

Calder Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 26th January 2024

Class News

Class R In maths we have been comparing mass. We used the balance scales to compare different items and then tried to balance the scales. We found out that the largest item isn't always the heaviest. We read *Who Sank the Boat?* and then made our own boats before testing them to see how many cubes they could hold. We have also been exploring capacity and finding out how many cups of water it takes to fill different containers. In RE we found out about churches ahead of our visit to St Michael's Parish Church next week. In topic we have looked at the features of birds of prey and also found out about penguins!

Class 1 This week Class 1 have been learning all about their locality. We went on google maps and had a virtual observational walk around Mytholmroyd (due to the stormy weather!). We discussed what we saw and talked about the human and physical features. We then moved on to looking at a map of our local area and we had to use the key to colour in the different areas such as residential, open spaces, leisure and transport. Super skills, Class 1. In science we have been looking at senses- this week we have been learning all about sound and how we hear. We listened to a range of noises and decided if they were quiet or loud. In PE we have been focusing on our core strength. We learnt that our abdominal muscles can strengthen and we completed a range of exercises to help this. The children loved the plank 😊 Last but not least, we went on our fabulous trip to The Royal Armouries and the children absolutely loved seeing a battle in action!

Class 2 What a super week Class 2 have had! In English they have used ambitious vocabulary to create a character description for Fern. In maths, we have all worked really hard to solve two-step problems using the four operations. These were really tricky but everyone persevered to find the important information from the word problem! In science, we investigated different electricity sources and determined whether an appliance was mains-powered or battery-powered. In PE, we had a great game of tag-rugby. Everyone is becoming much more familiar with the rules and how to effectively throw the rugby ball. A great week everyone, well done!

Class 3. This week Class 3 have been busy looking at the features and language used in formal letters ready to be able to write their own next week, as Charles from our story 'Rooftoppers'. In science, we've looked at the different parts of an eye, what they're called and how they help us to see. In RE we learnt about confession linked to our unit on forgiveness. Lots of new learning all round - well done, Class 3!

Diary Dates

30.1.24 Class R's trip to St Michael's Church
2.2.24 9am Golden Book Assembly- families welcome
2.2.24 NSPCC's Number Day
5.2.24 Children's Mental Health Week
6.2.24 Class R's trip to Cromwell Bottom
6.2.24 Judo Excellence to assembly
6.2.24 2.30pm Class 1's Class Showcase
7.2.24 3.15pm Class 3 Class Showcase
9.2.24 2.30pm Class R's Class Showcase
9.2.24 Break up for half term
19.2.24 Back to school
22.2.24 Class 3 Mental Health Workshop 'kindness, friendship and social media'
6.3.24 Class 2 Mental Health Workshop 'self-esteem'
13.3.24 2.30pm Class 2's Class Showcase
15.3.24 9am Golden Book Assembly and End of Term Awards – families welcome
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** – KS1 Wednesdays 3.15-4.15pm from 21/2/24 for 4 weeks.
- **CHS Band, Choir and Sports Clubs** – continue to be available to Year 6
- **Judo** – Years 4 and 5 initially – 3.15-4.15pm Tuesdays from 20/2/24 for 5 weeks
- **Reception Club** – pending!

*Please note that some clubs have a maximum number of participants possible *

Follow us on twitter @CalderPrimary @cp_classR @cp_class1 @cp_class2 @cp_class3

Golden Book Awards

Kindness Awards:

Class R: Dottie

Class 1: Ronnie

Class 2: Effie-Rose

Class 3: Otto

Stars of the Week:

Class R: Oliver

Class 1: Mia-Grace

Class 2: Teddy

Class 3: Renée

Royal Armouries

Class 1 had a wonderful time at The Royal Armouries Museum as part of their history learning this week. They learnt more about historical artefacts (and got to handle some) and built on their understanding of the past including about Kings and Queens. Miss Appleyard was very impressed with how enthusiastic and engaged everyone was and how well they represented our school. Our thanks to Geraldine Wrathall (grandma to Jessica and a governor for The Calder Learning Trust) who came along to help on the trip as well.

Mental Health Session

Thank you to everyone who attended our Mental Health session with our Mental Health Practitioner Amber this week.

Amber would be keen to hear feedback from those who attended, if you would be able to complete this short survey [here](#) she would be most grateful.

If you were unable to attend this time, Amber is looking at putting on sessions and attending different school events throughout the year, based on the feedback from her survey last term, but if you have any other ideas or feedback, she is always open to that too.

Phonics Superstars

This week we received a letter of congratulations from the Minister for Schools for our 2023 Year 1 Phonics Screening Check results. Our pupils (now in Year 2) achieved a 100% pass rate, which puts us in the top 1% of schools nationally – wow! Well done to our super pupils and staff. Early reading and building confidence and a love of books is really important to us as it helps all pupils in all aspects of their learning, and is great fun too!

Number Day

On **Friday 2nd February** we will be taking part in the NSPCC's Number Day, organised by Miss Appleyard. This is a national celebration of maths in a positive, fun way as well as a way to fundraise and support the NSPCC charity. Please see the letter emailed out for all the details.

Children's Mental Health Week

Plans are underway for a week of wellbeing as part of Children's Mental Health Week from Monday 5th to Friday 9th February. Next week our school council will meet with Miss Smith and Amber to finalise our plans, with something planned for each day that week.

Book of the Year

This week we have been taking part in the Calderdale Book of the Year by discussing our favourite books and why we like them, taking part in book quizzes and discussions in assembly and voting for our favourites!

Attendance Letters

Last week attendance letters were sent out to all pupils and students in The Calder Learning Trust and these will be sent out termly. This is because the attendance figures for the Trust are below national figures and we are required to improve this. We are being held to account to show our governors, the Local Authority, the Department for Education and OFSTED that we are taking steps to do so and that these actions are improving pupils' attendance in our school to support pupils' wellbeing, opportunities, learning and attainment.

Any periods of illness in the autumn term will have affected your child's overall percentage last term and we know that there are some illnesses affecting pupils and staff currently as well. There are lots of different factors which affect different families at different times and we want to support everyone as much as we can with this.

Part of the reason for the letter was to explain that we are here to help if you need any advice on if children should attend with particular childhood illnesses and if you need any support with any factors affecting your child's attendance.

Follow us on twitter @CalderPrimary @cp_classR @cp_class1 @cp_class2 @cp_class3



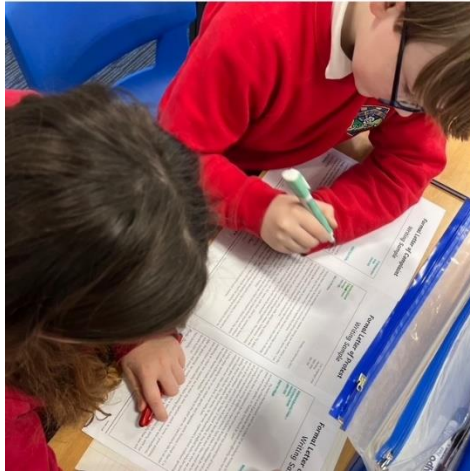
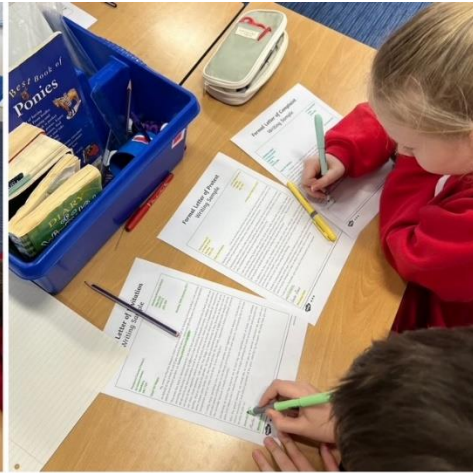
Follow us on twitter @CalderPrimary @cp_classR @cp_class1 @cp_class2 @cp_class3



Follow us on twitter @CalderPrimary @cp_classR @cp_class1 @cp_class2 @cp_class3



Follow us on twitter [@CalderPrimary](#) [@cp_classR](#) [@cp_class1](#) [@cp_class2](#)
[@cp_class3](#)



Follow us on twitter [@CalderPrimary](#) [@cp_classR](#) [@cp_class1](#) [@cp_class2](#) [@cp_class3](#)



Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP
Minister for Schools

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/contactus/df

Mr Anthony Guise
The Calder Learning Trust
West Yorkshire
Brier Hey Lane
Hebden Bridge
HX7 5QN

08 January 2024

Mr Guise

I am writing to congratulate you on your school's outstanding achievement in the 2023 Phonics Screening Check.

We want to ensure every child develops a firm grasp of phonics as the basis on which to improve standards of reading. As such I was delighted to see your results.

With 100 per cent of pupils in Year 1 at The Calder Learning Trust meeting the expected standard in the check, your school is in the top 1 per cent of all primary schools in the country.

The latest figures show that 83 per cent of pupils who met the expected standard in the check went on to achieve at least the expected standard in reading at key stage 2 in 2023, which underlines the importance of developing the ability to decode words effectively at an early age.

Your particular success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of reading.

I would like to thank you for your commitment and success in this vital area of a child's early education and congratulate you, your staff and pupils again on all you have achieved.

Yours sincerely,

D. Hinds

Damian Hinds
Minister for Schools

Follow us on twitter @CalderPrimary @cp_classR @cp_class1 @cp_class2
@cp_class3