



Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our
nurturing school



Friday 9th June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we have welcomed a new permanent member of staff to Colmers Farm. Her name is Mrs Jones and she is an experienced teacher who will be teaching in reception. She is replacing Mrs Thomas who left at Easter. Mrs Jones has had a wonderful first week with the children and staff in reception and we are all looking forward to working with Mrs Jones and getting to know her more. I am sure that you all will make her feel welcome.

It's been a busy week for trips this week. Firstly, on Monday our Year 4's visited Kenilworth Castle as part of their history work on castles. (One of my favourite castles to visit). They spent the day exploring the grounds and ruins in the sunshine and learnt all about the history of the castle. They visited the Leicester Gatehouse, which was built in 1571 by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, as part of his grand plan to woo Queen Elizabeth I! Year 4 climbed the tallest towers and finished the day by walking around the beautiful gardens. Everyone had a lovely day, and the children represented the school brilliantly!



On Wednesday, it was Years 5's trip to the National Space Centre in Leicester. This was part of their science topic about Space. Here Year 5 saw some different types of space rockets (and they got to climb 144 steps to the top of one), saw satellites, visited the Sir Patrick Moore Planetarium where they were able to watch a film which explored the solar system, sat inside a space capsule and spoke to mission control and they took part in various other interactive activities such as hosting a news show about saving our planet. Please accept our apologies that the children arrived back in school later than expected. By all accounts the traffic back from Leicester was a lot heavier than usual. Our Year 5's spoke very enthusiastically about this visit on their return.

A big thank you to everybody who returned the parental questionnaires I sent out a couple of weeks ago. Thank you for all the positive comments and also for the areas we can develop further. Please visit our school website and then click on the Parents' Views of Our School section to view the results.

Some of the most popular areas that parents wanted to find out more about on the questionnaires were Thrive, the SAGE Award, Rights Respecting Schools and Our School's Curriculum. Please read these sections on our school website to find out more. If you would like to find out even more, please contact the school office with your questions and we'll try our best to answer them for you.

Please remember that the Summer Fayre will be happening in four weeks' time on Thursday 6th July. In preparation for this, next week we will be sending home a schedule of donation requests to make this the biggest and best summer we have had. Thank you in advance for any support that you can provide with this. We do still have some stalls for the Summer Fayre available for parents. If you would be interested in one of these, please contact our school office for more information.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Mr Williams

Headteacher

DIARY DATES

Monday 12 th June	Shakespeare Today Workshop	Year 5 and 6
Tuesday 13 th June	Gurdwara Trip	Year 4
Monday 19 th June – Friday 23 rd June	Sports Week	All years
Friday 23 rd June	Big Bang Fair	Year 6
Monday 26 th June	Bikeability	Year 5
Thursday 6 th July	Summer Fayre	All years
Friday 21 st July	Break up for Summer	
Monday 4 th September	Start of Term - School opens	All years

Do you have a safeguarding concern about a child?

Contact:

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

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?

- Year 4's Visit to Kenilworth Castle (News)
- Writing week at CFPS (news)
- Parental questionnaire results (Parents' views of our school)

[Colmers Farm \(excelsiormat.org\)](http://Colmers Farm (excelsiormat.org))

Grammar School Applications

Registration is now open for parents of current Year 5 pupils who would like their child to sit the entrance test for a place at any of the grammar schools in Birmingham (entry to Year 7 in September 2024). Registration can be made online by visiting the following website:

www.westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk

The closing date for registering is 4pm on 30th June 2023. The test will take place on 16th September 2023.

Craft School – shortlisting!

Congratulations to Lillian and Poppie in 6G who made it to the shortlist for Craft school: Yinka's challenge this year!

Although their design for a model of a playground was not one of the winning entries, we are very proud that they made it to the shortlist. Please click on the link to have a look at the winning entries and more details about the craft challenge.

[2023 winners \(craftscouncil.org.uk\)](http://2023 winners (craftscouncil.org.uk))



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



32% of smart phone users do not update their OS (operating system) when a new version comes. Why should you always update your OS soon as you can?

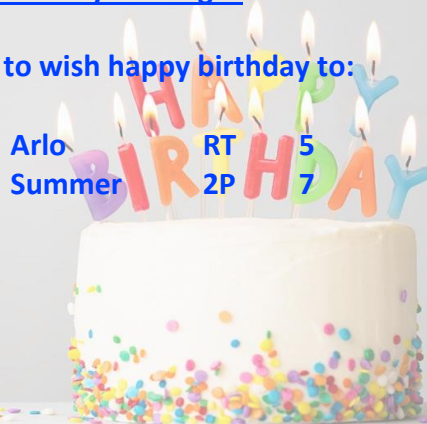
- a. Your phone will not work without the latest OS.
- b. Your phone will have the latest features and tools.
- c. It protects your phone against hackers and viruses.

This week's answer = A, B and C. (a) Some features on your phone may stop working without the latest OS. (b) Having the latest OS can give you access to new tools and features on your phone, which have already been released. (c) Updating your OS is critical as it helps to ensure that your phone has the best security possible.

Happy Birthday Messages

For this week we would like to wish happy birthday to:

Godpower	2B	7
Esme	2B	7
Syeda	1K	6
Charlie	1K	6
Traevon	4L	9
Avana	RT	5
Kayden	2B	7



Please follow us on Twitter!

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



Mental Wealth

Your mental WEALTH is our priority. We want it to be your priority too. Please please please look after yourself. We want you firing on all cylinders. Your family and friends do too. Here are 10 tips on how to SHINE at work and home...

1. Eat, Move & Sleep.



The first base of mental health is to look after your physical wellbeing. Treat yourself to a healthy breakfast and don't forget your 5-a-day. Take regular exercise. Join a gym, cycle, jog, stretch, do yoga, take the stairs, go for a walk at lunchtime... do whatever it takes to keep your body moving. Ban all laptops, phones and TVs from your bedroom and get your full 8 hours.

2. Socialise.



With actual real people. Human beings are social creatures. Your happiness is strongly linked with friendship and family so spend more time with real people and less time with social media ones.

3. Choose to be Positive.

Your attitude travels with you so upgrade to enthusiasm and can-do. Not unbridled 'Woottoo, don't you just LOVE Mondays' (that might be a step too far) but tackle each day with an air of optimism and enthusiasm. Positivity doesn't mean problems disappear but it does make them a whole lot easier to deal with.

4. Be Grateful.



Gratitude is like fertilizer for happiness. Marvel at what you have got rather than grumbling about what you haven't. If in doubt, write a list of 10 things you really appreciate but take for granted.



5. Play to Your Strengths.

Work out what your strengths are and find opportunities to bring them to the fore.

6. Be Kind.



Kindness is a super-power. Catch people doing things well and tell them. Do random acts of kindness. Doing a good deed for someone else is a sure fire way to make them, and YOU, feel amazing.

7. Get Organised.



Modern life is fast and hectic. Cut your multi-tasking. Get focused by prioritising what needs doing, then single task through your list.

8. Work Sensible Hours.

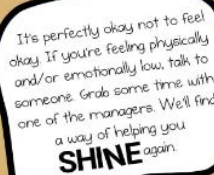


Forget work/life balance and install a life/work balance instead. We want you to be happy. We want you to have a brilliant life. Work productively. Give your all. Then go home and give your all there too.

9. Be Your Own Bestie.



You know that shrill voice in your head - the shrilly one that tells you what an idiot you are - everyone has it. Human thinking is biased towards negativity so learn to dispute your thinking. Catch yourself doing things well. Change the narrative. You are amazing. Tell yourself that because it's true.



10. ASK for Help.

It's perfectly okay not to feel okay. If you're feeling physically and/or emotionally low, talk to someone. Grab some time with one of the managers. We'll find a way of helping you SHINE again.

#Fact:



The average lifespan is 4000 weeks. We want you to live it fully. Life is a short and precious gift, don't send it back unwrapped.



This year, Colmers Farm Primary School has adopted the "5 Foundations Of Effective Attendance Practice" to improve our school attendance, which is currently 92.6%.

This approach looks at the number of days absence a child has over an academic year, as opposed to their percentage attendance at any stage during the year. The aim of this change in approach is to clarify the expectations and to make clearer the current attendance of each child in school at any given time in a fair and proportional way. Once a child has had 19 days off school, they are considered a persistent absentee by Birmingham City Council Legal Intervention Team.

This week a number of children who are at risk of becoming persistent absentees have brought home a letter indicating the number of days absence they have had this year to date, with the view of preventing them reaching 19 days over the school year. This will ensure parents/carers are aware of where their child is in relation to this approach.

At every stage, the approach aims to improve school attendance for all pupils. Thank you for your support with ensuring your child attends school as much as possible.

2022 – 2023 academic year:

Autumn Term attendance: 92.9%
Spring Term attendance: 92.6%

**Summer Term to date: 92.3% -
 let's get this up!**

CLASS AWARDS:

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



1W – 95.8%

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



5M – 96%

The Colmers Farm attendance league table, WEEK 12.

Position	Class	Games Played	Points
1	1W	12	30
2	2B	12	27
=	3F	12	27
4	RL	12	24
=	2P	12	24
=	5M	12	24
7	3J	12	21
8	RT	12	18
=	5T	12	18
=	1K	12	18
11	6D	12	15
=	6G	12	15
13	4G	12	12
14	RG	12	9
15	4L	12	6

Safeguarding at Colmers Farm Primary School

Please see the safeguarding page on our school website:
[Safeguarding - Colmers Farm \(excelsiormat.org\)](http://safeguarding-colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org)

At Colmers Farm Primary School safeguarding children is of paramount importance. We have 4 Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) who can be contacted by parents should they have a safeguarding concern. **If you have safeguarding concerns about a child, please email school using the following email address: safeguarding@colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org.** Our 4 DSLs are:



Miss Kelly
DHT
Lead DSL



Mrs Taylor
Pastoral Care
Deputy DSL



Miss Cross
SENCO
Deputy DSL



Mr Williams
Headteacher
Deputy DSL



BIRMINGHAM
CHILDREN'S TRUST

Contact details

Monday to Thursday: 8:45am to 5:15pm
Friday: 8:45am to 4:15pm
Telephone: 0121 303 1888

Emergency out-of-hours

Telephone: 0121 675 4806

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.

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

If you have any concerns at all about a child's safety or wellbeing, don't hesitate to contact us



It doesn't have to be an emergency — you might be looking for guidance and support on issues affecting children. Whatever it is you're worried about, our dedicated child protection specialists will be able to advise and take any necessary action.

Whatever your worry — call us on [0808 800 5000](tel:08088005000), email help@NSPCC.org.uk, or [submit our online form](#) — we can help. We also have advice about [spotting the signs of abuse](#).

Due to an increase in demand across our service, our voice Helpline is currently operating between the hours of 10am-4pm on Monday to Friday. However, you can email help@NSPCC.org.uk at any time. It's free and you don't have to say who you are. If you think a child is in immediate danger, please call the police on [999](tel:999) straight away.



Help your child become a better **READER**

Questions to ask your child while reading fiction text.

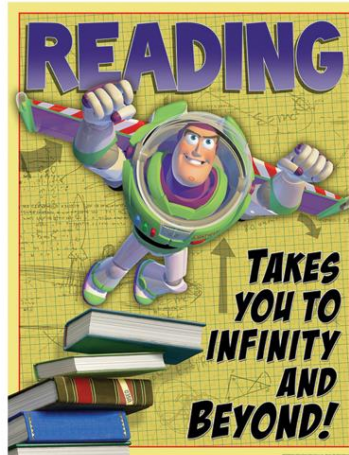
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in 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?

fun-in-first.blogspot.com

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 st	6G	258,651
2 nd	3F	85,317
3 rd	4G	61,800
4 th	5T	58,123
5 th	3J	24,676
6 th	6D	21,476
7 th	4L	13,311
8 th	5M	8,889

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Poppie (6G) 131,073
2 nd	Rocco (6G) 63,874
3 rd	Timothy (4G) 56,232
Highest score this year	
Timothy (4G) 327,157	
Best participating class this week	
Well done 6G - 93%	

Spelling Shed 

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	6G	45,177,206
2 nd	5T	29,266,754
3 rd	5M	16,569,292
4 th	6D	13,809,920
5 th	4L	10,668,006
6 th	4G	7,277,726
7 th	2B	3,327,326
8 th	3F	2,434,470
9 th	2P	1,158,304
10 th	1K	269,518
11 th	1W	75,170
12 th	3J	0

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Thomas (5T) 24,408,000
2 nd	Ryan (5M) 16,046,892
3 rd	Kaiden (4L) 8,788,872
Highest score this year	
Chase (5M) 632,523,000	

Mathletics

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	3F	14,256
2 nd	2B	13,986
3 rd	4G	12,400
4 th	6G	12,273
5 th	2P	11,629
6 th	5M	10,550
7 th	6D	6,123
8 th	5T	3,298
9 th	4L	2,677
10 th	3J	1,097

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Drew-Ryan (3F) 5,440
2 nd	Lali-Bella (2B) 2,804
3 rd	Makonnen (2P) 2,532
Highest score this year	
Aliza (5T) 33,161	



This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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

Sawyer	RT
Darcie-Leigh	1K
Summer	2P
Diar	3F
Poppy	4L
Thomas	5T
Steph	6G



This week's congratulations assembly recipients

Well done to:

Kade	RG	Ramaya	RT	Ava Leigh	RL
Amy	1W	Logan	1K	Emmet	2B
Szymon	2P	Tyler	3F	Daniel	3J
Poppie-Leigh	4G	Isabella	4L	Grace	5M
Kayden	5T	Tulisa	6G	Charlie	6D



You have all demonstrated the key quality of resilience this

This week's house point results

453

Farah

525

Thompson

491

Daley

576

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 or ruberyswopshop@outlook.com for more information.

Help for all families in Birmingham



Birmingham
Children's Partnership



Birmingham
Children's Partnership



Edgbaston
EarlyHelpEdgbaston@gatewayfs.org
0121 456 7821

Northfield
NorthfieldFamilies@northfieldcommunity.org
07516 918 133

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

Perry Barr
PerrybarrEHnetwork@spurgeons.org
0121 752 1900

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

Selly Oak
EarlyHelp.Billesley@gmail.com
0121 441 4556

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

Sutton Coldfield
SuttonEHnetwork@spurgeons.org
0121 752 1860

Ladywood
childrenandfamilies@bsettlement.org.uk
07764 977636

Yardley
EarlyHelpYardley@barnardos.org.uk
0121 289 4875

