



'Aiming High
Together'

Calow Church of England (V.C.) Primary School
North Road Calow Chesterfield Derbyshire S44 5BD
Headteacher: Mr D. Sumner



Newsletter 22nd May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week was **mental health** awareness week.

Actually, for all of us at Calow, the mental health and wellbeing of the children and adults in our community is a real priority every day of the year.

We have recently installed '**thought boxes**' in every classroom, where children can place slips of paper on which they have written anything that is making them feel particularly happy, sad, worried or angry. Of course, many of our children will talk to us and tell us these things face to face, but the 'thought boxes' are another option and an extra layer of support for anyone who wants to use them. Teachers check these boxes regularly, read the slips inside and do everything we can to help. Please encourage your children to share worries with us and not to bottle them up.

We often discuss mental health and wellbeing in class, and in school assemblies, and we aim to give every child strategies for looking after themselves. Any child who is struggling will always receive additional care, attention and support, and of course we communicate closely with parents and carers. Where necessary, we can also access help from external agencies.

Kind regards,
Daniel Sumner



The children have recently enjoyed a wider variety of play equipment on the field at **lunch break**, and it is a joy to see them playing so happily.



We have talked to everyone about our expectations of behaviour at break times, and have clarified that, for safety, we will not allow 'rough play', i.e. pushing, dragging to the ground, wrestling or jumping on another child, even as part of a game.



We have also introduced a simple system of green and red cards for lunch break. **Green cards will be issued by lunchtime supervisors for exceptional kindness, helpfulness and positive behaviour. Children bring these to their class teacher at the end of lunch break, to be celebrated and rewarded appropriately. At the other end of the spectrum, red cards would be issued at lunch break for: deliberate violence; swearing or verbal abuse; ignoring, defying or otherwise disrespecting a member of staff. Children would immediately bring red cards straight to the Headteacher, who would discuss the behaviour and decide on an appropriate consequence.** Less serious infractions at lunch break will still be managed by the lunchtime supervisors through positive reminders, discussions, warnings and consequences.

New data protection regulations (GDPR) come into force on Friday 25th May. You should have received a letter, privacy notice and a new form requesting permissions, which we are legally required to send out. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!



EYFS children met some live animals, including this snake!

Mary Bellfield RIP

We were very sorry to hear that our former Headteacher, Mary Bellfield, has recently passed away. Many of our current parents will remember Mrs Bellfield from their own time at Calow, and we send our love and condolences to her family on behalf of the whole community.

Key Dates for the Diary

Friday 25 th May	INSET
28 th May – 1 st June	Half Term
6 th June	Meeting for parents of new reception intake
12 th June	Class Photos
22 nd June	INSET
6 th July	Sports Day
7 th July	Summer Fair
20 th July	Leavers' Assembly and End of Term

What have we been up to?

Nursery children were excited when their butterflies emerged from their chrysalises and were set free!

Reception children have loved learning about the Royal wedding, writing their own invitations and menus, and making models of Windsor Castle.

Year 1 children have been building up to a walk to Eastwood Park, which took place yesterday. They made their own packed lunches for the special day out.

Year 2 have started to grow bean seeds in bags – hopefully with no angry giants at the top!

Year 3 have been drawing pirate ships and flags, writing pirate adventure stories and experimenting with magnets.

Year 4 were astonished when Mr Kernaghan allowed them to draw hundreds of acute and obtuse angles on the tables in a maths lesson, to practise their measuring – he assures me that the pens were carefully chosen so that the ink washes off!

Year 5 journalists have been interviewing around the school for special newspaper reports about Mr. Sumner's arrival at the school. I am interested, excited and slightly nervous to see the final articles!



We enjoyed a lovely themed lunch last Friday, to mark the Royal wedding. Thank you to all the catering staff who made it possible.

Congratulations to the Calow-based members of Spire FC's U9 team, who won their ESF tournament at Skegness.

Year 6 took their SATs tests last week, and we are **very proud of them for their efforts**. Thanks to Mrs Oldale, Mrs Jones and Miss Bradbury – and indeed all the teachers and TAs who have worked with this group in the past – for preparing them so thoroughly. Well done to all the children for doing their best and staying positive.

They will now be especially focused on writing for the next few weeks, and the rest of the term will be a combination of learning, transition activities and exciting adventures.