



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have had a good week.

## **School Attendance**

Our school attendance for this week was a very impressive 94.69%. We have also managed to beat our yearly average attendance every day this week. Thank you and well done to everybody for your effort and commitment here. Let's see if we can do this again next week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Year Av.
95%	94.7%	94.2%	95.3%	93.7%	93.2%

Well done to our three highest attending classes so far this year who are:

- 4J – 95.36%
- 1RW – 95.19%
- 1W – 95.10%

Remember, if you require any support or advice with attendance, please speak to Mrs Taylor or our attendance lead Miss Hooper.

## **Attendance Letters**

We are pleased to have seen an improvement in attendance this week and it makes us happy to see so many of our children in school every day. If you received an attendance letter this week it is because your child's current attendance was below 90% at the end of last week. Many of you have already improved on this and we are grateful for your continued efforts to help your child do their best at school by having good attendance. Whilst most of us would be happy to get 85% in a test, when it comes to attendance, that is about 10 days of school missed. That's 2 whole weeks of learning.

## **National Year of Reading 2026**

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a UK-wide campaign led by the Department for Education and the National Literacy Trust. The aim is to combat declining reading habits by making reading enjoyable and relevant for all ages, encouraging people to "Go All In" with reading linked to their passions like music, films, or cooking. Reading is a key life skill and is something that we prioritise as a school. It is also a great habit to get children into, and listening to your child read or reading to your child is one of the best ways you can help them to reach their potential in school. Later in this newsletter you will find some useful tips to help you with reading to your child. We hope that you find these useful. If you require any assistance with supporting your child's reading at home, please speak to your child's class teacher.



## **Trauma Informed Attachment Aware School (TIAAS) Award**

After being assessed in November, we are incredibly proud to announce that we are now officially a silver accredited TIAAS school. This means that we have been recognised for the help we provide to children to recover from trauma by building resilience, understanding attachment, through using approaches to support emotional regulation and positive relationships, and by creating a safe environment for vulnerable students. This achievement reflects the hard work of our staff, the enthusiasm of our children, and the wonderful support of our families. Well done to everyone involved—this is a fantastic milestone for our whole school community!



## **Maths**

This week Miss Nazir, Mrs Smith, Miss Hooper and I have been popping into classes to see the wonderful maths learning that our pupils have been engaged with. We have been so impressed with the positive attitudes and effort we have seen towards maths and towards challenges. We have also been very impressed with the oracy skills and mathematic language used within these lessons. Well done everybody.

## **Borrowed clothes**

Please can any socks and trousers that have been borrowed from school by pupils be returned as soon as possible to the school office or to Mrs Taylor.

If you have any younger age trousers and socks (for girls and boys) that you no longer need and could donate to school, we would be very grateful to receive those too. They are currently in high demand due to the wet weather.

## **E-safety Quiz**

Please ask the question below to your child to test their e-safety knowledge.

One of your friends has posted a video of you on the internet and you don't like it. You've asked them to take it down but they've said no because it's funny. What should you do?

- (a) Keep asking your friend until they take it down
- (b) Speak to an adult and say why you don't like it
- (c) Leave it – you can't do anything else about it
- (d) Post a video of them to get them back

The correct answer is B – You should speak to an adult about what has happened and tell them that you don't like it. They can then try to get the video taken down.



Thank you for your continued support.

**Mr Williams**  
**Headteacher**

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Additional Information
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Birmingham Museum Trip	3S – all day
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Birmingham Museum Trip	3M – all day
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Birmingham Mission Assembly	KS2 – 9am KS1 – 9.30am
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Times Tables Inspire Workshop	Year 4 – 9am – 11am
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Birmingham Country Living Museum trip	1W – all day
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Birmingham Country Living Museum trip	1RW – all day
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	NSPCC Number Day	Whole School
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Animal Man	RJ and RL – 9am-10am Year 1 – 10am-11am
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Parents Evening	
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Parents Evening	
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Own Clothes Day	Whole School
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b>	<b>Half-Term Holiday</b>	<b>School closed to all pupils</b>
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026</b>	<b>Teacher Training Day</b>	<b>School closed to all pupils</b>
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Dentist Visit	RJ and RL
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	EYFS Eye Screening	RJ and RL - 9.30am
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	OPAL Stay and Play	
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Red Nose Day	Whole School
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	EYFS Farm Trip	RJ
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	EYFS Farm Trip	RL
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>	<b>Easter Holidays</b>	<b>School closed to all pupils</b>
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Gurdwara Trip	4J

Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Gurdwara Trip	4B
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Kenilworth Castle Trip	4J – 10am - 2pm
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2026	Kenilworth Castle Trip	4B – 10am - 2pm
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	SATs week	
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>Half-Term Holiday</b>	<b>School closed to all pupils</b>
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Weston-super-Mare trip	2L – all day
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Weston-super-Mare trip	2K – all day
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Birmingham Mission Assembly	KS2 – 9am KS1 – 9.30am
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	<b>Summer Holidays</b>	<b>School closed to all pupils</b>

## What's new on the school website

- Year 5 Arts and Craft Club letter
- Year 4 Times Tables Inspire Workshop letter
- NSPCC Number Day letter



# This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

Congratulations to all of our hot chocolate winners this week. They are:

Henry	RJ
Rion	1RW
Roman-Lee	2L
Meadow	3S
Elijah J	4B
Layla	5HN
Annabelle	6F
Lucas	6G – Lunchtime award



## This week's congratulations

### assembly recipients...



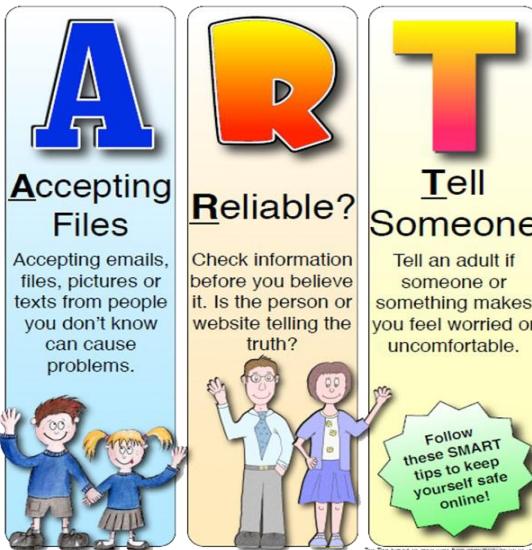
Haislee	RL	Paisley	RJ	Matilda	1W
Iziah	1RW	Thomas	2K	Peyton	2L
Bella-Rose	3M	Camille	3S	Ella	4J
Luckie	4B	Esmee	5E	Oliver	5HN
Phoebe	6F	Sophia	6G		

## HOUSE POINTS

	Hawkesley	Tessall	Frankley	Cofton
This week	179	179	198	214

	Hawkesley	Tessall	Frankley	Cofton
This term's total	497	569	527	543





### Happy Birthday Messages

For this week we would like to wish Happy Birthday to:

Isaiah	6G	11
Rosie	4B	9
George	RL	5
Charlie	1RW	6
Olivia	4J	9
Szymon	5HN	10
Theo	2L	7



### ORACY Questions to ask your child.

To further develop ORACY skills for children here at Colmers Farm, we would encourage all parents to ask their child the below question to further develop their understanding, learning and ORACY skills around the topics they are currently learning about in school.

**Reception:** **How did Goldilocks feel when the three bears came home?**

**Year 1:** **What is the structure of an animal?**

**Year 2:** **How can you save energy?**

**Year 3:** **Why were pyramids built in Ancient Egypt?**

**Year 4:** **Can you explain what happens when a volcano erupts?**

**Year 5:** **What have you enjoyed about 'Who Let the Gods out?' so far?**

**Year 6:** **How should you approach solving a SATs question?**

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



**Our whole school attendance target remains at **96%** and this year we are determined to reach it!**

**Our current school attendance to date is **93.39%** - let's get up to **96%**.**

Can you beat this % next week?

At Colmers Farm Primary School it is important that every child feels that they belong to their class and to the school.

Coming to school every day will help children feel that they belong and that they are an important member of our community.

This year we will continue to challenge the children to see whether their class's attendance can

**'BEAT LAST WEEK'!**

Class	% present	
	Last week	This week
RJ	97.10%	96.36%
RL	90.40%	88.89%
1RW	94.78%	95.17%
1W	95.83%	97.67%
2K	94.23%	95.38%
2L	97.08%	96.33%
3M	94.64%	96.43%
3S	90.17%	93.10%
4B	87.50%	90.67%
4J	97.58%	98.06%
5E	95.16%	93.55%
5HN	96.88%	94.29%
6F	96.12%	93.45%
6G	95.83%	93.33%

### **CLASS AWARDS:**

The class with the highest attendance in EYFS / KS1 and the winner of the Colmers Cat this week is:



**1W – 97.67%**

The class with the highest attendance in KS2 and the winner of the Colmers Camel this week is:



**4J – 98.06%**

# Weekly Assembly

Ask your child to tell you about the story behind the pictures we looked at in assembly this week and how it relates to British Values, Rights Respecting articles and No Outsiders.

## Years 1-3



The shape of a snowflake is formed as it falls through the air. Even if two snow flakes fall side by side, they will be blown through different levels of humidity and vapour; no two journeys are exactly the same so every flake is unique.

*What does unique mean?*

*"No two journeys are exactly the same" – what does that mean?*

## Years 4-6



Mattel are launching a new Barbie doll this week. It is a doll with a difference, looking at the doll and what she is holding and wearing.

This is an autistic Barbie.

Can you guess what this doll's difference is?

*What is autism?*



**NO OUT SIDERS**  
*'All different, All welcome'*



# Rights Respecting Article

At Colmers Farm we promote children's rights in all areas of our curriculum. We want to ensure that ALL children understand their rights so that they are healthy, happy and safe.

Look at the article below and discuss the questions below.

### Article 10

If you live in a different country than your parents do, you have the right to be together in the same place.



How would you feel if you had to live in a different country from your family?

What might make it hard for families to live in the same country?

Why should adults listen to children when making decisions about families moving countries?

What could happen if a child is not allowed to live with their family?



**NO OUT SIDERS**  
*'All different, All welcome'*





Winner Isaiah  
9080 points



Winning class – 4J



Winning class – 6G  
Winning pupil – Oliver  
6G

Top 3 Class Scores This Week	
1 <sup>st</sup>	6G 29852
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6F 10552
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3S 6841

Top 3 Pupil Scores This Week	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Hasali 6F
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Olivia 4J
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Felicity 3S

Next Week's Battles:	
	3S-3M
	5HN – 6F
Rest Week:	



**Be Empowered.....**

## BE EMPOWERED WORKSHOPS

### - Early Support Programme for SEND Parent Carers



We warmly invite you to a series of workshops that have been written by and are led by trainers who are parent/carers of a child with additional needs themselves. They run over a period of 6 weeks, and there are a selection of face-to-face and online sessions.

These workshops are for parent/carers of children and young people of any age, with any additional need, with or without a diagnosis. They are an attempt to support parent/carers through times of change and at whatever stage of the journey participants may find themselves.

Wednesday's 5/11/25 - 17/12/25  
10:00am - 1:00pm  
Evolve Centre, 99 Glover St, B9 4EN.

Monday's 10/11/25 - 15/12/25  
10:00am - 1:00pm  
Online via Zoom

Thursday's 8/1/26 - 12/2/26  
10:00am-1:00pm  
Lime Tree Children's Centre,  
Heathfield Rd, B19 1UJ

TO BOOK – Please complete the booking form and return to: [BeEmpowered@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:BeEmpowered@birmingham.gov.uk) or

For more information please contact: Christine Legore on 07770 762056 or via email at [christine.legore@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:christine.legore@birmingham.gov.uk) or  
Nathalie Messanvi on 07943 364833 or via email at [nathalie.messanvi@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:nathalie.messanvi@birmingham.gov.uk)

Saturday's 10/1/26 - 13/2/26  
1:00pm - 4:00pm  
Online via Zoom  
Joining details will be sent.

Tuesday's 10/2/26, 24/2/26 - 24/3/26  
10:00am - 1:00pm  
Acocks Green Methodist Church,  
1 Botteville Road, B27 7YE.

Friday's 27/2/26 - 27/3/26, 17/4/26  
6:00pm-9:00pm  
Online via Zoom  
Joining details will be sent.

Tuesday's 14/4/26 - 19/5/26  
10:00am - 1:00pm  
Online via Zoom  
Joining details will be sent.

Thursday's 16/4/26 - 21/5/26  
In Community Languages  
10:00am - 2:00pm  
Lime Tree Children's Centre,  
Heathfield Road, B19 1UJ

Friday's 5/6/26 - 10/7/26  
10:00am - 1:00pm  
Online via Zoom  
Joining details will be sent.

Monday's 8/6/26 - 13/7/26  
10:00am - 1:00pm  
Hodge Hill Family Hub, Dyson Gardens  
Children's Centre, Highfield Road, B8 3QF.

TO BOOK – Please complete the booking form and return to: [BeEmpowered@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:BeEmpowered@birmingham.gov.uk) or alternatively you can submit online either by using the QR code below or using this link

(<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Z86aaeTSzUuzA9K74m78UtsZJS1sGdFip4igfYn11UMFZRQIpEUUJKNUJDTVBRkE5NM3OUFXSC4u>) to submit online.



For more information please contact: Christine Legore on 07770 762056 or via email at [christine.legore@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:christine.legore@birmingham.gov.uk) or  
Nathalie Messanvi on 07943 364833 or via email at [nathalie.messanvi@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:nathalie.messanvi@birmingham.gov.uk)



# Wellbeing Weekly



Our assembly focus this half term is Kindness.

## Name your feelings!

This week, encourage children to pause and notice how they feel each day. Feelings can be happy, sad, worried, excited or even mixed—and that's okay. Naming feelings helps children understand themselves better and makes big emotions feel more manageable.



Thank you to everyone who completed the wellbeing survey. Your feedback is really valued. The winner of the £20 voucher is

Ms Bi (mother of Ayaan in 1W).

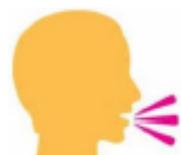


## Conversation starter for families.



### Parent-child discussion.

Can you name one feeling you had today? What caused it?



Are there any feelings that feel hard to talk about right now?

What's one small thing that could make tomorrow better?



Do one small thing that brings joy. Happiness doesn't have to be big. A small, enjoyable moment can lift mood and build wellbeing.



- Read a favourite book
- Play outside for 5 minutes
- Listen to a song and dance



# Eight Tips for Reading with Your Child

## Tip 1: Talk to the teacher

Learning to read can be daunting for both children and parents, especially if reading doesn't come easily to you, either. So don't be afraid to ask your child's teacher for help – after all, they're the experts!

If your child has a willing teacher, you could ask that they make a video demonstrating how to read with a child. If they can't make a full video, perhaps they could record a summary of all their other tips and tricks.

## Tip 3: Continue to read to your child

It's important to regularly read using the books the school sends home. But don't forget to continue to read to your child, too. The shared attention on a book, the exploration together of different worlds and words, the snuggling up – all of this has long-term benefits for your child. Let them enjoy you reading to them. If you're not a reader yourself, talk about the pictures together.

## Tip 5: Reframe the emotions

For people who love to read, somewhere deep in their memories are positive associations with books. Children haven't had long enough to let these experiences grow yet.

Use physical and sensory stimulation to help positive emotions grow. Examples include snuggling up with children in a duvet with hot chocolate and a tasty snack whenever they read their school book, and holding something tactile.

## Tip 7: Read with new people

Children could try taking their book on a visit to a favourite aunt or have a cool cousin read with them. Reading at home promotes familiarity with books and an interest in reading, so the person reading with them doesn't always need to be an expert in how to instruct and coach.

## Tip 2: Don't go it alone

I open my classroom doors fifteen minutes early on Tuesdays and Thursdays and offer the space for parents to come in and read with their children.

Your child's school may be able to do this. If it's something they can't offer, perhaps instead, you could reach out to other parents to find a way to share reading tips and book recommendations.

## Tip 4: Ditch the reward charts

For children who feel frustration, boredom, anger, or embarrassment when reading, rewards in the form of transactions, like stickers or treats in return for a set amount of reading, won't help. Their reward needs to come from inside: the simple pleasure of reading, which a chart can't make happen.

## Tip 6: Piggyback on established memories

If there's something a child already loves – a favourite place, person or thing – try bringing books into this experience. If a child loves swimming lessons, try sitting in the observation deck beforehand with a book. If your child loves being on an outdoor walk, they could take a book.

Try altering the time of the day that you read. One of the biggest successes I had was when a father started arriving at school ten minutes early and reading with his daughter in his van.

## Tip 8: Utilise the Reading Record

Fill in your child's reading bookmark with the date and a signature. Make sure your child gives this to their class teacher so they can be rewarded and receive a new bookmark to fill.

# Safeguarding at Colmers Farm Primary School

Please also see the safeguarding page on our school website for further information:  
<https://www.colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org/our-school/safeguarding/>

If you think a child is in immediate danger, don't delay – call the police on 999

At Colmers Farm Primary School safeguarding children is of paramount importance. We have four Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) who can be contacted by parents should they have a safeguarding concern. They are:



Miss Hooper  
DHT  
Lead DSL



Mrs Taylor  
Pastoral Lead  
Deputy DSL



Mrs Smith  
SENCO  
Deputy DSL



Mr Williams  
Headteacher  
Deputy DSL

If you have safeguarding concerns about a child, please email our school using the following email address: [safeguarding@colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org](mailto:safeguarding@colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org)

If you concern is urgent and it is out of school hours, please contact Birmingham Children's Trust - Emergency out-of-hours number: 0121 675 4806



BIRMINGHAM  
CHILDREN'S TRUST

## Contact Details

Monday to Thursday: 8:45am to 5:15pm

Friday: 8:45am to 4:15pm

Telephone: 0121 303 1888

The Children's Advice and Support Service (CASS) provides a single point of contact for professionals and members of the public who want to seek support or raise concerns about a child.

They aim to keep all children and young people in Birmingham safe from harm. If you are concerned about a child, please contact them. They will listen, assess your concerns, and can take action if a child is at risk.

## Emergency out-of-hours

Telephone 0121 675 4806

NSPCC

If you have any concerns at all about a child's safety or wellbeing, you can also contact the NSPCC. It doesn't have to be an emergency – you might be looking for guidance and support on issues affecting children.

Their team of dedicated child protection specialists will be able to advise you and take any necessary action.

Call 0800 800 5000 (10am-4pm Monday to Friday) or email [help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk) at any time. Alternatively [submit an online form](#).