



'Aiming High
Together'

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



Newsletter 24th May 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We like the sun, and we want to make sure that all the children understand how to enjoy it safely and responsibly. We would like to remind everyone to put high-factor **sun screen** on before coming to school and bring a clearly named **sun hat** with them every day. Any colour or design is allowed, as long as it doesn't have an image, slogan or writing that could be deemed inappropriate. If you wish to send in a named bottle or tube of sun screen that your child can keep in their bag, in case they need to reapply it at lunch time, that is fine. Please be wary of choosing not to put on sunscreen or bring a hat to school this term, just because you see that the weather is cloudy in the morning; we know it often changes and brightens up during the day, and it's better to be prepared.

When it is especially hot and sunny, we may have to make children sit in the shade if they are not wearing a hat. This would be a pity, especially when we are able to play out on our fantastic field, but it is necessary to protect the children from harmful rays and potential heatstroke. The same would apply to outdoor PE lessons and time on the running track, for which a sun hat is a requirement in hot weather.

Finally, we encourage children to have their own named water bottle with them every day, and this is especially important during the summer. We give them access to drinking water, of course, but their own bottle gives them more autonomy and usually means they choose to drink more frequently. Don't worry - if they forget, we will always make sure they are well hydrated.

Have a lovely half term holiday.

Kind regards,
Daniel Sumner



Well done to the **Year 3 and 4 footballers** who participated in a friendly tournament at Hasland on 30th April. They represented the school well, and we were really impressed by their positive attitude. We aim for every child, from Reception to Year 6, to participate in at least one external sporting festival or competition involving other schools each year. So far, this has included football, netball, dance, rugby, balance bikes, handball, dodgeball, multi-sports and athletics – with many more planned for next year.

Year 4 had a brilliant geography field trip at Holmebrook Valley Park on 21st May, led by specialist staff at the education centre. The children first compared the use of the land in the past (as an open-cast mine) to its use now as a public park, and interviewed members of the public. They learnt orienteering and map-reading skills, and completed an orienteering course around the park. Finally, they drew a sketch map from the highest point. All the children were well behaved, and they were buzzing when they returned to school. Well done Year 4!

Congratulations to our Year 5 cyclists, who completed their Level 2 **Bikeability** course this term, and our Year 3 cyclists, who completed their level 1. The children have worked on bike handling skills and safety. Please encourage all your children – whatever age - to wear a helmet when they cycle, even when we are not watching. I'm afraid we see too many around after school who don't.

A **mini zoo** visited Reception class and Nursery, on 9th May. Children had a chance to observe and handle a wide range of animals, including a chameleon, bearded dragon, crested dragon, gecko, tortoise, African hedgehog, screech owl, chinchilla, meerkat, corn snake and fat-tailed gerbil.

Well done to all our pupils who took their SATs tests this term. They remained calm, positive and confident throughout, showing great strength of character, and I am sure that they have done their best. Whatever the results, they should be very proud of themselves right now, and we are proud of them. Thank you to all the staff who have worked hard to prepare them academically and emotionally, without pressure or stress, and to parents and carers for sending them to school in a positive frame of mind.



If you have been following our Facebook page, you will have seen pictures and videos of the **ducklings and chicks** that we have looked after in school. They have been based in Nursery and Reception, with all children having a chance to spend some time with them over the course of the last few weeks. It's been amazing to witness chicks hatching, and to see the ducklings swimming around in the classrooms. We have now returned them to their farm, where they will have more space to grow and develop.



On **Thursday, 27th June**, we are holding a gardening afternoon for Reception, Y1 and Y2, to which **grandparents, great-grandparents, great aunts and great uncles** are warmly invited. We will invite other senior members of the community to join us too, and all children will be fully included, whether or not they have a family member present. More details to follow.

Please remember that we have an **INSET day on 21st June**, when staff are training and school is closed. There is also an INSET day on 3rd September, so the first day back in the autumn term will be Wednesday, 4th September. All term dates and INSET days were sent out earlier this week and are on our website.

Our choir will be opening the summer fair, so if possible we would like all choir members to be ready in the hall at 11:50am please, so that we can sing at 12 noon. We will sing a couple of songs that we have been enjoying recently. **On 9th July, we will hold a concert** for the choir and any children who have regular lessons on an instrument and would like to perform. This starts at 4:30pm, and all family members are invited.

Congratulations to Lucas and Isla, who won first and third place in the Reception-Year 2 category of the Chesterfield in Bloom painting competition!

Key Dates for the Diary

04/06/19	9-10am	Reception new starters' meeting;
		Nursery stay and play morning
05/06/19		Reception visit to the Butterfly House
11/06/19-12/06/19		Y4 Bikeability
12/06/19		Y5&6 Quadkids Athletics Festival
13/06/19		Class Photos
14/06/19		Non-uniform day (PTFA collecting items for prizes etc.)
15/06/19	12-2pm	PTFA summer fair
18/06/19	2-3pm	Reception new starters making Treasure Boxes
20/06/19	2:30pm	Y1&2 topic showcase
21/06/19		INSET (School Closed)
25/06/19		Y5&6 Netball Tournament
	2:30pm	Y3 Topic Showcase
26/06/19	2:30pm	Y4 Topic Showcase
27/06/19	1:30pm	Reception, Y1 & Y2 gardening afternoon with grandparents
	2:30pm	Y6 Topic Showcase
28/06/19		Y1 visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
	2:30pm	Y5 Topic Showcase
02/07/19		Whole school transition day
02/07/19-05/07/19		Book Fair
03/07/19		Y5 visit to Woolsthorpe Manor
		Y3 French picnic and cultural afternoon
05/07/19	1pm	Sports Day
08/07/19	2:30pm	Reception Topic Showcase
09/07/19	4:30pm	Choir and instrumental concert
10/07/19	1:15pm	Y5&6 Rotary Club Verse Speaking Competition
10/07/19		Y2 visit to Whistlestop Centre, Matlock
11/07/19		Y4 French Cafe
	2pm	Nursery Sports Day
12/07/19		Reports issued
15/07/19-16/07/19		Y6 Residential Trip
18/07/19		PTFA Discos and Y6 Leavers' Party
19/07/19	1:30pm	Y6 Leavers' Assembly
		End of Term
03/09/19		INSET (School Closed)
04/09/19		Return to School

Clubs will start in the first week back, with the exception of Y3&4 athletics, which begins again on 13th June.