



# Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our  
nurturing school



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have had a good week.

## Spelling Shed

All pupils from Years 1 to 6 should now have been provided with their new usernames and passwords for Spelling Shed. Please encourage your children to use this regularly as this has proven to impact positively on pupils spelling skills. If your child has not yet received their username/password or it has been lost, please either contact the school's main office or speak to your child's class teacher.



## EYFS Open Day for 2023/2024 Cohort

Our EYFS Open Day was well attended with over 30 parents and children attending and we received lots of positive feedback about our school, which was wonderful to hear. Unfortunately, I was unable to be in school on Wednesday to meet the parents and children who attended this. I would like to thank Miss Galvin and Miss Cross for leading these in my absence and to Mrs Jones who gave up her time after school to attend and help with the evening session.

## Parents' Evenings Next Week

Next week we will be holding our parents' evenings. These will be on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October. Having attended my first ever parents' evening as a parent this week, I can say how useful and important these are as a parent to attend.



At Colmers Farm, we aim for 100% attendance at parents' evenings. If you are yet to book a time via Arbor, please do so by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

If you are unable to attend, please contact the school office and they will try to either arrange a face-to-face meeting with your child's teacher or a telephone call with them.

### **Guardian Consultations**

Parents Evening (26 Oct 2023, 15:15 - 26 Oct 2023, 18:00)

*Self scheduling is open, please click here to book time slots. ▶*

Parents Evening (25 Oct 2023, 15:15 - 25 Oct 2023, 18:00)

*Self scheduling is open, please click here to book time slots. ▶*

There was an unfortunate technical error which occurred when the parents' booking system on Arbor went live. This issue has now been fixed and I apologise for an inconvenience caused by this.

## Year 5/6 Residential Meeting

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend our Year 5 and 6 Residential Meeting on Tuesday after school. We hope that you found this meeting to be both informative and reassuring. If you were unable to attend the meeting, please visit the school office and they will be able to provide you with a copy of the presentation and the recommended kit list for this visit. Once again, I would just like to say thank you for supporting this trip by allowing your child/children to attend. Residentials truly are an experience that children remember forever.

### Professor McGinty

On Tuesday, after visiting Year 4 last week, our favourite special time travelling Professor (Professor McGinty) returned to Colmers Farm. This time he was visiting our Year 6 pupils and he took them all the way back to the 1940's. The children were enthused by this visit which supplemented their current history topic based on WW2. During the session, the children learnt more about air raid shelters, the rationing of food and clothes and the different artillery and weapons used during the war. Professor McGinty was impressed with our children's knowledge and he thoroughly enjoyed answering their inquisitive questions. Our Year 6s were fascinated by the artefacts which included money and gas masks. We all very much look forward to welcoming the Professor back again soon.



### Lost Property

We have a lot of items currently in our lost property boxes which have still not been claimed. A lot of these items are not labelled unfortunately so we have been unable to reunite them with their owners. Mrs Taylor will be putting all lost property items out in the lower hall from 3pm on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October. If you could please have a look and take any items belonging to your child, we would be very grateful. Entrance to the lower hall will be via the fire exit and not the main office.

### Returning borrowed uniform/clothes

For those children that have borrowed school uniform/clothes after having a toileting accident in school could we please request that these items are washed and returned to us before half term as our stock of these items is currently running low.

If you feel your child is prone to having toileting accidents whilst at school, we kindly ask that you send them into school with a spare set of clothes so if they do need to be changed during the day, we have clothing to be able to do this.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D.J.W.' with a flourish.

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](http://www.ruberyswopshop.co.uk) or [ruberyswopshop@outlook.com](mailto:ruberyswopshop@outlook.com) for more information.

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Additional Information
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evening	3:15pm – 6pm
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Black Country Living Museum Trip	Year 1
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evening	3:15pm – 6pm
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Deadline for Secondary School applications	Year 6
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Half Term Holiday – school closed to pupils	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 and 6 Residential Trip – Boundless Outdoors	Year 5 and 6
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Phonics Workshop	Year 1
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	KS1 E-Safety workshop for parents	KS1
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	KS2 E-Safety Workshop for parents	KS2
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu immunisations	All years
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photo Day	All years
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Synagogue Visit	Year 3
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Mosque Visit	Year 5
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	ZooLab visit	Year 3
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Physical Assault Workshop	Year 6
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Dog's Trust Visit	Year 6
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Break up for Christmas	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Pupils Return to School	
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	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays – school closed to pupils	
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	
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Class photo day	

# 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:

Tyler	4V	9
Zachary	RL	5
Harvey	5S	10



## 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 6 Chosen Charity Letter
- Flu immunisation letter - forms have been sent out
- Year 4 computer programming club letter
- Parents' evening letter
- Year 4 and Year 6 Professor McGinty photos

# Be Bright

## Be Seen!



# This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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



Ada Rose RG  
 Ramaya 1W  
 Laurie 2M  
 Makonnen 3F  
 Betty 4J  
 Kaydi Ann 4V  
 Ellis 5S  
 Tiahna 6B




# This week's congratulations assembly recipients...




Corey	RG	Lacey	3F
Freddie	RJ	Leila	4J
Conor	RL	Paige	4V
Hunter	1W	Gabriel	5S
Ocean Bleu	1K	Sara	5E
Louis	2P	Ruwan	6H
Mard	2M	Chase	6B
Mason	3B		



## House Points

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This week's total	207	223	245 	221

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This term's total	1317	1274	1422 	1418

# 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:



Miss Kelly  
DHT  
Lead DSL



Mrs Taylor  
Pastoral Care  
Deputy DSL



Miss Cross  
SENGO  
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.



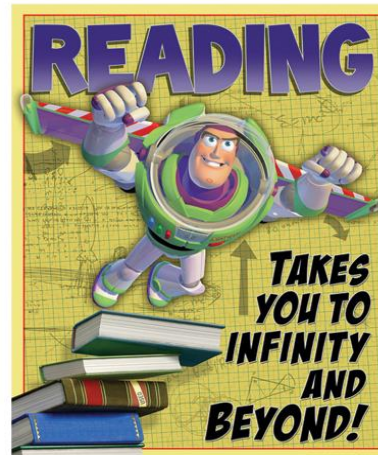
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in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

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## Questions to ask your child when listening to them reading



**Our whole school attendance has been just 92.6% this week.**

Families have begun to receive letters where pupils' attendance has dropped below acceptable levels. For some families this is progressing along the formal Fast Track process. Birmingham City Council have also issued fine's for 3 families following Leave in Term (holidays in school time) at our school.

This is not school's choice, or preferred option, and the aim of this process is to get children regularly attending school. The pastoral team has also been completing home visits to children who have not been in school.

**WELL DONE TO RJ WITH 100% ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK! AND A BONUS 3 POINTS!**

**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 even more to 93.6% - let's get this up to 96%!**

**The Colmers Farm attendance league table, WEEK 5.**

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

**CLASS AWARDS:**

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



**RJ – 100%**



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



**5M – 95.3%**





**Accelerated™**  
Reader



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	5S	242,582
2 <sup>nd</sup>	5E	109,602
3 <sup>rd</sup>	6B	54,560
4 <sup>th</sup>	3F	47,264
5 <sup>th</sup>	4V	45,209
6 <sup>th</sup>	3B	18,042
7 <sup>th</sup>	4J	9,153
8 <sup>th</sup>	6H	8,199

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Timothy (5S) 238,480
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oliver (6B) 49,482
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tiegan (5E) 45,228
Highest score this year	
Timothy (5S) 238,480	

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	4J	7,367,918
2 <sup>nd</sup>	4V	6,807,586
3 <sup>rd</sup>	1K	1,442,978
4 <sup>th</sup>	1W	262,342
5 <sup>th</sup>	6B	240,006
6 <sup>th</sup>	2P	0
7 <sup>th</sup>	2M	0
8 <sup>th</sup>	3F	0
9 <sup>th</sup>	3B	0
10 <sup>th</sup>	5E	0
11 <sup>th</sup>	5S	0
12 <sup>th</sup>	6H	0

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Robyn (4J) 4,141,068
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Danielle (4V) 3,195,130
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Arash (4J) 2,144,000
Highest score this year	
Robyn (4J) 4,141,068	

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	3B	63,203
2 <sup>nd</sup>	2M	60,176
3 <sup>rd</sup>	5E	56,992
4 <sup>th</sup>	2P	49,829
5 <sup>th</sup>	6H	27,177
6 <sup>th</sup>	3F	20,559
7 <sup>th</sup>	4V	19,644
8 <sup>th</sup>	5S	19,087
9 <sup>th</sup>	4J	16,931
10 <sup>th</sup>	6B	14,406

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Scarlet (3B) 28,723
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucas (5E) 20,360
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Autumn (2P) 15,040
Highest score this year	
Scarlet (3B) 28,723	