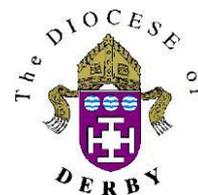




'Aiming High
Together'

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



Newsletter 12th April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Calow, our core values are respect, resilience, honesty, caring and cooperation. We look to challenge, inspire and enable each child to stretch the boundaries of what they think they can achieve. We provide our pupils with a safe, secure environment in which to learn, grow and flourish, and their welfare is paramount.

Our school is a community in which every aspect of a child's education is important. We want all our children to feel successful, happy and healthy, and to see life as an adventure, full of opportunities for taking and giving. We want them to enjoy and make the most of their time at school, setting themselves up well for the future. Our expectations of their behaviour, effort and attitude are high.

This is our mission statement. We try hard to live by it and provide these things for your children; we're always striving to improve, and we welcome feedback about how we're doing.

Kind regards,
Daniel Sumner

Well done to all the children and staff for a beautiful Easter service, and to the congregation of families who helped us to fill the church with some glorious singing on Wednesday morning! Hope everyone enjoyed it.

Thank you for your support of **Comic Relief** - we raised over £50 and had a laugh sharing our favourite jokes on the Joke Wall in the library.

Our first (ever?!) art exhibition, involving every child in the school, was a tremendous success. We wanted to share the paintings that children had produced for the Chesterfield in Bloom art competition, before sending them off for judging. The show also contributed to our House Competition for this term. All the paintings were glorious, and it was a real pleasure to see them all displayed together. Particular well done to the prize winners from our internal competition: Tyler, Rosa, Lara, Isla, Tia, Noah, Ramona, Lylah, Enzo, Poppy, Ellie, Ollie, Keegan, Penny, Tazmin, Cayden, Shakira, Thomas, Nell, Isabelle, Angel, Gracie, Gemma and Allissa. Every single picture painted by our children has been submitted to Chesterfield in Bloom for judging, so fingers crossed!

Please ensure that the break time snacks you send in with your child are healthy and low in sugar – fruit or vegetables are ideal, and certainly no chocolate or crisps. That has always been our policy, and is in line with NHS and Public Health England advice. We continue to provide fruit for EYFS and Key Stage 1 pupils. Thank you for your support in this important matter.



A reminder that our school uniform is as follows:

Grey or black skirt, dress, trousers or shorts, or blue and white dress

Navy blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan

White blouse, shirt or polo shirt

Black shoes, sandals or smart boots

Please do not allow your child to wear a hoodie or trainers to school.

Official products with the school logo can be found at <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/CalowCofEPrimarySchoolS445BD>

Please check that all items are named – children do lose things, and a clear name is the only way we can reunite them with their clothing!

Thank you to the PTFA committee for organising another fantastic disco on 11th April. For the first time, we introduced optional fancy dress, which went down really well – especially among our younger pupils. Special thanks to John Squires, our DJ, who pitched his sets perfectly for our children and made sure that they all had a great time.



In Collective Worship, we have been telling the **Easter story** in instalments over the course of two weeks. Children asked some fantastic, challenging questions, which made us very happy that they are being encouraged to think deeply for themselves.

Thank you to all who attended our Reading Brunches, this term. It was lovely to see parents and carers reading with the children and working alongside them on related activities.

Year 2 enjoyed a trip back to 1665, as they visited the village of Eyam to learn about the history of the Plague. They visited the church and museum, and saw the cottage where the Plague actually started. Everyone was fantastically well behaved and had a really enjoyable and interesting day out. Well done!

We are running an athletics club, after school on Thursdays, for children in Years 3&4. This will take place on the school field, from 3:05-4:15pm. It will be led by Mr Sumner and there will be no charge. Initially, the club will take place for the four weeks before half term, but we hope to be able to continue beyond that. Children will need sports kit and trainers (not plimsolls) to take part. The club is weather-dependent, as the netball club will have priority over the use of the hall in case of bad weather. If we are unable to go outside, we will use a classroom for athletics-related activities (quizzes, games, videos of athletics events, etc.). Hopefully, the sun will shine for us! Children of all abilities from Y3&4 are welcome to attend.

A small group of pupils attended a special “**Healthy Lunchbox**” event at **CASA hotel**, on 21st March, following a fantastic science and food technology project in Year 3. We packed up some home-made lunchboxes, took them to CASA, and shared them with illustrious guests, including Toby Perkins, MP, and representatives from local businesses and organisations at a formal lunch. We even learnt how to fold napkins like the pros, from their front of house staff! Before the event, the whole of Class 3 had made the most delicious salads and baked some gorgeous bread, during lesson time, so everyone benefited.

We enjoyed a very exciting **World Book Day**, on 7th March. Assembly was interrupted by a special delivery of a parcel and a blank scroll. Inside the parcel were three electronic buttons, which spoke to us: play, press and please. The children worked out that they needed to be rearranged to give the message: "Please press play!" Also inside the box was a memory stick and a piece of cloth. To find out what happened when we pressed Play, check out our school Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/CalowCofEPrimary/>. We were all challenged to write a whole-school story, which passed from class to class throughout the day. Each group wrote the next stage of the story, and it was magnificent. Instalments of the story were published on Facebook in real time, and then the whole thing was uploaded to Pobble. What a great celebration of books, stories and writing!



We've been busy as ever with our **learning**, trying hard to provide rich and exciting opportunities in the classroom. Among other activities, Reception class have particularly enjoyed using their “Telling Tales Toolkits”, recently, and baking some healthy blueberry muffins for Little Red Riding Hood’s Grandma. Year 1 were astonished to find a trail of feathers leading to their classroom, indicating that some penguins had arrived. Year 2 have been learning about the Plague, leading up to their class trip. Year 3 have managed to grow some healthy pea shoots, as part of their study of plants. Year 4 have enjoyed learning how it would feel to be a child of the mills. Year 5 have been drawing shadows on the playground every hour, to demonstrate the rotation of the Earth. Year 6 have been making electrical circuits, lighting lamps and buzzing buzzers.

Safeguarding the children is our highest priority here at Calow, and part of that is ensuring their physical safety. We held another very successful **fire drill** on 14th March. Everyone was out, each room checked and every class lined up in well under two minutes, and all registers complete within 2 mins 17 seconds. Sensible, calm and controlled - well done all!



We have welcomed several visitors to Assembly, this year, including some who spoke to the children as part of our “**World of Work**” series. On 19th March, an employee of Arthritis Research UK came to talk about her job in the charitable sector, and how twists and turns in careers can be positive. If any parents/carers would be keen to talk inspirationally to the whole school about their job, the skills, qualities and training which have benefited them, and be prepared to answer some questions, please do get in touch with us.

Key Dates:

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| 29 th April | Back to School |
| 6 th May | Bank Holiday (School Closed) |
| 7 th – 10 th May | Year 5 Bikeability |
| 10 th May | Year 1 Woodland Walk |
| 13 th – 17 th May | Year 6 SATs |
| 20 th May | Book Swap PTFA Meeting |
| 20 th – 21 st May | Year 3 Bikeability |
| 21 st May | World Day for Cultural Diversity |
| 22 nd May | Recycling in Schools Programme |
| 23 rd May | Nursery trip to Curious Kids Town |
| 25 th May – 2 nd June | June Half Term |
| 3 rd June | Back to School |

Clubs will start on the first week back:

Breakfast club – every morning (£3)

R-Y6 Choir – Tuesday, 3:05-4pm

KS1 multi-sports – Wednesday, 3:05-4:15pm (£3)

R-Y6 Gymnastics – Thursday, 7:45-8:45am (£3.75)

KS2 netball – Thursday, 3:05-4pm (£3)

Y3&4 athletics – Thursday, 3:05-4:15pm (new)

KS2 football – Friday, 3:05-4:15pm (£3)

