



Iona Star

Friday 26th May 2023
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St. Columba's Roman
Catholic Primary School -
Wallsend

NSPCC Assembly and Workshops

We are participating in the NSPCC's 'Speak out. Stay safe.' campaign this term. This a programme for children aged 5-11 years which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

'Speak out. Stay Safe.' is child friendly, aligned with the curriculum and consists of age appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom based activities. These have all been reviewed accordingly. Pupils in Year 5 and 6 will also take part in a face to face workshop led by an NSPCC volunteer.

Attached to the Iona Star tonight is a letter containing further information and important website links.

For parents of pupils in Year 5 and 6 details of a follow-up pupil survey is included. If you do not wish your child to take part in this survey, please complete the attached form and return it to school.

If parents have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Garbutt or Miss Quinn.

1st Wallsend Girls' Brigade Community Group

We are a uniformed youth group for girls and young women from all backgrounds. We meet at Trinity Methodist Church on a Tuesday from 5.15pm to 6.45pm. It's a safe environment where members can relate to one another, have fun, learn new skills, make a difference in their community, and discover more about the Christian faith.

We are recruiting to our n:vestigate group for 4-7 years and n:gage group for 8-11 years. Our work is delivered by trained volunteer leaders who are motivated by their faith, through provision of a structured weekly timetable of activities.

Members earn awards as well as taking part in additional activities such as fun days, sleepovers and residential events.

Our programme is varied but recent topics have included Our Feelings, Our Family and Helping Others. Our weekly activities enable girls and young women to grow and develop in confidence, resilience, wellbeing and life skills, whilst developing strong friendships, a sense of belonging, taking part in social action, and having great fun along the way! If anyone is interested in joining and would like more information, please contact Pam on: 07595759981 or by email: pam_9@outlook.com

Our Iona Stars

Please find attached a link to our latest edition of *Our Iona Stars!* Well done to everyone, we are very proud of your achievements and successes.

Lunch Menu

Please find attached the updated menus for after half term. There has been a slight change to weeks 2 / 3. We will begin with the menu for week 1 on 5th June.

Half Term Break

A reminder for parents that it is now our May half term break. School closes tonight and will open again to all pupils on Monday 5th June 2023. Have a wonderful week and enjoy the sunshine.

Holy Island

Our Year 5 pupils visited Holy Island this week. Without exception, all children have been an absolute credit to our school and their families. They have embraced the challenges, worked as a team, made lasting memories and had great fun! Well done everyone, we are very proud of you all.

These visits wouldn't be possible without the support of the staff who look after the pupils whilst they are away. Many thanks must go to Miss Shackford, Miss Quinn, Mrs Iliadou and Mrs Garbutt. If you haven't already, Year 5 Mums and Dads, have a look at the wonderful pictures and action shots on Seesaw!

Sacramental Preparation

We ask you to keep all of our Year 4 children who are making their First Holy Communion in your thoughts and prayers. We pray especially for Flynn, Jasmine, Leo and Josie who made their communion last week. We wish Maisie, Jacob, Joshua, George, Abbi, Leah and Charlotte a wonderful day this Saturday.

We have been so proud of the children. Their special day has been a privilege to be a part of and they have been a credit to our parish and school family.

Swimming Lessons in Year 5

Year 5 will begin their swimming sessions after half term from Monday 5th June to Friday 16th June. The coach will pick the children up after lunch and they will receive their lesson during the afternoon. Girls need to have full costumes and boys must not wear baggy shorts. All children will need a towel but will not be allowed to use shampoo, shower gel or deodorant spray. If parents have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Miss Shackford or Mrs Garbutt. Thank you.

St. Columba's Feast Day Celebrations

On Friday 9th June, we will be celebrating St. Columba's Feast Day. We are inviting the children to come into school in their own clothes.

Children will be off timetable and will complete fun activities linked to the life of St. Columba. At lunchtime, the children will all eat together on the field - Mellors will be providing the usual menu of fish or Quorn dippers and chips in cartons. There will be a change to the pudding for that day which will now be, a Rocket ice-lolly. We look forward to a fun day. Children can order a school dinner for this day in the usual way at a cost: £2.35 for paid meals and £2.10 for Nursery meals.