

# St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

Every Person is Precious to God



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Dear Parents and Carers,

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you have had a restful break and enjoyed some precious time together as a family.

Firstly, may I welcome our new children, families and carers. Please do not hesitate to call into school if you have any questions about the start of the school year. We also welcome Mrs Eagleton as our new EYFS Lead, Miss Fatima as Poplar's new teacher, Miss Mackinney as Cherry's new teacher and Mrs Kay as our new Higher Level Teaching Assistant. I am sure you will make all of our new members of staff very welcome.

During the holidays, the staff have been working hard to get school ready and we were all excited for the children's return today. Key Stage 2 and EYFS have had refurbishment work so that the children have a much brighter and more welcoming learning environment. Key Stage 1 refurbishment will happen during the October half term holidays once essential heating works have been completed. These works will cause disruption to the Key Stage 1 classes for a few weeks and your child may have to work in a different classroom for a couple of days. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause, however we do expect learning to continue as normal.

### Whole School Mass

To celebrate the start of our new school year the children in Years 1 to 6 will be attending Mass on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 9:15am. We warmly invite Parents, Grandparents and Carers to celebrate this Mass with our whole school community.

### Class Information Evenings

We invite all of our families to attend a Class Information Evening next week. These meetings will take place in your child's classroom from 3:15pm. Please see below for the different dates for each class.

|                                      |        |           |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-----------|--------|
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> September     | Year 1 | Year 2    | Year 6 |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> September | Year 5 | Reception |        |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> September  | Year 3 | Year 4    |        |

The sessions will give you information about what your child will be learning, weekly timetables, routines and homework. It will also be an opportunity to meet your child's new teacher, find out how best to support your child with their learning and ask any questions you may have. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a crèche available in the Main Hall for school aged children.

### School Uniform

The children came into school this morning looking very smart and some of the children even had our new logo on. We have heard that some parents have found it difficult to purchase sweatshirts with this logo and we are currently in communication with our uniform provider to try to rectify this. Please be assured that we are very happy for both logos to exist for at least the remainder of this school year as we appreciate uniforms might not yet need replacing and that you may have uniform of a sibling that you plan to use.

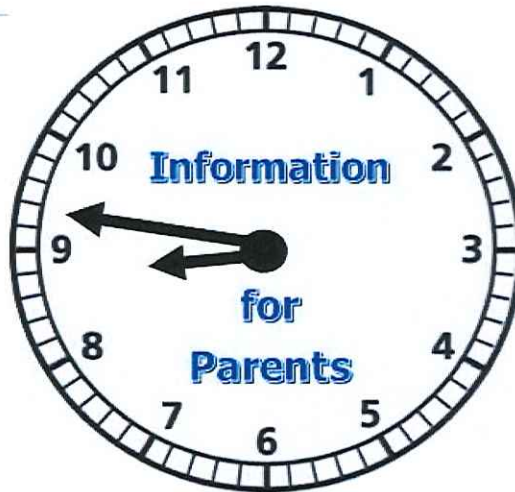
### Attendance

Unfortunately, poor attendance at school has continued to be an issue at St. Columba's last year with our attendance being well below national averages. As a result, the Governors have had no choice but to introduce fining to those families who have persistent unauthorised absences or for those families going on holiday during term time. Fines will start to be issued this week for children who have had unauthorised absences from today. We are absolutely committed to rewarding good attendance as know that being in school regularly gives children so many more opportunities for their future. Attendance incentives will continue throughout the year for those children who have excellent attendance. Thank you to all of our families who support us with this.

Mrs A Gautrey  
Headteacher.



# St Columba's Catholic Primary School



## 8.00am - 8.30am Breakfast Club

(Children arriving after 8.30am need to wait at their class doors)



## 8.45am - 8.55am School Doors Open

(All children should be in class by 8.55am)

- Children should enter school in correct and clean school uniform
  - Long hair should be tied back

## 3.00pm School finishes

- If attending after school sports events children need to be collected from the main office area at the end of the event
- If attending after school care children need to be collected by 4.30pm from the after school club doors located at the top of the carpark
- At home each evening and at weekends, children should do their reading and other homework



- **Children should have the right amount of sleep**

- ⇒ Under 5 Years = 11 Hrs
- ⇒ Under 7 Years = 10 1/2 Hrs
- ⇒ Under 9 Years = 10 Hrs
- ⇒ Under 11 Years = 9 1/2 Hrs



## Mass Times

St Columba's  
5.30pm Sat  
11.15am Sun

St Peter's  
9.30am Sun

