



**COLBY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Bridge Road

Colby

Norwich

NR11 7EA

Tel: 01263 733381

E-mail: [office@colby.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@colby.norfolk.sch.uk)

Website: [www.colby.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.colby.norfolk.sch.uk)

**Headteacher: Mrs Christine Mead**

*Colby School News Issue 1 – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024*



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 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 Moore or Miss Covell will welcome them at the gate.



*The Week Ahead*

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2023     | NO BREAKFAST CLUB – SEE MESSAGE BELOW.<br>After School Club until 5pm. £5.   |
| Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2023   | NO BREAKFAST CLUB – SEE MESSAGE BELOW.<br>After School Club until 5pm. £5.   |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 | BREAKFAST CLUB from 8am. £5.<br>After School Club until 5pm. £5.   |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2023  | BREAKFAST CLUB from 8am. £5.<br>After School club until 5pm. £5.<br>Girls Football Club with Hannah 3 – 4.15pm £5 (After School Club available after until 5pm).<br>KS2 Football Club after school 3 – 4.15pm with Ben £5.<br>(After School Club available after until 5pm.) |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2023    | BREAKFAST CLUB from 8am. £5.<br>After School Club until 5pm. £5.   |



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024** (break up Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024): School closed for Autumn Half Term.

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025** (break up Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and return to school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025): School closed for the Christmas holiday.



## Spare clothes for Amber Class pupils

Dear Amber Class Parents,

If you haven't already, please send your child in with a spare change of clothes and spare carrier bag to keep on their peg.

Thank you.

The Amber Class Team

PS. Please could you also return your Tapestry permission letter, if you haven't already done so – we are looking forward to sharing lots of lovely photos with you.



## Headteacher Awards

**Rita (Emerald)** for brilliant maths homework

**Hudson (Ruby)** for helping another pupil with their work

**Dylan (Amethyst)** for outstanding reading

**Stella (Sapphire)** for super summer writing

**Charlie (Sapphire)** for brilliant independent news-writing

**Giles (Sapphire)** for fixing the class pencil sharpener!

**Mia and Evie (Sapphire)** for really good questions in maths

**Stanley (Sapphire)** for helping the new Reception children

**Evie (Sapphire)** for using her initiative to locate a word!

**All the new children in Sapphire Class** for an amazing first few days

**Rita (Emerald)** for great work in mathematics



## 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. This helps ensure we can keep children / staff with severe allergies to nut products safe. Your support is 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 Mrs Smith regarding office enquiries on [office@colby.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@colby.norfolk.sch.uk) or myself on [head@colby.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:head@colby.norfolk.sch.uk)



### **Universal Free School Meals**

Reception children in Amber class should have received an application form for Universal Free School Meals last term. Thank you to everyone who has already returned the form. If you haven't had a chance to complete and return it yet, please do so as soon as possible. Completing the form does not mean your child has to have a hot meal every day but it will entitle you to book a free meal if you want to. Children in Reception will be invited to order hot meals from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September – we want them to have time to settle into school life before they start their hot dinners because having a packed lunch gives them more time to eat and play initially. Reception parents are entitled to ask for a free packed lunch – please ask Mrs Mead or email the school office, if you would like us to make a packed lunch for your child.



### **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.



### **Goodbye to Lindsay**

Goodbye and good luck to Mrs Green (secretary) who moved to another job during the summer holiday. Thank you for all you did for Colby School and good luck for the future. We will miss you.



## Colby Curriculum

Key Stage 2 curriculum information is printed below. 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.

Curriculum information for Amber Class and Sapphire Class will follow next week.

### **Emerald Class Autumn 1 2024 Curriculum**

Welcome back everyone. I hope you have all enjoyed the lovely warm summer months!

I am super excited to welcome lots of lovely new faces into Emerald Class this term. I will do my best to come and introduce myself on the playground and if you have any questions then please don't hesitate to contact me. This term I will focus on getting to know your children and where they are with their learning, as well as allowing them time to settle into their new class. We will be allocating reading books and listening to all children read regularly as well as setting up the new online activities the children will be using both in school and at home. In our first few days we will be using the Colour Monster by Anna Leans to help us settle the children into class and we will be creating some strategies to use to help us manage our emotions.

In Literature we will be reading *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tullane* by Kate Dicamillo. It's fantastic and the children will really enjoy it. We will use the text to help inspire the writing of poems, recounts and stories as well as drama and helping our understanding of texts. We will also use the text to help us look at nouns, adjectives and adverbs, sentence starters, noun phrases and fronted adverbials. We will look at spelling rules and I will send home spelling lists when we are all up and running in class.

In maths our focus will be on basic number work, place value and calculations. I will be checking the children's times tables knowledge and getting them to think carefully about written and mental maths.

In Science we are learning all about Rocks, how they are formed and where we can find them. We will be doing some hands-on experiments and investigations too!

In PE our sport focus is football and rugby and our Colby Value is teamwork and leadership. I have lots of exciting lessons planned over the next few weeks. Children do not need football boots - trainers will be fine. PE kit needs to be worn on Monday and Wednesdays for Emerald with children coming to school wearing their kit with a change of clothes and footwear if the weather looks a little dodgy! We will be playing in the rain so a thin jacket or anorak is always useful. Nothing too bulky as the children get really hot!

In art we will be making some beautiful collages inspired by Henri Matisse and in Geography we will be learning all about the UK, where we live, how to use an atlas and how to create maps and orient yourself.

Alice will be teaching French. This term she will be looking at all about me and holidays and hobbies.

In RE we will look at Christianity and how kindness can change the world. Mrs Towers will be teaching music on Mondays to all of Emerald Class. It's a great chance for the children to get to know her and they always love singing and boomwhackers!

My email is [abrown6vrq@nsix.org.uk](mailto:abrown6vrq@nsix.org.uk)

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Speak soon

Mr B



## Colby Curriculum contd.

### Ruby Class Autumn 1 2024 Curriculum

Welcome back, I hope you had a wonderful summer break. It has been lovely seeing your children's happy faces this week and they have been telling us all about their fantastic holidays. Over this half term our topic is natural disasters. We will be learning all about volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis and tornadoes. We will use this topic to write instructions and non-chronological reports in literacy. After this, in literacy we will be reading the book "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe" and will use this to write some narrative descriptions. We will also be having a focus on spellings, reading, punctuation and handwriting this half term. The children will be coming home with the day that they will be having their spellings test today. Every week I will post the new spellings on Google Classroom as well as the children bringing a paper copy home. The children can continue to learn these spellings using Spelling Shed as well as any other way they wish to choose to learn them. If your child has forgotten their password please contact me and I will send it to you. It would be great if you could still continue to listen to your child read out aloud a couple of times a week but most of the children will probably be independent readers by now and want to read on their own. 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. If you could sign their book at least once a week to acknowledge that they have been reading this would be great. The children should be reading at least 10 minutes daily. 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 begin to learn how to add and subtract larger numbers. Knowing 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.

In science, we will be learning about properties of material and then start to learn about changes in materials. In art, we will be making photomontages and looking at the artist David Hockney.

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 leadership and will be improving their skills and knowledge of football and rugby.

The children will continue computing with Mrs Moulton (Liz). This term they will have lessons about keeping safe online and learning about the internet and how it works.

In RE we will be looking at New Year celebrations, and in French we will be learning how to describe our class and school.

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.

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.

In Ruby Class, we use Google Classroom to post information and tasks that the children could do at home as well as the spellings list so please do look at the site and ask for help if you need it. If you have any questions or need to contact me, then feel free to email me. My address is

[wtowers3nr3@nsix.org.uk](mailto:wtowers3nr3@nsix.org.uk) .





## Colby Curriculum contd.

### Amethyst Class Autumn 1 2024 Curriculum

Welcome new Year Sixes and parents new to Amethyst! I absolutely can't wait to get cracking with some work and I'd like to share with you what we are learning this half-term. We have made some changes to leadership roles and how leadership develops across the year. I am sure your children will be excited to explain to you what roles they are going for! During the first week or so, we will be discussing what skills and commitment might be needed for the different jobs. I would like to share with you all the topics and areas we will be covering this half-term.

#### Maths:

In Year Six, we need to recover pretty much everything making sure we have even revision and extension where needed. Initially, the priority is to support children with gaps in their knowledge and then, this term, deepen understanding in calculations.

#### Science:

This half-term we are covering evolution and inheritance.

#### English:

Our key text this half-term is the excellent book 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. Deserts and heat feature pretty much throughout so it links to our geography work. This text will allow us to write discussions around character development, comparing books to film and finally a story with more than one-time line. We then move onto non-fiction reports all about deserts.

#### Geography:

We are going to study deserts around the world looking at wildlife and climate whilst exploring similarities and differences.

#### P.E: (Wednesday and Friday afternoons)

We are developing football and rugby skills in the first half-term. The focus is also on team-work and leadership. Children need to come in P.E kit suitable for the weather please. School jumpers/fleeces are still needed.

#### R.E:

Amethyst will be covering Buddhism in the first half of this term.

#### French:

Simon will be looking at describing yourself, family, friends and the future.

#### Life Skills:

We always promote leadership possibilities in the Autumn term. The children will be encouraged to take on meaningful positions of responsibility and making clear plans about which areas of school life they would like to develop. The other focus is with online safety.

#### Art:

We start with some technical drawing and work on perspective before looking at ways of creating depth in landscape pictures using water colours.

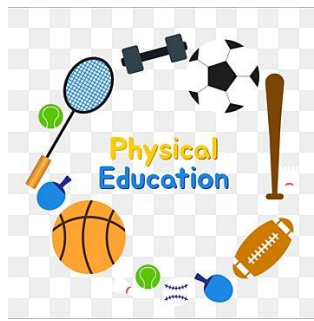
#### IT

Liz spends several lessons this half-term helping out the life skills topics by enabling children to stay safe online.

We will be regularly watching Newsround and discussing issues that might relate to us.

As ever, do get in contact on [office@colby.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@colby.norfolk.sch.uk) or direct at [gfrost4nrd@nsix.org.uk](mailto:gfrost4nrd@nsix.org.uk) if you have any questions, or catch me on the playground before or after school.

Mr Frost



## PE

Hi everyone, welcome back. I hope you have loved the summer of sport. It seems like an age since England came so close to winning the Euros and then we had the privilege of watching the Paris Olympics. What an incredible sporting event. I particularly loved the swimming and we were mesmerised by Alex Yee storming back in the triathlon! Hopefully you have enjoyed some tennis and even the return of the Premier League where the mighty Man United have started strong!

Hopefully the children will have been inspired by something over the summer and will be keen to join some lunch or after school sport clubs. We have lots planned in the Autumn Term and fingers crossed we will continue to be blessed with the weather. Keep an eye out for club timetables and events coming soon.

Mr B

## PE Kit

See the list below for PE days for each class and kit they will need throughout the week. Children will need to come to school wearing their kit. It is a good idea for them to have a change of clothes in their bag on those days, especially if it is wet and muddy (we will still be going outside!).

The children need to have trainers, navy shorts, joggers or tracksuit bottoms, skirt or skort, green school jumper, rain jacket and their house t-shirt.

|          |                        |
|----------|------------------------|
| Amber    | - Tuesday and Thursday |
| Sapphire | - Tuesday and Friday   |
| Emerald  | - Monday and Wednesday |
| Ruby     | - Monday and Thursday  |
| Amethyst | - Wednesday and Friday |

If you are unsure about what kit your children need please speak to a member of staff before school who can advise.

Thanks  
Mr B



## Thank you to Mrs Boast

A huge thank you to Mrs Boast for the help she gave Astrid the guinea pig last term. Astrid has made a full recovery, thanks to her excellent care. We are very grateful!



### **Degree congratulations**

A huge well done to Ben Richards for completing his degree in Education. He passed with flying colours – well done, Ben! All that hard work while working full-time at Colby School! What a star!



### **Breakfast Club**

We had hoped to start Breakfast Club on Monday next week but we are not able to do so, due to staffing issues. Breakfast Club will resume on Wednesday from 8am.

We can offer regular customers of Breakfast Club childcare help on Monday and Tuesday. Regular customers are invited to email me on [head@colby.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:head@colby.norfolk.sch.uk) if you would like to arrange a child care place.



### **Emerald Leadership Roles**

We have had a lovely chat this week about leadership roles and what they will involve this year in Emerald Class.

I have asked the children to write a very short letter to me if they wish to be considered for any of the following roles:- Class Council, Eco Council, Sports Leader, Tortoise Crew and Librarian. Their letters can be independently written or supported by adults. They should just do the best they can. An example might be;

Dear Mr B,

I would like to be a Librarian because I love books. I read books a lot when I am at home and I think I would do a good job tidying the Library. I am reliable and trustworthy!

Best Wishes

Alice

We will announce roles next week. Thanks, Mr B



### **WhatsApp**

#### **Class WhatsApp Groups**

Established Colby parents will know that we have used Class WhatsApp groups to communicate in case of emergencies or short notice changes. Parents have also found the groups useful to ask each other questions or check details about school events. We paused the chat functions on the groups last term but aim to set them up again soon. I will be finalising a Code of Conduct with Colby School Governors on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024. We'll send out more information and will get the Class WhatsApp Groups up and running again after that.

Thanks to class administrators for your time spent on this – it is much appreciated.





### Colby Kitchen

We will be continuing with our previous two week rolling menu until 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024, when we will launch the Colby Kitchen Autumn Menu (details to follow soon).

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>MONDAY</b><br><b>9<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>September</b>     | Chicken and sweetcorn pasta bake with salad (cucumber, tomatoes and lettuce).<br><br>Choice of yoghurt or fruit.   |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br><b>10<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>September</b>   | Chilli served with a wholemeal wrap, carrots and broccoli.<br><br>Choice of yoghurt or fruit.  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br><b>11<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>September</b> | Shredded BBQ chicken served with sweetcorn and courgette savoury rice.<br><br>Choice of yoghurt or fruit.  |
| <b>THURSDAY</b><br><b>12<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>September</b>  | Jacket potato with salad (cucumber, tomatoes, lettuce and beetroot) with a choice of cheese, beans and tuna or salmon – served buffet style so children can choose their fillings.<br><br>Fruit. |
| <b>FRIDAY</b><br><b>13<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>September</b>    | Omega 3 fish fingers served in a bread roll with cucumber, carrots, peppers and humus.<br><br>Choice of yoghurt or fruit.  |

We had previously asked that Reception children bring packed lunches until Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 but as they have settled into school life so well this week, we have brought the date forward to Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on [head@colby.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:head@colby.norfolk.sch.uk) if you would like school to provide a packed lunch until then.

Have a great weekend!

*Christine Mead*