



Iona Star

Friday 11th February 2022
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St. Columba's Roman
Catholic Primary School -
Wallsend

Half Term Holiday

School closes on Friday 18th February 2022 for one week for the half term holiday. School will reopen again to all pupils on Monday 28th February.

Safer Internet Day

On 8th February, we promoted 'Safer Internet Day'. Please find attached to the Iona Star tonight, a parents leaflet from the Northumbria Police Prevention Through Education Team. The leaflet includes information regarding steps parents can take to help to keep your child safer online. We hope this is useful.

Children's Mental Health Week

This week we have celebrated Children's Mental Health week. Miss O'Connor is our mental health champion. She has delivered assemblies to KS1 and KS2 on taking care of their mental health, talking about their feelings and recognising healthy/unhealthy emotions. If you or your child ever have any mental health concerns, please contact school and we can offer support or advice. Thank you.

Childline Kids

Childline Kids has a special area of the Childline website specifically for children under the age of 12. *Childline Kids* has child-friendly advice on topics such as family and relationships, school worries, self-esteem, coronavirus, staying safe and bullying. It also features games, videos and friendly illustrations, providing a fun and reassuring safe space for children online.

Help is always available by calling Childline free on 0800 1111 at any time. Children can also log in and chat to a counsellor online - it's a safe area for children to share how they are feeling.

We would highly recommend parents and children visit the website to find out more: childline.org.uk/kids

NUF Holiday Courses

Newcastle United Foundation are running their local holiday courses for February Half Term which will be taking place at Goals, Gosforth Park, Newcastle from Monday 21st-Thursdays 24th February. The cost is £50 per child for the 4 days. Sessions will run from 9.30am - 3.30pm. To book a place, please visit [NUF Foundation](http://NUF.Foundation) or phone: 0344 372 1892 ext 84

Slimming World

Slimming World, in partnership with North Tyneside Council, are offering FREE access to your local Slimming World group!

If this interests you and you're a resident of North Tyneside, please click this [link](#) to find out more.

Places are limited so check it out early to avoid disappointment! Please note eligibility criteria applies.

Congratulations

Well done to James in Reception who has achieved his Level 1 in swimming.

Following a successful audition last week, we are delighted to announce that Lila in Y5 will be playing the role of Brigitta in *The Sound of Music*. This will be on at The Customs House in South Shields this summer! What an amazing opportunity - congratulations Lila!

Sacramental Preparation - Y4

Just a reminder for parents that the second Sacramental Preparation session will be held for the Y4 children after school on **Thursday 17th February**. Children can be collected from the Y4 Fire Door at 5:00pm. Many thanks.

Mini Vinnies

Don't forget that, running until Friday 18th February, our Mini Vinnies are asking for donations of £1 towards a guide dog sponsorship. Children who donate can choose the name to put on a dog tag. On Friday 18th, we will draw out two 'dog tags' and the winners will receive a small cuddly dog to say thank you for donating! 'Dog tag' tickets will be on sale daily. Please put your donation in an envelope with your child's name on the front. Thank you.

Once we start the sponsorship, the school will receive updates on our puppy throughout its training. We are sure you agree it is a worthy cause which our Mini Vinnies have wanted to be involved with for some time. We look forward to sponsoring our Guide Dog very soon!

COVID-19 Updates

Thank you so much for your ongoing support and understanding with regards to helping to slow the transmission of Covid-19. It has been another reassuring week with cases on a downward trend.

We currently only have two pupils isolating throughout the whole school. We would ask parents to please remain vigilant for symptoms of Covid-19, or any other general signs that your child is unwell. Where parents feel it is appropriate, we would still recommend the use of regular lateral flow tests at this present time.

St. Columba's Parish Fundraiser

St. Columba's Church are holding a fundraiser on **Saturday 19th February 2022** from 7:00pm - 11:00pm at the Lindisfarne. Events on the night include a pie and pea supper, bingo, a raffle and two excellent bands to dance the night away! Tickets are priced at £8 each and are available after all weekend Masses. All funds raised will go towards the cost of the new roof and building project at St. Columba's Church. It would be wonderful to see you there.