



# Colmers Farm Newsletter



Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

All of the children should now have their 'lockdown books'. Please remember to keep these safe in case of us having to send home your child's year group at any point or if your child has to isolate. We do have some new children in school and they should get their books shortly. We are aware that Colmers Secondary School has unfortunately had a few positive Coronavirus cases recently, however fortunately we have not had any positive cases at our school yet.

In the front of the 'lockdown books', there are some log in details for various online sites. If you have not already, please can you ensure that your child has logged on to Google Classrooms. This will be our main platform for delivering learning to our children (particularly in Years 1-6) if year groups are sent home or if children have to isolate. We will also be delivering live lessons on this, if a year group has to be set home.

This week, our teachers have started their phone calls to parents. These phone calls are to inform you about how your child has settled back into school, what areas they feel your child needs to work on as a priority and ideas for what you can do to support your child at home. We will also be sending home letters next week which will be reaffirming these points. When you receive the letter, we would be grateful if you could return the slip, which is attached to it, back to school.

Next week, we will be launching a brand new, special award for our children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. This award has been created by some of the staff at Colmers Farm and we are really excited about it. It is called the SAGE award. It is designed to reward children for their experiences both inside and outside of school - the children will really enjoy working towards this award and hopefully you will enjoy supporting them to do this. Please look out for more information about this special award next week.

Last week, I asked you to try to ensure that your children have dark tracksuit bottoms and a long sleeve top for their outdoor PE lessons. Right on cue, the weather has suddenly started to get a lot cooler over the last few days. Children dressed in this kit will enable us to continue our lessons outside for longer periods. Please remember that Rubery Community Swap Shop may be able to help supply this kit for free if you require it.

Finally, I would just like to say thank you to you all (and to your children) for helping us to maintain a high level of attendance during this most uniquely, challenging of times. We really appreciate your support and your children are really benefiting by being in school both socially and academically.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Mr Williams

# Our Tree of Achievement



**WELL DONE**  
**to this week's children**

Isabella-Rose and Zayn in Reception,  
Reignn and Tiegan in Year 1, Archie and Ma'Layaia in Year 2,  
Rennzo and Tyler in Year 3, Paige and Afroz in Year 4,  
Taniesha and Carla in Year 5 and  
Mason and Bobby in Year 6



## HOT CHOCOLATE

Due to the Coronavirus, our Hot Chocolate Fridays can no longer take place with Mr Williams and the children in his office. We are pleased to say that children will be bringing a Hot Chocolate goodie bag home at the end of the day if they were lucky enough to be drawn out.



Jaxon in Reception, Noah in Year 1, Sam in Year 2, Rennzo in Year 3, Chad in Year 4, Pippa in Year 5 and Millie in Year 6

WELL DONE



## WHO WON THE 100% ATTENDANCE RAFFLE TICKET?

The winning ticket this week was number **365** and the lucky boy to win the raffle is Thomas in Year 3. I wonder what prize he will choose from our prize cabinet?



## AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

### Children in Reception

will only be allowed home with an adult aged 18 years of age or over

### Children in Years 1-5

Will only be allowed home with an adult aged 16 years or over.

**(unless authorised by our HT or DHT)**

## DIARY DATES

**Week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> October**

Big Arts Week

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

Break up from school

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

School closed for teacher training day

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

Back to school

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November and**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

Parents evening

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

Nurses in school for Flu Nasal Spray



## REMINDERS

**UNIFORM:** Can parents please make sure that your child's coat and items of uniform are clearly marked with their name. This helps us to reunite lost items of clothing with their owners.

**DOGS:** Could we please remind you that dogs are not allowed in the school playground, even if they are on leads, under any circumstances.



**BIKES & SCOOTERS:** All adults and children who ride bikes or scooters to school, please make sure that you dismount them before entering the school playground and do not get back on them until you have left the playground. This is for everybody's safety.



# COVID-19 information

## A quick guide for parents/carers



Please follow the advice in this guide. Only contact the school if your child is having a test and to let us know the result. Your school will not be able to advise beyond the information given here. **Please remember to only get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms.**

### YOU SHOULD BOOK A TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

**a high temperature.** OR **a new continuous cough.** OR **a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste.**



This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough it may be worse than usual)

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child DOES NOT have symptoms of COVID-19 but has other cold-like symptoms, such as a runny nose, they do not need to be tested and they or members of your household do not need to self-isolate.

Your child can attend school if fit to do so.

What to do if...	Action needed	When can my child return to school?
<b>My child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send your child to school</li> <li>Book a test for your child</li> <li>Whole household to self-isolate</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test result</li> </ul>	<b>If test is negative and child is well enough, symptom free for 48 hours and not advised to self-isolate by test and trace service.</b>
<b>My child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send your child to school</li> <li>Child to self-isolate for at least 10 days from when symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms)</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test results</li> <li>Whole household to self-isolate for 14 days from day when symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) -even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</li> </ul>	<b>When child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours</b> They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.

# From Birmingham with Love



We've all been through a tough time with Covid-19 and lockdown. For many families it doesn't get easier during the summer holidays, which is why we're here to help. Here are some of our partners' most used services and support, which might make life a little bit easier...



1. **Online parenting course.** We've pre-paid for every parent in Birmingham to access a [parenting course](#). Just enter the access code "COMMUNITY" at the top of the page to claim. There are courses for parents, carers and grandparents of children from bump to 19. Learn about how your child develops, and get tips to manage their behaviour.



2. **Mental health support.** In these difficult times we have to look after our mental health. For young people aged 11-25 there are forums, guides and counselling available at [Kooth](#). If your child 0-25 needs support, get in touch with Pause by calling 0207 841 4470 or [email](#). Adults can get support from [MIND](#) by calling 0121 262 3555. Or for urgent help call [Forward Thinking Birmingham](#) on 0300 300 0099.



3. **Financial help.** If you've lost your job, or are struggling for food or rent there are services that can help. [Local welfare provision](#) can make a big difference if you are in a crisis and need food, fuel or basic white goods. [Discretionary Housing Payments](#) may be able to help with rent. And there are [food banks](#) across Birmingham that are here to help.



4. **Domestic abuse.** For women and children affected by domestic abuse please see [guidance](#) or confidentially contact [Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid](#). For Men, please contact [Respect](#).



5. **Problems with drugs or alcohol.** A new, discrete app called Staying Free is available on Android or Apple. Use the code "birmingham11" for pre-paid access. To speak to someone call [Change Grow Live](#).




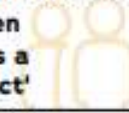




6. **Bereavement support.** It's a terrible time to lose a loved one — you can get help by calling 0121 687 8010 or from [Cruse](#).



7. **Early help for families.** If anyone in your family needs more help, from public services or community groups, then please contact our [voluntary sector local leads](#). We have ten areas which can connect you to support across the city.

If you are worried about a child, please call Birmingham's Children's Advice and Support Service on 0121 303 1888. In an emergency, including child abuse, contact the Police on 999. You can also [chat](#) to the Police.

What to do if...	Action needed	When can my child return to school?
<p>Somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send your child to school</li> <li>Household member with symptoms to book a test</li> <li>Whole household to self-isolate while waiting for test result</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test results</li> </ul>	<p>When household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms and if child has not been advised to self isolate by test and trace services</p>
<p>Somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send your child to school</li> <li>Whole household to self-isolate for 14 days from day when symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</li> <li>Inform school immediately about test result</li> </ul>	<p>When they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without symptoms. They must self-isolate for 14 days even if they test negative during that time</p>
<p>NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact'</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send your child to school</li> <li>Child to self-isolate for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace)- even if they test negative during those 14 days</li> <li>Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are also a 'close contact'</li> </ul>	<p>When they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without symptoms. They must self-isolate for 14 days even if they test negative during that time</p>
<p>Your child has been in contact with someone who has been identified as a 'close contact'</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend school as normal</li> <li>If your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms they should carry on with normal activities</li> </ul>	<p>Attend school as normal</p>
<p>We / my child has travelled abroad and has to self-isolate.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send your child to school</li> <li>Whole household to self-isolate for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days</li> </ul> <p><b>Travel reminders:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not take unauthorised leave in term time</li> <li>Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel</li> <li>Provide information to school as per attendance policy</li> </ul>	<p>When the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
<p>We have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send your child to school.</li> <li>Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team</li> <li>Child to shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again</li> </ul>	<p>When school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p>