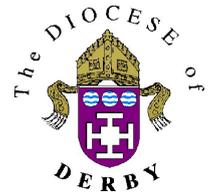




'Aiming High
Together'

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



Newsletter 25th February 2020

Dear Children, Parents, Carers, Families and Friends,

Welcome back! We hope you have had a good half term. Our grass and plants have definitely been well watered, and we are now hoping for a bit of spring sunshine to bring more flowers out and enable us to make regular use of our outside space again. We are very fortunate to have such a great field, and some lovely Chesterfield-in-bloom-winning gardens, so we can't wait to get out there more often. In the meantime, our fabulous all-weather running track has remained in use through the winter, and will feature prominently for Sports Relief on 13th March (see separate note below). We have lots of exciting events coming up, so please do check out the rest of this newsletter and list of dates at the end.

Kind regards,
Daniel Sumner
Headteacher

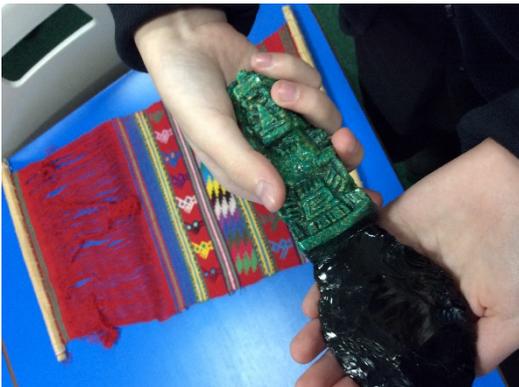


We have now set our INSET days for the 2020-21 academic year, which are as follows:

Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Friday 23rd October 2020
Monday 2nd November 2020
Thursday 1st April 2021
Friday 28th May 2021

On these training days, school will be closed to pupils.

There will be an **open-door this Wednesday, 26th February**, when you are invited to drop in with your child after school and have a look at some of their recent work. This is an informal opportunity to share in your child's learning and see the classroom; if you are unable to make it this time, please don't worry, as there will be other occasions and books will also be available for you at the learning conferences next week.



Year 6 children were treated to a visit from Dr Diane Davies, a leading archaeologist specialising in the Maya. They handled a very wide range of real artefacts from the Maya, learning about how the objects were made and used, and how to interpret the decorations. They tasted some real, raw cacao beans from the Amazon, learnt about the hard work and study it takes to become an archaeologist, and also how fascinating and rewarding it is as a job.

Learning Conference letters went out before half term, and hopefully you will all be able to join us on either Wednesday or Thursday of next week, along with your child. Appointments will be issued by class teachers, taking into account your preferences, and we look forward to seeing you. In addition to these formal consultations, you are always welcome to request a conversation with a member of staff, if you have a question, suggestion or concern – either by catching us before or after school, ringing up the office or writing in. We value our partnership with you.

World Book Day is on Thursday, 5th March. Children are more than welcome to dress as a character from a book on that day. We will all be doing some exciting activities celebrating books, reading and writing. A separate letter is being sent with more details. Please don't feel any pressure to go "all-out" on a costume – it's entirely optional.



Year 5 had a great day as Vikings, led by a real Viking warrior. They had a chance to dress up, handle Viking weapons and examine Viking artefacts. They did a shield wall drill, enacted a Viking burial, and made rune stones. The Viking Warrior was very complimentary of our Year 5 children, and consequently agreed to leave without destroying the school. Well done, everyone!

Year 4 represented the school brilliantly at the multi-sports SpringFest at Chesterfield Tennis Centre, on 7th February. They interacted really well with children from other schools, tried their best in all the sports activities, and behaved fantastically.

The Bishop of Ebbsfleet is leading the service in our very own church on Mothering Sunday, 22nd March, at 10 am, and Father Kevin has invited as many of our children as possible along to the service, to participate and to lead a rendition of *Shine, Jesus, Shine* from the front of the church. If you are free and able to bring your child along, please do – it will be great to have lots of families there, especially as our children are such enthusiastic singers and always perform that song brilliantly and enthusiastically in Collective Worship!

We will be holding an Art Exhibition, after school on Monday 30th March, to display all the entries to the Chesterfield in Bloom art competition. Every child in the school will have a piece of work on show. Last year's exhibition was a roaring success, and we are really excited about doing this again.

We wish Miss Parsons well as she begins her maternity leave. Miss Parson's role will be shared in her absence between Miss Meaden, who has already been working with us for a couple of years, and Mr Winterbottom, who joins us this week.



Sports Relief is on Friday, 13th March, and children are all asked to come in sports kit please. This could be school PE kit, but they are equally welcome to come in any different sports clothes if they prefer. There will be a special, active assembly and, during the day, if the weather allows, each class will be spending some time up on our school track. An optional donation of £1 to the Sports Relief charity would be very much appreciated.

Key Dates

25/02/20		Reception "Early Racer" Event
03/03/20	10:45am	KS2 to Halle for Youth Concert, Bridgewater Hall
05/03/20		World Book Day
05/03/20	9:15am	Year 1 Class Assembly (P)
11/02/20	9:15am	Cross Country Event, Mount St Mary's (P)
12/03/20	10am	Year 5 Dance Festival at the Winding Wheel (P)
13/03/20		Sports Relief
20/03/20		Disability Awareness Day – visit by John McCorkell
22/03/20	10am	Mothering Sunday service in Church, led by the Bishop (P)
30/03/20	3:05pm	School Art Exhibition (P)
01/04/20		Year 4 visit to Cromford Mills
02/04/20	10am	Easter Service in the Church (P)
04/04/20-19/04/20		Easter Holidays
30/04/20	9:15am	Year 5 Class Assembly (P)
08/05/20		Bank Holiday (School Closed)
19/05/20		Y5 visit to Magna Science Centre
20/05/20	9:15am	Year 2 Class Assembly (P)
23/05/20-31/05/20		Half Term
02/06/20		NSPCC Assembly and Workshops
09/06/20		Class Photographs
10/06/20	1pm	Year 3 Tennis Festival
11/06/20	7pm	School Choir performing at the Pomegranate Theatre (P)
18/06/20	9:15am	Nursery Class Assembly (P)
26/06/20	3:05pm	Summer Fair (P)
30/06/20	11am	KS1 to Halle for Schools Concert, Bridgewater Hall
07/07/20-08/07/20		Year 6 Residential Visit to Hartington Hall
17/07/20	2pm	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly (P)

(P) = Parents/Carers invited

Other events and dates will be added as they are confirmed.