

Dear Parents,

Yesterday after school, I had a visit from Councillor Delaney who wanted to speak to me about parking issues around the school. He was particularly concerned about parking on Leybrook Road and Belton Grove. Where possible, please walk your children to school. A brisk walk each day will certainly have health benefits for your child. If you must drive your child to school, please park somewhere which is sensible, legal and safe. Morrisons car park is also always available. Parking on pavements or on double yellow lines is dangerous and puts the lives of parents and children at risk. Thank you for your support with this.

As you are aware, we are currently having work carried out to replace the heating system at Colmers as heating has been an issue for a number of years. When Excelsior took over Colmers Farm, this was very much seen as a priority to fix and we have worked as quickly as possible to address this issue. The work to install our new heating system is progressing well and everything should be fully completed by January (although most parts of the school will have functioning heating before this). New piping and radiators have been installed in $\frac{3}{4}$ of our classrooms and our Year 6 pupils were able to move into their new classrooms this week ahead of schedule. Yesterday though, there was a drop-in temperature and some of our classrooms were colder than we were happy with. I apologise for this and have taken steps to address this. I immediately, spoke to our contractors and they have placed an order for the generators to return to school. This will allow us to heat the school using electric radiators until our new heating system is fully up and running. The generators should be in place and running for Monday. If there are any delays to this, and if temperatures are too low, we will unfortunately have to close the school. I apologise for the inconvenience that this will cause, we will however do all we can to keep the school open.

You should have received a letter today about a food collection that we are doing as part of Harvest Festival for a very local charity (located on Belton Grove) called the Project. This works with people who have fallen into hardship and is a service that has been used by some of our families. Before the summer holidays we held a very successful non-uniform day and food collection for a local foodbank. Hopefully we can equally successful with our non-uniform day and food collection day on Friday 11th October. Thank you in advance for your generosity with this.

All children from Year 3 to Year 6 should have a username and password for Mathletics. This is a fantastic online program to help children to develop their maths skills, in particular their fact fluency skills (adding and subtracting numbers mentally and times table recall). Please ensure that your child spends time on this each week as the impact that this can have on a child's confidence and ability within maths can be huge.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Mr Williams
Headteacher

Friday 4th October, 2019

DIARY DATES

Monday 7th October

Flu Vaccination Cancelled - New date to be confirmed

Friday 11th October

Non Uniform Day

Monday 14th October

6A – Harry Potter Trip

Thursday 17th October

6D – Harry Potter Trip

Friday 25th October

School closes for half term

Monday 4th November

Teachers Training Day

Tuesday 5th November

Children back to school

Wednesday 6th & Thursday 7th November

Parents' evenings

Wednesday 6th November

Yr 5 – Parents Inspire Workshop

Tuesday 12th November

Yr 4 – Parents Reading Inspire Workshop

Wednesday 13th November

Yr 2 - Parents Inspire Workshop – 2.00pm

Thursday 14th November

Yr 1 – Parents Phonics Inspire Workshop

Tuesday 26th November

Yr 6 - Parents Writing Inspire Workshop

Wednesday 4th December

Yr 2 – Showcase Assembly 2.00pm



HOT CHOCOLATE FRIDAY

Lucas in 1KF, Kye in 2H, Harvey in 4J
Freya 5TM and Jorja 6D



Well Done



OPEN DAY EVENT

On **Monday 21st October at 9.15am and 5.30pm prompt**, we will be hosting our Open Event, welcoming parents who have children looking to start Reception in September of next year. Please come and look around the school, you will be most welcome. If this date is not suitable, please contact the school for an alternative date.

NATIONAL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TARGET: 96%

Our current whole school attendance percentage is:

96.1% - Well Done

This time last year our whole school attendance percentage was **94.1%**

Please try to send your child to school everyday

IMPORTANT NOTICE

School attendance and punctuality are a high priority. As a school we are legally required to accurately record children's attendance and reasons for absence or lateness.

The doors to school open at 8:35am. All children are expected to enter school via a playground door between **8:35am and 8:45am**. After this children will need to be brought through main reception where staff will ask for a reason for lateness. We kindly remind parents to be polite and respectful to staff when asked about lateness and absence.

Last week's Attendance and Lates

		This week		So far this year	
		Attendance	No of Lates	Attendance	No of Lates
Rec	RW	99.2%	1	96.6%	1
	RC	99.6%	3	95.6%	4
Year 1	1KF	93.9%	5	95.1%	18
	1HF	92.5%	0	95.4%	3
Year 2	2H	97.3%	3	97.6%	6
	2B	99.1%	0	98.0%	5
Year 3	3B	91.9%	4	95.7%	10
	3G	94.6%	4	93.6%	14
Year 4	4M	97.7%	4	92.5%	16
	4T	93.8%	2	97.8%	5
Year 5	5TM	97.5%	1	98.1%	6
	5S	97.5%	3	96.1%	9
Year 6	6A	95.0%	7	95.0%	17
	6D	96.8%	1	97.3%	5

Well Done
RC for the highest attendance and to
2B & 1HF for the fewest lates



Our ref: AA/JT/

October, 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Apply online for your child to start Reception class in September 2020

I am writing to you because I understand that your child is able to start school soon. By law, parents/carers must ensure that their child is receiving suitable full-time education at the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday. In Birmingham, however, your child can go to school in the September after his or her fourth birthday.

We would ask you to visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and submit an online application by **15 January 2020** (the final closing date). We would strongly recommend that you visit your preferred schools and ensure that you read The 'Primary School Admissions Criteria 2020 Information' prior to submitting your application. In addition to this, most schools hold open days and evenings where parents and children can visit and talk to teachers and current pupils. Those schools that have submitted open sessions can be viewed here <https://myed.com/birmingham-school-open-days>. If a school's open sessions do not appear on the above link please contact them directly.

Online applications will receive an immediate email confirmation when the application is submitted. Those online applicants who have not provided an email address will receive an acknowledgment letter through the post. If you have not received an acknowledgement by (15 January 2020), then you should call Children Services to confirm that your application has been received.

Online applicants that submit their application with a valid email address will be sent an offer by email on 16 April 2020. Parents/carers that submitted an online application without a valid email address will be sent an offer letter by first class post on 16 April 2020, which should be delivered by the end of that week. Finally, please remember, you do not need to have the internet at home. You can apply online from any computer with internet access – such as in a library, an internet café or if you are able from a computer whilst at work.

If you have any questions about your child starting school, please do not hesitate to contact a member of Children Services on 0121 303 1888 where staff will be pleased to offer assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Mitchell
Operational Manager
Schools Admissions and Fair Access Service



Dear Parents,

You should have received a welcome text message or email inviting you to install our new school app. All communications such as school closures due to adverse weather will now be delivered via this app so it is important to install it as soon as you can. We will no longer issue a printed newsletter. It will be delivered via the app instead, where you will also have access to historic newsletters. A help guide to installing the app is available from our school reception. If you need any assistance or encounter any issues please email: app@colmersfarm.bham.sch.uk