



COLBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Christine Mead

Colby School News Issue 1– Friday 5th September 2025



It's been a lovely first few days back. Children have settled into classes beautifully and are having lots of fun. Our new Reception pupils are doing brilliantly – they are learning so many new things every day. Please don't worry if your Reception child has had the occasional wobble – this is entirely natural at the start of term. It is difficult for you if your child is upset but please be reassured that they are fine once they are in the school building. You are always welcome to contact the school office if you are worried during the day. We want all new families to enjoy the start of this exciting school adventure – that means the adults too, so never be afraid to ask if we can help in any way. Older children can take a little time to settle into new routines and new classes too. Please let us know if your child needs some extra support.

Reception parents are welcome to drop children off earlier next week. Children can arrive between 8.30am and 8.50am. Miss Covell will welcome them at the gate.



The Week Ahead

Monday 8 th September 2025	BREAKFAST CLUB from 8am. £5. After School Club until 5pm. £5.
Tuesday 9 th September 2025	BREAKFAST CLUB from 8am. £5. After School Club until 5pm. £5.
Wednesday 10 th September 2025	BREAKFAST CLUB from 8am. £5. After School Club until 5pm. £5.
Thursday 11 th September 2025	BREAKFAST CLUB from 8am. £5. After School Club until 5pm. £5. Girls' Football Club with Hannah 3 – 4.15pm £5 (After School Club available after until 5pm). KS2 Football Club with Ben 3 – 4.15pm £5 (After School Club available after until 5pm).
Friday 12 th September 2025	BREAKFAST CLUB from 8am. £5. After School Club until 5pm. £5.





Headteacher Awards

Delilah (Amber) for fantastic science knowledge

Ava (Amber) for helping Reception children put on their raincoats

Arthur C (Sapphire) sharing his amazing holiday diary with us!

Evie (Sapphire) for showing us her superb guinea pig house that she made herself at home!

Anya and Etta (Sapphire)

for proudly talking about their reading achievements from the library over the summer.

Amelie (Sapphire) sharing Malcolm the sock monkey diary with us

All Sapphire Class for excellent independent writing on the very first day back!

All Sapphire Year 1s

for making Mrs Frost think they were actually Year 2s because they were so sensible!

Ralph (Emerald) for super maths

Poppy (Emerald) for completing the Summer reading challenge

Arthur C (Sapphire) for amazing rhyming words



Nut Free Zone

We politely request that children do not bring nuts of any sort to school, including food items made from nuts such as peanut butter or nutella. This helps ensure we can keep children / staff with severe allergies to nut products safe. Your support is appreciated. Thank you.



Egg Free Zone

We politely request that children avoid having egg in their sandwiches and snacks. We have children with severe egg allergies and it would really help if we didn't have egg in school. If this causes you a great problem because your child does not like other sandwich fillers, please speak to Mrs Mead. However, it would be much easier if we simply had no egg, so if this is possible it would be much appreciated. Thank you.



Contacting us

Our school office is manned from 8.50am – 3pm every school day. There are often staff about after 3pm but if no-one is available to answer the telephone you can leave a message on our answer 'phone – we'll get back to you as soon as possible.

We are available on the playground gate every day if you want to talk to us. Never worry that your questions are too small or silly! If you find it more convenient to contact us by email you can contact Holly, Tara or Bill (secretaries) regarding office enquiries on office@colby.norfolk.sch.uk or myself on head@colby.norfolk.sch.uk



Colby Curriculum

Curriculum information is printed below (except for Emerald Class which will follow next week). It will give you information about the subject areas your child will be studying this half term. Please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions about what your child is learning at school.

Amber Class Autumn 1 Curriculum

This half term Amber Class are going to be thinking about ourselves as we help our new Reception children settle in, and later on in the half term we will explore the topic of 'Journeys'.

We will be getting to know each other by talking about our families and our personal likes and dislikes. Later on we will find out how to keep safe on journeys and think about the sorts of clothes we might need in cold weather.

In English, Reception children will be encouraged to develop their confidence by speaking within a small group. We will look for name labels and notices around us, find out why they are important and try to read them. Year 1 pupils will expand their recognition of common irregular words in the environment around them. We are going to have lots of fun sharing and comparing fantasy and reality stories and looking at poems. Year 1 pupils will become familiar with key stories and be able to retell them.

Reception children will be learning about different areas of maths through practical and fun activities. There will be lots of opportunities to count, read, recognise and order numbers to 10, then 20 both in the classroom and outside. Year 1 children will build on their learning by learning to read and write numbers from 1-20 in numerals and begin counting accurately up to and across to 100.

We will be immersing ourselves in our learning through our play. We will be asking the children what they want to learn about within their topic and then creating learning opportunities which utilise those interests. – it's all very exciting!

Our annual Harvest Festival is extremely popular with the children in Amber Class. We will join forces with Sapphire Class to learn some new songs, along with some old favourites. We really look forward to welcoming families to the first production of the school year.

As you can see we are going to be packing in lots of fun learning experiences this half term. If you have any questions feel free to ask any member of the Amber Class Team. Please remember to read the newsletter every week as that is the best way to keep up-to-date with events and important diary dates.

Let's have fun!

The Amber Class Team

Sapphire Class Autumn 1 Curriculum

Welcome back all Sapphire children! An ENORMOUS thank you for all the wonderful cards and gifts that I received. They were all so thoughtful and I was overwhelmed by your kindness. This term we have wonderful things planned for Sapphire children and I look forward to getting stuck into learning straight away!

In **English** we will be enjoying sharing some fantastic texts including *Slug Needs a Hug* (Jeanne Willis) and *QPootle5* (Nick Butterworth). We look forward to writing some Harvest poetry too. We will focus on writing simple sentences with full stops and capital letters with Year 1s and more complex sentences with a variety of conjunctions for Year 2s. Year 2s will be starting to join their letters if they are ready and Year 1s will focus on ensuring letters are correctly orientated and sitting on the line. There are handwriting practise sheets on Google Classroom. We will work with Year 1 children to check that they are forming all their letters correctly and that they are sitting on the line.

Spellings will be given out on Fridays and the children work on these words within class so should be familiar with them. Children will have a short spelling test every Friday morning and all spelling lists will be posted in our Google Classroom page.

All children have home access to **Spelling Shed** and will be given details of how to log on in the next few days. We will stick the details in the front of the children's reading record book. We will also stick in their logging details for **Sapphire Google Classroom**.

Reading – we expect every child in Sapphire to read at home every day. It needs to only be for 5 minutes and could just be two or three pages of their reading book. We will hear children read at school as often as we can and will sometimes work with them in groups to focus on specific reading skills. It really does make a difference to the amount of progress children make with their reading if they are heard at home regularly. Children will earn extra break time if they are heard read at least three times a week at home and it is recorded in their reading record books.

In **Maths** we will be looking at place value within 100 (Yr2s) and up to 30 (Yr1s). We will be counting on and back from 100 and in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s. Children will be partitioning 2 digit numbers into tens and ones and will use practical apparatus to help them to do this. Your support with the children at home with reinforcing early place value is appreciated and does help to embed early knowledge.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/place-value-basketball>

<https://au.splashlearn.com/place-value-games-for-year-1>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z8sfr82>

History We will be finding out about Mary Anning. Who was she and why do we remember her?

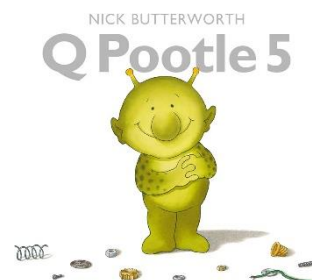
In **Science** we will be exploring the seasons. What signs of autumn will we find outside? In our outdoor learning session we will be making warm homes for animals to hibernate in.

We will be getting messy as we create bird feeders ready for the birds in winter. We will be measuring rainfall and recording our results.

In **DT** children will be designing and making their own vehicle for one of our colour monsters. They will have to include axels, wheels and a chassis on their moving vehicle. We look forward to some awesome creations!

Mrs. Moulton will be working with Sapphire children on **computing** and will be looking at 'technology around us.' The children will also be accessing a simple program that supports them with learning how to type on a keyboard. If you want to help your child practise this, please click on the following link:

<https://www.dancematttypingguide.com/dance-mat-typing-level-1/stage-1/>



In our **Life Skills** sessions, we will be thinking about what makes a good friendship. We will also be enjoying the Colour Monsters story by Anna Llenas and thinking about how we can express our feelings and emotions, whilst respecting other people.

Sapphire Class will have PE on **Tuesdays and Fridays** and will be developing their football and netball skills, with a focus on teamwork and leadership. As always, we expect long hair tied up and no jewellery be worn on these days. Children should come into school wearing their PE uniform on these days. As the weather gets wetter we will be using the hall for PE too and all children will need a pair of **clean** trainers to wear on PE days.

We will be getting outside for our learning as often as we can so please make sure that your child has suitable outdoor footwear (**wellies**) with them at school every day.

Our **RE** work will focus on how Christian communities celebrate Harvest. This half term we look forward to joining with Amber Class to present our Harvest Festival assembly to you! We will soon be practising our Harvest songs! More details on dates to come soon!



We have five pet mice in Sapphire Class and we enjoy watching them and taking care of them. Children get the chance to handle them regularly too. Our new stick insects are now fully grown and can produce eggs so if any of you would like some, please let me know and I can put some aside!



We have Malcom and Mabel, our two sock monkeys in Sapphire Class and they LOVE going home with the children, especially if they are going on holiday or on a special day out! If you would like one of our monkeys, please ask your child to bring one home and help them to record the special visit in the diary. Children are SO proud to read to us from the special diary!

A busy, hardworking and fun filled few weeks ahead of us! As always, if you have any questions you know where I am!
Sarah Frost

EMERALD CLASS CURRICULUM WILL FOLLOW NEXT WEEK

Ruby Class Autumn 1 Curriculum

Welcome back, I hope you had a wonderful summer break. It has been lovely seeing your children's happy faces over the last 3 days and catching up with the fun they had during the holidays.

Over this term our topic is UK seas and World oceans. We will start by learning all about the UK's seas, the sea habitats and organisms as well as looking at how we use the seas and how the coast is being eroded. After this, we will start looking at the oceans around the world. This will lead up to a class trip to look at 2 different beaches in Norfolk with a particular focus on coastal erosion and we will do a litter pick along the beaches.

In Literacy we will start by using the inspiration of the ocean using the Wii game called Endless Ocean which will help us to write some descriptive diary writing. We will then be looking at how plastic is polluting our oceans and will be writing news reports and letters about how this is affecting wildlife around our oceans.

This term we will also be reading the book *Kaspar, Prince of Cats* and use this to write diary entries. The children will be coming home on a Monday with new spellings to learn for the following Monday. The new spellings will be on Spelling Shed for them to learn but I will also post a copy of the words on Google Classroom as well as the children bringing a paper copy home. If your child has forgotten their password for Spelling Shed, please contact me and I will send it to you. It is an expectation that your child should be reading for at least 10 minutes a day at home. I expect the children to be responsible for entering what they have read in their reading books by Year 4 but it is always great to see comments from parents in their books too. Please could you sign their book when they have read. As an incentive the children will get a housepoint for every signature (maximum of 7 a week) to acknowledge that they have been reading.

In maths, we will start the year learning about the place value of numbers up to 1 000 000. This will include comparing and ordering numbers, rounding numbers and counting forwards and backwards in powers of 10. After that we will be looking at how to add and subtract larger numbers. Knowing their times tables up to 12 x 12 is an end of Year 4 target and really makes the Year 5 curriculum more accessible to the children. Please can you continue to help them learn or retain their knowledge of the tables. On a weekly basis, we will be doing the Olympic Times Tables Challenge. This week we have found out where the children are. Please do not be alarmed if your child comes home and is having to start on a lower test than where they finished last year. If they have not been learning them regularly over the holiday, then they may need to refresh their knowledge.

Our science lessons will also have a theme of pollution and we will be looking at different types of pollution and how we can help to conserve our planet. Art will also be related to our topic as we will be creating a mixed media seascape.

Mr Brown and Ben will take PE this term. This will be on a Monday and Thursday afternoon. Please can the children come in their PE kit. They will be learning about the core value of teamwork and will be improving their skills and knowledge of football and rugby.

The children will continue to be taught computing with Mrs Moulton (Liz). This term they will have lessons about keeping safe online and learning about sharing information safely. In RE they will be learning about creation stories from around the World and in French learning how to speak in French for times, dates, birthdays and celebrations.

In music this term we will be learning how to play the recorder. We will be learning the recorder for at least 2 half terms this year so it would be beneficial if your child had their own recorder. A good quality recorder costs around £7 from Amazon. A good brand is Tiger or Yamaha and are available on Amazon. We will start by looking at notation next week but it would be great if they could have them by the 15th September. The school does have a small selection of recorders for children to borrow but obviously these are shared instruments.

On a Thursday afternoon, the children are taught by Mr Mead and Ben and on a Friday afternoon they are taught by Mr Mead and Liz. Mr Mead will be teaching them RE and French and Liz will be teaching them computing.

This week we have been discussing leadership roles around the school and we will be encouraging the children to take on extra responsibilities.

If you have any questions or need to contact me, then feel free to email me. My address is wtowers3nr3@nsix.org.uk.

Amethyst Class Autumn 1 Curriculum

Hi, I hope you all had a great summer! The children have settled in very quickly. I'd like to share with you what the children are learning this term ...

Maths: We start with place value before moving on to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Science: We are exploring evolution and inheritance.

English: Our key text this half-term is 'Kensuke's Kingdom'. We will use it to create persuasive speeches, stories and lots of reading responses.

All the children's spelling lists go live every Monday morning at 8.50A.M. These will be up and running in a week or so.

Geography: We are spending slightly longer on this unit. We are investigating many aspects of the North Sea: Physical processes, human processes and also visit two beaches early next month to practise our field work skills. We should also have a visit to the Jonas crab factory to meet the lobsters!

P.E: (Wednesday/Friday): The children are developing football skills as well as their leadership abilities.

R.E: We are thinking about what kind of leader Jesus was whilst linking into the children's own leadership roles.

French: Simon is teaching language to introduce themselves and their families and describing their future.

Art: We are creating human sculptures out of wire and clay.

Computing: Liz will be focussing on online safety.

If you have any questions about what we are studying this half-term, please don't hesitate to get in contact. Mr Frost



Colby Kitchen

MONDAY 8th September	Ham, cheese and tomato pasta bake with garlic bread, sweetcorn and green beans. Fruit.
TUESDAY 9th September	Chilli served with a wholemeal wrap, carrots and broccoli. Choice of yoghurt or fruit.

Details of our full menu will follow next week – we're just making some final decisions.

Please can Reception children continue to bring packed lunches next week. They are welcome to book meals from Monday 15th September 2025 – a little earlier than I had said at our Induction Meeting but the children are settling in so well we thought we'd bring the date forward. Please do not hesitate to contact me on head@colby.norfolk.sch.uk if you would like school to provide a packed lunch until then.

Have a great weekend!

Christine Mead