

## The Calder Learning Trust

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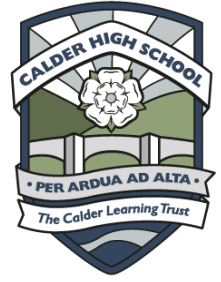
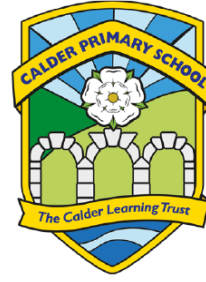
**Enquiries:** [parentenquiry@calderlearningtrust.com](mailto:parentenquiry@calderlearningtrust.com)

**Website:** [calderlearningtrust.com](http://calderlearningtrust.com)

Head of The Calder Learning Trust - Mr A Guise

Head of Calder Primary School - Mrs K Lambert

Head of Calder High School - Mr A Taylor



September 2024

## Welcome to Class 2

Dear Parents/Carers of Class 2,

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome both you and your child to Class 2. I'm looking forward to getting to know you all better and for all our learning this year!

### Class Topics

In history this term we will be looking at settlements and how land can change over time to aid us in understanding the Stone Age to Iron Age after the half term holidays. In science, we will begin our understanding of cells by recapping on living things and what is classified as a living thing and why.

### PE

Our PE days are **Wednesday and Thursday**. Please can you child have a full PE kit in school every day- it will be sent home at half term to be washed. This can be found on the school website [here](#). Long hair will need to be tied back, and any jewellery including earrings will need to be removed (it is easier not to wear earrings on PE days).

### Reading

Children will bring their reading packets home every day and we ask them to bring them back to school each morning. Please take note of the reading activities and questions that are in the back of all books – these are a good indication as to whether they have understood the text. All children will read to an adult weekly in school and we will check comprehension before we change their book.

Ideally, we would like to see children reading at home daily, but we recognise at times that this is not always possible. Reading at least 4 times a week can really support your child's progress in English. Reading books that are sent home are levelled to help children progress with their reading and gives them a suitable amount of challenge through different genres. If you choose to read something different some days (Newsround articles, magazines and newspapers or comics are all great choices!) please still write it in your child's reading record.

We do encourage reading for pleasure also. Reading for pleasure also improves children's well-being and empathy. It helps them to understand their own identity and gives them an insight into the world and the views of others. Our class library day is **Wednesday** and during this time children can explore different books in the library, choose one to bring home or change their class reading book.

### Spellings

We teach spelling three times a week in school to ensure that all children have a good understanding of the spelling rule that we are focusing on. We will test these spellings on a **Friday** and we ask that you continue to practise these spellings throughout the week.

Spelling lists can be found within their home spelling book. Please feel free to use this as a resource to help practising at home. Other useful ways of practising

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can be to use fridge magnets or scrabble tiles, playing hangman or muddling spellings into anagrams for your child to solve. Spellings is an important skill and can enhance reading and writing skills by widening their vocabulary. It also boosts confidence, and spelling correctly requires focus and concentration, both of which are important skills for children as they can transfer these skills to other areas of school life.

### **Homework**

Specific homework tasks are not sent home for Class 2. Instead, we ask that you support reading, spelling and times table practise as these are key in Class 2.

Times Table Rockstars logins are stuck inside the front of the reading records.

### **Other equipment needed**

It is helpful to have water bottles, PE kit, an apron or large old T-shirt for art. Wellies are also useful to have in school but especially for Forest School. Forest school will take place instead of indoor PE on Thursdays during the second half of each term.

Pupils are encouraged to bring a fruit or vegetable snack for morning break, as pupils can get quite hungry by lunchtime.

### **Upcoming Dates**

Parents' Evenings are scheduled for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November in-person from 3.30pm.

SEN meetings: Week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> October

Please keep an eye out for the weekly newsletter, emailed home each Friday.

We will soon have a parent portal app for Arbor which will be sent home for parents.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to speak with me at drop off and collection times or by email at [primary@calderlearningtrust.com](mailto:primary@calderlearningtrust.com)

I look forward to working together with you all this year.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Smith

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