



Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our
nurturing school



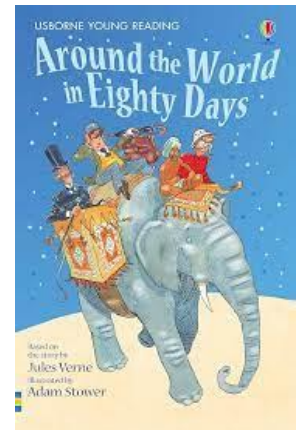
Friday 12th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy new year to you all and I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas break. It was wonderful to see and welcome everybody back to school safe and well on Tuesday. Our pupils have all settled quickly back into school this week, even though this can sometimes be difficult after a two-week break.

Writing Week

This week was writing week at our school and each year group has been using the classic tale of 'Around the World in Eighty Days' by French writer Jules Verne, as a stimulus for their writing. This adventure story, set in Victorian Britain, follows Phileas Fogg and his newly employed French valet, (Passepartout), as they attempt to circumnavigate the world in 80 days to win a wager of £20,000 (equivalent to nearly £2,000,000 in today's money). Our pupils listened to extracts from this story and watched parts of the movie to produce different types of writing and artwork based on this story. The writing produced was fabulous and we will display some of these pieces around the school for everybody to enjoy.



Reading

Developing reading skills are vital to all children's academic progress. We encourage you to listen to your child read as much as possible or to read to your child, ideally at least 10-15 minutes per day. Please remember that a wide selection of age-appropriate online books is available on MyON and that in KS2 our pupils should complete an Accelerated Reader test each time they finish reading their book. Both resources can be accessed via the useful links section on the home page of our website (top right corner). Thank you for helping to support your child's learning.

New Staff

We would like to welcome Mr Melville and Mrs Shipman to our school. These teachers will be sharing the teaching of 4V for the remainder of the school year. Both teachers know our school well having worked previously in different year groups at our school over the last year. I am sure that everybody will make them feel most welcome and that they will enjoy their time with us.

Admissions Consultation 2025/2026

Every few years schools must consult on their school admissions arrangements. Please find our consultation in the admissions section of our school website. <https://www.colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org/key-information/admissions/>

School Shoes

I did mention this before the holidays, but please can I remind everybody that school shoes should be worn as part of our school uniform (or black trainers with no non-black logos/writing) on non-PE days. Wearing the correct full school uniform is important for several reasons, including improving pupils focus on their learning. Thank you for your support with this.

And finally...

Thank you for the history/geography topic homework that has been coming into school this week. It is great to see some of the creative projects you have been working on with your children over the Christmas holiday. Thank you for helping to engage your children in their new topics. Below are a few of the examples we've received so far. From left to right, well done and thank you to Lucas M (5E), Logan W (2P), Adriana (1K) and Blake (1K).



I know that there are quite a few projects currently being worked on, which we are really looking forward to seeing over the next few weeks. If you have misplaced your child's geography/history knowledge organiser, you can download this from the curriculum page on the school website. Alternatively, please speak to your child's class teacher who will happily provide you with a copy of this.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend. Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Williams
Headteacher

"THIS MORNING, HE HAD A RUNNY NOSE... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

HM Government

Head to the NHS website to find out more 

NHS

Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Additional Information
Wednesday 17 th January 2024	Citizens Advice Drop-in session	All day
Wednesday 17 th January 2024	School nursing team – Height and weight checks	Reception and Year 6
Thursday 25 th January	Birmingham Cathedral Trip	Year 6
Tuesday 30 th January	Year 6 open morning: English, Reading and Maths	Year 6
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	
Wednesday 28 th February	Year 1 Maths Workshop	
Wednesday 6 th March	African Drumming Workshop	Year 1
Monday 18 th March	Year 2 Maths workshop	
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	
Friday 7 th June	Beach Trip	Year 2
Thursday 13 th June	Wythall Transport Museum Trip	Reception
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:

Kaya- Rose	1K	6	Owen	3B	8
Lawson	6B	11	Valentina	4J	9
Ryan	2M	7	Iyanna	6H	11
Chris	4J	9	Aisha	3B	8
Rio	5E	10			
Hao Lin	6B	11			



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?

Letter – Birmingham Cathedral Trip Year 6
 Letter – African Drumming Workshop Year 1
 Letter – Sealife Centre Trip Year 2
 Letter – CBSO Trip Year 6
 Letter – CAB Drop in session
 Letter – MMR Vaccine Reminder

Reminder

citizens advice

On **Wednesday 17th January** we have a Citizen's Advice: Benefit Support drop-in session. The advisor coming in will be able to help with the following:

- help you to work out your entitlement to benefits
- help you to fill in the appropriate forms (including charitable and local authority grants)
- help to submit challenges, reviews and appeals to the relevant benefit service provide benefit checks and 'better off' calculations
- help you if you have to pay back overpayments
- help with explaining the criteria of benefits while you are studying
- help explain what you might be entitled to while you are not studying or if temporarily absent from studies

This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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



Connor	RL
Aurora	1W
Logan	2P
Sara	3F
Ellis	4J
Lucas	5E
Beth	6H



This week's congratulations assembly recipients...



There were no awards given out today as this is the first week of the Spring Term.

Check back next week to see the first awards of the Spring Term.



House Points

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This week	House points will be added to next week's totals!			

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This term's total	2560	2368	2491	2572



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:



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.



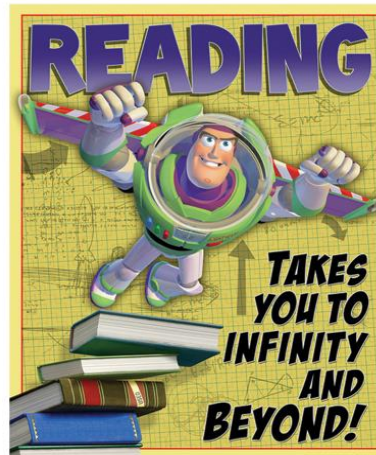
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in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

fun-in-first.blogspot.com

Questions to ask your child when listening to them reading



AcceleratedTM
Reader



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	5S	990,152
2 nd	5E	738,720
3 rd	4V	323,705
4 th	6B	329,124
5 th	3F	257,667
6 th	3B	122,317
7 th	4J	121,877
8 th	6H	153,463

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Tim (5S) 816,603
2 nd	Lucas (5E) 494,470
3 rd	Danielle (4V) 220,650
Highest score this year	
Tim (5S) 816,603	

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	3B	38,998,366
2 nd	5E	25,735,418
3 rd	4V	4,984,029
4 th	3F	3,054,147
5 th	6H	2,469,088
6 th	5S	524,836
7 th	1W	422,722
8 th	1K	296,264
9 th	4J	0
10 th	6B	0
11 th	2M	0
12 th	2P	0

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Godpower (3B) 38,155,000
2 nd	Lucas (5E) 22,262,988
3 rd	Danielle (4V) 3,849,626
Highest score this year	
Godpower (3B) 1,012,279,294	



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	3B	171,022
2 nd	5E	170,945
3 rd	2M	170,011
4 th	2P	108,370
5 th	4V	84,579
6 th	6H	61,659
7 th	3F	38,106
8 th	5S	38,049
9 th	6B	36,811
10 th	4J	29,421

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Scarlet (3B) 101,056
2 nd	Lucas (5E) 87,375
3 rd	Laurie (2M) 33,096
Highest score this year	
Scarlet (3B) 101,056	