



Iona Star

Friday 25th March 2022
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St. Columba's Roman
Catholic Primary School -
Wallsend

Lenten Soup Lunches

Thank you so much to our Y6 Mini Vinnies who helped to serve Lenten lunches to the parishioners at St. Columba's Church yesterday afternoon. They made fabulous waitresses, offered service with a smile and sold raffle tickets! Well done girls, we were very proud of you.

'Wor Flags' NUF Competition

Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to enter the 'Wor Flags' NUF competition. There were some amazing designs. Once the judging has taken place, a winner from each class will be announced during Celebration Assembly next week and then two overall entries from our school will be put through to the next stage of the competition. Good luck everyone!

Sacramental Preparation - Y4

Just a reminder for parents that the seventh Sacramental Preparation session will be held for the Y4 children after school on **Thursday 31st 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.

Online Safety - Safety Cards

As part of our commitment to educating children and parents about safety when using social media apps and online games, we will be publishing 'Safety Cards' each week on the Iona Star. These are 'quick reads' designed to give parents hints and tips around online safety when using specific apps.

The Safety Card highlights the age restriction and gives easy to follow information around how to block or report concerns.

Attached to the Iona Star tonight is a Safety Card for Minecraft and one for TikTok.

Two more cards will be published next week.

If parents would like any further information about this, please ring the school office.

Closure of After School Club - 08.04.2022

After School Club will be closed on **Friday 8th April** only. This is to allow for a deep clean of the toys, resources and Activity Centre in preparation for the Summer term. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Breakfast Club will be open as usual.

Teacher Training Virtual Drop-In Session

Are you interested in a career in teaching? Carmel Teacher Training Partnership will be hosting a virtual drop-in session on **Monday 4th April** via TEAMS from 10:00am to 10:30am. To book a place, please email:

teachertraining@carmel.bhcet.org.uk

Or visit their website for further information:

Carmel Teacher Training

Covid Updates

For the first three weeks after the half term break we had no reported positive cases of Covid-19 in school. However, this week has seen an increase in positive cases in Upper Key Stage 2.

We would like to remind all parents to remain vigilant to the signs and symptoms of Covid-19 and test your children using a lateral flow device if you have any concerns. If pupils do test positive, they are then required to isolate for up to 10 days. After day 5, if pupils have two negative LFD tests, 24 hours apart, they can return to school. Thank you for your support

Parents' Evening Appointments

A reminder that parents' evenings will take place on the following days:

Nursery and Reception:

Wednesday 30th March and Wednesday 6th April
Year 1 to Year 6

Monday 4th April and Wednesday 6th April

We hope that parents have managed to book their appointments via our new online system and that you have found this quicker and more efficient.

A very small number of parents have had trouble booking. This has been caused when data entered has not matched the information in our database. Parents' and pupils' full and legal forenames and surnames must match the information held on our data collection sheets. If parents are having trouble, please do not hesitate to contact school and ask to check the information held on our database.

A reminder that to book or amend any appointments, please click the following link: [SchoolCloud](#)
Bookings will **CLOSE** on Tuesday 29th March at 12 noon for Nursery and Reception and Friday 1st April at 12 noon for Years 1 to Year 6. Thank you.

Parents can now attend together. There is no limit on attendance since restrictions have been lifted. However, we are asking all parents to enter and exit via the classroom fire doors and to walk around the outside of the premises rather than through school. This will reduce the volume of parents waiting in our small, narrow corridors.

We are therefore asking parents to please try to attend on time and stay for the allotted 10 minutes only. If parents have more questions, or would like more detail following the 10 minute appointment, please contact school or your child's class teacher and a follow up appointment can be arranged.

It is so important that teachers keep to time, where possible, in order to reduce waiting times. Please be mindful of your 10 minutes and if parents need longer discussions, staff will ask you to make another appointment. Thank you for your support in this matter. We look forward to seeing you all over the next couple of weeks.