



COLBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Colby School News Issue 15: Friday 5th January 2024



The Week Ahead

Monday 8 th January 2024	Breakfast Club from 8am. £5. After School Club until 5pm. £5.
Tuesday 9 th January 2024	Breakfast Club from 8am. £5. Reception and Year 1 Dance and Yoga Club with Miss Covell from 8.30am before school in Amber Class (no charge). KS1 and KS2 Choir (combined) with Mrs Towers from 8.30am before school (no charge).
Wednesday 10 th January 2024	Breakfast Club from 8am. £5. Reception and Year 1 Dance and Yoga Club with Miss Covell from 8.30am before school in Amber Class (no charge). Year 6 Swimming session at AHS – water safety session. After School Club until 5pm. £5.
Thursday 11 th January 2024	Breakfast Club from 8am. £5. Selected Year 5 children at Active Leaders training at UEA. Art Club with Mr Frost 3 – 4.15pm £5 (After School Club available after, no extra cost) After School Club until 5pm. £5.
Friday 12 th January 2024	Breakfast Club from 8am. £5. After School Club until 5pm. £5.
Thursday 4 th January 2024	Breakfast Club from 8am. £5. After School Club until 5pm. £5.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 19th – Friday 23rd February: School closed - Spring Half Term holiday.

Monday 26th February: School reopens for 2nd half of Spring Term.

Wednesday 27th March: School closes at 3pm for Easter break. No After School Club today.

Monday 15th April: School reopens for Summer Term.

Monday 6th May: School closed for May Bank Holiday.

Monday 27th – Fri 31st May: School closed for Summer Half Term.

Monday 3rd June: School reopens for 2nd half of Summer Term.

Friday 19th July: School closes at 3pm for Summer holidays. No After School Club today.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION SPRING TERM 2024



AMBER CLASS

Welcome back to a New Year and a new term in Amber Class! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas holiday. The children have been sharing their holiday news and all seem to have had a wonderful and restful break. They have come back into school happy and ready to learn.

This half term our topic will be all about Dinosaurs which the children are very excited about. They have decided they would like to learn the following things within this topic:

- All about dinosaurs and their names
- Dippy the Dinosaur
- What dinosaurs eat
- Read dinosaur stories
- Where dinosaurs lived
- How big dinosaurs were
- The mammoth skeleton at West Runton
- Fossils
- Palaeontologists
- How baby dinosaurs hatch from eggs
- Dinosaur bones

In English we will find out Dinosaur facts by looking at non-fiction books and the internet by going on websites such as The Natural History Museum website. We will create our own dinosaur characters, write a story and use them as a basis for role-play. Using poems, we will explore rhyming words and write a class poem.

In Maths Yr R will be learning all about the numbers 5,6,7,8,9. We will learn about the composition of these numbers, comparing numbers, looking at equal and unequal groups, comparing mass, exploring heavier/lighter and full/empty, comparing height and length and days of the week plus much more.

In Maths Yr 1 will be learning about addition and subtraction to 20, place value within 50, length and height and weight and volume. We will learn about number bonds, more and less than a given number, tens and ones, counting in 2's and 5's, measuring lengths and learning about capacity.

As usual we will be doing lots of creating and exploring through our play. It's going to be another fun half term here in Amber Class and we're really looking forward to it.

Many thanks,

The Amber Class Team

SAPPHIRE CLASS

Welcome back to all our Sapphire children and a HUGE thank you for all the gifts and cards you sent in for Sapphire staff. They were much appreciated and enjoyed by all!

We also want to welcome Erin Buttifant to Sapphire Class. Erin is a student teacher and she spent a day with us in December and met the children. We all look forward to working with her this term.



This term Sapphire will be starting with a **geography** focus on Kenya. We look forward to finding out about the climate and landscape, as well as what life is like for children in Nairobi and in rural areas. No doubt we will meet lots of exciting African animals too!



In **science** our focus will be on discovering what all animals require to grow. We will compare animal young and learn to classify them as herbivores, omnivores or carnivores. Being animal lovers, we will be making bird cakes to support our local wildlife.



In **art** we will be looking at an artist who is inspired by the African Savana, Tilly Willis and the children will explore sketching and painting similar landscapes.

Mr. Frost will be teaching us **history** and we will find out who Nelson Mandela was and what he achieved for his country. What was Apartheid?



In **maths** we will be starting with a focus on multiplication, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. We will be investigating links with division too. Year 2 children will be learning how to work out and record simple multiplication (array method) and division calculations (peas on a plate method).

In our **English** sessions Sapphire children will continue to have weekly spellings to learn with a test every Friday. Spelling lists can be found on Google Classroom. We will carry on with our daily phonics sessions in our groups.

We will be writing simple instructions for looking after our new baby mice which will no doubt involve handling our new pets! We will enjoy *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt and have a go at writing letters and describing a new crayon. We will enjoy role play and drama to help us immerse ourselves in this fun tale. In handwriting Year 2s will continue to learn more joins and Year 1s will be focussing on forming and orientating all their lower and upper case letters correctly, including capital letters. There are handwriting sheets on Google Classroom.



We will continue to enjoy our class reader, *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* by Jill Tomlinson.

Please continue hearing your children read every day (just 2 pages) and sign their reading record book. It really does make a HUGE difference to the progress children make when they read at home regularly.

Mrs. Moulton will be taking us for our **computing** sessions on Tuesday afternoons when we will be working on robot algorithms.

Sapphire **PE** is on Tuesdays and Fridays and we will be doing dance and gymnastics. Children will need to wear PE kit on these days which consists of their PE top, shorts, joggers and plimsolls. We also ask that children have outdoor trainers every day as we may pop outside any day to learn in our garden area. It is helpful if earrings are not worn and long hair is tied back on PE days.



Activities to do with your child

- Visit the library for books on animals from Africa.
- Produce a poster about an African animal. Draw it and write about its diet, its habitat and its young. Bring your poster into school to share with us all.
- Practise 2, 5 and 10 times tables using the Hit the Button game. (Move onto 3, 4 and 8 times tables if you know the easier ones inside out! – Year 2s)
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>
- Hear your child read daily.



EMERALD CLASS

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed the holidays as much as I did!

This term is really exciting and the children have come back in great form. They have been enthusiastic and super well behaved!

In English we will be using speech punctuation and writing some great stories. Our class text is a book by Allan Ahlberg called *Woof*. It is about a little boy who turns into a dog. We will use this text as we read it to inspire lots of different writing styles.

In Maths we will be continuing multiplication and division and then move on to fractions and some place value work as well as length and perimeter. We will regularly recap our written methods for all four operations.

In History we will study different Ancient Civilisations, including Ancient Sumer and Ancient Egypt.

Our D.T. will be linked to this and we will be making some mechanical posters.

In P.E. we will be doing some dancing, gymnastics and thinking about how to be healthy and keep fit.

In Science we are learning about light and Alice will be teaching Life Skills / French as normal this term.

R.E. will be about Muslim beliefs and Mrs Towers will continue with Music on Monday afternoons.

We will be reading lots, as always, with children needing to read at home to an adult at least three times each week. Please try to sign diaries as we will be launching some great prizes across the school this term!

As always, please get in touch if you have any questions.

Mr B



RUBY CLASS

Welcome back and a happy new year to you all. I hope you had a lovely Christmas and New Year.

This half term in literacy we will be starting our film project “The Temple of Boom” and focusing on writing the following genres: play scripts, character descriptions, letter writing and narrative writing. We will also be looking at editing our own and others writing. Once we have completed our film project which will probably be after Easter, we are looking forward to holding a film premiere. More to follow on this nearer the time. We will also be focusing on using a variety of openers, correct punctuation and relative clauses. This half term the book we are reading as a class will be Tom’s Midnight Garden and we will use this to help with answering a variety of comprehension questions. We will still continue with our weekly spelling tests on a Monday. Please help your children to learn their spellings. They are available on Google Classroom if they forget to bring them home. It would be great if they could also do some spelling practise on Spelling Shed. There are assignments on there to help them even further.

In Maths this half term, we will be continuing to learn our times tables up to 12 x 12. Please continue to help your child learn these. There are plenty of activities to help them with this on Google Classroom. We will also be looking at multiplying and dividing larger numbers. We will also look at how we multiply fractions and find fractions of amounts. After this we will start to look at finding decimals and percentages.

In Science, we will be looking at sound and finding out how we hear sound. We will also be investigating materials that can help muffle sound and finding out about sound waves and pitch.

Our topic this term will be history-based and we will be building on prior knowledge that they know about Ancient Egyptians. We will look further into mummification and pyramids as well as learning about Ancient Egyptian life. This will lead into our art topic which will start by drawing faces as well as producing our own Egyptian death masks.

In music, we will be learning about how to start song-writing. We will identify the structure of a song and analyse the song lyrics to appreciate the role of metaphor, write the lyrics of a hook and create a tune for our hook. After this we will be continuing to build on learning an instrument by continuing to learn how to play the recorder. We have a few recorders that children can borrow at school but it would be great if you could provide your child with their own recorder. A good quality recorder only costs around £6 on Amazon (Tiger/Aulos are excellent value and great quality).

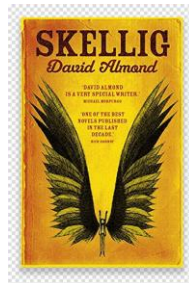
Our RE topic this term is the Biblical Story of the Exodus and the meaning of the Jewish Passover meal. In Languages, children will write phrases and adapt sentences about countries and capitals of the United Kingdom, as well as animals in the zoo.

The children will continue to do PE with Mr Brown on a Monday and Ben on a Thursday. This term they will be doing gymnastics and dance with the core value of health and fitness.

In computing, they will finish off their topic on programming and then move on to finding out about data logging.

As always, feel free to contact me on my email if you have any worries or questions. My email address is wtowers3nr3@nsix.org.uk.

Mrs Wendy Towers



AMETHYST CLASS

Hi, I hope you all had a great Christmas and stayed well!

I'd like to share with you what the children are learning this term...

Maths:

Simon will move on to unpicking multi-step problems using all the great arithmetic skills the children have worked on last term and revision of all the KS2 content.

Science:

Our science is Living Things and their habitats with a focus on classifying creatures using a standard system.

English:

Our key texts this half-term is the absolutely fantastic book 'Skellig'. We will use it to help us write a persuasive texts, a longer story and a comparison.

History:

Amethyst will be looking at the stone age and how much we can learn from places like Skara Brae and how tools were so important to these people.

P.E: (Wednesday/Friday)

Both P.E units are indoors this half-term. Ben will take children though some gymnastic lessons and Mrs. Frost will run some dance sessions.

R.E:

We have a few lessons of creation versus scientific explanations left to work on.

Grammar and Pung Fu!:

Simon will be putting the children through their paces with Colby's very own 'martial art'.

Art:

The class will be exploring form and colour in real life observations of plants and flowers. Within this we'll look at the work of Alexander Calder, David Oliveira and Henri Rousseau. The unit ends with a collage piece of work. If you can donate any old magazines or colour printed papers in any form, that would be really gratefully received.

Computing:

Liz will be developing the children's ability to use selections in quizzes as well as controlling variables in games.

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

Mr Gavin Frost



Headteacher Awards

Mia and Hollie (Amber) for fantastic listening during circle time

Noah (Sapphire) & Harper and Brooke (Amber) for beautiful behaviour in Assembly



NORFOLK COUNTY SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

Many congratulations to **Ophelia (Amethyst)** and **Leonardo (Amethyst)** for being selected for the Norfolk Athletics Squad. They will represent Norfolk against other counties in an event next month. Wow, that is amazing! Good luck, Ophelia and Leonardo!



Congratulations to Ben

Congratulations to Ben (teaching assistant) on the arrival of his baby boy, born last term. You may have met baby Cooper at the Christmas Fayre. Ben popped in to introduce baby Cooper to staff and children – he had kept his wife’s pregnancy a secret so it was a lovely surprise! The Richards family are all enjoying some time together this month. We look forward to welcoming Ben back after his paternity leave.



Review of the last week of term

Today was our first Assembly since the fun of the last week of term. We talked about the final 3 days and children all agreed that it was a great finish to 2023!

Thank you to Megan and Vikki for organising and leading our first **School Disco** for many years – it was great fun and the children had an amazing time!

Thank you very much for supporting the **Christmas Party Food Lunch**. We had a wonderful spread of food which children enjoyed very much. Here’s what some of them said about it:

“I liked the ham sandwiches. They tasted really nice.” By Florence (Amber).

“I really enjoyed eating the sandwiches. They were yummy!” By Herbie (Sapphire).

“Thank you very much to all the helpers who put out the food for us.” By Harris (Emerald).

“I loved us all being together in the Hall.” By Ivy (Ruby).

The term ended with our usual tradition of a **Colby Talent Show**. Thank you to Year 6 and Mr Frost for arranging a great show and to all the children who took part. Children said:

“I liked singing my song. The audience were very nice.” By Etta (Amber).

“I loved watching all the different talents – they were great!” By Harry (Sapphire).

“I liked Oscar’s break-dancing!” By Reuben (Emerald).

“I enjoyed all the interesting talents. It was a great show.” By Blake (Ruby).

“It was amazing being at the front hosting the show and speaking to the audience.” By Ophelia (Amethyst).

What a great end to the Autumn term. Lots of fun ahead this term too!

Here’s to a wonderful 2024 full of learning and laughter!

Christine Mead