



'Aiming High  
Together'

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



## Newsletter

### 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

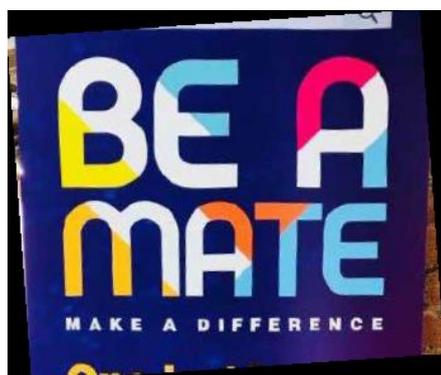
You will be aware that we are coming up to the **100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice that marked the end of the First World War**. Please encourage your child to wear a poppy (attached with a sticky pad, please, not a pin); they will be on sale in school the first week back after half term for a £1 donation, or you can bring them in from home.

Everyone at school has been working on a spectacular cascade of poppies, which will be displayed on the fence at the front of school from Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, carrying the names of people from our own families who have either served their country or have lived through war time. If you have not yet sent in the name of someone to commemorate, please do so.

We have a special school Remembrance service at Eastwood Park on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November, to which all family members are invited. If you wish to attend, please meet us at the memorial in Eastwood Park at 10:45am. There will be readings, prayers, silent reflection and laying of wreaths.

You are also all invited to the community service of Remembrance to be held at St Peter's Church, Calow, on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November, at 10am. This is not a school event, as such, but I hope that we will see lots of children and families there to pay tribute to all the men and women who have risked or lost their lives in conflict.

Kind regards,  
Daniel Sumner



**Mental Health is really important to us**, and six children from Calow took part in a training at the Proact Stadium on 1<sup>st</sup> October to become "**Anti-Stigma Ambassadors**". The event was run by Derbyshire County Council, in collaboration with the NHS and Chesterfield Football Club, as part of the "**Be a Mate**" campaign. The idea is to raise awareness of mental health issues, encouraging people to be open about their difficulties, giving everyone strategies for talking about their mental health and listening to people who are struggling – basically, being a mate! The Anti-Stigma Ambassadors have learnt all about how to lead this project in school, and they have come up with a great action plan for the rest of the year. During the day, they participated in workshops, did some street dancing, and even got to run out of the players' tunnel in front of the TV news cameras. You will hear more from our Anti-Stigma Ambassadors soon!

It has been wonderful seeing so many of you in school for our **topic showcases** this term, where children have enjoyed sharing their fantastic learning journeys. Please don't worry if you have been unable to attend this time, as the work will also be available to view and discuss at the Learning Conferences.



For **Black History Month**, KS2 children welcomed members of the Chesterfield African and Caribbean Association into school, including an original member of the Windrush Generation and a former fireman who has competed on Gladiator! They taught us a lot about diversity, equality, and just a few of the things that black people have achieved despite facing prejudice.



### Key Dates for the Diary

(for reading brunches, see list below)

06/11/18	Rugger Eds
07/11/18	Eco workshops
09/11/18 (10:45am)	School Remembrance Service, Eastwood Park
11/11/18 (10am)	Community Remembrance Service, St Peter's Church
13/11/18 & 14/11/18	Learning Conferences (Parents'/Carers Consultation Evenings)
16/11/18	Non-Uniform Day
20/11/18	Y3 Rugby Festival
22/11/18	Reception Balance Bike Training
24/11/18 (10am)	Christmas Fair

We are delighted with the increased participation in our **KS2 football and netball clubs**. They will both continue in the first week back, and there are still a few spaces if anyone wants to join. Whether your child is coming back for another half term, or joining for the first time, they will need to fill in a slip and pay in advance until the end of term. Letters have gone out for both.

**Choir will be starting again** after half term, on Tuesdays straight after school, until 4pm. We want this to be the biggest, most energetic, most enthusiastic choir that Calow has ever seen, so please encourage all your children to join us. **We're looking for 100 boys and girls from Y1-6** – I've seen how much our children love to sing, and this is a great opportunity. **Music is a major passion of mine, and I'm going to be involved in running choir this year**, together with Mrs McDonald and Mrs Freeman. We'll be doing lots of Christmas songs, including some pop classics, so don't miss out! There will be no session on 13<sup>th</sup>.

**We are starting a Key Stage One sports club**, after school, for children in Year 1 and 2. This will be run by Chesterfield Football Club coaches, at a cost of £3 per session, on Wednesdays straight after school. KS1 children will all receive a letter after half term, once we have received it from CFC, so please return the slip then if you wish your child to participate. There will be no session on 14<sup>th</sup>.

We all had a great time doing some body percussion, rhythm and poetry with **"Beat Goes On"**, on 25<sup>th</sup> September. Rather than try to fit a show in at the end of the day, we decided to continue working on the project and make a video of the results. When it is edited, we will share it with you.

If you allow your child to play **Fortnite**, please take a look at the following link - <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide/> - which outlines the potential risks you and your children should be aware of. Fortnite has an age rating of 12+, but we know that a very large number of our pupils are playing it regularly and spending vast amounts of time on the game, so we want them to do so responsibly. Please make sure you follow some basic online safety principles and talk to them about staying safe and treating each other respectfully. Online safety is a priority for us and forms a central part of our computing and PSHE curricula.

We are excited about the new format for our parents'/carers consultation evenings, now called **Learning Conferences**, which will involve the children. We hope you will see them as a positive change. I have written to you all to explain why we think they will benefit the children, strengthen the partnership between home and school, and support learning.

**The book swap earlier in the term was amazing** – thank you so much for your support. There was a real buzz around the event, and it was lovely to see such excitement generated by reading. I hope you enjoyed it too. The next book swap event will take place after school on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – a perfect opportunity to get ready for some Christmas holiday reading!



Year 2 children had a thrilling day out at **Bolsover Castle**, on 28<sup>th</sup> September, as part of their knights, castles and dragons topic!

On the theme of reading: you are warmly invited to join your children in the classroom, on selected mornings, for our new series of **Reading Brunches**, starting after half term. A cup of hot chocolate, a teddy, a cozy corner of the room and a favourite book to read and discuss with your child.....what could be better? Don't worry if you can't make it, as your child will be well looked after and paired up, but for those who can, these are the dates:

8 <sup>th</sup>	November	Y1	
16 <sup>th</sup>	November	Y2	(please note, we have had to change this date from the one originally on the calendar because of Eco workshops taking place on the 7 <sup>th</sup> – sincere apologies for the inconvenience.)
20 <sup>th</sup>	November	Y3	
21 <sup>st</sup>	November	Y5	
22 <sup>nd</sup>	November	Y6	
23 <sup>rd</sup>	November	Reception	
27 <sup>th</sup>	November	Y4	
29 <sup>th</sup>	November	Nursery	

All sessions run from 8:45am until 10am in the classroom. If they are a success, we will hold more later in the year.



Thank you for your generous support of the **Harvest Festival**. Well done to the children and staff for some beautiful singing, and thanks to Father Kevin and organist Frank Berry for leading the service.

Some of our Year 5 children went to the English Institute of Sport on 17<sup>th</sup> October to be trained as **Sports Ambassadors**. They represented us well and came back with a wealth of ideas and knowledge to help lead, develop and promote our sporting activities through the year. The whole Y5 class will be trained as **Mini Leaders** in December, which will equip them all to lead lunchtime activities with the younger children.