



# Colmers Farm Primary School

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our nurturing school



A reminder; please continue to be polite and respectful to staff and one another in the school playgrounds and surrounding areas, thank you.



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the penultimate newsletter for this term. This term seems to have gone by very quickly.

On Tuesday evening, we held a very special film night in our upper hall. We had over 80 of our Year 1s and 2s who returned to school in their pyjamas to watch 'The Grinch' and to eat lots of 'movie snacks'! This was an idea from our wonderful KS1 school council and once it was suggested we were very eager to do this. This event (although we had planned to run this later in the school year) is also part of our Colmers Farm Primary Guarantee document which outlines experiences that we want our children to have at our school. This event was a huge success and the children really enjoyed it. I would like to thank all the staff who gave up their free time to make it happen. It would not have happened without them.

Gary Sambrook MP has visited our school several times since he was first elected, for a variety of reasons. Each year Gary Sambrook runs a Christmas card competition for all his local schools with the winning design being used on his official Christmas Card. We have had a good record with this competition over the last few years (thanks to the very artistic and creative children we have at Colmers Farm) and we have done very well again this year. A huge congratulations to Khloe in Class 5T, who was one of four runners-up this year. Khloe's design will be on the back of Gary Sambrook MP's Christmas card and he will hopefully be coming into school next week Khloe and to award her a certificate. Well done Khloe!



Thursday was Christmas jumper day and as part of this we collected items for our local food bank (B30 Foodbank). We collected a sizeable amount of produce, which I know will make a big difference to so many families, during what can be a very challenging time of the year for many. Thank you all for your generosity with this collection.



Outside of the Year 1 classrooms, the bottom windows have now been frosted. This is to help children to go into classrooms quicker at the start of the school day, to enable these children to maintain their focus in their classrooms when KS2 are having their playtimes and to prevent children being distracted by parents who arrive early to collect children at the end of the day. We are currently trialling this to see what the effects of this are. Although we are in the early stages of this, the vast majority of our children seem happy with this change.

Next week we will be giving out our attendance badges and letters to celebrate children who have been in 97% of the time or more. If your child receives one of these, they will be invited to come into school next Wednesday wearing their own clothes as a special reward. Please note that if your child does not receive one of these, they will be expected to wear their school uniform.

## DIARY DATES

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**  
Reception Nativity 2:30pm  
Year 6 RAF Cosford Trip

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December**  
Christmas Lunch  
Reception Nativity 9:30am  
Drama club performance 4pm

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December**  
Christmas Party Day  
Last day of school term

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**  
Teacher training day

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January**  
Return to school

**Do you have a safeguarding concern about a child?**

Contact:

[safeguarding@colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org](mailto:safeguarding@colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org)

Alternatively contact  
Birmingham City Council  
Children's Trust on 0121 303 1888

Emergency out-of-hours number: 0121 675 4806

What's new on our website?



On Friday we had the dress rehearsal for the Reception Nativity which was performed to an audience of the children from Rubery Nursery. The performance went well, and all of the children enjoyed it. Well done Reception!

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Mr Williams



## Christmas Party Day

Christmas party day is Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – children can come into school in their party clothes and bring some small snacks to have in class after lunch.

No fizzy pop or nut-based products please.

## e-safety – Staying safe online

### S

#### Stay Safe

Don't give out your personal information to people / places you don't know.

### M

#### Don't Meet Up

Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Always check with an adult you trust.

### A

#### Accepting Files

Accepting emails, files, pictures or texts from people you don't know can cause problems.

### R

#### Reliable?

Check information before you believe it. Is the person or website telling the truth?

### T

#### Tell Someone

Tell an adult if someone or something makes you feel worried or uncomfortable.

## Pupil e-safety challenge



When talking to people online, which of the following should you not tell them?

- Your address
- The school you go to
- Your phone number
- Your email address
- Your passwords

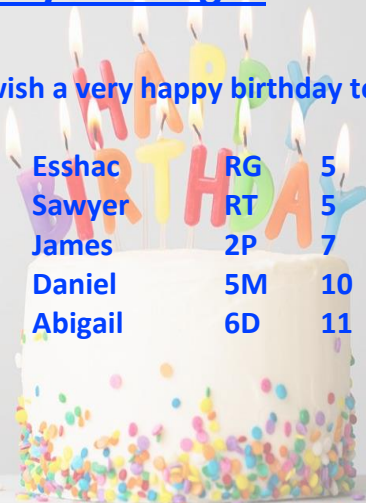
This week's answer = A, B, C, D and E! When talking to people online you should never give out any personal information. This is the 'S' in our SMART rules.

## Happy Birthday Messages

For next week, we would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

Paige	RG	5
Miganne	RL	5
Nonso	2P	7
Logan	4L	9
Thomas	5T	10
Riley	6G	11

Esshac	RG	5
Sawyer	RT	5
James	2P	7
Daniel	5M	10
Abigail	6D	11



## Please follow us on Twitter!

Our Twitter feed is where we celebrate the wonderful learning we see from our pupils everyday!

@Colmers\_FarmPS



**On Monday, bronze attendance badges will be given out to celebrate the children with attendance of 97% or higher this term. (These are children who have missed less than 2 days of school in total this term.)**

(Please note: the percentage is calculated up to and including Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022.)

We fully understand that there will be children who have not reached 97% or higher for genuine illness reasons, and that this may be disappointing for those children and families. The great thing about celebrating attendance our way, is that each term there is a new opportunity to earn your bronze badge, and those who achieve their bronze badges this term will move on to silver in the new year.

**Children who receive their bronze badge on Monday are invited to come to school in their own clothes on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December.**



## The Colmers Farm attendance league table WEEK 11

### CLASS AWARDS:

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



**RL – 98%**

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



**3J – 95%**

Position	Class	Games Played	Points
1	3J	11	30
2	4L	11	27
=	5M	11	27
4	5T	11	21
5	2B	11	19
6	1W	11	18
=	RL	11	18
8	1K	11	15
=	4G	11	15
=	6G	11	15
11	RT	11	12
=	2P	11	12
=	3F	11	12
14	6D	11	9
15	RG	11	7



## Help your child become a better **READER**

Questions to ask your child while reading fiction text.

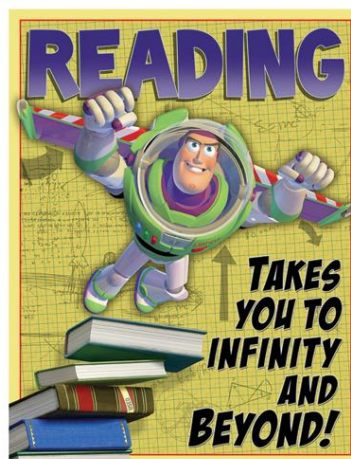
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in the story?
- Why do you think the author chose this title for the story?
- Do you like the title of the story? Why or why not?
- Can you think of a different title for the story?
- Which character from the story would you choose to be your friend? Why?
- Which part of the story was the most exciting? Why?
- Did you like the end of the story? Why or why not?
- Which parts in the story could really happen? Which parts could not really happen?

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### READ, READ, READ!

Reading is a key skill which is so important to any child's development at any age. Please try to listen to your child read at least once a day (for 10-15 mins ideally). It's also great for children to listen to you reading aloud as well.

As you know, our children in Years 1-6 have access to thousands of books online via myON. If you need help accessing this, please contact your child's class teacher or the school office.



## Help your child become a better **READER**

Questions to ask your child while reading nonfiction text.

- What is the main idea of the text?
- Can you tell me something you already know about this topic?
- What did you learn from reading the text?
- Are there any words that you do not know what they mean?
- What are some new words that you learned?
- Do you have any questions after reading this?
- Were there any features (diagrams, charts, pictures) that were important?
- Where could you find out more information about this topic?
- What questions would you ask the author about this topic?
- What would be a good title for this text?
- Can you think of another book that you have read about this topic? How was it similar? How was it different?
- Did you like the text? Why or why not?

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**Questions to ask your child when listening to them reading.**



**Accelerated™**  
Reader

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	6G	833,163
2 <sup>nd</sup>	5T	245,683
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4G	72,289
4 <sup>th</sup>	3J	71,095
5 <sup>th</sup>	6D	52,676
6 <sup>th</sup>	5M	52,152
7 <sup>th</sup>	3F	46,094
8 <sup>th</sup>	4L	16,781

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Oliver (6G) 147,386
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lexi (6G) 89,336
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Phoebe (6G) 88,316
Highest score this year	
Timothy (4G) 228,313	

## Spelling Shed

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	5T	184,203,202
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6G	119,172,314
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4G	58,110,652
4 <sup>th</sup>	5M	50,126,250
5 <sup>th</sup>	6D	19,997,886
6 <sup>th</sup>	1W	4,622,762
7 <sup>th</sup>	2B	4,213,366
8 <sup>th</sup>	4L	3,879,554
9 <sup>th</sup>	3J	3,842,633
10 <sup>th</sup>	3F	2,677,122
11 <sup>th</sup>	1K	1,625,286
12 <sup>th</sup>	2P	1,213,878

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Ryan (5T) 60,113,848
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Poppie (6G) 35,299,240
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Theo (5T) 32,774,283
Highest score this year	
Chloe S (6G) 73,208,208	

## Mathletics

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	6G	19,808
2 <sup>nd</sup>	5T	18,107
3 <sup>rd</sup>	5M	12,872
4 <sup>th</sup>	6D	9,670
5 <sup>th</sup>	4G	9,200
6 <sup>th</sup>	2B	6,446
7 <sup>th</sup>	3F	5,580
8 <sup>th</sup>	4L	4,682
9 <sup>th</sup>	3J	2,040
10 <sup>th</sup>	2P	846

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Stefania (6G) 6,218
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kayleigh (4G) 5,940
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ryan (5T) 5,130
Highest score this year	
Khaleesi (3J) 10,100	





# Christmas Activities

That are good for your mental health



Make some homemade hot chocolate with real chocolate, it really has to be experienced!



Bake some treats, like gingerbread people. They're delicious and the activity taps into your creative side!



Watch a feel-good movie with an open fire. Films can help immerse you into the happier headspace.

Wrap up and go for a winter walk. Exercise is good for your mental health and we can't stop just cause it's a bit nippy out! Plus it's a great opportunity to look at Christmas Lights!



Donate some money/goods to charity. SVP's giving tree is a great appeal to help those in need. It feels good to give back!



Make a home-made Christmas jumper for any in person/zoom parties. Hot glue on tinsel and baubles or print off some memes or puns and stick them on. It's a great talking point and will give you a laugh!



Get Tidy. Christmas can get cluttered and messy with gifts and decorations. A tidy space can equal a tidy mind!

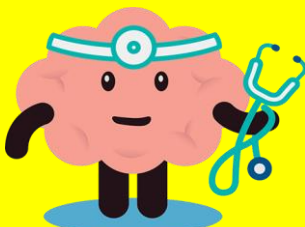


Do not neglect your mental health. Talk to a GP/Counsellor if you feel overwhelmed or low.



## What should I do If I have any concerns about my child's mental health?

Please speak to your child's class teacher or a member of our school's pastoral team (Mrs Taylor, Miss Evans or Miss Storer).



# This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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

Miganne	RL
Enah	1K
Aisha	2B
Zoe	3J
Hayden	4L
Sujaan	5M
Freya	6G



# This week's congratulations assembly recipients

Well done to:

Ava	RG	Tamara	RL	Alivia	RT
Logan	1K	Ella	1W	Kade	2B
Maria-Mae	2P	Ethan	3F	Lorelei	3J
Wanny	4G	Kaiden	4L	Daniel	5M
Iyanna	5T	Hamza	6D	Elissa	6G



You have all demonstrated the key quality of resilience this week.

# This week's house point results

423

Farah

332

Thompson

450

Daley

387

Ennis-Hill



# School Uniform

At Colmers Farm Primary School, we place a high priority on our children wearing the correct school uniform. Please note that our children are not allowed to wear trainers in school unless this is short term with prior agreement.

For details about our school uniform requirements, please see the uniform section on our school website.

Thank you for your support with this.

# Help with School Uniform



Rubery Community Swop Shop is a fabulous organisation which helps families by providing pre-loved school uniform, PE kit and footwear to them FOR FREE. Please visit [www.ruberyswopshop.co.uk](http://www.ruberyswopshop.co.uk) or [ruberyswopshop@outlook.com](mailto:ruberyswopshop@outlook.com) for more information.



# Poetry Competition



This half term, children across the school have been working hard to learn poems that they have then recited and performed to their classes.

Each class has had a competition to find the 'Poetry Champion' for their class. Winners have been chosen because of their expressive recitals with enthusiasm and sometimes actions too!

Each class winner received a certificate in this week's celebration assembly, and an overall winner for each year group was also awarded a gift of a poetry book.

Our winners were:

Olivia	RT
Fatima	RL
Elsie	RG
Amy	1W
William	1K
Emmett	2B
Lilly	2P
Paige	3F
Khalessi	3J
Isabella	4L
Tiegan	4G
Sasha	5M
Junior	6D
Phoebe	6G

**Well done to everyone who took part!**





# HERBERT'S WINTER WONDERYARD

**28TH & 29TH DECEMBER AT HERBERT'S YARD**

**10AM-2PM | FREE ENTRY\***

*INCLUDING...*

**CRAFTS AND CLAY  
FOOD WORKSHOPS  
SPORTS**

**FREE HOT MEAL FOR EVERY CHILD**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

*This event is funded by 'Bring it on Brum' and is only available  
for children in receipt of free school meals.*

*There will be no tickets available on the door.*

**\*BOOKING IN ADVANCE IS REQUIRED**

*To book your place head to [www.bringitonbrum.co.uk](http://www.bringitonbrum.co.uk)*

# Help for all families in Birmingham



Food  
& Energy



Youth  
Support



Domestic  
Abuse



Emergency  
Funding



Money &  
Debt Advice



Data & IT



Under 5's  
Support



School Uniforms  
& Clothing



Parenting



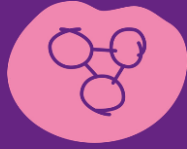
Special Needs  
& Disabilities



Bereavement



Housing



Sexual  
Health



Mental  
Health



Play

**Birmingham**  
Children's Partnership



**Birmingham**  
Children's Partnership



## Edgbaston

EarlyHelpEdgbaston@gatewayfs.org  
0121 456 7821

## Erdington

ErdingtonFamilies@compass-support.org.uk  
0121 748 8199

## Hall Green

Hallgreen.families@greensquareaccord.co.uk  
07570 953519 (9:30am to 4:30pm)

## Hodge Hill

EarlyHelp-Hodgehill@family-action.org.uk  
07976 199894

## Ladywood

childrenandfamilies@bsettlement.org.uk  
07764 977636

## Northfield

NorthfieldFamilies@northfieldcommunity.org  
07516 918 133

## Perry Barr

PerrybarrEHnetwork@spurgeons.org  
0121 752 1900

## Selly Oak

EarlyHelp.Billesley@gmail.com  
0121 441 4556

## Sutton Coldfield

SuttonEHnetwork@spurgeons.org  
0121 752 1860

## Yardley

EarlyHelpYardley@barnardos.org.uk  
0121 289 4875

