

Parent update 5th September 2025 -WELCOME BACK-

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At Colebourne we C.A.R.E

DIARY DATES

Monday 3 rd November	Start of the 2 nd Half of Autumn Term		
Friday 24 th October	Last Day of the Half Term		
Thursday 23rd October 8.50am	Celebration Assembly (Years 1 – 3)		
Thursday 23 rd October	Parent's evening		
Wednesday 22 nd October	Parent's evening		
Monday 20 th October 8.50am	Celebration Assembly (Years 4 – 6)		
Friday 26 th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning – all parents welcome (plus bring a friend)		
Wednesday 24 th September	3C Trip to Kinver Edge Rock Houses		
Tuesday 23 rd September	3B Trip to Kinver Edge Rock Houses		
Tuesday 23 rd September, 9am – 10am	All parents welcome for drinks and biscuits and to hear from Mr. Guest and members of the senior team about school matters. This meeting is in person with an option to attend via TEAMS		
Wednesday 10 th September	9am: Year 2 Meet the Teacher Meeting (Online) 2pm: Year 5 Meet the Teacher Meeting (Online) Parent Update Meeting		
Tuesday 9 th September	9am: Year 1 Meet the Teacher Meeting (Online) 2pm: Year 4 Meet the Teacher Meeting (Online)		
Monday 8 th September	11am: Year 6 Meet the Teacher Meeting (Online) 2pm: Year 3 Meet the Teacher Meeting (Online)		

Start of Year message from Mr. Guest

A very warm welcome to the start of the school year 2025-2026.

A special big welcome to our new children and families in Nursery, Reception and others across the school; we hope your time at Colebourne will be filled with fun, friendship and opportunities.

This update contains some key reminders and updates so please have a good read.

We look forward to a fantastic year of learning and fun.

PE days

On PE days, children can continue to come to school in their PE Kits.

PE KIT DAYS





Children can come to school in either PE kit OR school uniform on these days. If the PE kit symbol is also on that day PE kit must be worn as there is a PE session on that day too

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2M		1	1		Please see dates
3B	*				
3C	**				
4 J		<u>~</u>		1	
4M		<u>*</u>		1	
5G			*	1	
5P			*	1	
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Swimming at Colebourne Y2 - 6

Starting next week, children in new Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will begin their swimming. This will be done on site in our pop-up pool which will be situated on the junior playground.

- All children will need a swimming costume / swim shorts, a towel and some slip on footwear such as crocs or sliders.
- **Swimming caps** (optional) may be worn and are particulary useful for children with long hair.
- All hair should be tied up or plaited.
- No earrings or any jewellery

Here is the swimming timetable for the Autumn 1st half Term.

Please note swimming starts week beginning 8th September

	Year	Every week from
Mondays	Year 3 (both classes)	Monday 8 th September
Tuesdays	Year 4 (both classes)	Tuesday 9 th September
Wednesdays	Year 5 (both classes)	Wednesday 10 th September
Thursdays	Year 6 (both classes)	Thursday 11 th September
Fridays	Year 2 (Alternate weeks)	2G (12 th Sept; 26 th Sept; 10 th Oct) 2M 19 th Sept; 3rd Oct; 17 th Oct)



After School Clubs – Autumn 1st Half Term

The after-school clubs that will be running during Autumn Term A Clubs will start from the 15th of September.

Payments will open on Monday 8th September at 6pm.

You do not need to return a form - just pay online through 'Arbor' to book a place for your child. Please note, all clubs will now be non-refundable. You must **book your child's place by Friday 12**th **September at 1pm**. Clubs will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Every child should be able to access clubs regardless of their family's financial situation. If your child would like to attend but you may struggle to fund it or you need help paying through Arbor, please contact us to discuss this further. Please do this before the bookings open to avoid disappointment.

Full details of the clubs will be published on Class Dojo on Monday – but here is a look at what is on offer this half term:

Tuesday	Year 6	Swimming
Tuesday	Year 2,3,4,5 & 6	Singing Club
Wednesday	Year 1, 2 & 3	Football
Wednesday	Year 3	Swimming
Thursday	Year 4	Swimming
Thursday	Year 4,5 &6	Football
Friday	Year 5	Swimming

Children need to be collected promptly at 4.15pm from outside Year 2. Please use the pedestrian entrance only - not the car park.

Year 5 & 6 who normally walk home alone with be dismissed at 4.15pm unless you tell us otherwise.

Swimming Club on a Friday will run from 1.30pm until 2.15pm. Children will need to be collected from outside Year 2. Children staying for Swimming Club can stay in school for their lunch on this day.

Funtime after school club -times and charges

A reminder of our Fun Time club times and charges.

- 3.20pm 4pm (£3.50 per child/day)
- 3.20pm 4.30pm (£6.50 per child/day)
- 3.20pm 5.00pm (£10.00 per child/day)
- Fridays 3.20pm 4pm (£3.50 per child)

Meet the Teacher meetings



Next week there will be short online meetings where you can hear from your child's new teacher about the year ahead including key information.

Links to these meetings will be shared by the teachers on Class Dojo. Please join if you can.

Online Meeting dates and times:

Year 1	Tuesday 9 th September	9am
Year 2	Wednesday 10 th September	9am
Year 3	Monday 8 th September	2pm
Year 4	Tuesday 9 th September	2pm
Year 5	Wednesday 10 th September	2pm
Year 6	Monday 8 th September	11am

Pupil absence reporting

A reminder of how to report a pupil absence.

Please phone the school office number – 0121 675 8500 (The online form will no longer be available).

Follow the options to report an absence.

You will be prompted to leave a voice mail message giving details of:

- Your child's name
- Your child's class
- A brief explanation of the reason for absence.

Please note – this message can be left in **home language** if needed as our system can automatically translate.

Please aim to leave your absence message by 8.40am on the first day of absence.

Please note – voice messages are recorded and stored for reasons of absence.

Holidays in Term Time

Please remember that Department for Education guidance means that we are not able to authorise holidays in term time. Please avoid booking these.

<u>Ipads – please bring in charged!</u>

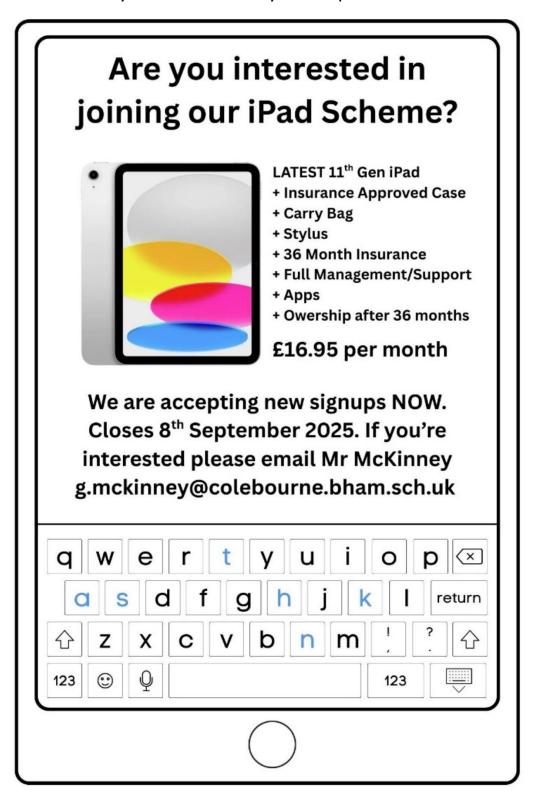
Please ensure your child's ipad is brought in to school charged please. This avoids the battery going flat during lessons.



School Ipad Scheme

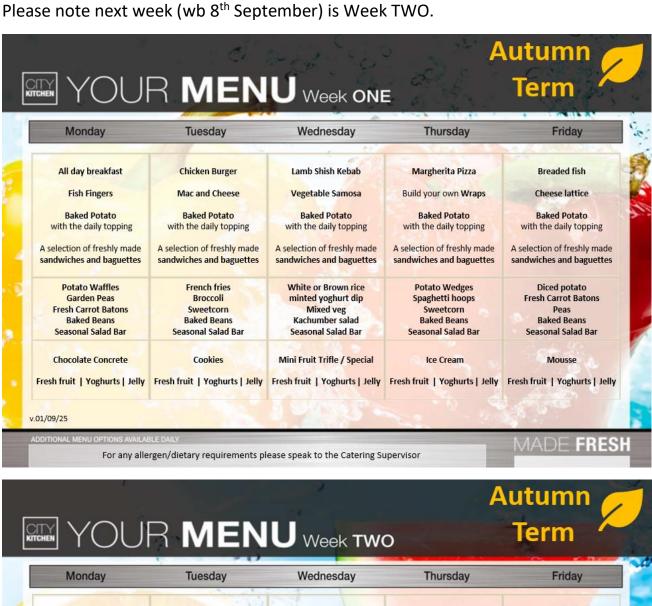
If you are not already part of the iPad Scheme and you would like to have a device ready for September that your child can use in school AND at home please contact Mr. McKinney as soon as possible by emailing: g.mckinney@colebourne.bham.sch.uk

This is available to any child from new year 1 upwards!



School Dinner Menus

Please see below the dinner menus for this term. Please note that occasionally menu items do change where we have supplier issues.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Baked Fish Fingers	Hot dogs	Cajun Spiced Chi <mark>cken</mark>	Margherita Pizza	Chicken Nuggets
Vegetable Lasagne	Mac and Cheese	Vegetable Samosa	Tuna Pasta Bake	Hot Vegetarian Pastry
Baked Potato with the daily topping	Baked Potato with the daily topping	Baked Potato with the daily topping	Baked Potato with the daily topping	Baked Potato with the daily topping
selection of freshly made andwiches and baguettes	A selection of freshly made sandwiches and baguettes	A selection of freshly made sandwiches and baguettes	A selection of freshly made sandwiches and baguettes	A selection of freshly made sandwiches and baguettes
Mashed Potato Garlic bread	French Fries Carrot	White or Brown rice Garden Peas	Garlic Bread Chunky Chips	Diced potato Sweetcorn
Garden Peas Baked Beans Seasonal Salad Bar	Sweetcorn Baked Beans Seasonal Salad Bar	Mixed Veg Kachumber salad Seasonal Salad Bar	Spaghetti hoops Broccoli Seasonal Salad Bar	Garden Peas Baked Beans Seasonal Salad Bar
Chocolate Hedgehog	Flapjack	Chocolate Crispie Cake	Ice Cream Tubs	Shortbread and Custard
esh fruit Yoghurts Jelly	Fresh fruit Yoghurts Jelly	Fresh fruit Yoghurts Jelly	Fresh fruit Yoghurts Jelly	Fresh fruit Yoghurts Jell

School Policy Reminders

Label clothing and equipment

Please **label children's clothing** – especially **jumpers**, **coats** and **lunchboxes**. Items with names on get back to their owners much faster!

Pick up reminders

Please remember that pick up times are:

- 3.20pm (Monday to Thursday)
- 12.40 (Friday)

Reception doors open 5 minutes before these times to allow parents to collect reception children before collecting other children.

We ask that parents collect children from Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 BEFORE collecting siblings from Year 1 and 2; this helps us clear the playground at the end of the day.

Nuts:

Children should not bring any items containing nuts into school.

Water Bottles:

Please ensure you child has a fresh water bottle each day. It is really important for their health and learning that they stay hydrated.

Healthy snack:

Please remember to send only healthy snacks for your child to enjoy during the school day. Thank you for supporting our commitment to healthy eating.

Birthday Treats:

We ask that **birthday treats** are **not bought into school**; this includes food items and gift bags.

Jewellery:

The **only jewellery** allowed in schools is **studded earrings** and watches (No devices with any recording function); All jewellery **MUST be removed for PE and swimming**; we suggest jewellery is left at home on PE and Swimming days.

School uniform and PE Kit:

Details of our school unform and supplies is available on the school website: https://www.colebourne.bham.sch.uk/school-uniform/

Please remember that **PE kit** is **PLAIN BLACK shorts** or **jogging bottoms** and **COLOURED PE T-SHIRT** (House colour)

Year 6 Art

As part of the year 6 first week activities, they were asked to complete a self portrait with half their face missing!

Take a look at these awesome works:



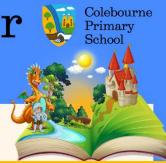


Reading Newsletter

Reading Newsletter

Autumn term 2025 Issue 1

Welcome to our first reading newsletter of the new school year. Every term we find out about the wonderful reading happening here in school and at home. You will also find more information about the many benefits of reading and the ways in which we can help the children with their reading outside of school.



Home Reading Books

All children will have their home reading books allocated to them by Friday 12th September 2025. In KS1 this will be a phonically decodable book and a sharing book that can be read at home. In KS2 this will be a book banded book according to your child' reading level and a sharing book.

Children will be regularly assessed to judge whether a movement in book bands is needed, this is not just how well the child reads but is also based on their understanding and comprehension skills.

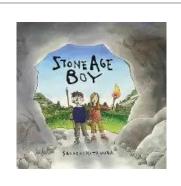
Shining A Spotlight On Authors...

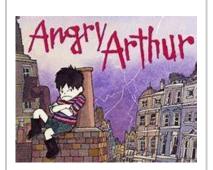
Satoshi Kitamura

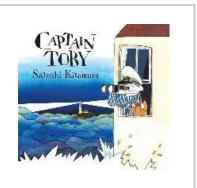
- He was born in Tokyo and lived in England years!

for 30

- He is an author and illustrator
- As a child he loved comics.
- His first children's book was published in 1982 called 'Angry Arthur'.
- He has been nominated and won awards for his work.

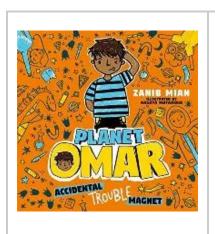


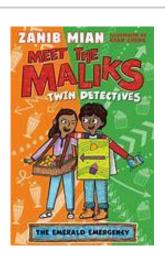




Zanib Mian

- Zanib is of Pakistani heritage. She lives
 London.
- Zanib always loved writing as a child.
- She studied Molecular Cell Biology at university.
- She used to be a science teacher at secondary school.
- Zanib has two sons and writes books that represent Muslim children growing up.







Importance of Reading at home



in

Reading is not just a good way to fill the time. It has important and far-reaching benefits which go beyond a love of a good book. When children and young people enjoy reading, they are more likely to create a habit and read more often which in turn will help to build vital reading skills and bring with it a wider range of benefits...

Reading for pleasure can help grow empathy -Enjoying books and discovering new perspectives within the pages of a story can be a great way to introduce children to a range of experiences and viewpoints. The more a child reads, the more likely they are to be exposed to new narratives which can help them develop empathy.

A love of reading can build a child's confidence - In fact, Research from The Book Trust in showed that 26.0% of children and young people who read in their free time at least once a month said it helps them to be confident.

Reading for enjoyment can spark imagination.. and provide escape as well as inspire creativity. Even fantasy can still speak truth to a child about their place in this world.

Reading can expand horizons - A book can provide children with a way to discover new worlds, meet new people, and learn about the past. Whether that is through non-fiction books and autobiographies, or books and magazines exploring historical events or figures.

Reading for pleasure can support your child's learning - Recent research from The Book Trust also revealed that twice as many children and young people who enjoy reading in their free time have above average reading skills than children who don't enjoy it (34.2% vs 15.7%) - reading skills which will support them in their school journeys and beyond.

How much should my child read a day? It can feel daunting to factor in more time for activities such as reading with your child each day or encourage your child to find time to read on their own in their free time. We know that life is busy for many reasons, with competing priorities on your time. As children get older, they are also more likely to have higher demands on their own time from homework and sports to other activities including simply spending time with friends. We want to encourage you that it is not about the specific length of time a child reads that is significant, although we love the idea of even finding time to take 10 minutes a day to read. Finding ways to make reading fun, fit it into your day-to-day routine and not becoming stressed or overly caught up with the length of time your child spends reading will help build a manageable habit and grow a love of reading, rather than it feeling like a chore.

How do I encourage a love of reading? It might make total sense that reading

for pleasure has many benefits, however, you might also feel daunted at the prospect of encouraging your child to grow a love of reading - especially when you both have multiple priorities, distractions, and hobbies.

Start by thinking about reading in its broadest sense and begin to nurture a love of reading by introducing your child to reading in all its forms.

Our recent pupil survey showed us that children and young people were more motivated to read different formats including comics and magazines but also song lyrics and other digital media that are more familiar to their lifestyles.

Comic books, cereal packets, magazines or even audiobooks and podcasts can be brilliant ways to encourage even the most reluctant readers to get into a habit of reading and enjoy what they are discovering.

Audiobooks and podcasts can be a great way to immerse children in the joy of books while they are on the go, which alleviates the pressure to carve out more time.

Reading Lists for Year groups

Please see the links below to find out the recommended books for each year group. They can also be found on the school website under each year groups tab.

Nursery - <u>50-Best-Books-2025-Poster-Preschool.pdf</u>

Reception – <u>50-Best-Books-2025-Poster-Reception.pdf</u>

Year 1 – <u>50-Best-Books-2025-Poster-Y1.pdf</u>

Year 2 – 50-Best-Books-2025-Poster-Y2.pdf

Year 3 – 50-Best-Books-2025-Poster-Y3.pdf

Year 4 – 50-Best-Books-2025-Poster-Y4.pdf

Year 5 - 50-Best-Books-2025-Poster-Y5.pdf

Year 6 - 50-Best-Books-2025-Poster-Y6.pdf

Items from previous updates:

<u>Pharmacy First – an NHS service being offered from pharmacies across England for children and adults</u>



NHS Birmingham and Solihull

Did you know about an NHS service which pharmacies across England are offering for children (as well as adults) called **Pharmacy First**?



What is Pharmacy First?

Community Pharmacists offer free and confidential advice for minor illnesses such as coughs, colds, and eye infection. If appropriate, they can also provide treatment* without a prescription for seven common conditions:

- Urinary tract infection (women aged 16-64)
- Sinusitis (adults and children aged 12+)
- Sore throat (adults and children aged 5+)
- Earache (children and young adults aged 1-17)
- Infected insect bite (adults and children aged 1+)
- Impetigo (adults and children aged 1+)
- Shingles (adults aged 18+)

The pharmacy will send an electronic message to the person's GP surgery so their health record can be updated. Should the pharmacist be unable to help, they will direct the person to their GP surgery or other health professional as appropriate.

This service takes away the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment and may help ensure children get well and back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better sooner if they are unwell.

Patients that are already exempt from prescription charges, such as children, will still be exempt from charges if treatment is provided for the listed conditions, otherwise usual NHS prescription charge rules apply.

For more information on how your pharmacist can help, visit, <u>Think pharmacy first</u> :: <u>NHS Birmingham and Solihull</u> or watch the Pharmacy First video by clicking <u>here</u>.

Annual Calendar for next school year

To help parents with arrangements, here is an overview of the main school dates for next school year.

Please remember we are unable to authorise holidays in term time; please book any of these in the school holidays.



Annual Calendar

2025-2026

September							
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27	28	29	30	31		

Key
School closed- Holidays
School closed- Bank holiday
Staff training days (school closed for children)
Voting day (School closed for children)

Term dates and staff training days for the year

The updated term dates and the staff training days are on the school website: https://www.colebourne.bham.sch.uk/diary-and-term-dates/

Remaining Staff Training Days:

Easy fundraising: Raise money for Colebourne while you shop:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/colebourneprimary

Extreme Weather Response

At Colebourne we have an extreme weather policy which supports us in ensuring the safety of pupils, staff, and families.

You can see the full policy via the **policies link** on the new school website parents section: https://www.colebourne.bham.sch.uk/parents/

Useful Links for Parents

Home Learning Links



Home learning grids

Additional learning opportunities each half term
Home learning grids

Please note these are being amended for this term so please check back for the most up to date ones.



BBC Bitesize

Lots of links to learning and skills http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary/



Oak National Academy

A huge range of lessons, resources and subjects

Oak National Academy

We also have some of our subscription services such as



Doodle

A great platform to learn and practise key skills for maths and English

https://www.doodlemaths.com/



Times Tables Rockstars

Practice your times tables and quick maths recall skills https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student

School information links for parents

Year group expectation sheets: Email address for parents:

Key expectation sheets parents@colebourne.bham.sch.uk

School information for parents:

https://www.colebourne.bham.sch.uk/parents/

Term Dates:

https://www.colebourne.bham.sch.uk/diary-and-term-dates/

Easy fundraising: Raise money for Colebourne while you shop:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/colebourneprimary

Free school meals checker:

https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/oefe/birmingham/provider

School policies: School policies

PARENTING AND HEALTH SUPPORT



NHS Advice and guidance

The place for trusted NHS advice and guidance to help you have a healthy and happy baby during pregnancy, birth and parenthood.

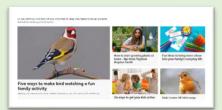
https://www.nhs.uk/start-for-life/early-learning-development/



BBC Wellbeing site

 video and help for parents own mental health and that of their children

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/groups/cw9v6l8d0q6t



BBC bitesize parents

Tips, advice and activity ideas for being a parent

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/parents



Birmingham School Health Support Service

Lots of health related links and support for children and families including: the school nurse; Community paediatric and child development centres; Forward thinking

Birmingham...And much more

Birmingham School Health Support Service

FINANCIAL SUPPORT





Water Bill Support

The Big Difference Scheme can offer a reduction of water bills to any Severn Trent customer with a household income below £23,492.

Households with child dependants may be eligible for an additional income allowance more than this amount.

https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-account/help-when-you-need-it/help-with-paying-your-bill/big-difference-scheme/





Broadband - Social tariffs

Most broadband providers have **Social tariffs** broadband is an option for people in lower-income households. If you're receiving Universal Credit, Pension Credit or certain other government benefits, you could be eligible.

https://www.virginmedia.com/broadband/low-income-families

https://www.bt.com/broadband/home-essentials