



Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our
nurturing school



Friday 1st December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you have had a good week.

Pantomime

On Tuesday, our Reception to Year 4 classes watched the pantomime of Aladdin. *Oh no they didn't... Oh yes they did!* This experience is part of our Colmers Farm Primary Guarantee for our Year 2 children. However, as we had space in the hall, we wanted as many children as possible to see this, so we also invited Reception, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 4 to view this. The children and staff had a wonderful time watching this performance and there was plenty of laughter and audience participation as you would expect.

Chess Club

This Thursday marked the launch of a new club at Colmers Farm – Chess Club. This is a fantastic game that I started playing at the age of 7 when I received my first chess set from my Grandmother as a Christmas present. Playing chess develops many useful skills such as problem solving, patience, reasoning, strategic thinking, calmness and visualisation. These skills are really useful in different curriculum areas, such as maths. We are very excited to offer this club and we hope for as many children as possible to take part in this. This club is run by an outside chess coach and takes place from 7:30-8:30 a.m. each Thursday. It is open to children from Years 4-6 and beginners are welcome. If you would like your child to take part, please contact the school office for more information.



Edgbaston Cricket Club – Year 4

As part of Year 4's Colmers Farm Primary Guarantee, on Wednesday, 4J visited and had a tour of Edgbaston Cricket Ground. This was a great opportunity for Year 4 to see a professional sporting venue and to learn about its history and some of the historic sporting moments which have happened here over the years. The children also get to take part in some activities to develop their cricketing skills. 4J represented our school very well as I am sure 4V will do when they visit next week on Wednesday 6th December.

ZooLab

As part of Year 3's Amazon Rainforest geography topic, which they are studying this term, on Friday they were visited by ZooLab. This visit was an ideal opportunity for our pupils to find out more information about different animals and creatures which inhabit that part of the globe and to see, touch and hold some of these. These included a millipede, a rat, a giant land snail, a corn snake, a tree frog and a rather hairy tarantula. Our Year 3 pupils were very brave and they thoroughly enjoyed meeting all our visitors.

EYFS Nativity

Although there are still a couple of days to Advent Sunday, our EYFS children have begun practising their Christmas nativity production. Our EYFS staff and children always work really hard with this, and I am sure our EYFS children's parents are eagerly looking forward to seeing the finished production on the 19th and 20th December like I am.

Year 5 and 6 Residential Photos

We have compiled the photos from our Year 5 and 6 residential into a short video. This is now available within the news section of the school website. We hope that you enjoy watching this.

Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner

Next Thursday is National Christmas Jumper Day. This raises money for the **Save the Children** charity. In support of this charity, children can come to school in their usual uniform on Thursday 7th December wearing a Christmas jumper/top for a donation of your choice. Thursday will also be our school Christmas dinner day where we may be joined by a very special visitor from the North Pole.

Parking

It has been brought to our attention that some parents are parking outside of the designated parking spaces in Morrisons before and after school. This includes some parking on paths. Although it may be convenient for some parents to park like this, this does put other parents and their children in potential danger. Please park responsibly and do not put your convenience before the safety of others. Thank you for your support with this.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Mr Williams
Headteacher

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 other than on their PE day, unless this is short term with prior agreement.

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

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.

Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Additional Information
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas Jumper Day	All years
Tuesday 12 th – Friday 15 th	Book Fair	3:30pm – 4:00pm
Tuesday 19 th December	Dogs Trust Visit	Year 6
Tuesday 19 th December	Nativity	9:30am
Wednesday 20 th December	Nativity	2:30pm
Friday 22 nd December	Christmas Parties & Christmas Jumper Day	All years
Friday 22 nd December	Break up for Christmas	
Monday 8 th January 2024	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	
Tuesday 9 th January 2024	Pupils Return to School	
Wednesday 17 th January 2024	Citizens Advice Drop-in session	All day
Tuesday 6 th February	Symphony Hall Trip	Year 6
Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th February 2024	Half Term Holiday - school closed to pupils	
Monday 19 th February 2024	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	
Monday 25 th March – Friday 5 th April	Easter Holidays – school closed to pupils	
Monday 13 th May – Thursday 16 th May	SATs week	Year 6
Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May	Whitsun Half Term Holiday – school closed to pupils	
Wednesday 5 th June 2024	Class photo day	
Friday 19 th July	Break up for Summer	
Monday 22 nd July	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	

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.



Please follow us on Twitter!

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

@Colmers_FarmPS



Happy Birthday Messages

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

Stephen	1W	6
Logan	2P	7
Ava-Rose	4J	9
Maria	3F	8
Icy	1W	6

Hollie RJ 5



Do you have a safeguarding concern about a child?

Contact:

safeguarding@colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org

Alternatively contact Birmingham City Council

Children's Trust on

0121 303 1888

What's New on the Website?

- Christmas Chocolate/Sweet tub appeal letter
- Year 2 showcase letter

Citizens Advice Outreach

At Colmers Farm Primary School Wednesday 17th January 2024

Offering benefit advice by both appointment and drop in via Pathfinder

Speak to your Pathfinder worker for more information Ms June Taylor @ Colmers Farm Primary School

FOR IMMEDIATE ADVICE CONTACT US ON OUR HELPLINES:

TELEPHONE ADVICELINE: 0808 278 7990

DEBT ENQUIRIES: 0300 3302 130

CONSUMER HELPLINE: 0808 223 1133



Citizens Advice Benefits Support

We can help you make sense of the benefits system. Unsure of what you are entitled to claim?

Do you simply have a question or query regarding benefits? Citizens Advice Birmingham can give you practical support.

Drop-in clinic being held on:

Wednesday 17th January 2024

This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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



Lily	RG
Sawyer	1K
Luckie	2M
Macie	3F
Chris	4J
Evelyn	5E
Emilie	6H




This week's congratulations assembly recipients...




Ada-Rose	RG	Ava	RL	Holly	RJ
Chase	1W	Hannah	1K	William	2P
Laurie	2M	Myah	3F	Esmee	3B
Isaiah	4V	Betty	4J	Louie	5S
Tiegan	5E	Tyler	6B	Gracie-Mae	6H



House Points

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This week	89 	87	74	77

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This term's total	2293 	2272	2365	2391

Safeguarding at Colmers Farm Primary School

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



Mrs Evans
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



Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

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, 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 straight away.



Help your child become a better **READER**

Questions to ask your child while reading
fiction text.



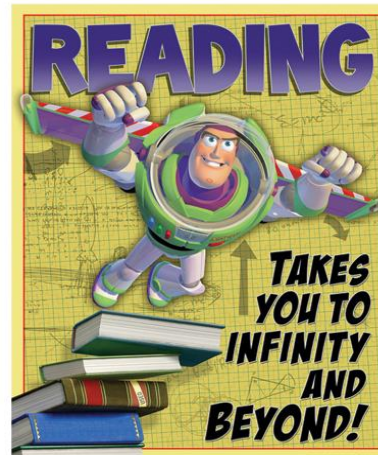
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in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



Regular Attendance Means Punctual Attendance

Arriving on time for school is important as late arrivals are disruptive for the class and can be embarrassing for the child who is late. Children can also miss important information during registration including the plan for the day.

- Playground gates open at 8:30 am
- Doors open between 8:35 am and 8:45 am
- Registers are taken at 8:50 am
- Late arrival is between 8:51 am and 9:30 am (L on the register)
- Arrival after 9:31 am is recorded as unauthorised (U on the register)

To date, approximately 16 pupils are arriving late to school each day. It is essential that your child is at school on time and ready to learn. Any unauthorised absence (where children arrive after 9:31 am) negatively impacts on our overall attendance figure as well as your child's attendance and achievement levels.

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

Our current school attendance to date has slipped to 93.9% - let's get this up to 96%!

CLASS AWARDS:

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



RJ – 99%

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



4V – 96.6%

Attendance league table, WEEK 11

Position	Class	Games Played	Points
1	3B	11	30
2	RJ	11	24
=	2P	11	24
4	5E	11	21
5	2M	11	18
=	3F	11	18
=	6B	11	18
=	6H	11	18
9	1K	11	15
=	4J	11	15
=	4V	11	15
12	RG	11	12
=	1W	11	12
14	RL	11	3
15	5S	11	0



AcceleratedTM
Reader



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	4V	87,579
2 nd	5E	77,072
3 rd	5S	47,510
4 th	6H	26,951
5 th	3F	10,106
6 th	3B	3,824
7 th	4J	3,314
8 th	6B	1,598

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Lucas (5E) 74,145
2 nd	Danielle (4V) 72,145
3 rd	Timothy (5S) 34,921
Highest score this year	
Lucas (5E) 74,145	

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	3B	142,329,358
2 nd	5S	27,813,226
3 rd	5E	25,205,300
4 th	6B	9,867,366
5 th	6H	8,516,048
6 th	4J	5,228,098
7 th	3F	5,062,698
8 th	2M	3,601,586
9 th	1K	2,610,106
10 th	4V	1,596,304
11 th	1W	1,396,386
12 th	2P	965,574

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Godpower (3B) 133,011,798
2 nd	Thomas (6H) 15,698,824
3 rd	Lucas (5E) 14,264,970
Highest score this year	
Godpower (3B) 909,480,390	



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	2M	144,330
2 nd	3B	143,284
3 rd	5E	126,646
4 th	2P	94,130
5 th	4V	53,411
6 th	6H	40,976
7 th	6B	30,149
8 th	5S	30,017
9 th	3F	29,522
10 th	4J	27,124

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Scarlet (3B) 80,475
2 nd	Lucas (5E) 55,739
3 rd	Laurie (2M) 29965
Highest score this year	
Scarlet (3B) 80,475	