

St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

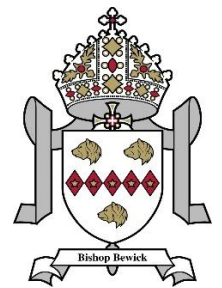
Station Road, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear. NE28 8EN

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 – 29th September 2023

St Columba's Families,

This week, we have had an exciting visitor to our school – our new adopted ambulance 'The Roman Rambler!' The ambulance visited our school playground and the children were thrilled to see their designs featured on the back of the vehicle. Thank you to everyone who supported our Mini Vinnie's campaigns last year! It's lovely to see the results of all of our fundraising!

We also celebrated CAFOD Harvest Appeal in school this afternoon with a wonderful assembly and a soup lunch from Year 6. Well done and thank you for your donations!

Below, you will find key messages and information from this week. Attached to the Iona Star is a parental guide for helping to keep your child safe online – this week's focus is the potential dangers of WhatsApp. Also attached is further information on the BBC 500 words competition – please see below!

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.

Take care,

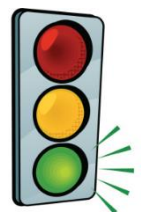
Miss Quinn



Attendance and Punctuality

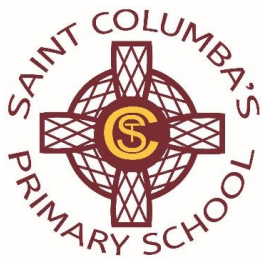
Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 for this week has been **93.6%** This means that we are in the amber zone and unfortunately, we are not meeting our targets set by the Department for Education.

We are delighted to announce that **Year 1** are the winners of our attendance trophy with an overall attendance of **99.5%**. Congratulations!



Ten Ten Parent Newsletter

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/>



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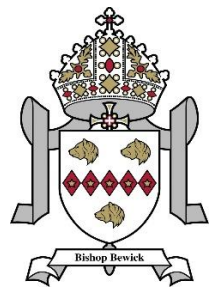
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High Borrans Residential – Year 6

We wish the Year 6 pupils good luck and hope they enjoy their week! The children will depart from school on Monday 2nd October and return to school on Friday 6th October. A reminder that the Year 6 pupils will need a packed lunch for the Monday but all other food is provided.



Other Adults – Pick up

If another adult is picking a child up from school at 3.30pm or after school club, please could we ask that parents inform the school office via telephone or email prior to pick up. Particularly if staff have not met this adult before, a message must be passed to the relevant member of staff to ensure that all children are kept safe and that we are following our safeguarding procedures. Thank you.

Black History Month

October is Black History Month and, this year, the theme is 'Saluting Our Sisters'. For more information please see: <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>

The theme is explained as: "Black women have been at the heart of social justice movements throughout history, courageously battling oppression and advocating for change. However, their accomplishments have frequently been neglected or forgotten.



Black History Month 2023 offers a significant opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding achievements of black women by focusing on honouring the matriarchs of movements and saluting our sisters."

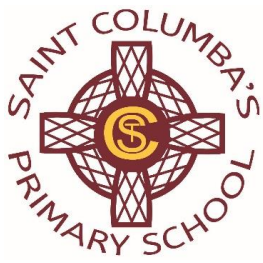
There will be opportunities for children at St Columba's, throughout school this month, to take part in discussions, lessons and activities throughout the month – it could be in Reading, RE, PSHE, Art or an assembly. Keep an eye out on SeeSaw!

BBC 500 Words Competition

"Write a story you would love to read".

The BBC's 500 Words is the UK's largest children's story writing competition for 5-11 year-olds. The competition is now open until 8pm on Friday 10 November. Stories are not marked on grammar, punctuation or spelling, just purely on imagination. From the entries, 50 children will be chosen to attend the grand final at Buckingham Palace!





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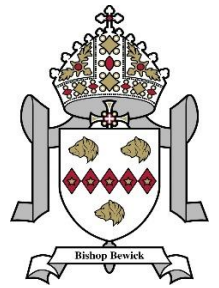
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Click <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words> for more information. If you enter, please be sure to send a copy of your story into school too – we would love to read them!

PTA News and Events

St Columba's PTA are always looking for volunteers to help run events and fundraise for school – please see Mrs Rowan (in Reception classroom).

On **Thursday 19th October** the PTA will be holding a Halloween Disco

On **Friday 20th October** the PTA will be running a 'Break the Rules!' non-uniform day before half term

More information on both events will follow soon.



Diary Dates

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 Borrans)

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)

