50p which will be donated to the Royal British Legion, if you feel that you can contribute and you have not done so already. A huge thank you to all of the staff who have knitted poppies, sold luggage tags and put together the display – it looks wonderful.

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 'Horror Films and Age Ratings'.

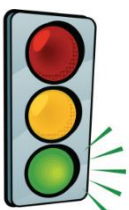
Have a lovely weekend.

Take care,
Miss Quinn

Our outdoor Remembrance display



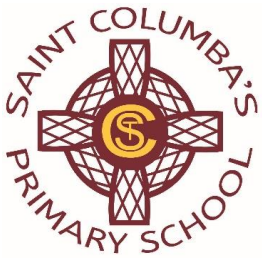
Attendance and Punctuality



Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 for this week has been 95.4%. We are JUST 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 Year 6 are winners of our attendance trophy with an amazing attendance of 100% EVERY DAY this week. Congratulations!

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



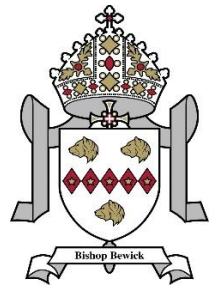
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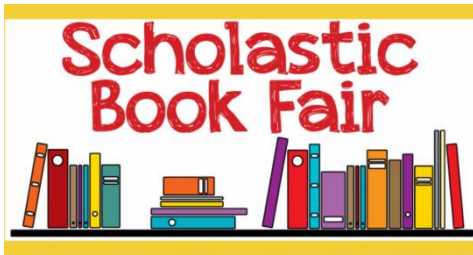


Stay and Write – Parent Sessions

As we did last year with Maths and Reading, we are offering parents the opportunity to stay at school for the first lesson of the day and take part in a Writing lesson with their child. Due to limited space, this can only be one family member per child. We hope that you are able to join us! The dates for each class can be seen in the diary dates below.



Scholastic Book Fair



Also attached to the Iona Star is information about the Scholastic Book Fair which will be visiting school from 12th November to 19th November. This will be held in our old Activity Centre. Please note, that we do not have a card reader. Therefore, payments must be made online, using [Find school – Scholastic Book Fairs](#) and by selecting our school from the drop down menu.

Alternatively, vouchers from £5 to £25 can be purchased for your child to spend via [Book Fair Gift Vouchers – Scholastic Book Fairs](#)

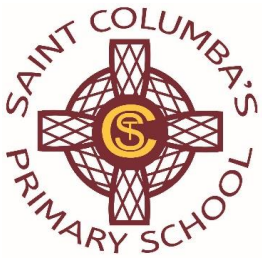
After School Clubs

Parents have hopefully received some information regarding clubs which are starting after the October half term. We will be starting:

- MultiSports on a Monday (Y1, Y2 and Y3) with Lewis, our sports coach
- MultiSports on a Friday (Y4, Y5 and Y6) with Lewis, our sports coach
- Choir at lunchtimes with Mrs Harris
- Mini Vinnies at lunchtimes with Mrs Watson
- Lego League (Y5 and Y6) on a Thursday with Mr Gillie and Miss Barnett
- YMCA (by invitation) on a Thursday
- Drama (Y4, Y5 and Y6) on a Tuesday with Mrs Whitelaw
- Calm Kids Club (Y1 – Y6) on a Monday with Miss O'Connor



Come along and join in some great extracurricular activities! If you need any further information, please contact the school office.



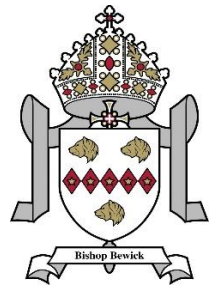
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Outdoor Christmas Market



Our Lady and St Columba parish church will be holding their annual outdoor Christmas market on Saturday 23rd November at 5.30pm. Come along to browse the stalls, take part in the raffle or enjoy some refreshments. Our school choir will also be singing on the steps of church for the first part of the evening so please come along to show your support!

Flu Vaccinations

A reminder that children who have been signed up to the NHS flu vaccinations will be receiving these within school on Monday 11th November.



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! Closing date is 15th November. Please share far and wide!
<https://form.jotform.com/242891475932366> Thank you so much!

Miss O'Connor (Forest School Lead)

Hayley Revell (Parent Governor)

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/>

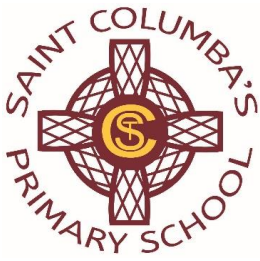
Ten:Ten
Resources

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



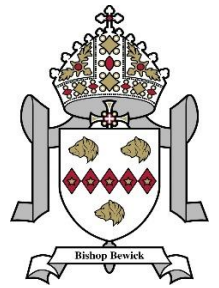
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Diary Dates

WB Monday 11th November – SEND parent review meetings.

WB Monday 11th November – Internal school assessment week. All pupils in Year 2 – Year 6 will complete assessments.

Tuesday 12th November – Odd Socks Day! Wear your odd socks proudly to show support for AntiBullying week and the fact that we are all different and unique.

Tuesday 12th November – 19th November – Scholastic Book Fair will be running in our old Activity Centre from 3.30pm after school each day.

Updated Friday 15th November – Children in Need. Wear your spots to school for a voluntary donation to Children in Need! Merchandise will be available to purchase, if you wish.

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

New Stay and Write Parent Sessions –

Monday 18th November – 9.15am to 10.00am – Year 5 and Year 6 parents are welcome

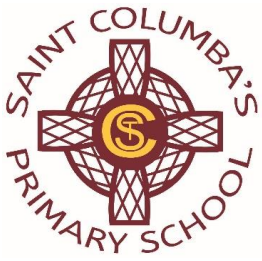
Tuesday 19th November – 9.15am to 10.00am – Reception and Year 3 parents are welcome

Wednesday 20th November – 9.15am to 10.00am – Year 2 and Year 1 parents are welcome

Thursday 21st November – 9.15am to 10.00am – Nursery and Year 4 parents are welcome

New Wednesday 20th November – Year 6 class trip to the cinema

New Saturday 23rd November – Outdoor Christmas market at Our Lady and St Columba parish church at 5.30pm. School choir will be asked to attend if possible.



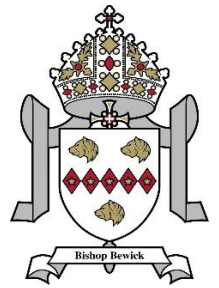
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Monday 25th November – White Ribbon Day. The start of 16 Days of action with North Tyneside are an opportunity to reflect on how we can all promote healthy, respectful and equitable relationships

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.

New **Wednesday 27th November** – Reception – Year 6 trip to Customs House (South Shields) for the pantomime 'Mother Goose'.

New **Friday 29th November** – Bring and Buy sale. Have a clear out before Christmas and donate your old toys, books and games. There will also be stalls and games set up for the children to take part in. This will be during school time and is for children only.

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

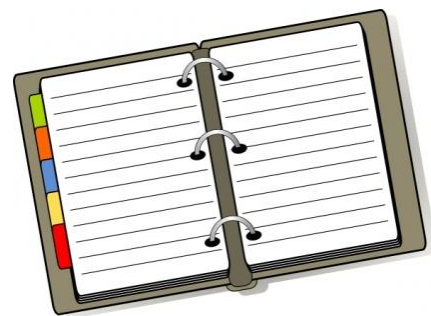
Year 2 – Friday 6th December at 2pm

Year 3 – Friday 13th December at 2pm

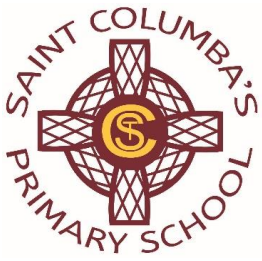
Year 4 – Tuesday 10th December at 2pm

Year 5 – Thursday 12th December at 2pm

Year 6 – Monday 16th December at 2pm



New **Wednesday 11th December** – Christmas Movie Night – Year 4 to Year 6. Further information to follow



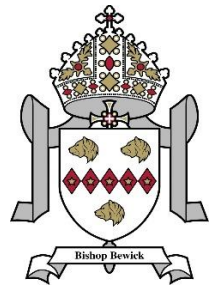
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WB Monday 16th December – further information to follow

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

New Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Dinner Day. Wear your Christmas jumper!

New Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Movie Night – Year 1 to Year 3. Further information to follow

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

Outdoor Christmas Market

Saint Columba's, Carville Road

Wallsend

Saturday 23rd November 2024

5.30pm

Come along and see Santa!

Bottle

Mystery

Tombola

Tombola

Raffle

Cake and Bake

Stall

Christmas Craft Stall

Refreshments

Mulled Wine & Hot Dogs



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.

REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them; this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

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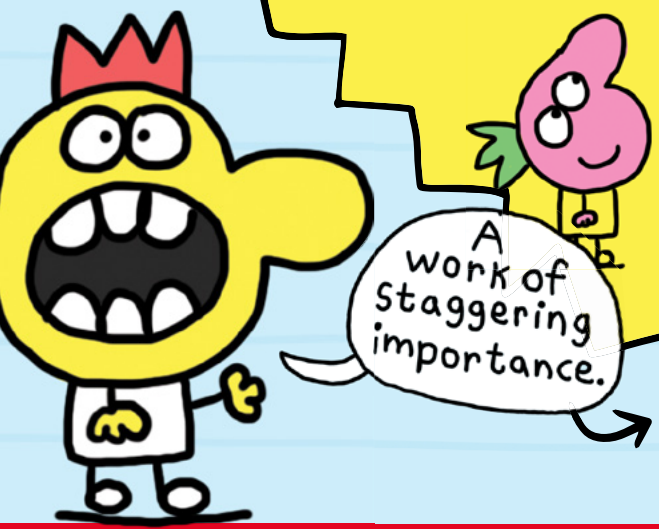
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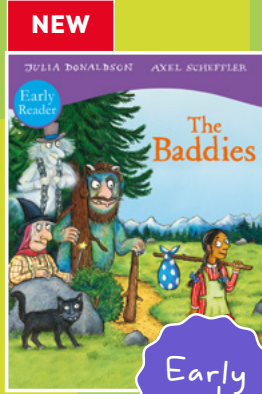
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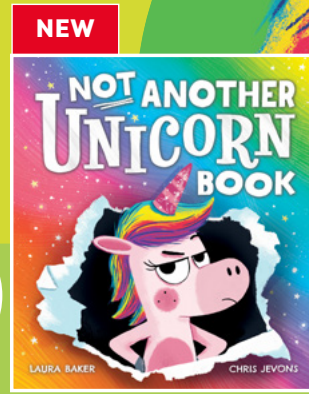
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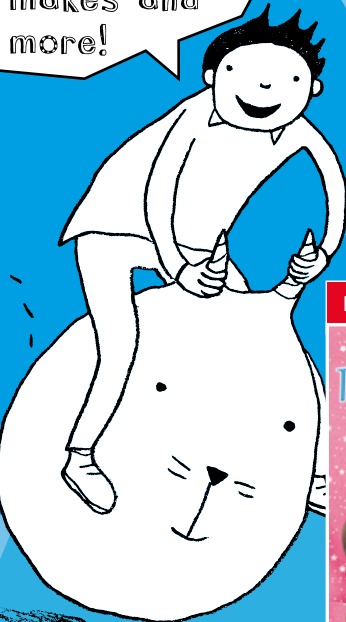
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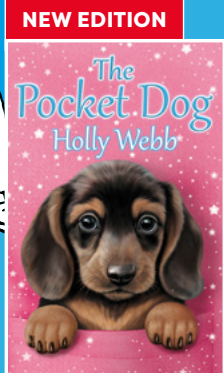
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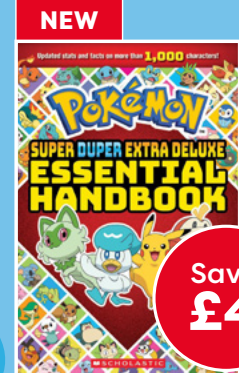
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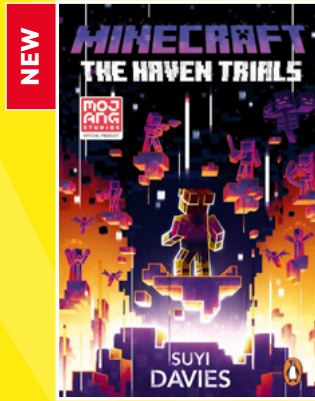
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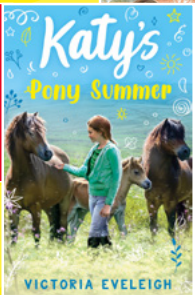
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- If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List – please ask your SCHOOL for details.

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