



Iona Star

Friday 13th January 2023
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Catholic Primary School -
Wallsend

Happy New Year!

We hope you have all had a peaceful Christmas and enjoyed the celebrations with your family and friends. We hope you had a well deserved rest!

The staff and governors at St. Columba's would like to wish you and your families a very **Happy New Year** and best wishes for 2023!

The staff would like to say **thank you so much** once again to all parents and pupils for your generous Christmas gifts, good wishes, cards and donations.

The children have had a really settled first week back. We gave out some fabulous certificates in Celebration Assembly this morning. Don't forget to check Seesaw to see if your child has been awarded a 'Good Work' certificate.

PE Lessons / Newcastle United Sessions

Please remember that your child needs to come into school wearing their PE kit on their allocated days listed below. PE will be outside where possible, so please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately, and warmly, for the weather that day and is wearing suitable footwear. Many thanks.

Reception - Thursday and Friday

Year 1 - Tuesday and Friday

Year 2 - Friday (longer lesson)

Year 3 - Thursday and Friday

Year 4 - Wednesday and Thursday

Year 5 - Thursday and Friday

Year 6 - Friday (double lesson)

A Message from our School Cook

Next week, we will begin Week 1 of the published lunch menus. These are attached to the Iona Star tonight.

During Week 2 - which will commence on 23rd January - we will no longer be serving cottage pie. This will now be replaced with pasta bolognese. The vegetarian option will remain the same. Thank you.

Safety Concerns on Station Road

Parents will remember that representatives from our school and Governing Committee have been liaising with the Local Council and Police regarding our concerns for the safety of our children when crossing Station Road.

We are delighted to announce that a meeting will be held in a couple of weeks time where representatives from the various external agencies will be present. We will be sharing your concerns and our worries around the safety of our community when entering and exiting school.

We will keep parents informed of any agreed actions after this meeting.

Newsletter Changes

Many of us are bombarded with emails and it is often difficult to keep track of important messages. We know that parents appreciate the Iona Star, however, we have also received feedback to say that it is not read weekly by all parents as it is just 'another' email in the inbox!

We have therefore decided to publish the Iona Star fortnightly. It will contain key and important information each fortnight. Hopefully, this will encourage all parents to read it every two weeks. If there are any urgent messages to share in that time, they will be sent on email via School Comms.

We will also be saving our 'Congratulations' section of the Iona Star and publishing this once every half term. This will now be called '**Our Iona Stars**' and will be a special edition of the newsletter dedicated to celebrating all of the children who have achieved awards, certificates and badges that half term.

Please encourage the children to come and show Mrs Garbutt their achievements and please continue to email additional information to Mrs Craggs. This information will be collected during the half term and published on our new '**Iona Stars**' newsletter each holiday.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Save the Date

The following classes will perform class assemblies for their parents this term. These will begin at 9:10am in the Hall. Please save the date!

Year 3 - Friday 3rd February

Year 2 - Thursday 2nd March

Year 1 - Friday 31st March

The following days are key dates for your diaries. Further information will follow later in the term.

Thursday 9th February - First Holy Communion sessions begin for Y4 pupils

Friday 10th February - Ukulele / Guitar performance for parents 2:30pm - Hall

Tuesday 14th February - Nursery Stay and Play (morning sessions to 10:30am)

Week beginning 20th February - school closed for half term

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day

Monday 27th March - Parents' Evening

Wednesday 29th March - Parents' Evening

Friday 31st March - school closes for Easter holidays