COMBS FORD NEWS

Friday 6th November- Issue 9



Be the best that you can be!

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE WINNERS

Woodpeckers- 100%!

Happy Friday everyone- we hope you all had a wonderful half term!

Children in Need – Friday 13th November

Next Friday, it will be Children in Need (Pudsey) Day. This will **still be a school uniform day**, however children are allowed to wear a Children in Need/Pudsey accessory (headband/wristband) if they would like.

In the afternoon's Connection Time, children will participate in a small sporting/active challenge. Any donations for Children in Need can be taken in cash to their classes on Friday morning.

Thank you.



Our "Play Matters" Project

The value of play does not diminish as children grow older. The need to explore, imagine, create, connect and experience meaningful relationships remains fundamental to children's development throughout their school years and beyond.

Therefore at Combs, we want to establish greater opportunities in school for children to play. We recognise that play isn't something children just do for entertainment; it is how their brains develop, how they learn to relate and create the foundations for lifelong wellbeing.

To help us provide more play options for children at Combs, we need families' help in donating to us some good quality toys so we can develop this project. We would full apreciate some of the following:

- Barbies (non-damaged, with clothes and accessories if possible)
- Small barbie houses
- Sylvanian Families
- Dolls (including clothes and accessories if possible)
- Dolls houses
- Role play sets (doctors, vets, dentists, shopping etc)
- Fantasy figures (fairies, dinosaurs)
- Train sets, cars, pirate ships
- Puppets (clean hand or finger puppets)





- Any good-quality pre-loved toys which your child may have enjoyed

Please bring any donations (bagged) to the office.
Thank you!



Year 4's Trip to Colchester Castle

On Wednesday, Year 4 enjoyed a trip to Colchester Castle as part of their History and Writing learning about The Romans. The day consisted of looking at and handling Roman objects and artefacts, listening to the story of The Romans in Colchester and even building a Roman Villa! The children were a credit to our school - we are very proud.



Year 3 Archeology Learning

On Monday in Curious Quests, Year 3 became budding archaeologists after watching a short video to explain what archaeology is. They were looking for clues about the time period we would be looking at in history and Curious Quests. The children had to carefully excavate 8 artefacts from the tray and discuss what they found. There were some excellent observations made as the excavations took place.



Art Club

This week, art club had a wonderful time painting their clay turtles. Next week, they will be doing leaf rubbing and printing!



Year 2's Monarch Learning!

This week, we started our new Monarchs History unit. We were being detectives and looking closely at pictures and artefacts from the past to help us learn!



Year 6's WW2 Learning!

This week, Year 6 have started learning about WWII. In History, they explored the events that lead to the start of the war, ordering the key moments into a timeline and discussing if there was one particular event to blame. In writing, the children have been learning about life as an evacuee in their Explore lessons. They discovered some quotes from real evacuees, picking out information and vocabulary that will help them to write a diary entry. They used what they learned to act out scenes from evacuation, like leaving their families behind and meeting their host families for the first time.



EYFS side gate

Please can we politely remind families that the EYFS side gate is **only opened for Panda Bears families** to help ease congestion with EYFS coming in. Can we also ask that families don't allow young/older siblings to play with the EYFS equipment in the mornings either. Thank you.





Attendance Procedures



As part of our attendance procedures, we regular monitor children's attendance. As a Trust, we are asked to notify families when a child's attendance starts to dip (96% and above is considered 'good' attendance by the Government). With this in mind, if your child's attendance is currently below 90%, you should receive an email (through our attendance programme, 'Insight') next week sharing their attendance patterns with you.

We understand that some families will have already explained reasons for children's absences and be in conversation with us and we appreciate this. We also acknowledge that it is still early in the year and having even 1 or 2 days absence will affect the attendance figure more dramatically than later in the year.

We want to work with families to help support children being able to attend school regularly but also understand this is not always straightforward. Please do get in touch with us if there are any concerns you would like to discuss or whether you would like more information about your child's attendance data.

Harvest Festival Collection



Thank you so much for all of your generous Harvest donations this week. These donations will be much appreciated by our local food bank.



Reading Corner



Thank you so much to the families that helped their children complete the Reading for Pleasure survey. The results will help us improve our Reading for Pleasure offer in school. Congratulations to Emily and Oscar who were randomly chosen as the prize winners. Emily received Turtle Moon by Hannah Gold and Oscar received Diggersaurs by Michael Whaite.



We have been sent the latest Scholastic Book Club catalogue which is packed full of amazing books. The books are priced competitively and there is the added bonus of raising money for school as well. 20% of every order over £10 is added to our Scholastic School Rewards which means we can then buy new books for the library. Remember to select **Combs Ford Primary School** as your chosen school.

There are so many amazing books in this catalogue but these are my top picks from the catalogue:

Ultimate Football 2027 - page 1

How to make Awesome Comics - page 8

Pablo and Splash - Page 9

Looking After Our Planet - page 10

The Creakers - page 18

If you would like a catalogue, please ask your child to collect one from the library at lunchtime next week or pop into the school office if you would prefer one emailed to you.

Happy reading!
Mrs Oakley 🕮

Tesco Fruit and Veg Grant

A parent very kindly nominated one of our fabulous teachers for Tesco's Thank-A-Teacher reward, which has earnt the school a grant to spend money on fruit and vegetables for the school. This means that we will soon be able to get some additional fruit and vegetables for children and staff to enjoy!





Open Mornings, Afternoons and Evenings!

If you know or have a child starting school in September 2027, please consider spreading the word or coming along to our open morning on **Saturday 14th November**.

If you're unable to make this date, please contact the office as we love showing families around the school!





Dates for the Diary

Key: (new) (change of date/time)

EYFS Phonics Café – Thursday 12th November (2.30pm)
Suffolk Family Workshop for EYFS-Year 2 Families - Tuesday 17th November (1.15pm)
Suffolk Family Workshop for Year 3-6 Families - Tuesday 24th November (1.15pm)
Years 1-6 Parents Evening 1 – Tuesday 1st December (3.30pm-6.30pm)
Rock Steady Concert- Thursday 10th December (Invite Only-pm)
Years 1-6 Parents Evening 2 – Thursday 10th December (3.30pm-6.30pm)
Year 6 World War 2 Day- Friday 11th December (parents invited into school 9am-10am)
Year 4 Christmas Crafternoon with families – Friday 11th December (1.30-3pm)
EYFS Christmas Show – Monday 14th December (9.30am)
Key Stage 1 Christmas Concert – Tuesday 15th December (9.30am)
CET Christmas Concert (Combs Choir) – Tuesday 15th December (7pm)
Key Stage 1 Christmas Concert – Wednesday 16th December (1.45pm)
Dick Whittington at the Theatre Royal- Thursday 17th December Years 4, 5, 6 (Morning Performance)

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Wesley, Mrs Aldred, Miss Fuller
Combs Leadership Team

