



Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our
nurturing school



Friday 9th February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the final newsletter of what has been a very short half term. I hope you are having a good week.

Year 6 Visit to Symphony Hall

On Tuesday, Year 6 visited Birmingham's world-famous Symphony Hall to see the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in action. The music performance ranged from a compilation of music from Harry Potter, to the Angry Birds theme to Ravel's Bolero. These school concerts are designed to inspire children to explore the world of live music. This visit is part of our Colmers Farm Primary Guarantee which aims to broaden our pupils' experiences. Our Year 6s thoroughly enjoyed their visit and they represented our school very well indeed.



OPAL Mud Kitchen and Reading Shed

For OPAL this week, we have enhanced our provision by opening two new areas for our pupils to utilise, the mud kitchen and our reading shed. Both have proved popular with our pupils.



Year 5 and 6 Netball Match

On Monday our Year 5 and 6 netball team, expertly coached and managed by Miss Rudge, played St Lawrence School in a friendly game in our playgrounds, cheered on by many parents and families. The game finished 9-1 to St Lawrence and our player of the match was Piper V. Well done to all our children who played and demonstrated the excellent sportsman/lady qualities that we work hard to develop as a school. Your 'never give up attitude' was fabulous. We are proud of you all.

Competitions

This week our upper KS2 pupils took part in two competitions. Firstly, on Wednesday a group of six Year 5s Darcie, Georgie, Lilah, Tiegan, Kayleigh and Piper went to King Edwards VI Northfield School for Girls to take part in a School Games dance competition against other local schools. We finished a very credible 4th. Well done everybody and thank you to Miss Jennings and Miss McCarron for taking our pupils to this event.

Following this on Thursday, six of our Year 6 pupils Beth, Paige D, Piper, Iyanna, Tyler H and Gabriella, went to Green Meadow School (one of our MAT sister schools) to take part in a debating lesson ran by **Noisy Classrooms!** They also competed in two debates, one seen and one unseen. The first of these was about whether footballers earn too much money. That's a debate you could try at home. Although we did not win the competition, our pupils were magnificent. I am not sure I could have done as well as them at their age. Well done everybody. Thank you to Miss Wood and Mrs Young for our participation in this event and for enabling it to happen.



Birmingham v Sunderland Football Game

As a school we managed to secure 300 free tickets for the Birmingham v Sunderland game for our families, which will take place over the holidays. Information regarding where you can collect your tickets from was sent home yesterday. I hope that you all enjoy your trip to St Andrews and the game. Fingers crossed for a Birmingham City victory.

Please remember that a photo from this game would be excellent evidence towards your child's SAGE award, so please send these into your teacher via their class email address e.g. 4J@colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org.

Year 6 China Wow Day

On Wednesday Year 6 had a special immersive afternoon focusing on their geography topic of China. For this day the children came dressed in red and gold and took part in several different activities including making Chinese lanterns and Blue Willow pattern plates. Our Year 6's enjoyed the afternoon and produced some very creative outcomes.

Parents' Evenings

Thank you to all the parents/carers who were able to have their parents' evenings either face-to-face or on the telephone this week. We hope that you found them useful. Parents' evenings are important to us as a school, as they are important in enabling us to work together to ensure that your child can achieve their full potential. If you were unable to attend a meeting, please contact the school office after half term and we will endeavour to find a mutually convenient time for this to take place then.

Chinese New Year celebrations

Chinese New Year is upon us, with celebrations starting on Saturday, February 10 to welcome in the year of the dragon. The two-week festival marks the beginning of a new Lunar year – and a new animal in the Chinese zodiac to represent the next 12 months. Billions of people in China and around the world will celebrate, often wearing red clothes, decorating their homes with red lanterns and taking part in traditional dragon dances. We hope that all of our families here at Colmers Farm who will be celebrating Chinese New Year have a wonderful time.



And finally...

In the news currently there is much coverage about children using social media sites and the potential short- and long-term dangers of this, particularly on children's mental health. Even though all our children are technically under age to be using most social media sites, we know that the school holidays are a peak time for children using these. These can lead to children becoming distressed and depressed due to online comments made towards them or images they may see, hence the age reason for the age restrictions using these. We ask all parents/carers to be extra vigilant to these dangers; to monitor closely what their children are doing online and to talk to them regularly about their online activities. Only by talking to children regularly about these issues can we give them the self-confidence to tell us about issues and concerns that they may encounter. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

I hope that you have a lovely half term break with your families. We look forward to seeing everybody back in school, safe and well, on Monday 19th February.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Williams
Headteacher



Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Additional Information
Monday 19 th February	Return to school after half term	
Monday 19 th February	After School Wraparound Provision starts	3:30pm – 5:30pm
Tuesday 20 th February	African Animal Day	Year 1
Tuesday 20 th February	Parents Oracy workshop	All year groups
Tuesday 20 th February	Carbon Monoxide Workshop	Year 2 and 5
Wednesday 28 th February	Year 1 Maths Workshop	2:15pm
Friday 1 st March	EYFS Maths Workshop	2:15pm
Monday 18 th March	Year 2 Maths workshop	2pm
Monday 25 th March – Friday 5 th April	Easter Holidays – school closed to pupils	
Tuesday 9 th April	Animal Man visit	Reception
Monday 22 nd April – Friday 26 th April	Bikeability	Year 3 and Year 4
Monday 29 th April – Friday 3 rd May	Bikeability	Year 3 and Year 4
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	
Monday 3 rd June	Class photo day	
Thursday 13 th June	Wythall Transport Museum Trip	Reception
Monday 1 st July – Friday 5 th July	Book Fair	3:30pm
Tuesday 9 th July	SeaLife Centre Trip	Year 2
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:

Callum	5E	10	Ethan	3B	8	Jai-Jai	1K	6
Daisy-May	RL	5	Tyler	6B	11	Jenson	3F	8
Tiegan	5E	10	Aiman	1W	6	Sophia	4V	9
Olivia -Rose	6H	11	Mahz	2P	7			
Harrison	RG	5	Bobby	6H	11			
Natasha	RG	5	Oscar	3B	8			



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?

- Year 1 British Values poster letter
- EYFS Maths workshop letter
- World Book Day letter
- After school wraparound care reminder letter

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 in order to further develop their understanding, learning and ORACY skills around the topics they are currently learning about in school.

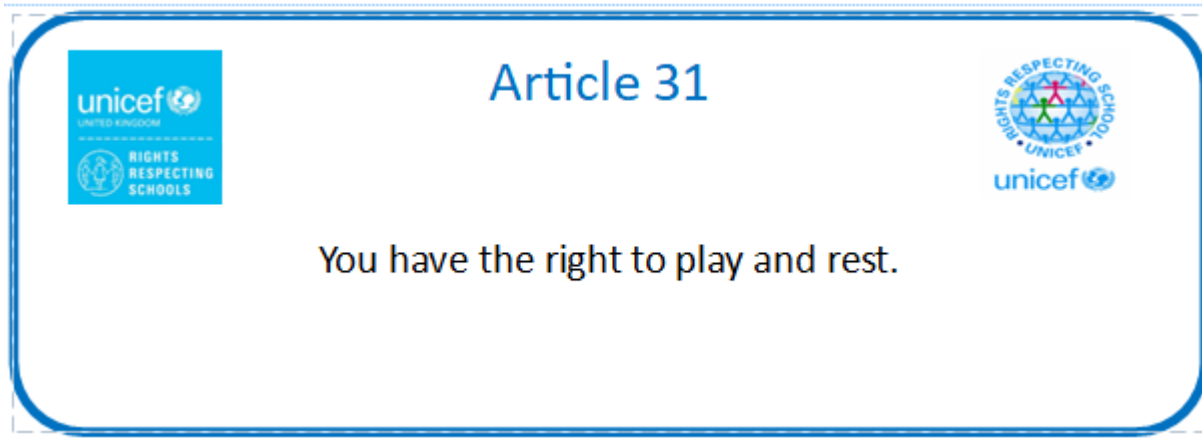
- Reception:** Can you tell me a fact about Giant Pandas?
- Year 1:** What are the four African tribes?
- Year 2:** What are the features of instructions?
- Year 3:** What do the artefacts found in Ancient Egyptian tombs tell us about them and their lives?
- Year 4:** What are the differences between Sir Ernest Shackleton and Captain Robert Falcon Scott?
- Year 5:** Can you tell me how many tenths, hundredths and thousandths make up 1 whole?
- Year 6:** What happened in The Willow Pattern story?

Rights Respecting Article

We are actively promoting children's rights and ensuring they know them, please see an 'Article of the week' for you to share with your child'?

For more information, please visit the below website:

[The Right to Participation for Rights Respecting Schools - UNICEF UK](#)



Article 31 of the UNCRC says that children and young people have the right to have fun in the way they want to, whether by playing sports, watching films, or doing something else entirely. They have the right to rest, too.

Children and young people should be able to take part freely in cultural activities, just like adults. The government should make sure it's easy for them to do this whether or not they have a disability.



 UNCRC Article 31

I have a right to relax and play

This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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



Awere	RL
Ava	1K
Ella	2M
Jenson	3F
Danielle	4V
Jake	5E
Lonnie	6B



This week's congratulations assembly recipients...



Inaaya	RG	Bin	RL	Archie	RJ
Icy	1W	Meadow	1K	William	2P
Jaylen	2M	Bryn	3F	Owen	3B
Khaleesi	4J	Emily	4V	Emily	5E
Lilah	5S	Taijon	6B	Clara	6H



House Points

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This week	203	186	198	162

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This term's total	3127	2889	3029	3114





We are now halfway through the school year, and we need your help to raise our whole school attendance. Thank you for your support and understanding with this.

Don't forget! The Spring term is a brand-new opportunity for your child to earn their first attendance badge. For this term, attendance is measured from January to the Easter holidays which is not what you can see on your child's Arbor page. Arbor measures attendance from September. If you would like to know how your child's attendance is for the Spring term, please contact the office and a member of the team will be able to tell you.

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 93.2% - let's get this up to 96%!

The Colmers Farm attendance league table, WEEK 4.

Position	Class	Games Played	Points
1	RJ	4	12
=	2P	4	12
3	4V	4	10
4	3B	4	9
=	5E	4	9
6	RL	4	6
=	1K	4	6
=	1W	4	6
=	2M	4	6
=	4J	4	6
=	6H	4	6
12	3F	4	4
13	RG	4	3
=	6B	4	3
15	5S	4	0

CLASS AWARDS:

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



RJ – 96.3%

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



5E – 98.9%

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:



Mrs Young
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.



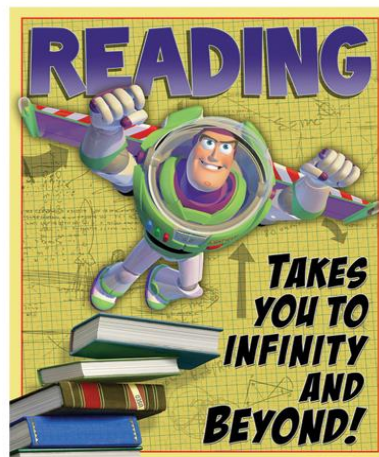
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in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



AcceleratedTM
Reader



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	5S	80,720
2 nd	4V	48,936
3 rd	5E	44,080
4 th	3F	15,594
5 th	3B	12,742
6 th	4J	9,972
7 th	6B	4,229
8 th	6H	2,075

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Amelia (5S) 80,720
2 nd	Arash (4J) 9,972
3 rd	Tyler (4V) 9,241
Highest score this year	
Timothy (5S) 850,518	

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	3B	34,719,378
2 nd	3F	28,780,436
3 rd	5E	22,477,136
4 th	6H	4,944,948
5 th	2P	1,662,546
6 th	4V	1,337,538
7 th	2M	1,028,834
8 th	1K	840,194
9 th	1W	122,248
10 th	6B	118,064
11 th	5S	0
12 th	4J	0

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Godpower (3B) 29,535,000
2 nd	Lucas (5E) 14,819,196
3 rd	Theo (3F) 36,361,498
Highest score this year	
Lucas (5E) 220,462,154	



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	3B	210629
2 nd	5E	209,928
3 rd	2M	185,154
4 th	2P	130,225
5 th	4V	108,116
6 th	6H	78,050
7 th	3F	64,044
8 th	6B	46,830
9 th	5S	45,309
10 th	4J	38,935

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Scarlet (3B) 119,637
2 nd	Lucas (5E) 116,265
3 rd	Laurie (2M) 35,636
Highest score this year	
Scarlet (3B) 119,637	