



Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our
nurturing school



Friday 24th November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you have had a good week.

Unicef Children's Day

On Monday we celebrated the UNICEF Children's Day by coming off timetable in the afternoon. This involved each year group focusing on of the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Articles (https://www.unicef.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Our-rights_UNCRC.pdf) and doing learning based on this. The children also listened to a story about kindness and they designed a Rights Respecting Mascot for a competition we are running in school, the winner of which will be announced shortly.



Year 1 Phonics Workshop

Being able to read is one of the most important skills a child can have. Unless children can do this, they will struggle to access the rest of the curriculum. At our school we follow the Read Write Inc scheme which teaches phonics in a systematic and sequential way. On Wednesday, our Year 1 team invited parents into school to find out more about how we teach phonics at our school and strategies they can use to support their children. Thank you to everybody who was able to attend this. If you were unable to attend this session and you would like more support with phonics, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Visits to places of worship

At Colmers Farm Primary School, we believe that it is important for our pupils to develop a deeper understanding of people they are likely to meet and work with in our multi-cultural city and beyond. One way we do this is by ensuring that our children visit a different place of worship annually from Year 2 to Year 6. This allows them to experience first-hand these venues and to develop a deeper understanding and respect of different religions and their followers. As well as supporting 'No Outsiders' in our school, this also helps to address the possible misinformation some of our pupils may encounter online or from other sources about other communities and religions.

Year 3 Singers Hill Synagogue Visit

Year 3 visited Singers Hill Synagogue. Here our Year 3 pupils had the opportunity to discover more about Judaism, its followers and the features of the synagogue. Geoffrey led the tour and told our children about the history of the synagogue. He commented about how impressed he was with our children's knowledge about Judaism. I know that our Year 3 children really enjoyed their visit here.

Year 5 Birmingham Central Mosque Visit

Year 5 had a fascinating visit to Birmingham Central Mosque. Our children showed fantastic behavioural choices and great respect throughout their visit. Mrs K. led the tour at the mosque and she commented about how thoughtful the questions asked were by the children. Our Year 5's visited the prayer hall, the community room and various other parts of the mosque, before watching a video about Hajj (a Muslim pilgrimage). One of the highlights of the visit was seeing the amazing chandelier in the prayer hall which cost £50,000 when it was originally installed.

Thank you to all our Year 3 and 5 children, who went on these trips, for representing our school so well.

Children in Need Day

Thank you for your generosity during Children in Need Day. As a school we managed to raised £195.47. I am sure this money will be put to very good use by this charity.

Miss Cross

Unfortunately, we are saying goodbye today to Miss Cross today. Everybody at Colmers Farm is sad to see her go and we wish her the greatest of success in her new role as Deputy Headteacher at her new school. She will be greatly missed.

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, Mrs Evans will be returning to Colmers Farm as SENCO. She had a handover day on Thursday with Miss Cross and we are very much looking forward to working with Mrs Evans again until we are able to appoint a permanent SENCO.

MAT School Parliament Podcast

Last week, the school parliaments of Excelsior Multi Academy Trust met to begin working on a number of projects together. One of the things they created was a podcast. Listen to our School's Prime Minister (Paige) and two other School Prime Ministers on this inaugural podcast.

This can be found in the news section of our school website. Look out for future podcasts which will appear here after each MAT school parliament meeting.

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
Monday 27th November	Deadline to drop in Festive Jumpers for the Swap Shop	
Tuesday 28th November	Aladdin Panto	Reception & Years 1-4
Thursday 30th November	Christmas Jumper Swap Shop – lower hall	3:15pm
Thursday 30th November	ZooLab visit	Year 3
Thursday 7th December	Christmas Jumper Day	All years
Thursday 7th December	Christmas Dinner Day	All years
Tuesday 12th – Friday 15th	Book Fair	3:30pm – 4:00pm
Tuesday 19th December	Dogs Trust Visit	Year 6
Tuesday 19th December	Nativity	9:30am
Wednesday 20th December	Nativity	2:30pm
Friday 22nd December	Christmas Parties & Christmas jumper day	All years
Friday 22nd December	Break up for Christmas	
Monday 8th January 2024	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	
Tuesday 9th January 2024	Pupils Return to School	
Tuesday 6th February	Symphony Hall Trip	Year 6
Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February 2024	Half Term Holiday - school closed to pupils	
Monday 19th February 2024	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	
Monday 25th March – Friday 5th April	Easter Holidays – school closed to pupils	
Monday 13th May – Thursday 16th May	SATs week	Year 6
Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May	Whitsun Half Term Holiday – school closed to pupils	
Wednesday 5th June 2024	Class photo day	
Friday 19th July	Break up for Summer	
Monday 22nd 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:

Harley	4V	9	Ruby	2M	7
William	2P	7	Emilie	6H	11
Kaicee	5E	10			
Nazila	6B	11			
Mason	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?

- Christmas Fair letter
- ZooLab Allergy Letter
- Aladdin Pantomime letter
- Christmas jumper Swap Shop letter
- Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper letter
- School parliament podcast

Communication and Autism



Communication and Autism Team

Parent Workshop Session – Swanshurst School

Please note there are no childcare facilities at the venue.

If you have any questions, please contact the email below:

CATLeadershipTeam@birmingham.gov.uk

Just turn up on the day - there is no need to book. We look forward to seeing you there!

Come along and meet Katie and Lisa from the Communication and Autism Team (CAT).

This is an opportunity for you to:

- Meet other parent/carers with autistic children and young people of all ages.
- Find out a bit more about autism.
- Ask questions.
- Have some time to reflect.

The session will be delivered face to face termly at the following venue:

Swanshurst School, Brook Lane, B13 0TW
Thursday 30th November
9.30-11.30am

This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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



Nellie RL
 Juno 1K
 William 2P
 Skye 3B
 Savannah 4V
 Jax 5S
 Mason 6H




This week's congratulations assembly recipients...




Logan	RG	Ezra	RL	Hayley	RJ
Ramaya	1W	Eliana	1K	Logan	2P
Lincoln	2M	Gracie	3F	Aylah	3B
Tyler	4V	Robyn	4J	Lincoln	5S
Robin	5E	Piper	6B	Zeyad	6H



House Points

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This week	235	246 	215	243

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This term's total	2204	2185	2291	2314 

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



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 0800 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.



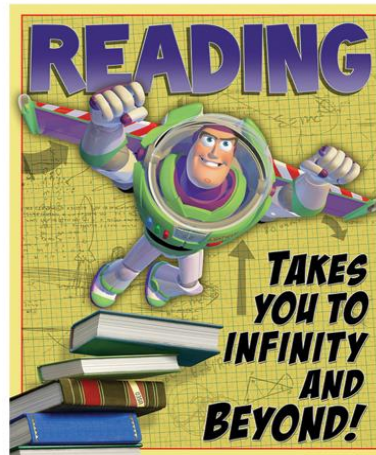
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in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



Is your child on track to earn their bronze attendance badge?

Every child with an attendance and punctuality of 96% or above for a whole term will earn a badge. The first term they achieve this they will earn a bronze badge. Badges will be awarded in assembly at the end of each term.



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

Our current school attendance to date is **94.1%** - let's get this up to **96%**!

The Colmers Farm attendance league table, WEEK 10

Position	Class	Games Played	Points
1	3B	10	27
2	RJ	10	21
=	2P	10	21
4	1K	10	18
=	2M	10	18
=	5E	10	18
=	6B	10	18
8	6H	10	15
=	3F	10	15
10	RG	10	12
=	4J	10	12
=	4V	10	12
13	1W	10	9
14	RL	10	3
15	5S	10	0

CLASS AWARDS:

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



2P – 96%

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



3B – 97.3%



Accelerated[™]
Reader

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	4V	87,570
2 nd	5E	77,072
3 rd	5S	47,510
4 th	6H	26,951
5 th	3F	10,106
6 th	3B	3824
7 th	4J	3044
8 th	6B	1598

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	

Spelling Shed 

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	3B	172,860,000
2 nd	1K	26,708,314
3 rd	5E	21,118,772
4 th	6H	8,804,906
5 th	4J	5,380,292
6 th	3F	4,878,908
7 th	6B	3,271,590
8 th	1W	2,860,454
9 th	5S	2,353,088
10 th	2P	2,353,088
11 th	4V	1,036,718
12 th	2M	690,940

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Godpower (3B) 167,249,880
2 nd	Manuel (1K) 22,259,732
3 rd	Lucas (5E) 13,125,318
Highest score this year	
Godpower (3B) 182,422,920	

Mathletics

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	2M	139,377
2 nd	3B	130,329
3 rd	5E	117,000
4 th	2P	86,519
5 th	4V	48,193
6 th	6H	39,457
7 th	6B	28,859
8 th	5S	27,587
9 th	3F	26,566
10 th	4J	25,844

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Scarlet (3B) 70,375
2 nd	Lucas (5E) 49684
3 rd	Laurie (2M) 29,372
Highest score this year	
Scarlet (3B) 70,375	