



# Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our  
nurturing school



Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you have all had a good week.

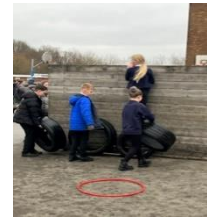
### Visiting teachers

At Colmers Farm Primary School, we are always eager to showcase our teaching and learning, and on Wednesday we hosted 30 early career teachers from across Birmingham. Here they received specialist maths training from our Excelsior maths lead, Miss Hackett. These teachers were then split into groups before observing maths lessons in one of our Year 1 or Year 2 classes. Our children were completely unfazed by our visitors, and they very much impressed them with their attitudes to learning, mathematical understanding and their behavioural choices. Well done to both our children and Year 1 and 2 teachers for showcasing our school so well.

To complete a busy week of maths visitors, we then had 11 maths leaders (again from across Birmingham) who were in school to receive training and to see a maths lesson in 2P. Once again, our children were very impressive. Well done everybody and thank you to Mrs Platt for agreeing to host these visitors during her maths lesson.

### OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)

After several successful trials, this week we have begun mixing our Reception, KS1 and KS2 permanently during dinnertimes. Watching these children mix, on a daily basis, has been delightful. I have been particularly impressed with the way our older children have been playing with and looking after our younger children. We look forward to seeing where our OPAL journey takes us. See some of the photos below which show what our children have been up to this week.



If you have any of the following items at home which you would like to donate to the school so our children could use these in OPAL we'd be very grateful:

We are seeking items such as:

- Suitcases of any size and type
- Anything on wheels/castors
- Plastic milk crates/supermarket delivery crates/plastic bread trays
- Briefcases, especially hard cased ones
- Kitchen pots, pans, baking trays, work tables, wooden spoons, chopping boards
- Tools like small spades/shovels, trowels and brooms
- Tubes of various sizes and various materials
- Buckets
- Nets and thick ropes
- Fabric (large sheets/brightly coloured fabric)
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- Foam sheets/bodyboards/camping roll mats/yoga mats
- Wooden pallets
- Metal frames
- Ball pit balls
- Cable drums
- Guttering
- Noodles (the type you use in the swimming pool!!)
- Hats/scarves/jazzy shirts/elasticated skirts/waistcoats/wedding dresses/character costumes
- Pegs (to help to set up dens)

**And finally...**

On Thursday morning I popped down to visit our chess club and to see our children, with their chess coach, in action. Chess was a real passion of mine when I was in KS2 (many years ago) and it was delightful to see the children in this club getting the same engagement and enjoyment from this game as I did. Hopefully I'll be able to play a few games with these children over the next few weeks.

Later this year, we are hoping that some of these children will be taking part in a chess competition and based on what I've seen, they will hopefully do very well.



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
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Birmingham Cathedral Trip	Year 6
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 open morning: English, Reading, and Maths	Year 6
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Symphony Hall Trip	Year 6
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Half Term Holiday - school closed to pupils	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 1 Maths Workshop	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	African Drumming Workshop	Year 1
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 2 Maths workshop	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays – school closed to pupils	
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Animal Man visit	Reception
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Bikeability	Year 3 and Year 4
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Bikeability	Year 3 and Year 4
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs week	Year 6
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Whitsun Half Term Holiday – school closed to pupils	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Class photo day	
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Wythall Transport Museum Trip	Reception
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	SeaLife Centre Trip	Year 2
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Break up for Summer	
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> 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:

Josh	3F	8	Rosie	2P	7
Ruwan	6H	11	Lucas	5E	10
Kamaal	6H	11	Kyrie	1W	6
Oliver	6B	11	Olivia	2P	7
Isaiah	4V	9	Szymon	3F	8



## 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

## What's New on the Website?

- Year group newsletters

### DRESSING FOR COLD WEATHER

adding layers will help keep you warm as the temperature drops

#### CHILLY

- 1-2 layers
- long layer
- outer layer to keep out wind, rain
- warm shoes water proof

#### COLD

- 2-3 layers
- gloves
- warm hat
- outer layer to keep out wind, wet snow
- boots water proof
- 1-2 layers

#### EXTREME COLD

- 3+ layers 1 insulating
- gloves
- warm hat
- face mask
- outer layer to keep out wind
- boots water proof
- 2+ layers

weather.gov/safety

# This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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



Harrison	RG
Zacharias	1W
Charlie	2M
Makonnen	3F
Sophie-Mae	4V
Louis	5S
Reagan	6B



# This week's congratulations assembly recipients...



Harrison	RG	Ada	RL	Declan	RJ
Aurora	1W	Bella-Rose	1K	Jack	2P
Ruby	2M	Jenson	3F	Kade	3B
Lorelei	4J	Arlo-Jai	4V	Isabelle	5E
Poppie-Leigh	5S	Gabriella	6B	Thomas	6H



# House Points

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This week	86	91	92	97

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This term's total	2646	2459	2583	2669





The start of the new term gives children the opportunity to reset their attendance and begin working towards their new attendance badge. For some children this will be their bronze and for some their silver. There are of course genuine reasons (Such as illness) which can make attendance at school difficult. We however urge parents to bring children into school consistently, when they are well enough, to help us maximise their learning opportunities.

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

When you're in school you...

- Have fun
- Make new friends
- Gain qualifications
- Achieve
- Develop new skills
- Experience new things
- Build your confidence & self esteem
- Develop awareness of other cultures, religion, ethnicity and gender differences

Have the best possible start in life!

### The Colmers Farm attendance league table, WEEK 1

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

### CLASS AWARDS:

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



**2P – 95.6%**

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



**4V – 98.8%**

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

**Our whole school attendance so far this term is 93.6% · let's get this up to 96% this term!**

# Safeguarding at Colmers Farm Primary School

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



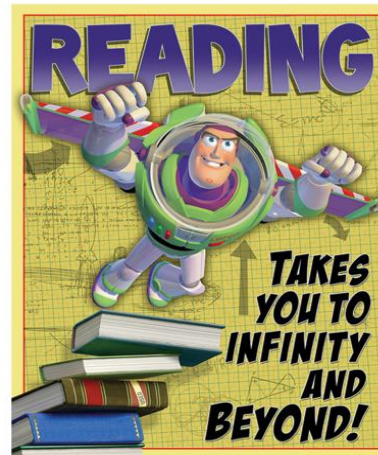
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in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





**Accelerated™**  
Reader



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	5E	66,433
2 <sup>nd</sup>	5S	62,603
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3B	14,180
4 <sup>th</sup>	3F	12,989
5 <sup>th</sup>	4V	7,636
6 <sup>th</sup>	6H	772
7 <sup>th</sup>	4J	0
8 <sup>th</sup>	6B	0

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Tim (5S) 65,662
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucas (5E) 60,840
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Skye (3B) 12,840
Highest score this year	
Tim (5S) 816,603	

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	5E	52,169,598
2 <sup>nd</sup>	3B	41,610,578
3 <sup>rd</sup>	5S	10,505,682
4 <sup>th</sup>	4V	3,519,512
5 <sup>th</sup>	3F	2,463,126
6 <sup>th</sup>	4J	1,988,158
7 <sup>th</sup>	1K	854,820
8 <sup>th</sup>	6H	153,463
9 <sup>th</sup>	2P	657,634
10 <sup>th</sup>	1W	397,342
11 <sup>th</sup>	6B	291,362
12 <sup>th</sup>	2M	0

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Godpower (3B) 41,340,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucas (5E) 40,352,516
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Moonshine (5S) 8,560,000
Highest score this year	
Godpower (3B) 1,053,619,294	



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	5E	180,055
2 <sup>nd</sup>	3B	175,322
3 <sup>rd</sup>	2M	172,587
4 <sup>th</sup>	2P	110,855
5 <sup>th</sup>	4V	88,917
6 <sup>th</sup>	6H	65,119
7 <sup>th</sup>	6B	42,501
8 <sup>th</sup>	3F	41,408
9 <sup>th</sup>	5S	39,069
10 <sup>th</sup>	4J	30,728

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Scarlet (3B) 104,376
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucas (5E) 93,345
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Laurie (2M) 33,096
Highest score this year	
Scarlet (3B) 104,376	