



Colmers Farm Primary School WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our
nurturing school



Friday 27th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have had a good week. It has, as ever, been a fabulously busy and productive first half term of the academic year. There has been much to celebrate, and the children (and our new staff) have settled into their new classes and routines remarkably well. I hope you all enjoyed the recent opportunity to meet with your child's teachers to discuss their achievements and targets. We are immensely proud of all the children's hard work, and we are incredibly grateful for your tremendous support.

Staff Training Day

Please remember that school is closed to pupils on Monday 6th November for a staff training day.



Football Tournament

On Monday, our Year 6 football team took part in a football tournament at The Hayes Playing Fields in West Heath. Although the result in this tournament did not go our way, our team represented our school magnificently. Their teamwork and their never give up attitude were a real credit to themselves and our school. Well done boys! Thank you to Miss McCarron and Miss Jennings for giving up their time to take our children to this.

Parents' Evening

It was wonderful to see so many parents at parents' evening this week. We hope that you found yours to be helpful and informative. If you were unable to attend a parents' evening session this week, please speak to your child's class teacher or our office staff to arrange a meeting. These meetings are very important, and we aim for 100% attendance at these by our parents. Only by attending these meeting can you be fully aware of your child's progress at school and their attitudes to learning. Only by closely working together are we able to ensure that your child can reach their full potential.

Thank you to those parents who kindly completed the online questionnaire about our school that either Miss Cross, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Young, or I asked you to complete. We appreciate your time doing this and we really value your opinions about our school.

Big Arts Week

This week has been Big Arts Week at our school. This is a time when all our children spend their afternoon's predominantly doing art activities based on a particular theme. This year, during Big Arts week, the children have been experimenting with the visual elements of art (line, shape, form, colour, pattern, tone and texture). They then focused on one of these elements and an artist who uses one of these in an interesting way. Some of the artists studied include Sarah Beeton, Paul Cézanne, Bridget Riley and Victor Vasarely.



We look forward to exhibiting our artwork for you to see after half term.

Year 1's Trip to the Black Country Living Museum

On Wednesday, our Year 1 children and staff went on a trip to the Black Country Living Museum as part of their history and geography topic of Houses and Homes. Here they got to visit homes from different time periods and to find out more about life and jobs during these times. No televisions, no mobile phones, and no internet... very different times indeed. They also got to experience a Victorian school lesson. The children very much enjoyed their visit and represented our school very well. Well done Year 1!



New Lunch Menus

Our new lunch menus for after half term are available on our school website. These menus will run on a three week cycle. Please click on Menu (top centre of the Home Page)/School Information/School Meals.

Safety

As the shorter days approach, please do take care on dark mornings and afternoons; the clocks go back on Sunday 29 October at 2:00am. I know many of you will be enjoying the Bonfire night celebrations we associate with this time of year, and I hope you all have a lovely, safe time.

Thank you for your continued support and everybody at Colmers Farm Primary School wishes you and your family all a super half-term holiday. We look forward to welcoming everybody back to school on Tuesday 7th November.

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
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 22 nd November	Phonics Workshop	Year 1
Wednesday 15 th November	KS1 E-Safety workshop for parents	KS1
Wednesday 16 th November	KS2 E-Safety Workshop for parents	KS2
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
Wednesday 22 nd November	Mosque Visit	Year 5
Thursday 30 th November	ZooLab visit	Year 3
Friday 8 th December	Physical Assault Workshop	Year 6
Tuesday 19 th December	Dog's Trust Visit	Year 6
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:

Alfie	5S	10	Robin	5E	10
Ella	2M	7	Lucas	5E	10
Brayden	RL	5	Aurora	1W	6
Autumn	2P	7	Ruby	3F	8
Darcie	5S	10	Oliver	3F	8
Kade	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?

- Early Collections letter
- Diwali Celebration letter
- Einstein Science After School Club letter
- Year 1 BCLM photos
- E-Scooters on school premises letter

Tips for Pets on Bonfire Night!

1. Keep Pets Indoors

Give pets extra exercise during the day and toilet breaks, but keep them in at night.

2. Drown Out The Noise

Play the radio or put the TV on a little bit louder to muffle firework noises.

3. Provide Hiding Spaces

Make a special place for pets to hide so they feel snug and secure.

4. Identification

Make sure your pet is wearing identification incase they run away or get lost.

5. Keep Pets Calm

Don't punish or fuss over your pet if they are scared. Just stay calm.

6. Flashing Lights.

Reduce firework flashes by closing the curtains and turning on indoor lights

FOLLOW THE FIREWORK CODE

If you must have fireworks at home, please follow this safety advice.

DOs ✓

- Only buy fireworks from retailers registered with MFRS
- Keep fireworks in a closed box
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Light them at arm's length, using a taper
- Stand well back
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Keep pets indoors

DON'Ts ✗

- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Don't let fireworks off after 11pm



This Week's Hot Chocolate Winners

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



Marigold	RG
Felicity	1W
Danau	2M
Winnie-Mae	3F
Leila James	4J
Kayleigh	5E
Kamaal	6H




This week's congratulations assembly recipients...




Peyton	RG	Eden	3F
Theo	RJ	Valentina	4J
Rian	RL	Oliver	4V
Camille	1W	Harvey	5S
Arhaan	1K	Kayleigh	5E
Sophia	2P	Thomas	6H
Adriel	2M	Theo	6B
Paityn	3B		



House Points

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This week's total	430	451	463 	439

	Daley	Ennis-Hill	Farah	Thompson
This term's total	1747	1725	1885 	1857

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
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.



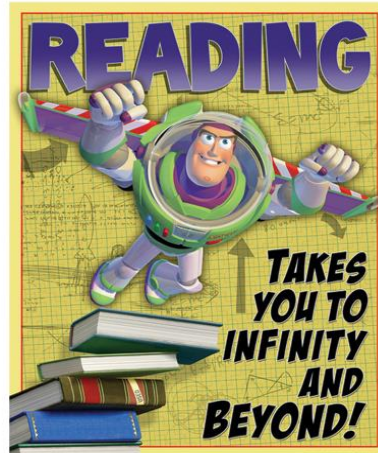
- Who is the main character?
- What is the setting in the story? Does the setting change?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Did the character change during the story? How?
- How are you like the main character? How are you different?
- What do you predict will happen next in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

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Questions to ask your child when listening to them reading



Punctuality – are you on time every day?

Arriving at school on time is essential. Learning starts promptly at 8:45 am and children who arrive at school late miss valuable learning time. Children also report feeling uncomfortable entering the classroom once lessons have started as they feel unsure about the learning objectives. It can also leave them feeling embarrassed and self-conscious. Class staff are ready to welcome children to their classrooms from 8:35 am and this warm welcome sets the scene for the children to have a happy and successful day.

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

Arrival time	Register mark
8:45	P (child is marked as present)
8:51 – 9:30	L (child is marked as late)
9:31 onwards	U (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 current school attendance to date is **93.4%** - let's get this up to **96%**!

The Colmers Farm attendance league table, WEEK 7

Position	Class	Games Played	Points
1	RJ	7	21
2	3B	7	18
3	2P	7	15
=	5E	7	15
5	6B	7	12
6	RG	7	9
=	1K	7	9
=	2M	7	9
=	3F	7	9
=	4V	7	9
=	6H	7	9
12	4J	7	6
13	RL	7	3
=	1W	7	3
15	5S	7	0

CLASS AWARDS:

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



2P – 97.6%

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



6B – 95.7%



Accelerated™
Reader



	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	5S	96,927
2 nd	5E	53,554
3 rd	6B	42,477
4 th	3B	32,044
5 th	3F	27,784
6 th	6H	18,765
7 th	4V	15,276
8 th	4J	11,552

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Timothy H (5S) 53,167
2 nd	Oliver A (6B) 35,987
3 rd	Evelyn W (5E) 30,644
Highest score this year	
Timothy (5S) 238,480	

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	3B	80,936,777
2 nd	4V	8,896,543
3 rd	3F	3,916,448
4 th	1K	3,694,382
5 th	2P	2,574,398
6 th	6B	2,164,654
7 th	1W	1,565,366
8 th	5E	1,063,422
9 th	4J	307,362
10 th	5S	192,536
11 th	2M	116,664
12 th	6H	94,444

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Godpower (3B) 74,634,358
2 nd	Sean (4V) 7,099,850
3 rd	Scarlet B (3B) 3,724,147
Highest score this year	
Godpower (3B) 74,634,358	

	Class Name	Number of Points
1 st	2M	81,184
2 nd	3B	77,904
3 rd	5E	64,909
4 th	2P	61,405
5 th	6H	32,571
6 th	4V	26,294
7 th	4J	21,811
8 th	3F	21,049
9 th	6B	20,611
10 th	5S	20,557

Last week's top scorers	
1 st	Scarlet (3B) 39,089
2 nd	Lucas (5E) 23,120
3 rd	Laurie (2M) 17,790
Highest score this year	
Scarlet (3B) 39,089	