

St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

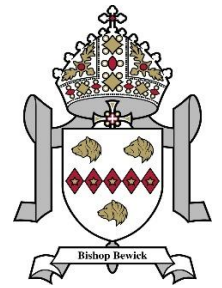
Station Road, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear. NE28 8EN

Telephone: 0191 262 3098 Website: www.stcolumbasprimary.co.uk

Email Address: scpschool@stcolumbasprimary.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. S. Foster

Head of School: Miss. R. Quinn



Iona Star - 15th September 2023

St Columba's Families,

Thank you all for your support this week. We celebrated our first 'Good Work' assembly within school this morning and there was lots to celebrate; well done to all of the children to received an award!

We also celebrated our first whole school Mass with Fr. David – it was lovely to see all of the children participate with enthusiasm and sing so beautifully. At Mass, two of our Mini Vinnies presented Fr. David with a donation for his charity in Muhoroni. This was raised in the Summer Term last year through the Fairtrade Tiffin sale. Fr. David is travelling to Kenya in two weeks, so we wish him luck for his travels and look forward to his updates when he returns.

Below, you will find key messages and information from this week. Please see updated PE days, diary dates and important Safeguarding information. Also attached to the Iona Star is a parental guide for helping to keep your child safe online – this week's focus is gaming.

You can access the latest parental newsletter from Ten Ten which shares the key messages, prayers and opportunities for worship at home by clicking this link: <http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

If you have any queries about anything in the Iona Star this week, or anything else that we can help with, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Have a lovely weekend!

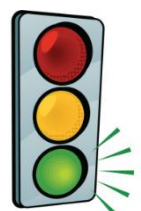
Miss Quinn

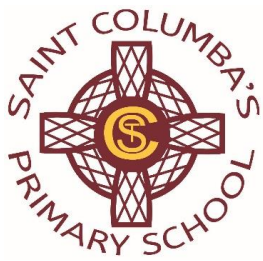


Attendance and Punctuality

Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 for this week has been **97.6%** This means that we are in the green zone and meeting our targets set by the Department for Education.

We are delighted to announce that **Year 1** are the joint winners of our attendance trophy with an overall attendance of **99.6%**. Congratulations!





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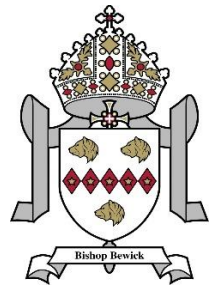
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Morning Routine

Thank you for your support with our changes to our morning routine. This seems to be working extremely well and is allowing children to settle quickly into classrooms, as well as allowing parents a speedy drop off!

Just a reminder that the school gates close at 8.55am. This is when registration begins in order for children to start their lessons at 9.00am. Thank you.

Year Group Email Addresses

Our individual year group email addresses continue to be a very popular way of sharing messages and important information between home and school. Just a reminder to parents that the email address is the name of the year group followed by @stcolumbasprimary.co.uk e.g. Year6@stcolumabsprimary.co.uk

If parents have any non-urgent information which you would like to pass to your child's class teacher, please use this email system. These emails will be checked regularly. If your message is urgent, please continue to contact the School Office or talk to a member of staff who is on the yard in a morning

Admissions

Although we have only just returned to school, for those parents who have pupils in Nursery and Year 6, important decisions need to be made regarding applications for Primary and Secondary school for September 2024. You are now able to apply for your child's school place online. You need to make an application through your 'home' Local Authority; this is the authority where you pay your Council Tax.

The closing date for applications to Secondary school is: 31st October 2023

The closing date for applications to Primary school is: 13th January 2024

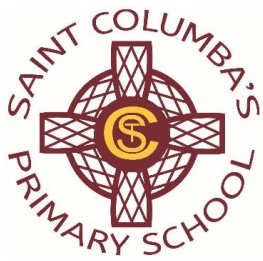
More information from local secondary schools will be available on their school websites and information from our feeder school St Thomas More has been emailed directly to Year 6 parents.

We will hold a parents' meeting over the next few weeks for any Nursery parents who wish to discuss the application process to St Columba's Catholic Primary (Reception Class 2024) in more detail or need help to apply.

Applications for North Tyneside Local Authority can be made by clicking the link:

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/219/online-school-applications>





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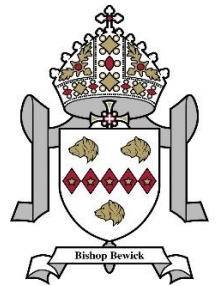
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Safeguarding at St. Columba's

Ensuring that children feel safe and secure at school is our key priority. For updated information on our Safeguarding procedures within school, please see our website: <https://www.stcolumbasprimary.co.uk/parent-hub/safeguarding/>

If you have any concerns about a child, please do not hesitate to contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads or deputies: Mrs S Foster, Miss R Quinn, Mrs N Maddison, Mrs C Harman.

Operation Encompass

A reminder to all parents that St. Columba's is an 'Operation Encompass' school.

The purpose of Operation Encompass is to safeguard and support children and young people who have been involved in a domestic abuse incident. Each morning a police officer will review all domestic abuse incidents that occur outside of school but which might have an impact on a child attending school the following day. Where children witnessed or were involved in a domestic abuse incident, and are aged between 4 and 16 years old, the officer will send this information to Children's Social Care Front Door Service. Staff from the Front Door Service will send this information in a secure format to the identified Key Adults in school. Staff will then be in an informed position to offer appropriate support. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to speak to Miss Quinn



PE Days

PE days for this half term are as follows:

Reception - Thursday and Friday

Year 1 - Tuesday and Friday

Year 2 - Thursday and Friday

Year 3 - Wednesday and Friday

Year 4 - Wednesday and Thursday

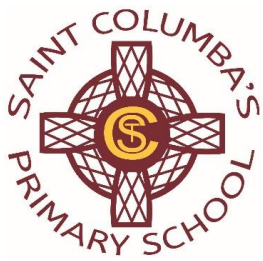
Year 5 - Tuesday and Friday

Year 6 - Thursday and Friday



Pupil Premium

If you feel that your child may qualify for free school meals and pupil premium funding, please contact the school office and we can help you to make an application. Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals and free breakfast club. Registering for free meals gives school extra funding to provide valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities.



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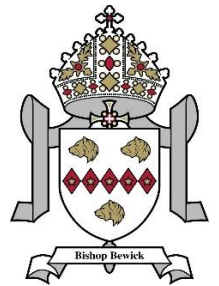
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Dogs on School Premises

A reminder that St Columbas Local Governing Committee made the decision that no dogs were to be brought onto the school premises. This is at any time during the school day, even if parents are collecting from clubs. Thank you.

Diary Dates

New - *Reception and Year 6 Buddy Assembly – Wednesday 11th October at 9.15am*

Reception and Year 6 family members are welcome to attend an assembly in the school hall to meet their child's 'Buddy'

Please could we ask that a maximum of 2 family members attend for each child – this is due to limited space in our school hall. Tea and coffee will be provided after the assembly. We look forward to seeing you there.

Curriculum Evenings: Please save the date to attend a 'meet and greet' with your child's teacher and to hear key dates and information about the upcoming year. All curriculum evenings will start at 3.40pm and will be held in your child's classroom.

Nursery and Reception – Thursday 5th October

Year 1 and Year 2 – Tuesday 3rd October

Year 3 and Year 4 – Wednesday 4th October

Year 6 – Monday 2nd October (Year 6 will go ahead for parents even though children are in High Borran)

Year 5 – Thursday 12th October

Parents' Evenings: Please save the date to attend appointments with your child's teacher to hear about their academic achievements and progress. Appointments will be available to book closer to the date, via SchoolCloud.

Monday 27th November and Wednesday 29th November (3.45 – 6.00pm)

