



# Colmers Farm Primary School

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating another special week at our nurturing school



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have had a good week supporting your children with their learning.

This week we had an average of 53% of children learning online. This was up on last week. Well done parents/carers and children! Please try to encourage your children to attend and to take part in as many of these sessions as possible. By doing this, you are helping to ensure that your child can keep up with their learning. This will also enable your child to make a smoother transition back to school when we eventually return to 'normal'.

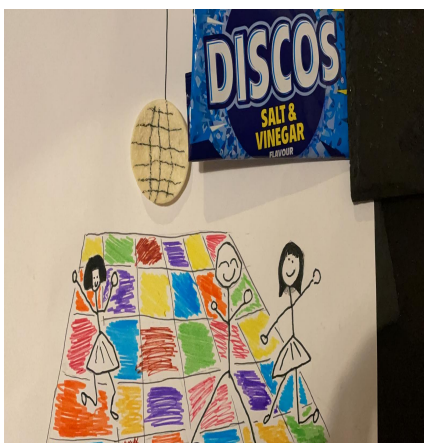
As part of this newsletter, I wanted to clarify our expectations for homework. During lockdown, as we know how hard you are all working to keep your children learning, we have suspended our usual homework policy. Instead, we ask if children can just use some of the following:

- Mathletics (Years 2-6);
- Spelling Shed (Years 1-6);
- MyON (Reception -Year 6 and Accelerated Reader in KS2);
- Complete some activities from the knowledge organisers (Years 1-6).

For our reception parents, Miss Clark has created an online phonics inspire session for parents (reception area of the school website). This is a really good introduction to how we teach phonics and what you can do to support your children at home with it. We hope that you find this useful.

Multicoloured Family Story Time Tuesday was a massive hit online with our Year 2 families this week (even if the title was a bit of mouthful). It was great to see everybody getting into the spirit of this and lots of smiles. Thank you to everybody who took part and also to Mr Bowtell and Miss Hooper for organising this wonderful event.

On Friday last week, we sent home a pack for an art activity that we'd like all of our children to try purely for some fun (and also some much needed non- screen time). We hope that they all enjoy completing this and we would love to see what they can create. Please email into school photos of any completed work to your child's class teacher at class name (e.g. 1F)@colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org. We would love to display some of this art work around school.



A huge well done to Ava in 4G for her picture

## DIARY DATES

**12/02/21**  
**Half Term holidays begin**

**22/02/21**  
**Staff Training day**  
**No online lessons or keyworker provisions**

**23/02/21**  
**School opens for vulnerable and keyworker children**

**08/03/21**  
**School re-opening!**  
**We hope**

## Please follow us on Twitter!

Our feed is where we celebrate the wonderful learning opportunities we provide for our pupils everyday!

**@Colmers\_FarmPS**



## New to our website this week

- Phonics inspire video (for our reception parents);
- Parents views of our school section;
- Lockdown learning questionnaire results;
- Maths – Times tables section.

A huge thank you to the 62 parents/carers who very kindly completed our online questionnaire, over the last couple of weeks, about our school provision during lockdown. We really appreciated the positive comments that so many of you made. Although we are proud of what we are able to offer during this period, we know that our provision can always be improved and we also thank you all for your possible improvement comments also. If you wish to view the results, please visit our website or follow this link <https://www.colmersfarm.excelsiormat.org/our-school/parents-views-of-our-school/>.

I hope that you have a good weekend. Stay Safe.

Mr Williams

## **Hot Chocolate is on the way to:**

***Skye and Sara Reception***

***Sophia C and Ethan Y1***

***Moonshine and Sam Y2***

***Harrison and Kye Y3***

***Lexie and Oliver Y4***

***Calum and Josie Y5***

***Daniel and Freya Y6***

**Well done!**



## **Note from Birmingham Public Health**

### **Testing is to be increased in order to monitor and suppress the South African variant**

Extensive surveillance of COVID-19 has identified a small number of cases of the COVID-19 variant first discovered in South Africa, in localities across England, including in the Frankley Great Park ward and parts of south Northfield area of Birmingham, which can't be traced back to international travel.

The council is working closely with Public Health England and the national NHS Track and Trace team to support measures to curb any potential spread of this variant; this will include significantly increasing the testing offer in a targeted and intelligence-led way.

Residents over the age of 18, who are living or working in Frankley Great Park ward and part of south Northfield between Frankley and the A38, south of Tessall Rd, are strongly encouraged to take a PCR COVID-19 test this week through one of the designated sites in the area, even if they are not showing symptoms.

- Drive through testing is available at the St.Modwen testing site without an appointment from Thursday 3 February. - located on Bristol Rd South opposite Longbridge Lane/Bournville College
- A further Mobile Test Unit will be opened on Saturday.
- The Council is also opening a series of designated sites for citizens to collect home testing kit to test at home and return to the same venue the same day for return to the lab.
- We are working with local businesses to make testing available for their staff in workplaces and employers are being written to with details of this this week.

Here is the link to find your local ward councillor

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/councillors/search>



