



Calder Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 23rd February 2024

Class News

Class R We have had a great start to the new half term. In maths we have been exploring and comparing length and height. In phonics we have been doing some super reading and writing and have started to learn the Set 2 sounds. In topic we have been finding out about the moon and have created some wonderful artwork. We have also loved exploring our new roleplay area and dressing up as astronauts.

Class 1 This week Class 1 have started their new topic 'Historic Halifax'. To kick off our fantastic learning, we delved in to the history of Shibden Hall. We learnt about the 4 families that have lived at Shibden including the most well-known- The Lister Family. In RE we have started learning about 'How and why we celebrate'. We started our topic by discussing what we celebrate in life and then planning a birthday party for our class friend Stripes. In science we have been discussing different organisms' ears and how they adapt their hearing to help them survive. Well done Class 1!

Class 2 Class 2 have had a super week this week! In maths, we have started our fractions unit. Year 3 have been learning about numerators and denominators and how to add fractions to create a whole. Year 4 have been learning how to create and order mixed numbers. In English, we have started our new novel Varjak Paw by S.F. Said. We have thought carefully about the characters appearance, emotions and thoughts at the beginning of the story and we will track how these change throughout. In science, we started our sound unit. We investigated how sound is made and felt the vibrations of different sounds. We also enjoyed our new unit of basketball in P.E. We learned some different throws and had a go at shooting into the net. A great week everyone, well done!

Class 3. Class 3 have worked incredibly hard on their first week back! In science we investigated refraction but looking at objects through water and understanding how having to travel through a range of material changes the direction of the rays of light, affecting what we see. In PE we have started to develop netball skills and worked on receiving and defending centre passes, alongside some shooting practise. Year 6 have got to grips with algebra brilliantly in maths while Year 5 have been completing work on multiplication and division. Finally, in English we have been working hard to understand colons and how they are used. It was great to see Class 3 go on to use colons in their science and topic writing too! Well done, everyone!

Diary Dates

28.2.24 Year 2 Multiskills HX7 Competition at Mytholmroyd Community Centre.
6.3.24 Classes 2 and 3 Mental Health Workshop 'self-esteem'
7.3.24 World Book Day
7.3.24 4pm Year 3/4 Team to Unihoc Competition
11.3.24 Big Walk and Wheel Week – come to school by foot, bike or scooter!
13.3.24 2.30pm Class 2's Class Showcase
15.3.24 9am Golden Book Assembly and End of Term Awards – families welcome
15.3.24 Red Nose Day – Comic Relief
20.3.24 Bring in entries for Easter competitions (see the letter next week for the details)
21.3.24 World Down Syndrome Day – '21 things' active challenges throughout the day.
22.3.24 9am Easter Egg Hunt- families welcome followed by refreshments and Easter competition entries to view.
22.3.24 3.15pm Break up for Easter
8.4.24 Back to school
16.4.24 3.30pm Parents' Evening – in person
17.4.24 3.30pm Parents' Evening – online

Spring Clubs

- **Newspaper Club** -KS2 Wednesdays 12pm
- **Choir** – Years 2-6 Tuesdays 12pm
- **Dodgeball** – KS2, Mondays 3.15-4.15pm (until 18/3/24)
- **Cookery** – Years 1 and 2 Wednesdays 3.15-4.15pm from 21/2/24 for 4 weeks – please see the letter to sign up
- **Active Leaders at Playtimes** - Wednesdays
- **CHS Band, Choir and Sports Clubs** – continue to be available to Year 6
- **Lego Club:** Reception and Year 1 Wednesdays 3.15-4pm from 21/2/24 for 5 weeks - please see the letter to sign up.

We have a couple of spaces left in Cookery and Lego, please see Mrs Pickup for details, but please be quick!

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Golden Book Awards

Kindness Awards:

Class R: Mila

Class 1: Jessica

Class 2: George A-M

Class 3: Dylan

Stars of the Week:

Class R: John

Class 1: Charlie B

Class 2: Stanley

Class 3: Alex

Parent Governor Results

Thank you to everyone who took the time to nominate candidates or vote in the election. The results were that our two new parent governors for The Calder Learning Trust are Raymond Kelly and Sophie Craven. They are both parents of children in Calder High School but also live locally and so you may know them from the village. There may be more opportunities in the near future for additional co-opted members on our governing body too.

You can find out more about our governors on our website [here](#)

World Book Day Red Nose Day and Easter Competitions!

We will be sending a letter out next week with a reminder of events for World Book Day, arrangements for Red Nose Day and more details about our Easter Egg Hunt and competitions.

It is a short half term but certainly a busy one again! Our Golden Book and End of Term Awards Assembly will be on Friday 15th March at 9am and all are welcome to join us. This leaves Friday 22nd March free for Easter activities then!

Mobile Phones

A reminder that in Calder Primary we ask that pupils in **Class 3 only** bring a mobile phone **only if there is a specific need** for example they are walking home independently. If your child needs to bring a mobile phone, please inform Mrs Pickup or Miss Smith and remind children that they need to hand this to Miss Smith **on arrival to school** (or Mrs Pickup if at breakfast club) to be locked away for the day. Smartwatches with a camera function are not permitted, but Fitbit/step count digital ones are.

Children's Mental Health

It was great to have our mental health week megaphones displayed by TimeOut Calderdale in Halifax Central Library last week over half term and to hear that some of our families and staff had been to see them!

This week TimeOut came to deliver a workshop called 'Kindness, Friendship and Social Media' to both Class 3 and Class 2 (as they had time to work with both classes). They said the pupils engaged with the activities and conversations really well and were a pleasure to work with.

One area that came up was that children in both classes talked about playing and interacting online with people they don't know in real life (such as when playing computer games) and this led into a discussion with the children for example 'how do you know that it is really a 10-year-old girl you are playing with?' Some children found this a tricky concept to understand: that people wouldn't be telling the truth about who they are online.

This is something we will be following up by working with the children in school and we would recommend that parents have these conversations with their children regularly as well. There are some great resources to support parents with this on the NSPCC website [here](#)

Library Events

It is worth following Calderdale Libraries on Facebook to see when they advertise their library events for the Easter Holidays and beyond.

They always have some lovely events including Story Tots (Reception age and below), crafts, stories, lego, board games and often events aimed at ages 7-11 and 11+ too. Usually, they have a small cost for events – around £2 or sometimes free - and they need to be booked as they do sell out. They usually have multiple locations for these including Hebden Bridge, Sowerby Bridge and Halifax Central (next to The Piece Hall). Mrs Lambert took Stanley to the Supertato one in February half term and it was amazing!

Did you know that it is free to join Calderdale libraries and you can borrow books from any of their libraries? Children can borrow multiple books with no fines for late returns (there are fines if you lose a book though) and the library is a lovely place to discover new books and authors or find non-fiction books on topics they enjoy.



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**WE KNOW THAT
TEAMWORK MAKES
THE DREAM WORK**



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**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF THE
MYTHOLMROYD CC WOMEN & GIRLS SOFTBALL
CRICKET TEAM?**

- NO cricket experience or kit needed
- ALL fitness levels welcome
- Gain confidence, have fun, surround yourself with awesome women & girls (age 10+)

JOIN US FOR THE 2024 SEASON

Scan the Facebook QR code or text Sophie: 07834 533799
to find out more.



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