



# Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our  
nurturing school



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are having a good week, particularly as we managed to get through last week which contained 'Blue Monday', supposedly the most miserable day of the year.

### Visiting teachers

This week, we welcomed a group of maths leaders who came to visit and see our maths practice within our reception classrooms. That is now 50 teachers in two weeks who have visited us - Wow! Our visitors were very impressed with not only the maths they saw but also with these children's learning behaviours and the way our children spoke with one another when answering questions. Well done reception! These children have made such fabulous progress in such a small amount of time, and we are very proud of them. Thank you to our teachers for hosting these visitors.

### Year 6 Cathedral Visit

At our school, we actively promote all the British Values. One of the ways we promote the British Values of tolerance and respect is by different year groups visiting a place of worship. We do this so that our children can gain a deeper understanding of various religions and their followers. This is particularly important when living and working in a city which is as richly diverse as Birmingham. On Thursday, our Year 6's visited Saint Philip's Cathedral in Birmingham City Centre. Here our children learnt more about this cathedral, its features and history as well as Christianity and its followers. Our children impressed with their thoughtful questions and they enjoyed their visit. Well done Year 6.



### Training Day

The school training day originally planned for Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February has been cancelled. Children will now therefore be expected in school on this date. If you have booked a holiday which includes this date, due to it originally being a training day, please send into school confirmation of this booking along with the date booked and we will ensure that this absence is authorised. I apologise for any inconvenience caused by this.



### Oracy Meeting

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February, we will be hosting an oracy parental workshop for all our parents, lead by one of our MATs oracy leads. This will tell you more about why good oracy will make such a difference to your child's life chances and will provide you with useful strategies you can use at home to develop oracy skills further.



### Parking on Morrisons Car Park

Please can you avoid parking in the disabled spaces in the Morrisons' car park unless you are a blue badge holder. We do have a few children at our school who are blue badge holders whose parents have unfortunately been unable to use these bays. Please be considerate with your parking. Thank you for your support with this.



### Breakfast Club

From after half term, the cost of our breakfast club will be increasing to £2.50 per child per session. We apologise for this increase; however we have had to do this to ensure the long term sustainability of this provision.

### Opal Parent Survey

This week Mrs Young sent home a yellow questionnaire with each child. We are asking parents to complete this questionnaire to help us improve playtimes at school as part of introducing OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning). We would be most grateful if you could please complete this and send it back into school by **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January**. Thank you.



### And finally... After School Provision

We know how important an after-school provision for children can be, especially for our working parents, and we have been investigating options for this over the last couple of years. Unfortunately, over this period, the outside providers who we had hoped would provide this service have not been able to deliver what we had hoped.



We now have some good news at last on this front. We are now in a position as a school to offer this service ourselves. This service will start after half term and will be run by two members of Colmers Farm staff. This will involve a range of activities and a small snack, such as toast, for the children who attend. This provision will run from 3:30pm - 5:30pm and will cost £5.00 per session. All sessions must be booked and paid for in advance.

Initially this provision will have space for 20 pupils (Reception to Year 6), but may expand in the future if there is demand. We will send out further information regarding this soon. We hope that you will find this provision useful.

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

**Mr Williams**  
Headteacher

<b>Getting your child to school on time really matters</b>		
<b>If in a school year your child is late everyday</b> .....	<b>Your child would have lost approximately</b> .....	<b>Or they would have missed approximately</b> .....
<b>5 Minutes</b>	<b>3 days from school</b>	<b>16 lessons lost</b>
<b>10 Minutes</b>	<b>5 days from school</b>	<b>32 lessons lost</b>
<b>15 Minutes</b>	<b>8 days from school</b>	<b>48 lessons lost</b>
<b>20 Minutes</b>	<b>11 days from school</b>	<b>63 lessons lost</b>
<b>30 Minutes</b>	<b>16 days from school</b>	<b>95 lessons lost</b>

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Additional Information
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	Return to school after half term	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	After School Wraparound Provision starts	3:30pm – 5:30pm
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents Oracy workshop	All year groups
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:

Olivia	1W	6
Kayden	6H	11
Meadow	1K	6
Jack	2M	7
Alivia	1W	6

Archie	1W	6
Kaiden	5E	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?

- CBSO Parent contribution letter
- Year 1-5 Sex and Relationship Education letters
- Number Day letter
- Citizen's advise letter
- Parents evening letter
- CBAL Pre-loved book donation letter

## Getting Your Child to School Really Matters



### Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
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5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance



# This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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



Lily	RG
Teddy	1K
Desmond	2P
Duaa	3B
Danielle	4V
Maryam	5S
Iyanna	6H



# This week's congratulations assembly recipients...



Logan	RG	Zachary	RL	Kenisha	RJ
Ayanna	1W	Esmee	1K	Enah	2P
Hazel	2M	Lilly	3F	Rihanna	3B
Kayla	4J	Louie	4V	Rainy	5E
Timothy	5S	Hao Lin	6B	Ellie-Mae	6H

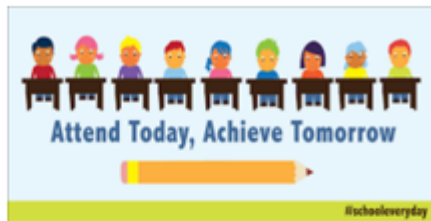


## House Points

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This week	123	127	118	125

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This term's total	2769	2586	2701	2794





## Punctuality – are you on time every day?

It is important that the school doors are closed promptly at 8:45am. This allows children to make it upstairs and to their classrooms before the registers are confirmed and ensures that all children in school are recorded accurately. Families who arrive in school just after the doors close, often find themselves in a queue waiting to sign their children in, further disrupting the start of the day. Please try to get to school so that children can be in school comfortably before the doors close.

Doors are open for arrival between 8:35 and 8:45 am. Registers are taken promptly.

Arrival time	Register mark
8:45	<b>P</b> (child is marked as present)
8:51 – 9:30	<b>L</b> (child is marked as late)
9:31 onwards	<b>U</b> (child is marked as late after registers close and % is affected)

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

**Our attendance so far this year is 93.4% - let's get this up to 96%!**

### The Colmers Farm attendance league table, WEEK 2

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

### CLASS AWARDS:

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



**RJ – 97.37%**

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



**4V & 3B – 97.33%**

# 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.



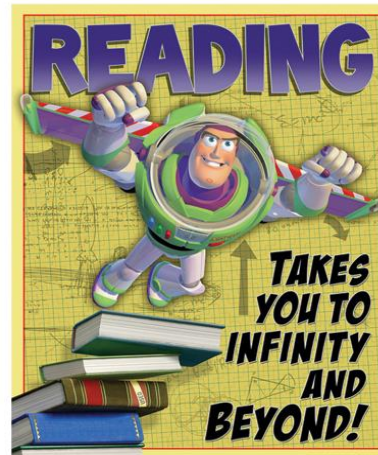
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in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

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





**Accelerated™**  
Reader



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	5E	154,188
2 <sup>nd</sup>	3F	85,885
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4J	37,312
4 <sup>th</sup>	4V	30,737
5 <sup>th</sup>	3B	22,928
6 <sup>th</sup>	6H	12,606
7 <sup>th</sup>	5S	11,684
8 <sup>th</sup>	6B	8,841

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Lucas (5E) 72,416
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Evelyn (5S) 45,428
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bryn (3F) 36,363
Highest score this year	
Tim (5S) 850,518	

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	3F	154,188
2 <sup>nd</sup>	5E	26,999,803
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3B	13,879,730
4 <sup>th</sup>	5S	10,297,602
5 <sup>th</sup>	4J	3,675,932
6 <sup>th</sup>	6H	2,999,982
7 <sup>th</sup>	4V	1,359,040
8 <sup>th</sup>	2M	1,100,894
9 <sup>th</sup>	6B	711,502
10 <sup>th</sup>	2P	480,464
11 <sup>th</sup>	1K	352,784
12 <sup>th</sup>	1W	254,843

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Lucas (5E) 25,650,084
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Szymon (3F) 18,086,274
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Martin (3F) 16,576,178
Highest score this year	
Lucas (5E) 196,342,628	



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	5E	188,697
2 <sup>nd</sup>	3B	177,796
3 <sup>rd</sup>	2M	175,715
4 <sup>th</sup>	2P	116,444
5 <sup>th</sup>	4V	97,747
6 <sup>th</sup>	6H	67,347
7 <sup>th</sup>	3F	48,677
8 <sup>th</sup>	6B	45,011
9 <sup>th</sup>	5S	41,849
10 <sup>th</sup>	4J	36,221

Last week's top scorers	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Scarlet (3B) 106,036
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucas (5E) 99,865
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Laurie (2M) 33,186
Highest score this year	
Scarlet (3B) 106,036	