



Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our
nurturing school



Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have had a good week.

Foodbank Collection

Once again, thank you for your generosity last week with the Foodbank collection. We managed to collect 267.3 kg of food which is a fantastic achievement. Well done!



Prefect Duties

Our new prefects have begun their duties this week and have made a wonderful start. We look forward to seeing the positive impact they will have throughout the year ahead.

Librarians

Developing pupils' responsibility is something we actively try to encourage at our school. This week we have selected our new school librarians from Year 5. These pupils will be starting their new responsibility officially next week and I would like to thank in advance Gabriel, Haiden B, Alfie, Amelia, Sophie, Regan, Ma'layasia, Mariam, Tylor, Tamid, Evelyn, Mickey, Robin and Emily for giving up part of their lunchtime on one day each week to keep our library organised and tidy.

OPAL (Outdoor, Play and Learning) – Donations Kindly Requested

This year we are working hard to develop our outside activities for pupils to engage with at playtime and dinnertime. During dinnertimes we are working on a new programme called OPAL. This provides more creative and adventurous activities for pupils to be engaged in during these times. Our provision for this will develop over the next year. One of our wishes is to create a mud café in our allotment area. We are hoping that you would be able to help us with setting this up. If you have any of the following items at home which you are not using, we would be grateful if you could donate them to our school:

- Old saucepans (with or without lids);
- Old frying pans;
- Old baking trays;
- Metal or plastic measuring jugs;
- Plastic bowls;
- Metal or wooden utensils (i.e. large spoons, spatulas, ladles, whisks etc).



Thank you in advance for any donations you can make.

Year 2 Inspire Session

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Year 2 phonics inspire session on Tuesday. We hope that you found this session to be informative and helpful in terms of what you can do to support your child at home with their phonetic development. If you need additional support with this, or if you were unable to attend this session, please speak to your child's class teacher and they will be happy to help you.

Accelerated Reader

Reading development is a key part of a child's educational journey. If children can read fluently and comprehend, this will enable them to flourish within the rest of the curriculum. This is one of the reasons why reading has such a high profile at our school.



In KS2, we use a computer program called Accelerated Reader. This is a program which is proven to have a positive impact on pupils' reading progress. When your child reads their reading book, it is important that they complete the quiz on Accelerated Reader. We would be grateful if you could please encourage and enable your child to do this at home. This website can be accessed through the useful links section on the front of our school website. Please contact our school office or speak to your child's class teacher if they have any issues regarding their login details. Thank you.

Head pupils

Each year, our school elects two pupils to be our Head Pupils. This is a prestigious position of responsibility within our school. This week, I have introduced this position to our Year 6 pupils. Anybody can apply from Year 6 as long as they have had a position of responsibility at our school in the last two years e.g. prefect, librarian, school parliamentarian, change maker, eco committee member or digital champion. Applications should be a maximum of one page of A4 and should outline why a pupil thinks they would be good in this role. The closing date for applications for this position close on **Friday 13th October**. We would be grateful if you could please support your children with their application if they decide to apply. Letters have been sent home with the children.

Fund Raising - Great Ormond Street Hospital Run

Our pupils this week have been taking part in an event called 'Race for the Kids', which encourages young people and their families to get active and help raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital. The money raised will go to the new children's cancer wing at this hospital which helps children from across the country.

If you would like to donate to this worthwhile charity, please use the link below.

<https://fundraise.gosh.org/fundraisers/ColmersFarm/rbc-race-for-the-kids>

Thank you to Miss Jennings for championing this charity and organising the GOSH event for us to take part in and thank you to everybody who has already contributed to this for your generosity.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope that you have a lovely 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
Wednesday 11 th October	Professor McGinty Workshop – Roman Britain	Year 4
Tuesday 17 th October	Professor McGinty Workshop – WWII	Year 6
Wednesday 18 th October	EYFS Open Day – September 2024	9:30am – 10:30am
Wednesday 18 th October	EYFS Open Evening	5pm – 6pm
Wednesday 25 th October	Parents Evening	Times TBC
Wednesday 25 th October	Black Country Living Museum Trip	Year 1
Thursday 26 th October	Parents Evening	Times TBC
Tuesday 31 st October	Deadline for Secondary School applications	Year 6
Monday 30 th October – Friday 3 rd November	Half Term Holiday – school closed to pupils	
Monday 6 th November	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	
Wednesday 8 th November 2023 – Friday 10 th November	Year 5 and 6 Residential Trip – Boundless Outdoors	Year 5 and 6
Wednesday 15 th November	Phonics Workshop	Year 1
Thursday 16 th November	Flu immunisations	All years
Thursday 16 th November	School Photo Day	All years
Wednesday 22 nd November	Synagogue Visit	Year 3
Thursday 30 th November	ZooLab visit	Year 3
Friday 22 nd December	Break up for Christmas	
Monday 8 th January 2024	Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils	
Tuesday 9 th January 2024	Pupils Return to School	
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	
Monday 25 th March – Friday 5 th April	Easter Holidays – school closed to pupils	
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	
Wednesday 5 th 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:

Ada-Rose	RG	5	Declan	RJ	5
Meghan	RJ	5	Lily-Mae	RG	5
Mianne	6H	11			
Blake	6H	11			
Omnya	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?

- Year 3 and Year 5 first Aid Workshop photos

Be kind to yourself

Be grateful for what you do have

Happiness is a choice. I choose to be happy!

You are allowed to say no

Note to Self

Setbacks don't equal failure

It's ok to rest

Your boundaries are important

You can't please everyone

Self Care Top Tips



Keep fit: aim to exercise at least 3 times a week for around 30 minutes



Eat well: eat a balanced diet of fruit, veg, fibre and protein



Stay hydrated: drink 7-8 cups of water, tea or other low sugar drinks every day



Keep your medicines cabinet & first aid kit stocked up at home

Are You Self Care Aware?



Get screened and immunized - including the flu jab



Visit www.nhs.uk for the latest self care advice



Speak to your **Pharmacist** for quick advice and 'over the counter' medicine



For **urgent medical** but non-emergency advice contact NHS111

This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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



Daisy	RL
Davin	1W
Hazel	2M
Skye	3B
Hollie	4J
Darcie	5S
Chloe	6B



This week's congratulations assembly recipients...




Lily-Mae	RG	Freddie	3F
Aria	RJ	Ava-Rae	4J
Efah	RL	Emily	4V
Davin	1W	Isabella	5S
Tori	1K	Kaiden	5E
Julian	2M	Sujaan	6H
Darcie-Leigh	2P	Lonnie	6B
Isbah	3B		



House Points

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This week	235	251 	248	235

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This term's total	842	824	863	927 

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.** Our 4 DSLs are:



Miss Kelly
DHT
Lead DSL



Mrs Taylor
Pastoral Care
Deputy DSL



Miss Cross
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.



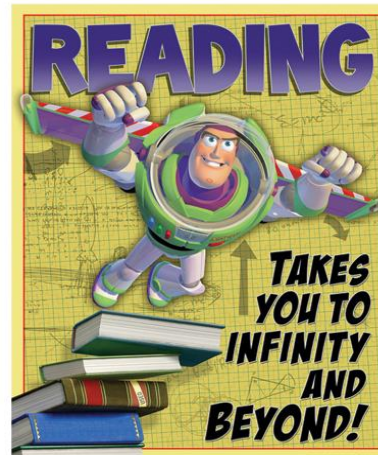
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in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



Our whole school attendance has been just 92% this week.

Families have begun to receive letters where pupils' attendance has dropped below acceptable levels. This includes families who will be progressing along the legal Fast Track process. 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. Children with low, or interrupted school attendance struggle to form strong friendships, have gaps in their learning and often report feeling left behind.

Referrals have also been submitted to Birmingham's Education Legal Intervention Team for pupils who have taken leave in term time (holiday).

Please help us to help your children by bringing them to school every day.

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 94% - let's get this up to 96%!

The Colmers Farm attendance league table, WEEK 3.

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

CLASS AWARDS:

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



RJ – 99%

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



3F – 96.8%



Accelerated™
Reader

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	6B	181,539
2 nd	5E	103,313
3 rd	5S	75,470
4 th	3B	26,562
5 th	4J	17,866
6 th	3F	10,250
7 th	6H	8,830
8 th	4V	1,831



Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Oliver (6B) 113,020
2 nd	Timothy (5S) 65,920
3 rd	Lucas (5E) 54,487
Highest score this year	
Timothy (5S) 170,529	

Mathletics

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	5E	31,679
2 nd	3B	28,964
3 rd	2P	22,284
4 th	6H	23,611
5 th	2M	16,998
6 th	5S	12,222
7 th	4V	11,088
8 th	3F	11,062
9 th	6B	8,810
10 th	4J	4,970

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Sujaan (6H) 9,524
2 nd	Scarlet (3B) 7,994
3 rd	Lucas (5E) 7,970
Highest score this year	
Sujaan (6H) 9,524	