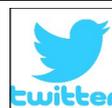


Iona Star

Friday 18th March 2022
www.stcolumbasprimary.co.uk



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Wallsend

Lenten Soup Lunches

Our Mini Vinnies from Year 6 will be serving Lenten lunch at Our Lady and St. Columba's Church on Thursday 24th March at 12pm. Parents are welcome to attend. All proceeds will go towards the CAFOD Walk for Hunger appeal.

'Wor Flags' NUF Competition

Newcastle United Foundation has teamed up with 'Wor Flags' supporters' group to create a fantastic opportunity for one lucky fan.

'Wor Flags' are looking for a creative, A4 **portrait sized** flag to display at St James' Park.

Your task is to create your masterpiece based on one (or both!) of the following...your love for:

- City of Newcastle
- Newcastle United Football Club

This opportunity is open to Key Stage 2 children only. Designs need to be created and submitted to school by **Tuesday 22nd March**. Please make sure that your name, school and age is clearly marked on the back of your design.

There are 29 schools in the competition. The winning flag design from each school will be sent to the Foundation where the best 10 will be selected by a neutral panel. The chosen 10 will then be welcomed to St. James' Park to present their flag to a judging panel where 'Wor Flags' will select their favourite design. The winning flag will be on display this season and the lucky winner will get to come to the game and wave it for its debut! Good luck everyone!

Social Media

As parents are aware, the use of Social Media brings many benefits to us all. However, it can also cause concerns for friendship issues and online safety. Over recent weeks, we have spoken to parents about issues children have raised concerning year group / friendship chat groups in Years 4, 5 and 6.

One of the more concerning aspects of this is the time of the day at which these chat group notifications or calls are happening.

Children have reported to their teachers that they have been woken up as early as 6:00am or disturbed as late as 10:00pm when phone notifications have pinged or ring tones have been heard. Embarrassment has also been caused if the children are answering their phones in bed or when they are getting changed.

Could we please ask all parents for your support in this matter. On occasions, children in Key Stage 2 are coming into school very tired and sometimes upset from things that have happened on Social Media chat groups early in the morning or late at night. Parents may wish to discuss this with their children over the weekend and take this opportunity to monitor the use of children's social media accounts and chat history. If anyone would like any support with this, please contact school.

Congratulations

Well done to Scarlett in Y2 who has two wonderful medals for 2nd place achievements in her dance competition at the weekend. Scarlett competed in ballet and modern dance. Excellent work!

Congratulations to Jessica in Y5 who has achieved her silver award at Guides this week. She is the first person in her unit to gain this award. She has worked incredibly hard to receive this, completing activities such as baking, crafts, gardening, recycling and collecting. Fantastic work Jessica!

Well done to Lila-Rose in Y5 who took part in a dance competition at the weekend and was awarded four 1st place medals and one 2nd place medal, as well as six trophies for highest overall marks and most entertaining! Wow! Fabulous achievements Lila-Rose, we loved the photo of your medals and trophies. Keep dancing!

Congratulations to Alfie C in Y1 who has a fabulous medal and certificate for coming 3rd place in a skiing competition. I think this is the first skiing competition we have ever recorded on the Iona Star!

Sacramental Preparation - Y4

Just a reminder for parents that the sixth Sacramental Preparation session will be held for the Y4 children after school on **Thursday 24th March**. All parents are invited into the Hall at 4:45pm to share their special reflection and liturgy. Children will then be dismissed from the hall at 5:00pm. Thank you.

Fairtrade Fortnight!

Congratulations to our Y4 Mini Vinnies! They have been exceptional during Fairtrade Fortnight selling sweet treats to the rest of the school. Alan Sugar would have been proud of their sales pitches! All of the profits raised will be sent to Cafod's Ukraine appeal.

PE Festivals

Slowly, sporting festivals are returning to normal. As a whole class, our Y5s are part of two big events this half term. Firstly, they attended the Dance Festival at Whitley Bay Playhouse on Wednesday of this week. They were absolutely tremendous and danced perfectly! Their teachers were so proud.

The whole class skipping festival has been postponed to Tuesday 5th April. More information will follow. Well done Year 5!

Parents' Evening Appointments

Next week, we will be moving to an **online** booking system for parents' evening appointments. This will be via the School Gateway App which some parents use for Breakfast and After School Club bookings.

All parents will need to download this app to book parents' evening times and to pay for school lunches with our new catering provider. Look out for more information to follow next week. Thank you